POZYCKI HALL DEDICATION
MACE AWARD FOR LORD & MILLER
HOWARD TO THE FOURTH DEGREE
IN THE CARDS FOR STESSEL
Trustee Steven Pozycki ’73 and his wife, Elaine, were the center of attention at Founders’ Day on November 11, when the University community gathered to formally dedicate Pozycki Hall, the new academic building named in their honor.

The award-winning facility, which opened in time for classes in September, has already made an impact on students, while garnering industry accolades. Within weeks of its opening, members of the Student Government Association requested that Pozycki Hall remain open as a study space two hours later each evening.

“We were delighted to accommodate the demand and are thrilled to see the impact that Pozycki Hall has made in such a short amount of time,” President Paul R. Brown told the audience at Founders’ Day.

Pozycki Hall also claimed the top-spot Eagle Award and the Project of the Year Award for Sweetwater Construction at the 2015 Associated Builders & Contractors Excellence in Construction Awards Dinner on October 29. The Project of the Year is selected by an Awards Jury as the construction project with the most points for safety, letters of recommendation and community impact.

“Pozycki Hall is transforming the grounds of Torcivia Common, and transforming the way our students live and learn,” President Brown said.

“It is appropriate that we celebrate this transformation on Founders’ Day. The sense of opportunity and newness for our campus and our University must in some way mirror the feelings that our predecessors had when they established a fledgling college 82 years ago.
It was a college operating out of shared facilities, without a single property to call its own, without a ‘home base’ for students who wanted to study outside of the classroom.” “Things have changed,” Brown said.

Because the ceremony occurred on Veterans Day, the National Roll Call of service members who have died since 2001 paused to allow members of the Monmouth University Student Veterans Group to serve as the honor guard for the ceremony.

Alonso Aguilera, a business school student and representative of the United States Marine Corps; Robert Houston, a Social Work student also representing the Corps; and Tyler Stem, representing the United States Air Force, helped to bridge the two symbolic events on the same day.

Inclement weather forced a last-minute change of venue for the convocation from the green space of Torcivia Common and to the Multipurpose Activity Center, before a reception on the second floor of Pozycki Hall. A planned ribbon-cutting was replaced with a pre-recorded unveiling video captured by aerial footage (see: http://tinyurl.com/MUribbon).

The new building, which seems to nestle itself on the campus while creating a border for the natural courtyard of Torcivia Common, leaves many wondering what drives the man who was instrumental in launching this project.

Steven Pozycki, often called a visionary, pioneer, and voted the #1 (out of 50) most influential person in the NJ real estate industry by NJ BIZ 2012, graduated from Monmouth College in 1973 with a degree in business, and Bruce Springsteen as a neighbor down the hall from his own apartment.

“Let me tell you a few things you may not know about this real estate mogul, humanitarian, philanthropist and public policy advocate,” said Board Chair Henry Mercer, rounding out the portrait of his fellow trustee.

“Some of his early jobs consisted of delivering newspapers, working in construction doing roofing, masonry, and odd jobs such as delivering pizza. In his senior year in college he met Elaine Conway, who has now been his wife of 40 years,” Mercer said.

In 1981 Steve and Elaine founded SJP Properties, which has established itself as one of the area’s leading developers with more than 25 million square feet of Class-A office and luxury residential properties in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

“Fast forward to May 30, 2013 when we gathered on this site to break ground for this impressive building. While it is a bit smaller than Steve and Elaine’s 11 Times Square skyscraper, it matches that building in the impact it has had on its surroundings,” Mercer said.

The two-story addition to Samuel E. and Mollie Bey Hall, which is home to the Kislak Real Estate Institute, includes general purpose classrooms, a computer classroom, a 150-seat lecture hall, two video conference rooms, a student lounge, faculty offices, and spacious meeting areas both inside and outdoors.

“It was made entirely possible through the vision and philanthropy of the Pozyckis,” Mercer added.

Their firm, SJP Properties, is still growing at a breakneck pace. From a skyscraper in Newark for Prudential Financial to a new headquarters for Pearson Education in Hoboken to a project known as The Modern where two 47-story residential towers are being built in Fort Lee, the New Jersey native has a firm hold as one of the most reputable and innovative developers in the New York Metropolitan region.

Leon Hess Business School Dean Donald Moliver said, “He continues to be the preeminent leader in real estate development and now has successfully broken into the New York market.”
Honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the New Jersey chapter of NAIOP, the commercial real estate development association at their 26th Annual Commercial Real Estate Awards Gala, Pozycki continues to build his company and make a significant impact.

“We will continue to instill a philosophy that truly great places can only be built with a thoughtful eye for the greater impact they have today, and into the future,” he said.

Even beyond the pristine halls of their namesake building, the impact of Steven and Elaine Pozycki’s philanthropic contributions to Monmouth University are clear enough.

“Countless students have benefited from a challenging business curriculum focused on Real Estate, because of your efforts and the generous endowed scholarships you have funded, and the endowed faculty chair that also bears your name,” President Brown said.

“Delivering the highest quality teaching and learning experience for our students requires constant evaluation and investment, and all of us here today are the beneficiaries of your investment of work, wisdom, and wealth,” he added.

Pozycki’s post-graduation association with Monmouth University now spans decades. In 1996, he was awarded the Real Estate Institute’s Leadership of Excellence Award for his significant contributions to the New Jersey real estate industry, and is a member of the Kislak Real Estate Institute’s Advisory Council, in addition to his duties on the Board of Trustees.

When not planning or developing real estate projects, Steve and Elaine are active in a number of charities, especially as strong advocates.
Elaine is active in giving back to those less fortunate as the manager of SJP Properties’ philanthropic efforts. She serves on many boards including the Midland School, the Center for Handicapped Riding, and the Center for Civic Responsibility; and has performed extensive volunteer work in the classroom for Matheny Medical and Education Center. Most recently, Elaine was named Co-Chair of the Partnership For A Drug-Free New Jersey, the largest continuous public service campaign in New Jersey’s history and a leader in the field of substance abuse prevention in the state and the nation.

Steven is also active in a number of civic and charitable organizations. He serves as a member of the Council of Trustees of The New Jersey Performing Arts Center and as chairman of the Development Committee for the Center of Civic Responsibility. He was previously a member of Governor Jon Corzine’s Real Estate Advisory Board, and a member of the board of directors of New Jersey Future, the statewide advocacy and watchdog for New Jersey’s pioneering Development and Redevelopment Plan, and is a member of the Board of Directors of St. Joseph High School in Metuchen where he graduated in 1969.

Founders’ Day is a campus-wide event that celebrates Monmouth University’s founding in 1933. The first Founders’ Day was held in 1983 as a part of the University’s 50th anniversary celebration and has since become a University tradition. To watch a recording of the 2015 ceremony visit: http://tinyurl.com/2015MUFD.

**Building for Business**

Named for Elaine and Steven J. Pozycki ’73, the 2-story, 20,000 square-foot academic building will enhance both the Leon Hess Business School and the Kislak Real Estate Institute by providing much-needed additional classroom space, a 175-seat lecture hall, eight faculty offices, a student lounge and an exterior terrace. It will also serve as an alternative venue for University events.

A connector bridge, named for longtime supporter Arthur Greenbaum HN ’96, the first recipient of the Real Estate Leadership Excellence Award in 1994, joins Pozycki Hall to Samuel E. and Mollie Bey Hall.

The Kislak Real Estate Institute, which was founded by Leon Hess Business School Dean Donald Moliver and celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2014, provides students with this knowledge and hands-on experience to enable them to adapt to the changes and become leaders in their fields.

Students can obtain a bachelor’s degree with a concentration in real estate. Graduate students can obtain an M.B.A. with a concentration in real estate. It is the only such program offered at any New Jersey college or university. The Institute also provides a learning opportunity for industry professionals to continue their education through the Real Estate Certificate program.

“We are in an elite group as the only institution in New Jersey that offers both undergraduate and graduate programs in real estate,” said Moliver who added that there are fewer than 100 real estate programs nationwide.
MACE AWARD HONORS LORD & MILLER

Kaitlin Kilian, Class of 2016

It was raining meatballs at Monmouth University when two of the biggest filmmakers in Hollywood visited campus on October 26 for the first presentation of the Monmouth Award for Communication Excellence (MACE) since 2010.

Writers and producers of *The Lego Movie*, *21 & 22 Jump Street*, and *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, Phil Lord, 40, and Chris Miller, 40, were the recipients of the MACE Award for their achievements in the film industry.

“The fact that they [Lord and Miller] met in college and their career grew from that experience is very inspiring,” said Nick Carlascio, a sophomore communication major. “We are in college right now, so that could be us one day.”

Jim Hickey HN ’07, chair of the University’s Communication Council and former national correspondent for ABC News Radio, hosted the ceremony. Prior to the presentation of the award at Pollak Theatre, Robert Scott, specialist professor of communication, moderated a 45-minute discussion during which Lord and Miller answered questions from the audience.
The creative duo spoke about their early work and how they began their partnership at Dartmouth College. Lord said, “We shared a common sensibility. The work is always better because someone else is questioning those choices and challenging you to do better.”

Lord and Miller advised students to actively make films, even if they are not all great. Miller said, “You need to work very hard and be open to what people tell you about your material, and then you can make it.”

After the discussion, Marilyn Rocky ’65, a member of the Communication Council, former Monmouth University Alumni Association President, and family friend of Miller, presented the MACE award to the pair. Well-known Lego artist, Nathan Sawaya, surprised Lord and Miller with replica MACE awards made from Legos.

Special guests recognized at the ceremony included Tom Bernard, a founding member of the Communication Council and the co-president of Sony Classic Pictures and previous Founders’ Day honoree, Michael Uslan HN ’12, executive producer of all modern Batman movies; including *The Lego Movie*.

Earlier in the day, Lord and Miller spent time talking, sharing ideas, and giving advice to students. The Monmouth Oral Communication Center (MOCC), a student organization, worked with the Communication Council to set up the schedule for the day. Lord and Miller were given a tour of campus, including the Plangere Center that houses the university’s communication program. Larissa Pfeffer, vice president of MOCC, said, “Chris was very excited about seeing Wilson Hall because he is an *Annie* fan.” Lord and Miller also held two classroom discussions and they gave an interview with student media in the Hawk TV studio.

“What makes this event so special is, apart from the MACE ceremony, that they spent the day giving students a chance to learn about the kind of opportunities out there for young filmmakers.”

—Kenneth Womack
The Communication Council created the MACE award in 2004. “The Monmouth University Communication Council is proud to have joined with the Monmouth University Department of Communication to present the MACE to these two young, exciting, and admired film producers,” Hickey said.

The MACE is given to individuals who have made significant lifetime contributions in the field of communications. Previous honorees include White House correspondent Helen Thomas; newspaper publisher Jules L. Plangere Jr.; Myron Kandel, founding financial editor of CNN; and CBS sports commentator Jim Nantz.

The award gives students the opportunity to have an exceptional experience with successful people in the field. “While we are called the Communication Council, we strongly believe in cross-sector curriculum and that is why we invited all students to attend this event, not just communication students,” said Hickey.

Nick Simonelli, a senior political science major, said of Lord and Miller, “They really gave me a lot of sound advice on pursuing my own ideas and they were hilarious, too. Overall, it was a very good experience.”

The Communication Council chose Lord and Miller because of their wide range of accomplishments at such young ages. Chad Dell, associate professor of communication, who was the faculty point person for organizing the event, said, “Chris Miller and Phil Lord have achieved an amazing record of accomplishment in the time that they have been working creatively.” The pair have written, directed, and produced animation film, live action film, and television sitcoms. Lord and Miller are currently working on the new Star Wars film.

Monmouth University President Paul Brown, who attended the event, said, “For students passionate about a career in film, direct interaction with industry leaders like Phil and Chris can actually be a life-changing event.”

KAITLIN KILIAN is a Monmouth University senior who is graduating in January 2016. A native of Oceanside, New York, she is a Communication major with a concentration in radio and television and she aspires to work in the film industry.

Kilian spent the day with Lord and Miller, first at a special interview with Hawk TV, then at the cocktail reception and awards ceremony. “I had a great experience and loved how funny and down-to-earth Lord and Miller were. It was a great opportunity to learn about filmmaking and to hear advice directly from two such successful film industry talents,” she said.

1. Chris Miller received a call from Walt Disney Studios while still in college.
2. Lord and Miller are directing the new Star Wars Anthology film.
3. They produced the TV series, How I Met Your Mother.
4. The duo are set to make an animated Spider-Man film, with the option to direct.
5. Miller was the voice of JFK in their first animated TV series, Clone High.
Inventor, magician, and student John Stessel, 21, says his skills that have grown like an oak tree from an acorn out of a basic magic kit have taken him from shy, young boy in a complicated family who found comfort in practicing, practicing, practicing card tricks; to bullied high schooler who hid his emerging talent because of fear of being ridiculed; all the way to confident and charismatic young man who has already appeared as a contestant on television’s *Wizard Wars* with master magicians Penn and Teller, and more. Stessel also runs a successful line of commercial magic products through which he has already developed and marketed several best-selling tricks. Additionally, he is a consulting technician for the likes of rising magic star Dan White who is currently performing in an off-Broadway show called The Magician—and who has worked with Stessel before appearing on *The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon*.

Stessel’s mentor at Monmouth University, Director of the Kislak Real Estate and NJAR/Greenbaum/Ferguson Professor of Real Estate Policy Peter S. Reinhart, Esq. said: “John is a wonderful student who has all the gifts and talents to become a difference maker in the world. His passion for learning coupled with his terrific work ethic, his magnetic personality, not to mention his talents as a magician, make him a pleasure to have as a student and to know as a person. I expect great things from John in the future. We will be reading about him.”

Sometimes the smallest gifts have the largest impact. To hear finance and real estate major John Stessel, Class of 2016, share how as an eight-year-old child he received on his birthday a simple magic kit is to listen to a tale of how this unknowingly enchanted box of modest tricks set him on his life’s path.
Yet, this glowingly accurate testimony is a long way from describing the young boy in his bedroom in Wayne, New Jersey, trying to make sense of a tumultuous real world by mastering illusion.

“I cannot remember if it was my sister or my mother who gave me that first magic kit but I was instantly captivated,” said Stessel. “It contained your typical beginner’s tricks like making a ball disappear from a vase and some easy card tricks but it got me hooked.

“What I liked was that I could appear to be doing what was impossible. That element of control was the opening to a process that has helped me develop a great understanding of who I am and of how my mind works.”

It seems almost counterintuitive that Stessel, who does not perform publicly very often, gravitated at such a young age toward what seems the most difficult of pursuits in the field of magic—developing tricks for sale to illusionists. He said while he does not dislike performing (and he hopes to grow more in that art), Stessel feels he made a smart choice by finding a way to earn income from magic that did not involve performing sleight of hand tricks at children’s birthday parties.

At the age of 13, Stessel intuitively understood there was money to be made from inventing the products used by magicians. His first effort was a trick that “mysteriously” linked a pair of rubber bands simply by touching them together. The rubber bands can then be unlinked and handed back to the spectator who can see that nothing has been altered or faked. This invention came about as the result of being disciplined in class. Because Stessel is always found with a deck of cards in his hands (even in class) when a teacher took his cards away Stessel began playing with two rubber bands and after a bit of wizardly cogitation, he created a seamless, “magical” way of linking them.

After submitting the concept to several companies, the product (called FLUSH) was on the market by the time Stessel turned 15—and it became a world-wide bestseller with magic retailers. Since then, he has released six tricks and three of these have become bestsellers.

Monmouth University professor John Buzza ’71 who teaches classes on entrepreneurship in the Leon Hess Business School met with Stessel and finds him gifted with not only talent, but also with a determination to succeed. Professor Buzza said: “Anyone who has a true passion for what he does can ultimately be successful. Successful entrepreneurs are rooted in passion and the ONLY way to make your business successful is through passion.

“Customers today are very savvy and they can see through the pretenders. Being honest, ethical, and always giving one hundred percent to what it is you do is truly what successful business is all about. From my observation, John Stessel has that formula.”

“John is creative, entrepreneurial, and immersed in practical experiences outside of the classroom. The fact that he has such focus, drive and personality only adds to his well-rounded character and potential. John represents exactly the kind of student Monmouth University helps develop.”

—JOE RAPOLLA ’90M, CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND THEATRE ARTS

If passion is a tool for success, then a deck of cards in Stessel’s hands is his main tool for sharing his unique passion. Stessel has a way with cards that lures people into a universe where what is seen cannot be believed, let alone understood. It is no understatement to say that this is a young man with a mature talent.
Yet, for the self-described “little kid who couldn’t stay focused,” Stessel has exercised enormous personal discipline and colossal self-control by spending hour upon hour perfecting tricks that look effortless but are at their core complex, complicated deceptions producing what can only be described as magical results. For example: he can make a missing button sew itself back onto a shirt; cause cards to appear to merge into each other; and inexplicably make a coin infiltrate a sealed water bottle.

Stessel labels himself a “maker of secrets.” He learned most of his higher-level skills by watching, watching, watching what other magicians could conjure up and then he practiced to perfection, and beyond, what he observed.

“Eventually, I reached a point where I did not need to watch much more in order to make things work. At that point, I was self-trained enough to begin constructing illusions that I thought would be cool and, in that way, I am creating secrets” Stessel said. “With that level of skill mastered, I knew, from then on, my value was more behind the scenes than in front of an audience. Truly, what I enjoy most is creating the deception.”

Stessel cites the Latin proverb: *Mundus vult decipi, ergo decipiature.* Or, the world invites deception, so let it be deceived. He said that from the beginning of time, people have invited, and continue to invite, deception.

“People throughout time have always sought out moments of astonishment,” he said. “Whether it is a moment of escapism or just the joy that can be had by seeing something that is logically unreal but looks absolutely real, I enjoy watching people having a sense that something wonderful just happened.”

Yet, with so much early success, Stessel has questioned if he needed to pursue a college degree. He, however, is adamant that his decision to attend Monmouth University has been a valuable one that will pay lifelong benefits.

Stessel has been selected as a member of the Monmouth Real Estate Team and as such is eligible to be an annual participant in the Villanova University real estate competition. He has completed two internship experiences, one with JP Morgan Chase in Wilmington, Delaware, and one with KBA Lease Services in Woodbridge, New Jersey. Both of these experiences have helped him to grow by teaching valuable skills that he is adapting into his personal life and his professional business model.

“I did learn that I am not suited for a desk job, but I did also learn that it is not enough to simply have talent. You have to work hard,” he said. “I am learning throughout my education that it is up to me to take care of myself financially and to not just focus on the excitement of being involved in the entertainment industry.”

Chair of the Department of Music and Theatre Arts Joe Rapolla ’90M said: “John is creative, entrepreneurial, and immersed in practical experiences outside of the classroom. The fact that he has such focus, drive and personality only adds to his well-rounded character and potential. John represents exactly the kind of student Monmouth University helps develop.”

There is no crystal ball that can predict how far John Stessel will travel after he leaves Monmouth University—how much success he will garner is yet unknown and it remains a mystery if he will always rely on creating magic to earn his living. But, he said it is that element of uncertainty that keeps him pursuing his education.

“I am learning things I will forever be grateful for,” he said. “I am gaining from experiences I never would have been exposed to if I did not come to Monmouth University and I am meeting mentors and making friends that I will stay close to for the rest of my life.”

And, that really is a kind of magic.
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WOMEN'S SEASON TICKETS START AT $50

* $99 FOR YOUNG ALUMNI (CLASSES 2011-15)
NOVEMBER 20 - DECEMBER 4
Fine Arts: December Student Show
Ice House Gallery
Free and open to the public
Opening reception November 20, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

DECEMBER 2
H.R. Young & Stephen B. Siegel
Endowed Lecture Series
“Why Old (National) Scandals Never Die!”
John W. Dean, former White House Counsel for President Nixon
James D. Robenalt, Esq., noted attorney, author and Presidential historian
Pollak Auditorium
4:30 PM
Reception immediately following, invitation only.
For details call (732) 571-4412 or email tlowy@monmouth.edu

DECEMBER 3
Bolshoi Ballet: Live in HD
Jewels
Pollak Theatre
7:00 PM
$22

DECEMBER 4
Women’s Basketball vs Sienna
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)
Performing Arts: Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea
Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Dinner
Wilson Hall
$105
7:30 - 10:30 PM
For more information contact the Office of University Engagement at (732) 571-3489

DECEMBER 6
MET Opera: Live in HD (encore)
Berg’s Lulu
Pollak Theatre
1:00 PM
$23

DECEMBER 10
Women’s Basketball vs Eastern Michigan
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)
Department of Music and Theatre
Winter Tapestry: A Holiday Concert
Wilson Hall Grand Staircase
7:30 PM
$15

DECEMBER 12
Women’s Basketball vs Niagara
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

DECEMBER 13
Men’s Basketball: Opening Home Game
Monmouth vs Wagner
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

DECEMBER 18
Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Wagner
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

DECEMBER 29
Women’s Basketball vs St. Francis Brooklyn
Multipurpose Activity Center
3:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

DECEMBER 30
Women’s Basketball vs La Salle/
Norfolk State
Multipurpose Activity Center
TBA
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

JANUARY 2
Women’s Basketball vs Quinnipiac
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

JANUARY 4
Men’s Basketball vs Canisius
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

JANUARY 9
Men’s Basketball vs Quinnipiac
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

JANUARY 10
Women’s Basketball vs Marist
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

JANUARY 14
Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Wagner
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

JANUARY 16
Alumni: Beer Tasting
Anacon Hall
Rebecca Stafford Student Center
7:00 – 9:00 PM
$20 for Alumni/$25 for guests
For more information call (732) 571-3489

JANUARY 18
Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Wagner
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

JANUARY 19 – FEBRUARY 29
Gallery Exhibition
Art in Science
Pollak Gallery
Opening reception
January 27, 5:30 – 7:30 pm
Free and open to the public

JANUARY 19-MARCH 11
New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship Exhibition
DiMattio Gallery
Joan & Robert Rechnitz Hall
9:00 AM
Free and open to the public

JANUARY 23
Women’s Basketball vs Iona
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

JANUARY 24
Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Marist
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

JANUARY 29
Women’s Basketball vs St. Francis Brooklyn
Multipurpose Activity Center
3:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

JANUARY 30
Women’s Basketball vs La Salle/
Norfolk State
Multipurpose Activity Center
TBA
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

JANUARY 31
Women’s Basketball vs Marist
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)
JANUARY 26
World Cinema Series
Brick Lane (2007)
Pollak Theatre
7:30 PM
Free and open to the public

JANUARY 28
Bolshoi Ballet: Live in HD
Giselle (Encore)
Pollak Theatre
7:00 PM
$22

JANUARY 30
MET Opera: Live in HD
Zeffirelli’s Turandot
Pollak Theatre
1:00 PM
$23

Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Fairfield
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

February Subject
To Change
For information about Alumni events, call University Engagement at (732) 571-3489.

FEBRUARY
FEBRUARY 2
Women’s Basketball vs Manhattan
Multipurpose Activity Center
11:00 AM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

FEBRUARY 4
National Theatre Live: Live in HD
Jane Eyre
Pollak Theatre
7:00 PM
$22

FEBRUARY 5
Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Fairfield
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

FEBRUARY 7
Women’s Basketball vs Canisius
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

FEBRUARY 11
Performing Arts: Bram Stoker’s Dracula (L.A. Theatre works)
Pollak Theatre
7:00 PM
$40; $50; $60 (Gold Circle)

FEBRUARY 12
On Screen/In Person
The Winding Stream
Pollak Theatre
7:00 PM
Free and open to public
There will be a Q&A with director Beth Harrington following the screening

FEBRUARY 14
Bolshoi Ballet: Live in HD
The Lady of the Camellias
Pollak Theatre
7:00 PM
$22

FEBRUARY 15
Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Manhattan
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

FEBRUARY 17
World Cinema Series
When We Leave (2010)
Pollak Theatre
7:30 PM
Free and open to the public

FEBRUARY 18
National Theatre Live: Live in HD (Encore)
Hamlet
Pollak Theatre
7:00 PM
$22

FEBRUARY 19
Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Iona
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

FEBRUARY 20
Performing Arts: Doo Wop Explosion: A Night of Acappella Harmony
Pollak Theatre
7:00 PM
$25 $35, $45 (Gold Circle)

FEBRUARY 21
MET Opera: Live in HD (Encore)
Bizet’s Les Pecheurs de Perles
Pollak Theatre
1:00 PM
$23

FEBRUARY 25
Women’s Basketball vs Rider
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

FEBRUARY 26
Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Rider
Multipurpose Activity Center
7:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

FEBRUARY 27
Performing Arts: Cherish the Ladies
Pollak Theatre
8:00 PM
$40; $50

FEBRUARY 28
MET Opera: Live in HD (Encore)
Turandot
Pollak Theatre
1:00 PM
$23

Women’s Basketball vs St. Peter’s
Multipurpose Activity Center
2:00 PM
$10 (adult)/$7 (child)

Men’s Basketball: Monmouth vs Niagara
Multipurpose Activity Center
5:00 PM
$12-$20 (adult)/$5-$15 (child)

For complete sports schedules visit monmouthhawks.com

For information about other events, contact Special Events at (732) 571-3509.
As chief administrator of the Monmouth County, NJ, middle school for the past 12 years, Howard takes his job very seriously. “My goal is to keep the kids motivated. I want to make sure they have the best experience possible,” said Howard whose childhood was far different than that of his students. “I’ve been through hell already. Now I just take things in stride.”

Growing up in the projects on Springfield Avenue in Newark in the 1970s and 80s, Howard was forced to confront violence, intimidation, crime and abject poverty on a daily basis. Howard remembers one constant grounding influence throughout his difficult childhood, his grandmother, Ethel Howard, who had only a sixth-grade education. He credits her for keeping him focused on opportunities and diligent in his studies by enrolling him in after-school programs and introducing him to activities like chess. “I was a target so she kept me off the streets as much as she could,” said Howard whose grandmother died in 1999.

But even after attaining his bachelor’s degree and three subsequent master’s degrees; and as the only one in his family of 12 children to earn a college degree—the emotional scars of violence he experienced as a child remain. “You’re still always damaged from it,” said Howard. “My experiences gave me a bad self-image.”

Howard, who continues to enhance his educational experience and develop his professional skills, is now studying for a doctorate in education.

**CONNECTED TO MONMOUTH**

“The family I didn’t have biologically I gained at Monmouth. Monmouth did a lot for me. I guess that’s why I keep on coming back,” Howard said.

He entered Monmouth as part of the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program, which was under the direction of Arthur Howard **Dedication to the Fourth Degree**

Walking the halls of William R. Satz School in Holmdel, School Principal Arthur Howard ’92 ’94M ’01M ’14M addresses each student by name, celebrates their accomplishments with smiles and congratulations, and thinks of his colleagues and staff as members of his extended family.
of Venetia Gilmore, who in 1984 became the assistant director of financial aid, and then Colleen Johnson '81 '85M, who remains the director today.

“Arthur was such a pleasure to work with when he was here at Monmouth,” Johnson recently said. “I am so very proud of him. He and I have kept in touch over the years.”

As an undergraduate student, Howard was allowed to stay on campus during school breaks so he could remain focused on his studies in a safe environment.

When asked what advice he had for current Monmouth students, Howard said, “Don’t take these years for granted. Stay focused, and remember that relationships are everything.”

He fondly recalls lifelong friendships built at Monmouth, especially Richard Chapman '93, Marvin Hill '92 '95M, Mike Hill, Will Moore and Maurice Bell '94 '96M. Bell is now a teacher in William R. Satz School.

“SUPERMAN” IN HOMDEL

Howard wears a “Superman” ring given to him by his students, and is also the namesake of the first school mascot, Howard the Hawk, selected by students in his honor in 2012.

And it isn’t just his students who appreciate Howard’s dedication and embrace his philosophy.

“We operate as a unit,” Howard said. Howard stresses the importance on working as a team. “Community service is also a big part of our school,” he said, adding that collections of food and clothes are done on a regular basis. This not only helps members of the community but also promotes teamwork between classmates and faculty members.”

GIVING BACK IN TRENTON

When Howard is not influencing his students in Holmdel, he is counseling children in Trenton who are likely facing similar obstacles as he did at the Millhill Child & Family Development Center.

“Your circumstances don’t determine your destiny,” Howard believes, and it is a message he tries to teach the children he counsels.

The strong bonds he formed with his grandmother and the relationships with colleagues and students he has formed along his continuing educational journey have forged a steely determination to never take any opportunity for granted.

The same sense of connection with others has also kept him grounded, given Howard the strength to move forward in the face of adversity, and continue to make a positive difference in the lives of his many students. M

FOUR DEGREES OF MONMOUTH

Among a select group of alumni who have attained four degrees from Monmouth are Susan Stever '72 '03 '06M '09M, Kara Douma '02 '04M '06M '09M, Neva Lozada '03 '05M '09M '10M (who was also an EOF student and is now the assistant director of the Writing Center at Monmouth), Laura Schwahl '08 '09M '11M and Brendan Queenan '99 '02M '09M '11M.

If we missed anyone, please let us know! They deserve recognition!
In an effort to deepen ties with the Two River Theater in Red Bank, Monmouth University’s Music & Theater Arts Department has launched a new Student Ambassador Program. Facilitated by Department Chair Joe Rapolla ’90M and Professor Sheri Anderson, the program will launch with three student ambassadors in its inaugural season. They are sophomore Molly Huber, senior Samantha Myers and junior Nick Zaccario.

The students will work closely with the theater’s marketing team to help create special programs and opportunities for students and faculty, starting with the theater’s production of A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum (November 14-December 13). Additional internship and experiential opportunities will include backstage tours and technical rehearsals; actor and designer workshops, and Question & Answer sessions.

Huber is assisting the Marketing Department with the Inside Two River program, a series of free arts & humanities events specifically curated for each production, by promoting events on campus and helping to run events. She will also have a hand in helping to brainstorm upcoming events throughout the season. She will work one-on-one with Two Rivers’ Associate Director of Marketing Cassie Galasetti.

Myers has been successful in recruiting 41 students to fill volunteer usher positions for each performance of Forum. Through her efforts, Monmouth students will gain experience working in a professional regional theater, collect volunteer hours for on campus clubs, and watch the production free of charge. She will work side-by-side with Two Rivers’ House Manager Angela White to oversee scheduling and communicate protocol to all student ushers.

Zaccario is focusing his efforts on social media marketing to inform students of upcoming Two River Theater events, performances, and opportunities. He will work with Multimedia Manager Alycia Yerves to strategize and implement social media campaigns across a variety of social media platforms.

Two River Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director John Dias and Managing Director Michael Hurst, was founded in 1994 by Joan and Dr. Robert M. Rechnitz. For more information, visit tworivertheater.org.

For the 11th consecutive year, Monmouth University has claimed a top spot in the higher education roster published by The Princeton Review. In the 2016 edition, Best 380 Colleges, Monmouth saw increases in “Academic Experience,” “Professor Interesting,” and “Professor Accessible” categories.

Monmouth also notched significant increases in “Quality of Life,” “Selectivity,” and “Green Rating,” for a demonstrated commitment to environmentally friendly policies. The separate Guide to Green Colleges will not be released until April 2016.

Published since 1992, the annual Best Colleges rankings are based on surveys of 136,000 students (average 358 per campus) at the 380 colleges in the book in 2014–15 and/or the previous two school years. The ranking methodology uses a five-point Likert scale to convert qualitative student assessments into quantitative data for school-to-school comparisons.
John J. Christopher, J.D. is the new vice president & general counsel for Monmouth University, succeeding Grey J. Dimenna, J.D., who retired in June after 20 years of service.

Christopher joins Monmouth after 25 years with Hodgson Russ LLP. He was a general partner in the Buffalo, N.Y. firm where he led both the College and University and Labor and Employment practices.

“John has extensive experience advising colleges and universities on a broad range of legal issues,” said President Paul R. Brown. “His experience in higher education and labor relations, together with his enthusiasm for contributing to Monmouth University’s upward trajectory made him the clear choice for the position,” Brown said.

As the lead and developer of the College and University practice at Hodgson Russ, Christopher represented numerous post-secondary institutions, including: the State University of New York system; Niagara University; Canisius College; Hilbert College; and Niagara Community College, in some cases serving functionally as an outside general counsel. He also served as the leader of the Labor and Employment Practice Group at Hodgson Russ representing employers across a diverse portfolio of labor relations issues.

“Higher education faces remarkable challenges driven by changes in student demographics, and funding mechanisms for post-secondary education,” said Christopher. “I look forward to helping Monmouth University deliver a transformative learning experience for its students, even as the skills and educational requirements of the marketplace continue to evolve.”

A graduate of Hamilton College, Clinton, N.Y., Christopher earned his Juris Doctorate at the State University of New York Buffalo Law School.

New Jersey’s first woman Chief Justice and Attorney General, Deborah Poritz, is serving as Monmouth University’s Public Servant in Residence during the 2015-2016 academic year. The former chief justice is giving select lectures on campus during the year.

“We are delighted to welcome Chief Justice Poritz to our campus to share her experience in law and public service with our students and faculty,” said President Paul R. Brown.

“There is no substitute for learning directly from an expert with real-world experience. Justice Poritz’s knowledge of legal issues and her perspective on the evolution of social issues in the courts is sure to provide for many lively discussions.”

Poritz was nominated to the New Jersey Supreme Court by Governor Christine Todd Whitman in 1996 and served for 10 years until her retirement in 2006. She wrote the opinion in Dale v. Boy Scouts (1999), which prohibited the Boy Scouts from expelling a Monmouth County Scout Master because of his sexual orientation.

The U.S. Supreme Court overturned this decision a year later in 2000, and a national controversy followed, leading more recently to changes in Boy Scouts’ policies. Prior to sitting on the Supreme Court, Poritz served as New Jersey’s first female Attorney General (1994 to 1996) and as Governor Tom Keen’s Chief Counsel (1989), also the first woman to serve in that position.

Poritz taught composition and literature at Ursinus College in Pennsylvania prior to pursuing a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. After retiring from the New Jersey Supreme Court, the Chief Justice joined the law firm Drinker Biddle & Reath, Of Counsel, where she continues to practice law in the firm’s Princeton office. She also taught at the Rutgers School of Law in Newark and in Camden for three years after leaving the court and continues to serve as the Chair of the Boards of Legal Services of New Jersey and the Fund for New Jersey, and, also, as Vice-Chair of the Princeton Healthcare System Board.

Monmouth University’s public servant in residence program, coordinated by the Office of Global Initiatives and the Department of Political Science and Sociology, was created in 2000 to provide a venue for public officials who wish to share their expertise with students and the campus community at Monmouth University. The last four former Public Servants in Residents include former New Jersey Governors Jim Florio, Christine Todd Whitman, Brendan Byrne, and former Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court James Zazzalli.
ONCAMPUS

BUSINESS COUNCIL HONORS VETERANS

The Business Council, an advisory arm of the Leon Hess Business School honored and thanked veterans for their service to our country on November 4. Student-veterans received certificates of appreciation at the ceremony. The keynote speaker was Brigadier General John DiNapoli, a member of the Business Council and president of Spencer Ryan, LLC, who addressed the topic of what it means to be a veteran today.

In addition to General DiNapoli, Monmouth County Freeholder Tom Arnone, Monmouth County Clerk Christine Hanlon, and Monmouth County Sheriff Shaun Golden ’99 were among the dignitaries in attendance.

Among the goals of the members of the Business Council are facilitating, encouraging, and promoting a healthy business-to-University and business-to-business relationship; providing the University with a continuous source of consulting, training, advising, and financial support from the business community; developing the availability and use of the University as an educational and consulting resource to the community; and facilitating the education, training, and hiring of graduates by the business community.

TINY HOUSE MAKES BIG NEWS

The 11th annual Social Work Teach-In event, which focused on the topic of homelessness, made a big splash with a “tiny” gift representing a large act of kindness in November.

As part of the day-long event, sponsored by the School of Social Work and Social Work Society, keynote speaker and anti-poverty advocate Cheri Honkala, students and faculty members coordinated with Destiny’s Bridge and Help Make It Rain for a public presentation of a newly built “Tiny House,” a 110 square-foot house complete with a bathroom, partial kitchen and bed, to Sam Dill, a former resident of Tent City in Lakewood.

Last summer, Dill watched as a front end loader destroyed the tent he lived in for years, as part of Lakewood’s push to dismantle a large homeless camp in the woods called Tent City. The tiny house was built for Dill this summer by volunteers at the Harleysville-based nonprofit Make It Rain, a service organization that raised the $15,000 needed for materials.

“We really love to build things and get things done. So when we heard about the need it really tied in well with what our organization’s mission is about,” Scott Roth of Make It Rain told ABC News.

The 72-year-old Dill got the keys to his new home during the Teach-In forum, where students presented him a basket full of food as a housewarming gift. Dill will keep his new home at a state park campground temporarily while advocates try to identify a more permanent location for his new home.

For more information visit: http://tinyurl.com/tinyhouseMU.
The School of Social Work convened a conversation on community gardens in August, drawing international interest. “Gardening for Good: A Community Garden Conference,” brought global perspectives to a grassroots movement leading community gardens to sprout up all over the world.

“Monmouth University’s Garden has come a long way since its establishment in 2009. We were very excited to be able to bring together like-minded individuals who value gardening in all its aspects,” said conference organizer, Robin Mama, Ph.D., dean of the School of Social Work and a founding member of the University’s Community Garden.

Dr. Mama notes that community gardens offer opportunities for individuals to grow fresh produce, while also providing produce for local food banks and individuals in need.

“Community garden projects also provide educational opportunities for people of all ages to learn about gardening, sustainability and wellness,” she said.

Four key themes were the focus of the conference: health and gardening; community and sustainability; urban gardening and poverty; and gardening and education.

Keynote speakers at the conference included: Dr. Sean Morrissey, project administrator, Thrive.Org.UK, the leading charity in the United Kingdom that uses gardening to bring about positive changes in the lives of people who are living with disabilities or ill health; Tobias Fox, founder of Newark Science and Sustainability, Inc., a nonprofit, community-driven organization based in Newark, N.J. which advocates for the incorporation of science into the social fabric; and Lisa Mosca, senior manager, PHS City Harvest Program, Philadelphia.

Blair, whose academic interests include American literature and culture, New Jersey literature, popular culture, and history of rhetoric, also served as a faculty advisor to the storied student literary and art publication, The Monmouth Review, from 1997 to 2010, and as a faculty peer observer.

“I am very grateful for the wonderful support I have received from the peer mentoring program team leaders and mentors, the Honors School office, my home department [English], the Transformative Learning team, and the rest of the university,” Blair said.
Monmouth University’s stunning campus caught the attention of internet media company, BuzzFeed, claiming the #7 spot in an October list of “25 of the Most Beautiful College Campuses in the World.”

Located on the grounds of the storied Shadow Lawn estate since 1956, Monmouth has maintained a reputation for cleanliness and beauty, while also adhering to the responsibility of preserving Wilson Hall, a National Historical Landmark. Wilson Hall is also one of three University-owned properties on the National Register of Historic Places, including the Murry and Leonie Guggenheim Library the Beaux-Arts mansion, designed by Carrère and Hastings, and the Lauren K. Woods Theater.

In June, Monmouth’s campus also earned accolades from college rankings site, “Best Value Schools,” (BVS) as one of the 30 Most Beautiful Coastal College Campuses in the nation, and the only New Jersey school to make the list.

BVS editor Kelsey Fox noted, “Monmouth students especially enjoy frequenting the Seven Presidents’ Oceanfront Park, a popular New Jersey destination for sunbathing, swimming, surfing, and more. Students interested in this beach college who also enjoy urban comforts will be happy to know that Monmouth is a mere 40 miles from New York City, while those looking for a cozier beach town environment will surely enjoy the grassroots surf community that West Long Branch has become.”

All students and faculty members at affiliated schools gain exclusive access to research, whitepapers and infographics; complimentary registration to the Common Ground webinar series; discounts to the annual Music Biz convention as well as Music Startup Academy and Entertainment & Technology Law Conference events; and eligibility to apply for scholarships through the Scholarship Foundation.

Department Chair Joseph Rapolla ’90M said the partnership will bring upwards of 30 students to the Music Biz national convention in Nashville this May.

“They will be active participate in panels, presentations and other events, while immersing themselves with executives representing Warner Music, Sony, Google, and Apple,” Rapolla said.

Monmouth University’s stunning campus caught the attention of internet media company, BuzzFeed, claiming the #7 spot in an October list of “25 of the Most Beautiful College Campuses in the World.”

In September Monmouth University joined 11 colleges and universities as an academic partner of the non-profit Music Business Association (MusicBiz), through the organization’s new Academic Partnership Program.

“It is imperative that we ensure the future prosperity of the Music Biz by providing support for those who are training the next generation of industry executives,” said MusicBiz President James Donio.

Donio, also an adjunct professor in the Department of Music & Theatre Arts, said the partnership will provide support and exclusive opportunities for schools, students and faculty members who are fostering the future of the music industry through music business, technology and entertainment law education.

“As an adjunct professor at Monmouth University, I’ve seen first-hand how essential a balanced educational experience can be for those pursuing a career in the music business,” Donio said.

NEW MUSIC BUSINESS AFFILIATION

BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF BUZZFEED
**U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKING RISES**

Monmouth University again moved up in the *U.S. News & World Report*’s annual ranking of Best Colleges, climbing one spot to 36. The region’s premier private coastal university has risen 40 spots since 2005, eclipsing nearly three-quarters of the universities in its category (Regional Universities North).

“It’s fantastic to see our ranking rise once again in *U.S. News & World Report* and to be recognized as one of the best colleges in the nation,” said President Paul R. Brown, Ph.D.

“Monmouth University offers students an environment for transformative learning and immersive personal experiences both inside and outside the classroom. We take pride in preparing students to succeed in life after Monmouth.”

Monmouth University is also one of the nation’s best institutions for undergraduate education, according to The Princeton Review. The education services company features the school in the new 2016 edition of its annual higher education guide, “The Best 380 Colleges.”

In addition, Monmouth is the only New Jersey institution included in the “most beautiful coastal campus” list by Best Value Schools (BVS).

The 2016 edition of *U.S. News & World Report*’s Best Colleges includes data on schools nationwide to help parents and students evaluate their options. For more information, visit www.usnews.com/colleges.

**JOIN HAWKS FLYING TO RUSSIA**

Guided Tour of Russia and Poland | June 24 - July 9, 2016


Highlights of the tour, which runs June 25 to July 9, 2016, will include guided tour of Warsaw’s Old City and the Museum of the History of Polish Jews on the site of old Warsaw Ghetto. Sightseeing locations in Russia include the “Golden Ring,” (13th – 14th Century center of Russian civilization); in Moscow, the Kremlin and Red Square, Armory Museum, Tretyakov Art Gallery, and in St. Petersburg, the Peter and Paul Fortress, Hermitage Museum, and magnificent Catherinean Palace, and the Summer Palace of the Tsars.

The tour will include an academic exchange with a university or law clinic in St. Petersburg to discuss current developments in Russian law, politics, and higher education. For Monmouth students or others seeking academic credit in conjunction with the guided learning experience, Dr. Pearson offers an independent study course.

Reserve your place by contacting Dr. Pearson by email at pearson@monmouth.edu, or Cindy Bell by email at cbell@monmouth.edu or by phone at 732-571-3440 to confirm your interest in the trip. An initial orientation session will be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in Bey Hall 201 (Turrell Board Room).

Reservations and a deposit of $200 for each traveler must be secured by February 8, 2016.
Monmouth University was again among the U.S. Veterans Magazine’s (USVM) 2015 evaluation of the nation’s Best of the Best Top Veteran-Friendly Schools.

USVM polled hundreds of Fortune 1000 companies for this year’s Best of the Best evaluations. The annual review is an evaluation of the nation’s employers, initiatives, government agencies and educational institutions. These nonbiased studies are valuable resources for jobseekers, business owners, students, consumers, senior management, business associations, employment agencies and consumer groups.

Dr. Saliba Sarsar ’78, political science professor and chair of the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation (HCEF) Research and Publication Committee, received the HCEF Award at the HCEF Awards Banquet on October 16 in Washington, DC.

“We are deeply grateful for your noble dedication to justice, peace, and coexistence, and especially your enduring commitment to the presence of Christians in the Holy Land,” said HCEF President/CEO Sir Rateb Y. Rabie, KCHS.

Fr. Drew Christiansen, S.J., HCEF co-founder and member of the Board of Directors, and Distinguished Professor of Ethics & Human Development at Georgetown University, added, “Your generosity has been extraordinary and your delicate, diplomatic touch has been a great help in difficult moments.”

The HCEF Awards Banquet attracted more than 300 participants, including representatives of over 25 religious, human rights, and governmental organizations from throughout the U.S., Chile, Jordan, Palestine, and Israel. It was followed on October 17 by the 17th HCEF Annual International Conference, which focused on the theme of “Our Faith Is Commitment to Justice, Peace, and Coexistence.”

Dr. Christine Hatchard ’00, an assistant professor of psychology and the director of the Clinical Psychology Research Center, is the recipient the 2015 Early Career Achievement Award from the American Psychological Association.

The highly selective award is given to early-career psychologists from all areas of psychology (education, public interest, practice, and science) that are within ten years of receiving their doctorate. Winners were chosen “from an extraordinary pool of candidates based on their achievements and demonstrations of astute leadership in the field of Psychology.”

This is the second national award Dr. Hatchard has won as an early career Psychologist. In 2012, she won an Early Career Psychologist Scholarship Award from the National Register of Health Service Providers in conjunction with the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Hatchard is a 2011 recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Unsung Hero Award for her efforts, "exemplifying Dr. King’s spirit, life, teachings, and commitment to service.” Her areas of research interest include: Object Relations therapy and emotion, personality and forensic assessment, multicultural counseling and racial identity, the development of beginning counseling skills in undergraduate students, the psychodynamic treatment of eating disorders, human sexuality, and therapeutic considerations in the context of mother-daughter sexual abuse.
ATHLETICS

NEW LOOK FOR SHADOW

Monmouth’s beloved mascot, Shadow, unveiled a new look on Friday, October 23 at the Homecoming Weekend Kick-Off event. The evening at the beachfront Ocean Place Resort included members of the spirit squad and pep band, and the reintroduction of a bonfire. Shadow’s new look matches the brand identity and spirit marks introduced on May 2, 2014.

The Homecoming Kick-Off event included remarks from Football Head Coach Kevin Callahan previewing the Homecoming game against Coastal Carolina following a major win over No. 22 ranked Liberty, 20-17, on October 17.

GARDEN STATE GLORY FOR COMPAGNI

Cross Country and Track & Field Coach Joe Compagni added another feather in his cap in October when he was named by The Garden State Runs organization in its list of the 25 Most Influential People in New Jersey Running.

In his 21st year at the helm, Compagni and his programs have won an impressive 44 conference titles (Northeast Conference/MAAC/IC4A), has had over 300 student-athletes named All-East and more than 100 athletes qualify for the First Round of the NCAA Championship.

“I can think of some great luminaries in New Jersey running just from the Shore alone - living legends like Elliott Denman and Dean Shonts; world-class athletes like Ajee Wilson and Ashley Higginson; movers and shakers like Rob DeFilippis and Jim Schlentz; Monmouth alums making a huge difference in our sport like Craig Segal, Rob Cavanaugh and Ford Palmer; Monmouth junior Dylan Capwell making a big splash the last two years - and many more - who could certainly be on the list,” Compagni said.

“Coach Joe Compagni has been a longtime successful coach for Monmouth,” said Vice President and Director of Athletics Dr. Marilyn McNeil. “Beyond that, he is a first-class human being and wonderful role model.”

Compagni and his staff have been honored 41 times with coach of the year honors, earning the distinction 27 times while in the Northeast Conference, eight times as members of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC), while also lauded six times by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

In Compagni’s tenure, the Hawks have had 17 All-Americans, including eight in the last three seasons. Over the last 14 seasons, 35 Hawks have participated in the U.S. National Championships, U.S. Junior National Championships, Jamaican Junior National Championships, and U.S. Olympic Trials, including one Olympic Trials Champion (Bobby Smith, javelin, 2008) and several Junior All-Americans.

In their third year in the MAAC, the cross country teams posted their best-ever finishes at the MAAC Championships as the women’s team claimed third and the men’s squad landed in fourth in October. Jenna Cupp along with Molly McKeon and senior Graham Huggins-Filozof paced their respective teams en route to earning all-conference honors as each earned a top-15 result to lead the way for the team, which compiled its best top-five averages on any course in program history.
The Athletics Hall of Fame, class of 2015, inductees, will be honored on December 12, 2015. Inductees includes Jennifer Egan Bjorndahl ’97 (Softball/Tennis), Robert Alexander Blackwell Jr. ’92 (Basketball), Jason Gmitter ’98 (Football), Hugh MacDonald ’07 (Soccer) and Tisifenee Taylor ’07 (Track & Field). For the third time, the Hall of Fame will induct a team of distinction, with the 1995-96 Men’s Basketball team being honored.

EGAN BJORNDAHL was a two sports star for the Hawks, captaining both the Monmouth softball and women’s tennis teams. A four year starter in both sports, she played first singles for three seasons and won the NEC B Flight Singles Tournament in 1996, earning a 20-3 record as a senior. On the diamond, she led the nation in triples as a junior with 16 during the 1995 season. She finished her career third at Monmouth in triples (25), fourth in base hits (209), stolen bases (55) and runs scored (126).

One of the most decorated athletes in school history, BLACKWELL finished his career as a three-time First-Team All-Metropolitan, All-State and All-Northeast Conference honoree. A prolific scorer, the communication major still holds the single-season scoring record with 663 points in 1990-91 and owns three of the top-eight single-season scoring records overall. Blackwell reached double-figures in 79 of 86 career games played, with 25 double-doubles and his career 20.3 points-per-game scoring average is still highest in program Division I history. He is Monmouth’s single-season record holder for field goals made with 247 (1990-91), when he garnered District II All-American honors.

The Hawks averaged 18.6 wins in the three seasons with Blackwell on the squad, setting a then program-record with 20 victories during the 1991-92 year. He was a gold medal winner for the United States in the World University Games in 1991, where he played in all six games for the US, averaging 6.0 points and 4.2 rebounds. Monmouth’s only player to play in the National Basketball Association, he signed as a free agent with the Los Angeles Lakers on August 11, 1992, appearing in 27 games that season.

GMITTER was one of the earliest defensive stars on the Monmouth Football team, playing defensive end for the Hawks from 1994-97. As a senior in 1997 he recorded 11.5 sacks, 36 tackles and 15 tackles for a loss en route to earning NEC Defensive Player of the Year honors. Monmouth was 26-12 in his four seasons, including the Hawks’ first conference championship team in 1996. Twice during his career he earned All-ECAC and First Team All-NEC honors and in 1996 he was named Mid-Major All-American by Don Hansen’s National Football Gazette. Gmitter has held the school record with 25.5 career sacks for the last 17 seasons and counting. He was honored as the Monmouth University Scholar Athlete in 1997 and was a two-time recipient of the team’s Vince Lombardi Second Effort Award.

REGISTER NOW FOR HALL OF FAME INDUCTION DINNER:
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
6:30 p.m. - Social Hour;
7:30 – 10:30 p.m. - Dinner and Program
Wilson Hall
$105 per person
(includes Basketball ticket)

BASKETBALL HALFTIME CEREMONY:
SUNDAY, DECEMBER
Monmouth vs. Wagner
2 p.m. Tip-off
The MAC

JENNIFER EGAN BJORNDAHL ’97
ROBERT ALEXANDER BLACKWELL JR. ’92
JASON GIMITER ’98
MACDONALD made an immediate impact for Coach Rob McCourt’s team after transferring in for his final two seasons. With MacDonald roaming the backfield, the Hawks won back to back Northeast Conference regular season championships, made two NEC Tournament Finals appearance and went to the program’s first NCAA Tournament. Monmouth boasted one of the best defensive units in the country in 2006, setting the school record for shutouts, goals allowed and goals against average. MacDonald was a two-time NEC Defensive Player of the Year honoree and was twice named All-Region and First Team All-NEC. He was the 10th ranked defender entering the MLS draft and signed with the New York Red Bull after being one of 52 players invited to the pre-draft combine. Once his professional career ended, MacDonald joined McCourt’s staff, helping the Hawks to six regular season championships and four NCAA Tournament appearances.

TAYLOR left West Long Branch as one of the most decorated athletes ever to step on campus. In 2007 she became the first Monmouth female track athlete to earn First Team All-American honors after finishing fourth in the long jump at the NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships. Her long jump mark of 21’ 6 ¾” claimed the 10th spot in the United States and 22nd in the world. That same season she won the long jump at the ECAC Championships and the Northeast Conference Championships, while also taking first at the NECs in the 100m. The three-time All-East performer set three school records during her career while setting a pair of Northeast Conference records in the long jump and the 4x100 relay. A two-time conference champion in the long jump, Taylor was named MVP of the NEC Outdoor Championship Meet as a senior after helping the Hawks to their fourth team title during her career.

The 1995-96 MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM was the first to win the Northeast Conference Tournament Championship and advance to the NCAA Tournament. The squad tied the school record with 20 wins and finished the season at 20-10 overall and 14-4 in the NEC. Monmouth earned the 13th-seed in the East Regional and faced 4th-seeded Marquette in Providence, R.I. (Providence Civic Center), where the duo of Hall of Famers Corey Albano (14 points, seven rebounds) and John Giraldo (13 points, five rebounds, three assists), led the Hawks in a First Round defeat. The Hawks, which won 19 of its final 24 games, earned the third seed in the NEC Tournament. After dispatching Wagner at home, the Blue & White overcame a five point deficit in 21 seconds to top Marist (57-56) and then used a pair of Quincy Lee free throws to take down rival Rider with four seconds left at Boylan Gym in championship game.

The Monmouth University Athletics Hall of Fame 2015 Induction Dinner presented by Alliance Shippers will be held Saturday, December 12, at 6:30 p.m. in historic Wilson Hall. Dinner tickets are $105 per person. Call the Office of University Engagement at 732-571-3489 to make reservations.

In addition, inductees will be honored in a halftime ceremony during the men’s basketball game on December 13 when Monmouth hosts Wagner College.

The Monmouth University Athletics Hall of Fame was established in 1981 to recognize, honor and perpetuate the achievements of members of the Monmouth University family who have made outstanding contributions to Monmouth University athletics. These individuals have helped to bring recognition, honor, distinction and excellence to Monmouth University and its athletic programs.

The Hall of Fame Selection Committee solicited alumni and the general public for the names of eligible nominees..
SEASON TITLE FOR WOMEN’S SOCCER

The women’s soccer team, which registered a 9-1 mark in Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play, earned its third straight MAAC Regular Season Championship and No. 1 seed in the Women’s Soccer Championships on November 6, but fell to 2-1 to sixth-seeded Siena at Hesse Field on the Great Lawn.

Monmouth, which won its third straight MAAC Regular Season Championship, registered its 10th straight season with a double-digit win total, finishing the year with a 13-3-2 overall record.

"It is an unfortunate ending to a terrific season," said Coach Krissy Turner, who earned her 200th Monmouth win on October 14. "However, defense wins championships, and we gave up two goals, which is not going to win a MAAC title."

The loss marked the end of the collegiate careers of seniors Danielle Axelrod, Brianne Boyle, Kristen Brett, Monique Goncalves, Colleen Howard, and Cara Poole. This class accounted for 54 victories for the Hawks, three regular season championships and a conference title and NCAA appearance in 2013.

For the fifth time in program history, the team had five players named first team all-conference, with a total of nine players on All-MAAC teams. Highlighted by forward Alexis McTamney’s selection as the MAAC Offensive Player of the Year, the junior headlines the First Team All-MAAC squad along with frontline running mate Erica Murphy, senior midfielder Brianne Boyle, senior back Kristen Brett, and junior back Julie Spracklin.

In addition to the Hawks’ first-team picks, junior forward Rachael Ivanicki, sophomore forward Rachelle Ross, and senior back Colleen Howard were named to the All-MAAC Second Team while freshman midfielder Alli DeLuca was chosen as an All-Rookie Team member.

SALSBURG IS NEW SOFTBALL COACH

Shannon Salsburg is the new head softball coach. She succeeds Louie Berndt, who retired following six seasons at Monmouth. Before her appointment in September, Salsburg was the head coach at Bowling Green State University (BGSU) for the last nine years and was named Mid-American Conference (MAC) Coach of the Year in 2012.

Salsburg’s teams posted a 196-232-1 overall record during her nine years as head coach at BGSU, including a 92-98 mark in MAC regular season competition. She was the longest-tenured coach in program history, and is also second in wins in BGSU softball annals.

The Navarre, OH, native coached nine All-MAC First Team honorees, nine Second Team selections and nine Freshman Team picks. Two of her student-athletes earned MAC Freshman of the Year, while two more players were named to the NFCA All-Great Lakes Region Team. Salsburg’s student-athletes also excelled in the classroom in her time at Bowling Green, as two were named CoSIDA Academic All-Americans, four earned CoSIDA Academic All-District and 17 were honored as Academic All-MAC, including seven in 2015.

Salsburg is a 1998 graduate of Penn State University, where she was a four-year starter at first base. She captained the Nittany Lions in three of those seasons, and established the school career record for home runs (34) that stood until 2013. She remains Penn State’s career leader in runs batted in (118) and walks (99). A two-time All-Big Ten selection, she earned All-Great Lakes Region First-Team honors in 1995.
REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP FOR MEN’S SOCCER

Following a win on October 24 against Niagara University at Hesse Field on the Great Lawn, the men’s soccer team clinched the MAAC regular-season championship before falling to Rider in the MAAC Championship Final tournament at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Buena Vista, FL, on November 9.

The loss snapped the Hawks’ 17-game winning streak, which led the nation entering the game and catapulted the Hawks back into the national rankings. Monmouth was ranked 25th in the country by the NSCAA Division I national poll and 29th in the College Soccer News Top 30.

The regular season championship is the 11th in program history and the ninth for the Hawks under Head Coach Robert McCourt. Monmouth has also won the MAAC regular-season championship twice in three years in the league.

“It’s another regular-season championship,” McCourt said. “We won the MAAC Tournament last year and won the regular season this year. So I’m really excited for and proud of the guys. They’ve worked their butts off the whole season so far, and they deserve it.”

Monmouth (13-4-4) must hope for a potential at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament, while Rider (14-5-1) secured the MAAC’s automatic berth.

“The boys are disappointed right now, but we’ve had a fantastic season,” said McCourt. “I’d like to pay tribute to our group of seniors. They’ve had outstanding careers at Monmouth and should be proud.”

For their performances over three games in the tournament, Zachary Pereira, John Egan, and Dave Nigro were named to the All-MAAC Championship Team.

NSCAA ACADEMIC AWARDS FOR SOCCER

The men’s soccer team was named in September an NSCAA College Team Academic Award Winner for the seventh-straight year.

“We have received this recognition in academics for several years in a row now. Performance in the classroom is something we are very proud of. Maintaining a team GPA above 3.0 is one of our important goals we discuss every preseason. It is wonderful to see the team be winners both on the field and in the classroom,” said Head Coach Robert McCourt.

Five members of the team earned individual MAAC All-Academic Team honors; Derek Luke and Dom Sarle were joined by seniors Bryant Avalos and Tim Ballard, and junior John Egan. To be eligible for the MAAC All-Academic Team, student-athletes must complete two semesters at their institution and hold a cumulative GPA of at least 3.20.
The Monmouth Hawks weren’t the only birds to practice at Monmouth Stadium as the Philadelphia Eagles of the National Football League held two planned practices on Kessler Field on September 23 and 24.

With Pope Francis visiting Philadelphia, the city was expecting an influx of visitors, forcing many area businesses to close. With the Eagles scheduled to play the New York Jets on September 25 at MetLife Stadium, the papal visit would wreak havoc on the team’s practice and workout schedule on Friday and Saturday.

Enter Eagles Head Coach Chip Kelly and his professional relationship with Monmouth Head Coach Kevin Callahan.

“Strategically, when we found out we were playing the Jets we looked in the area. I have such a great relationship with [Monmouth Head Coach] Kevin [Callahan]. Monmouth was the first place we called, and they were so accommodating in terms of what we need to do.”

Prior to his time at Philadelphia and The University of Oregon, Kelly coached at the University of New Hampshire for 12 seasons, a FCS school and member of the Colonial Athletic Association.

Kelly invited Coach Callahan and the Monmouth coaching staff out to practice with the two colleagues conversing before and after the workout.

“We were more than happy to have Coach Kelly and the Philadelphia Eagles practice at our facility,” Callahan said. “The coaching profession is a tight knit community and we are glad to help each other out whenever we can. Miles Austin being a member of the Eagles made it especially nice.”

It was also a homecoming of sorts Austin, a 10 year NFL vet who is a member of the Eagles. Austin, who became the first Hawk to sign with an NFL team, left Monmouth owning every receiving record while winning a pair of conference championships.

“The Eagles’ practices, which were closed to the public, as well as the media, also marked the first return of an NFL team to West Long Branch since the Giants conducted their training camp for two summers in 1972 and 1973.

Neal Sterling ’15, a former standout wide receiver at Monmouth University who has spent his rookie season in the NFL on the Jacksonville Jaguars’ practice squad, was elevated to the team’s 53-man roster in October.

In May Sterling became Monmouth’s second player drafted when the Jags made him the 220th overall pick in the seventh round of the NFL Draft. He was released by the Jaguars on Sept. 4, one day after catching three passes for 38 yards in his preseason debut. He had been hampered for much of the preseason with hamstring trouble, but was signed to the practice squad on Sept. 6.

The Jaguars were one of several teams Sterling met with during the pre-draft process after 19 teams showed up at Monmouth Pro Day on March 10 when he was the headliner.

Sterling closed his Monmouth career as the most-decorated Hawks wide receiver since 2006 graduate and Philadelphia Eagle Miles Austin. Sterling finished in the top three on the career list of every receiving category. As a senior in 2014, his 16.5 yards per catch led the Big South, while his 9.1 catches per game, 905 yards and six touchdowns were all good for second in the league. His 55 catches last season were a team-high.

Sterling joins Austin and Buffalo Bills wide receiver Chris Hogan as former Hawks on NFL rosters.
**ALL-TIME TEAM HONORS FOR FOOTBALL**

Three former members of the football team were honored as members of the Northeast Conference (NEC) 20th Anniversary Football All-Time Team in October. Monmouth, which began playing football in 1993, was a member of the NEC for 16 years, winning five league titles in that span.

Although Monmouth football has since joined the Big South Conference (2014), three outstanding players registered honors with the NEC as it marks its season-long 20th anniversary celebration on the gridiron.

All-Time Team members include Receiver: Miles Austin (2002-05); Tight End: John Nalbone (2005-08); and Linebacker: Joe Sentipal (1999-2003).

League officials emphasized that because the All-time Team was selected in a position-by-position manner, it does not necessarily include the "27 Greatest Players in NEC Football History."

When Monmouth’s Division I programs accepted an invitation to join the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (which does not sponsor football) in the fall of 2013, the football program transitioned to the Big South Conference in 2014, after spending one year as an independent.

Monmouth has sent a number of players to the professional ranks, including three current Hawks in the NFL, Miles Austin/Philadelphia Eagles Miles Austin, Chris Hogan/Buffalo Bills, Neal Sterling/Jacksonville Jaguars. Other former players with time in the NFL include Tevin Brandon, Jose Gumbs, and John Nalbone.
Monmouth, the 2015 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Regular Season Co-Champions, returned to the postseason for the 11th time on November 6. The Hawks, who captured their third regular season crown, entered a conference tournament as the top-seeed for the third time in program history, before falling to Fairfield in the MAAC Championship semi-finals.

Junior Casey Hanna was named the 2015 MAAC Defensive Player of the Year, and sophomore Christen Piersanti earned the MAAC Co-Goalkeeper of the Year as six total Hawks earned all-league honors on November 5. Monmouth, the MAAC Regular Season Co-Champions and top-seeed in the MAAC Championship tournament, landed five players on the All-MAAC First Team, the highest number in program history.

Joining Hanna and Piersanti on the All-MAAC First Team are senior Cori Allen, junior Alyssa Ercolino, and sophomore Meg Donahue, while second-year Hawk Sydney Southard claimed a spot on the All-MAAC Second Team.

Field Hockey boasts honors for the league’s defensive player of the year for three straight seasons as Hanna claimed her second-consecutive nod. Hanna, who makes a repeat appearance on the All-MAAC First Team, excelled on the back line again this season, compiling a team-leading four defensive saves and was lauded as the league’s defensive player of the week on three different occasions.

Piersanti, who shares the honor with Siena College’s Mary Drabich, becomes the first Hawk in program history to earn Goalkeeper of the Year honors and earns her first career all-league honors. Allen makes her second-straight appearance on the All-MAAC First Team. The senior and tri-captain, who is a perfect 3-for-3 in penalty strokes, has three game-winning goals, while contributing on the other end with a defensive save.

Making her second appearance on an All-MAAC Team, her first on the first team, Ercolino had a break-out year registering career-bests in both goals (7) and points (18), earning MAAC Offensive Player of the Week accolades. Donahue lands on the first team after debuting last year on the second team. The 2014 MAAC Rookie of the Year started all 18 games on the forward line this season, compiling 15 points on four goals, including the game-winning marker at Bryant, and seven assists. Southard earns her second-consecutive second team nod. The defender played in 16 games on the year, earning a start in 11 games, including the last seven contests.

In addition to the all-league awards being announced, the conference announced its All-Academic Team, which featured seven Hawks. To be honored, student-athletes must complete two semesters at their institution and hold a cumulative GPA of 3.20. Allen, Ercolino and Hanna, along with senior Lauren Horner and sophomores Rachel Konowal, Mallory Kusakavtich, and Lauren Fried were lauded for their academic success.
GHENT IS WOMEN’S LACROSSE COACH

Eileen Ghent was named the new head coach for the women’s lacrosse program in August. She has been an assistant coach with the Hawks during the last four seasons and was elevated to associate head coach prior to the 2014 season.

During her time on Coach Denise Wescott’s staff, she helped lead Monmouth to a 26-8 conference record and back to back NCAA Tournament appearances in 2012 and 2014.

“We are excited that Eileen Ghent will lead our women’s lacrosse program,” Vice President and Director of Athletics Marilyn McNeil said. “She has been an important part of Coach Wescott’s staff over the last four seasons, as they captured a pair of conference titles before transitioning to the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC).

For the past four seasons Ghent has been charged with guiding the Monmouth defense, while serving as the recruiting coordinator and directing the program’s camps and clinics. Last season, Monmouth finished with a 12-6 record despite facing its hardest overall schedule in program history. The Hawk defense, mentored by Ghent, finished second in scoring defense and first in caused turnovers as Monmouth went 6-2 in conference play and earned the third seed in the MAAC Tournament.

“I am excited to build on our strong relationships with our extended community of parents, fans and alumnae, while welcoming new members into our Hawk community,” Ghent said. “While keeping our goal of winning the MAAC championship in mind, we look forward to bringing Monmouth University and our lacrosse program into the national spotlight.”

Ghent came to Monmouth from Rutgers University where she served as a player-assistant coach as a junior and senior. The Silver Spring, MD, native had her playing career at Rutgers cut short due to a number of knee injuries she suffered as a freshman and sophomore. After her second year in Piscataway she decided to become a player-assistant coach on Coach Laura Brand-Sias’ team, preparing practices and helping organize and plan camps and clinics.

Ghent takes the helm from Wescott, who announced her departure to take a different position in July after six seasons at Monmouth.

IWLCA ACADEMIC HONORS FOR LACROSSE

The women’s lacrosse team was named as an Intercollegiate Women’s Lacrosse Coaches Association Academic Honor Squad in August for its classroom performance during the 2014-15 season.

Individually, attacker Meaghan Hess and rising senior Michelle Gonzales were named to the 2015 IWLCA/Zag Sports Division I Academic honor roll. Hess completed her degree in History and Political Science in May, graduating with a 3.87 GPA. She has enrolled in law school at Gonzaga University. Gonzales, a communication major, has accumulated a 3.64 GPA in three years at Monmouth.

“Being honored as an IWLCA Academic Honor Squad is a tremendous accomplishment for our team and is a testament to the dedication and commitment our student-athletes take in their schoolwork,” said Head Coach Eileen Ghent. “We take pride in our academic success, and it is something that each of our student-athletes takes very seriously.”

A student athlete must be at least a junior and own a cumulative academic GPA of 3.50 or greater to be considered for the award. Monmouth wrapped up the 2015 season with a 12-6 record and a third place finish in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.
Soccer star Christie Rampone ’99 HN ’05, captain of the women’s U.S. National Soccer team since 2008, was honored along with her fellow champions in the White House on October 27, meeting with President Barack Obama.

“These champions deserve all the attention that they’ve been getting,” President Obama said. “After 16 long years, too many heartbreaks, they flew north to put America back on top of the soccer world. And they did it in style. It was a victory that took all 23 players. It took Christie Rampone’s leadership, Alex Morgan’s playmaking, Heather O’Reilly’s game face.”

The U.S. defeated Japan 5–2 during the final in July to collect the top prize in women’s soccer for the first time in 16 years.

Rampone, the only player on the squad that remains from the 1999 World Cup Championship team, is a three-time Olympic gold medalist and two-time FIFA Women’s World Cup champion. She has never finished lower than third place in any of the World Cup or Olympic tournaments in which she has competed.

It was her second visit to the White House as a team captain. On July 1, 2010, Rampone presented President Obama with a team jersey in the East Room of the White House when President Obama honored Sky Blue Football Club, the Women’s Professional Soccer 2009 champions.

Inducted into the Monmouth University Sports Hall of Fame in 2007, Rampone holds the Hawks’ all-time scoring record with 212 points, on 79 goals and 54 assists. A four-year member of the basketball team, she remains tied with Michelle Cappadona ’02 for the steals record at Monmouth.

Rampone continues her professional career as a defender with Sky Blue FC, playing home matches at Yurcak Field in Piscataway.

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Alumni News

Maureen Lawrence ’01, who graduated summa cum laude from Monmouth with a degree in business accounting, has been named the 2015 Nonprofit CFO of the Year by NJBIZ.

Serving as Brookdale Community College’s chief financial officer (CFO), Lawrence was selected from a pool of five finalists for the award, which was presented during an October 9 award ceremony at the Palace at Somerset Park, in Somerset.

“It’s wonderful to be recognized by other finance professionals, but I’ve always felt like a winner working for Brookdale,” said Lawrence, who has served as Brookdale’s vice president of finance and operations since January 2013. “I’m blessed to truly love what I do.”

As Brookdale’s CFO, Lawrence has overseen efforts to close a multi-million dollar budget deficit at the college by reducing operating expenses, procuring grants and identifying outside funding sources for a wide range of campus improvement projects.

Lawrence has worked as an accounts, grants and finance professional at Brookdale since 2003. She previously worked as a budget analyst with the Department of Defense and as a senior staff member for KPMG, LLP, in Princeton.

Following graduation from Monmouth, she attained a master’s degree in administrative sciences from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Education from Seton Hall University.

Dante Barry ’10, former class president, continues to lead. He was recently named to the list of 100 Influential Black Leaders in 2015 for his work leading the national organization, Million Hoodies for Justice.

Every year since 2009, The Root has defined black excellence with a list of 100 honorees who, while succeeding across multiple platforms—the sciences, the arts, activism, writing, sports, business, entertainment—go beyond headlines or statistics.

According to The Root, founded in 2008, under the leadership of Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr., “These are people who make the difference, having an impact on other lives through their work. And these are not just the famous or wealthy, but the many who often go unrecognized, fighting for equality and racial justice in a year defined by the pertinence of black life.”

Coming in at #89, Barry was recognized for his commitment to the community and exemplified The Root’s 2015 theme of “Black Lives Matter.” He directs and oversees grassroots activities of the Million Hoodies Movement for Justice. He joined the organization in 2013 as its vice president for Membership & Engagement. The organization empowers and engages more than 50,000 people across the nation to confront structural violence and profiling against young people of color.

The Root commended Million Hoodies on its proactive reaction involving students, artists, and others following the murder of Trayvon Martin, calling him “a natural-born community organizer.”

“His team have raised millions of dollars for victims and nurtured the involvement of more than 50,000 people who want to help—not all of them young, not all of them black, but no less corporately invested in the value of young, black people. [Barry] eloquently expresses the systemic challenges around preserving our most basic human right—the right to live—as a writer and commentator for CNN, MTV, Colorlines and MSNBC.”
Former members of the men’s basketball team from 1958 through 1964 gathered informally at Barnacle Bill’s restaurant in Rumson on October 15.

The teammates and friends gather informally several times as year, usually organized by Walt Mischler ’62, whose jersey was retired in January. A member of the Monmouth University Athletics Hall of Fame’s first ever class in 1981, Mischler was Monmouth College’s first All-American, as he was named NAIA First Team All-American in 1962. Mischler, who led the nation in rebounding that year with 625 rebounds in 24 games (26.0 RPG average), also led the nation with his 64.6 field-goal-percentage, connecting on 294-of-393 from the field in 1962.

In 2014, Mischler joined the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference in the MAAC Honor Roll, and enshrined in “The MAAC Experience” exhibit at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.
The Leon Hess Business School Business Council welcomed new chair, Deb Mannix '83, and new vice chair, William MacDonald '81, at their monthly meeting on October 16.

“I’m looking forward to the exciting year ahead and building on the Business Council’s already strong foundation,” said Mannix who has worked in the financial industry for more than 30 years. “By connecting with new strategic partnerships, we’ll be able to boost the Council’s visibility and offer more opportunities to our amazing students to ensure their success after they graduate.”

Mannix succeeds former chair, Richard Ricciardi ’86M, after serving with him as vice chair for the past two years. A financial advisor and financial planning specialist for Morgan Stanley in Red Bank, Mannix hopes to foster more interaction with students developing their professional networks in their junior year to better impact their initial job search.

“These interactions will help them successfully navigate in the business world and in their careers going forward.”

Prior to joining Morgan Stanley, Mannix worked at both Ziff Brothers Investment and Risk Enterprise Management, Ltd. in New York City. She is a graduate of Monmouth University where she earned a bachelor’s degree in finance and economics, was a resident assistant and served as vice president of Gamma Sigma Sigma service sorority. Outside of her professional career, Mannix donates her time to the American Cancer Society and the Spring Lake Historical Society.

In accepting his appointment as vice chair, William MacDonald, who is the Central New Jersey Group Manager for PNC Bank’s Commercial Banking Segment, said, “I am honored to be chosen as the vice chair of the Business Council and look forward to continuing the great work that has been accomplished.”

He added, “We will continue to build on the Council’s success in promoting educational excellence, as well as bring together the business community and Monmouth students to help enhance their future professional growth and career development.”

In his senior vice president role at PNC, MacDonald oversees the team’s community and volunteer-based activities in the marketplace and serves as its representative in the Monmouth/Ocean Development Council. He also chairs their newest business group, the Jersey Shore Coalition, aimed at improving the bank’s brand and its involvement in the communities hit by superstorm Sandy. MacDonald received a bachelor’s degree in business finance from Monmouth University in 1981.

Gary T. Puma ’99M, president and CEO of Springpoint Senior Living, received the 2015 National Excellence in the Workplace Award from LeadingAge, a national association representing 6,000 nonprofit aging-services organizations throughout the United States.

“Our goal at Springpoint is to be more than a place to work, but a community of individuals who are passionate about what they do and engaged in making a difference in the lives of our residents, their families and the communities we serve,” said Puma.

Puma, who serves as a Monmouth University trustee, and was named a Distinguished Business Leader by the Leon Hess Business School in 2011, said, “It’s an honor to be recognized nationally by LeadingAge for our extraordinary ability to create an engaged workplace culture here at Springpoint.”

This award is given in recognition of Springpoint’s outstanding success in nurturing workplace excellence through a comprehensive program of employment training, benefits, recognition and engagement.

Puma also serves as a member of the Board of Directors on the New Jersey Casino Reinvestment Development Authority.
WRITE YOUR OWN FAIRY TALE
Siggy Flicker ’90
(2015, Penguin Books, $14)

Relationship expert Siggy Flicker has matched more than a thousand couples and embraced her own second chance at love, and she knows finding a prince is no picnic. Now she’s sharing the keys to building a fairy-tale romance, beginning with an honest assessment of what you really want to be happy. In Write Your Own Fairy Tale: The New Rules for Dating, Relationships, and Finding Love On Your Terms, readers get a tried-and-true comprehensive guide to the first six months of dating and Siggy’s exclusive plan to get over heartbreak ensuring you’ll get from agony to over it in just six simple steps.

After working her way through Monmouth University as a waitress, Flicker has appeared on a number of talk shows, and starred in the VH1 reality series, Why Am I Still Single?, and provided commentary on celebrity relationships for publications such as US Weekly, In Touch Weekly and The Huffington Post. She also contributed to Marie Claire magazine with her advice column, “Single with Siggy.” Her weekly podcast “Just Sayin’” is co-hosted with the “Jersey Shore’s” Sammi Sweetheart and TV host Clare Galterio.

A DOG’S TAIL: ALICE’S HINDSIGHT OF ALCOHOL ABUSE IN HER FAMILY
Jamie Landsman ’15M
(2015, $14.95)

A Dog’s Tail is a picture book story narrated by Alice the Rottweiler exploring the impact parental alcohol abuse had on her and her family. Although aimed at younger readers, all ages can gain insight into the effects of alcohol abuse told from a different perspective. The book is recommended for: parents, mental health professionals, children, school guidance counselors, child welfare workers, young adult parents, individuals in recovery or engaged in substance abuse treatment.

Landsman earned her MSW and LSW at Monmouth University in 2015. She is currently working in the field of child protective services. An animal lover, she lives in New Jersey with her husband Randy, and hopes to venture into the field of animal therapy.

MONMOUTH COUNTY THROUGH TIME
Robert Gilinsky ’98
(2014, Fonthill Media, $19.95)

Monmouth County has often been referred to as the crossroads of New Jersey. Centrally located within the state, one of the most crucial battles during the American Revolutionary War took place there. Long sought out for its beautiful beaches, historical attractions, and lush scenery, Monmouth County is currently home to over half a million people. Part of the ‘America Through Time series, Monmouth County Through Time features both vintage and modern images from across the county, including references to Wilson Hall and the Guggenheim Library.

Gilinsky is also the author of Asbury Park and Neptune, which is part of Arcadia Publishing’s Then & Now series, and his work has appeared in Weird New Jersey. He also volunteers at the Hispanic Affairs and Resource Center in Asbury Park and is a lifelong resident of Neptune City.
COMFORT: A NOVEL OF THE REVERSE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

H. A. Maxson ’72 and Claudia H. Young
(2014, Parkhurst Brothers Publishers Inc., $18.00)

The year 1816 in Delaware and surrounding states was known as “the year without a summer,” setting the scene for a tale of people divided by the institution of slavery, ignorance, greed and social isolation and the triumph of a few people of character over impossible odds. Comfort is a talented young seamstress who has worked to buy her freedom from slavery from her owner, an Irish immigrant and former indentured servant. Her husband, Cuff, is an unwise, irresponsible and weak man who sells his wife to pay his gambling debt. When Comfort falls into the hands of slave-trader Joe Johnson, she is sold to a cruel master in Virginia. Esther, a slave whose skin is pale enough for her to pass as white, uses her knowledge of native plants for therapeutic and not-so-therapeutic purposes, to aid Comfort.

Maxson is the author of 16 previous books; five collections of poetry, a book-length poem, a novel in free verse, a study of Robert Frost’s sonnets, and seven works of historical fiction for young readers, co-authored with Claudia Young. Maxson earned his Ph.D. at the Center for Writers at the University of Southern Mississippi and lives with his wife, Maureen, in Milford, DE.

A DEVILISH PINT

Michael Farragher ’88
(2015, CreateSpace, $10.99)

What if you came out of church one Sunday morning and a devilish character was leaning on the hood of the car waiting to take you to your favorite Irish pub so that he can tell you how life really works? That’s just one of the scenarios in “A Devilish Pint,” a collection of short stories and personal essays that provides a provocative and funny challenge to everything you know about faith, family, and life. Everything you believe about faith and family are dissected with sharp humor and blunt honesty in this collection of personal essays and short stories.

Farragher is the author of three previous books, Collared (2004), a suspense novel; This is Your Brain on Shamrocks (2011); and This is Your Brain on Shamrocks 2: Fifty Shades o’ Green (2013). He is married to voice-over artist Barbara (Miskoff) Farragher ’89 (smilingvoice.com). After 18 years, Farragher stepped away from writing the music column for IrishCentral.com earlier this year. For more information, visit www.thisisyourbrainonshamrocks.com.

ON THIS DAY IN NEW JERSEY HISTORY

Harry Ziegler ’80, Joseph G. Bilby and James M. Madden

The history of the Garden State is filled with well-known events and forgotten happenings. German Americans opened the nation’s first kindergarten in Hoboken on February 11, 1861. Prohibition brought more than two hundred bootleggers together in Sea Bright on August 15, 1924, to discuss a fixed price on their product. As America fought World War I and desperately needed ammunition, the T.A. Gillespie Shell plant exploded in Sayreville on October 4, 1918, killing at least one hundred people. From military feats and shady politics to the extraordinary episodes in the lives of everyday people, explore an entire year of events from New Jersey’s history. Local historians Joseph Bilby, James Madden and Harry Ziegler chronicle the state’s most intriguing and monumental moments one for each date on the calendar.

Ziegler, who graduated in 1980 with a degree in English, is a former editor for The Asbury Park Press. He was a recipient of the 1998 Gannett Newspaper Newsroom Supervisor Recognition Award. With Bilby and Madden, he is the co-author of several New Jersey related volumes.
CLASS OF 1958

DR. ALPHONSE MOTT (Psych.)
the founder of
Senior America, Inc., and the
Senior America National Pageant,
held the 2015 Ms. Senior America
Pageant at the Resorts Casino Hotel
in Atlantic City in October. The world’s
first and foremost pageant honoring
women who have reached, “the age of
elegance,” the non-profit organization
encourages the dignity, maturity, and
inner beauty of all senior Americans.
The pageant has recently expanded its
reach overseas, attracting contestants
from the United Kingdom, and media
coverage from the BBC.

CLASS OF 1965

LINDA C. DEUTSCH (Engl.)
was honored in
October with the
2015 Lifetime
Achievement
Award from the
International
Women’s Media
Foundation. The
veteran court
reporter for the
Associated Press
(AP) Bureau
covered many high profile cases in her
48-year career, including Sirhan Sirhan,
Charles Manson, O.J. Simpson, and
Michael Jackson. Deutsch was awarded
Monmouth University’s Distinguished
Alumni Award in 1997. She was also
nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for
her outstanding coverage of the O.J.
Simpson trial and received the AP’s
prestigious Oliver Gramling Award for
career-long excellence.

CLASS OF 1967

PETER J. MURGIO (Bus. Adm.), a retired
entrepreneur and real-estate
investor, signed
copies of his
book, The Act of
Settlement: The
American who would be King,
in August
at Bank Square Books in Mystic, CT.
Now a resident of Palm Beach Gardens,
FL, he started his professional career
on Wall Street at the American Stock
Exchange, where he served as assistant
to the vice chairman of the Board. After
a short stint as a Marketing Manager at
the General Electric Company, he moved
to Connecticut, where he joined and
later purchased a small office furniture
dealership. Over the next 30-plus years,
the company grew from 25 employees to
more than two thousand. At one point,
it was the largest dealership of its kind
in the industry, with offices in the U.S.,
Mexico and the United Kingdom. In 2010
the firm was sold to a multibillion-dollar
NYSE corporation, and Murgio retired.

CLASS OF 1968

HARRY H. LUTZ (Elem. Ed.)
is running
for town council in Bluffton, SC.
In addition to joining the planning
commission four years ago, he is a
managing partner at Harbor Light
Insurance LLC.

CLASS OF 1969

RICHARD J. BRUNELLI (Bus. Adm.),
founder of
Old Bridge-based
R.J. Brunelli & Co.,
became Chairman
of his company
in September,
stepping away
from the real estate brokerage’s day-to-
day operations. His daughter, Danielle
Brunelli-Albrecht ’03 succeeds him as the
company transitions senior leadership.
Mr. Brunelli founded the firm bearing his
name 39 years ago and built it into the
state’s leading specialist in retail real
estate. He is a former chairman of Realty
Resources, a nationwide organization
leading regional retail real estate
brokerages, and lectures on retail real
estate at the Kislak Real Estate Institute
at Monmouth University. As a student
During his undergraduate days, he was
a member of the Zeta Upsilon Sigma
fraternity.
CLASS OF 1971
WILLIAM W. RIKER (Gen. Stud.) is now the executive director of the Courthouse Center for the Arts in West Kingston, RI. Among other duties, he is responsible for booking artists, creating a membership program, talking with donors and researching and applying for grants. He was previously vice president of the Strategic Events Group in New Jersey.

CLASS OF 1972
TINA J. GORDON (Engl.), a N.J. educator for many years, recently published her first novel, Hardscrabble Way, a coming-of-age story that is available on Amazon. The author of the blog, “Tee the Trav,” (teethetrav.travellerspoint.com), she is at work on her second novel. More information can be found at www.tinajgordon.com.

CLASS OF 1973
RONALD S. PEPLAU (Soc. Stud./Ed.), a former Houston police officer, retired from AT&T Construction and Engineering as construction crew manager/fiber optics earlier this year. He now works part-time as a martial arts instructor and lives in Tomball, TX, with his wife of 42 years, Catherine.

CLASS OF 1974
FREDA KARPF (Engl.) (MSW ’08) has joined 180 Turning Lives Around, a non-profit organization dedicated to ending domestic and sexual violence, as a grant writing manager. Since its inception, 180 has provided model programs in the field of rape care and family violence, with services available on a 24-hour, seven-day-per-week basis. She is also a volunteer with the Monmouth County Parks Department.

CLASS OF 1975
ANGEL P. KAMES (Bus. Adm.) met with singer/songwriter Lou Christie at an outdoor concert in West End this summer. Kames is a bilingual/ESL teacher at the Bradley Elementary School in Asbury Park.

CLASS OF 1976
D. DEAN VITELLO (Psych.) has written a new book, Cold Case, which is available on Amazon. He is also working on a fourth novel, which he expects to be completed by the summer of 2016. Vitello is also the author of Primal Punch Therapy, (2013) and The Merc (2014).

CLASS OF 1977
DOMINIC J. GALLELLO (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. ’78), president and CEO, MSC Software, was recently interviewed by Daily CadCam at the MSC India User Conference 2015 in Pune, India, where more than 400 delegates were in attendance. He has over 30 years of CAD industry experience.

CLASS OF 1978
WILLIAM D. FAY (Bus. Mgmt.), Toyota Division Group vice president and general manager, was recently interviewed by theautochannel.com, chronicling his 33-year automotive career. In an August 12 interview, he stressed the importance of the customer and building trust and and sharing the lessons has he learned about life, professionalism and people. For the full interview visit: http://bit.ly/1HefgCc
STEVE L. LUBETKIN (Sp./Phil.) has published a new book, *The Business of Podcasting: How to take your podcasting passion from the personal to the professional*, co-authored with Donna Papacosta which is available in paperback and on Amazon Kindle. He is managing partner of Lubetkin & Co. Communications LLC.

DR. SALIBA G. SARSAR (Hist.), a professor in Monmouth’s Department of Political Science and Sociology, is the author of *Portraits: Poems of the Holy Land*, recently published by Ilora Press in Cambridge, MA. He was also honored in October with the 2015 Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation (HCEF) Award. HCEF is a nonprofit organization that works to preserve the Christian presence in the Holy Land by providing financial, moral, and spiritual support for the Christian community.

CLASS OF 1979

ANDREA L. ZAPCIC (Sp./Comm./Theat.) was re-elected in November as councilwoman for Brick Township. She serves as director of recreation in Rahway.

CLASS OF 1981

WILLIAM J. MACDONALD (Bus. Fin.) is the new vice chair of the Monmouth University Leon Hess Business School Business Council, succeeding DEB MANNIX '83 who is now chair. He is the Central New Jersey Group Manager for PNC Bank’s Commercial Banking Segment.

CLASS OF 1982

PHILIP J. PORTANTINO (MBA), executive vice president, director of human capital, at Peapack-Gladstone Bank, was interviewed by NJBiz in August. In the interview, he said, “I spent most of my formative years in West Long Branch.” As the bank’s new executive vice president, he oversees both the bank’s human resources and training functions. He was previously vice president, human resources and real estate, the Americas, at Cegedim.

CLASS OF 1983

JAYNE S. CARMODY (M.S.Ed.) retired from the Rumson Country Day School (RCDS) after 37 years. She had been the head of the Lower School since 1982. In addition to playing a leading role in the school’s testing program and accreditation process, she also created the “School Within a School” in 2007, which was later named The Jayne S. Carmody School at RCDS.

CLASS OF 1986

DECLAN J. O’SCANLON (Psych./Bus. Fin.) was re-elected in November to the N.J. Assembly, 13th District, along with Amy Handlin. He is

MICHAEL D. GREENBLATT (Psych.) and his “Roadrunner the Cat” returned to Monmouth Park Racetrack in Oceanport where they were honored and interviewed in the Monmouth Park Winner’s Circle on October 19. “Chasing News”-FOX 5 New York, FOX 29 Philadelphia video can be seen here: https://goo.gl/QGcmuf

DEBORAH A. MANNIX (Bus. Fin.), a financial advisor for Morgan Stanley, is the new chair of the Monmouth University Leon Hess Business School Business Council after serving as vice chair for the past two years. She succeeds RICHARD RICCIARDI ’86M. In October, Mannix also helped to spearhead a women’s leadership event at Monmouth’s Multipurpose Activity Center presented jointly by Morgan Stanley and Monmouth University Athletics. Molly Fletcher, the founder and CEO of the Molly Fletcher Company was the keynote speaker.
CEO of FSD Enterprises, a wireless communications consulting company and president of the Board of Love Inc., a faith-based charitable non-profit that helps people in need of assistance.

RICHARD L. RICCIARDI (M.B.A.) is now the corporate relations officer for Monmouth University’s Leon Hess Business School. He was previously the chair of the Leon Hess Business School Business Council and a retired 3M executive.

CLASS OF 1988

MICHAEL FARRAGHER (Bus. Mrkt.) recently published his fourth book, A Devilish Pint, a collection of personal essays and short stories. Earlier in the year Farragher stepped down as author of the music column for IrishCentral.com, following an 18 year run. Farragher will embark on a nationwide “rock and read” book tour in the fall with some of the musicians he’s covered as a music writer over the last two decades. To learn more about the book and tour stops, visit mikefarragher.blogspot.com.

KENNETH R. FOUlKS (Hist.) (M.A. Hist. ’07), along with Steven Rearden, has published The Joint Chiefs of Staff and National Policy, 1977-1980. He and his wife, MARY-ELIZABETH (RUGER) ’90 live in Maryland with their three sons. Ken is a colonel assigned to the Pentagon.

JEFFREY GIBS (Bus. Mgmt.) was hired as the executive vice president for Volumetric Fund to grow the Fund’s presence in the community and enhance its operations. With over 26 years of investment industry experience, he was previously manager of Private Banking in the global custody division at JP Morgan Chase, head of Portfolio Administration and compliance officer at DLIBJ Asset Management and most recently as vice president in the Fund Services group at US Bancorp. Gabriel Gibs, Jeffrey’s father, founded the Fund in 1979 and is the current CEO and co-portfolio manager.

BRIAN HANLON (Art/Ed.), named Alumnus of the Year in 2013, introduced another one of his bronze sculptures in October on the campus of Montclair State University. A 12-foot tall red hawk, representing the school’s mascot, now greets students by the main entrance to campus, near College Hall and Panzer Athletic Center.

CLASS OF 1990

LISA A. CONSIGLIO (Sp./Comm./Theat.) and STEPHEN A. WOLFF (Sp./Comm./Theat.) were married on November 23, 2014, in Spring Lake Heights. They met nearly 30 years ago on the Monmouth campus and reconnected three years ago. Alumni in attendance included matron of honor, BARBARA MISKOFF FARRAGHER ’89 and MICHAEL FARRAGHER ’88, who assisted in presiding over the ceremony along with Interfaith Rabbi Bill Kurry. Other alumni there (shown in photo from left to right) were DAVE CONNOLY ’89, BETTINA DWOR ’89, KEITH DIXON ’88, bride, groom, BARBARA FARRAGHER and MICHAEL FARRAGHER).

SIGGY FLICKER (Sp./Comm./Theat.) was recently featured in the Palm Beach Post in the article, “Boca’s matchmaker Siggy Flicker wants to help you through love’s challenges.” The TV relationship expert is also the author of Write Your Own Fairytale.
CLASS OF 1992

DONNALYN GIEGERICH-ZAPCIC (M.B.A.) was the moderator at “Women Entrepreneurs Rock,” an event in Asbury Park on October 19 sponsored by America’s Small Business Development Center at Brookdale Community College. In addition to being the president of DonnaLyn Giegerich Consulting, an integrated business and wellness speaking, coaching and training firm based in Red Bank, she is a certified insurance counselor and co-owner of Heritage Benefits Group LLC. She is also co-founder of Kick Cancer Overboard, a non-profit sending people affected by cancer on a free funfest to Bermuda every year.

CLASS OF 1994

ANTHONY J. PRECIO (Art) was recently featured in an Orvis catalogue highlighting his artistic Instagram photos.

CLASS OF 1996

JAMIE MANALIO (Comm.) married Liz Esten on July 4, 2015, at Allaire Community Farm in Wall where more than 25 alumni were in attendance. Liz is associate director of alumni relations at Monmouth University. The couple met at Monmouth.


ALUMNI Volunteers Needed

The Office of Undergraduate Admission is seeking alumni and/or parents of alumni who are interested in volunteering at new student recruitment events, including college fairs at high schools in your area or speaking with prospective students and their families at on-campus events.

Contact Vince Valenzuela ’94, chair of Student Recruitment for the Alumni Association Board of Directors at: vhvalenzuela1@gmail.com or (267) 481-4572.
Raymond Leahy (MBA) was appointed as Ocean First Bank’s new senior vice president and senior relationship manager. He joins the bank’s commercial lending department at its Red Bank financial solutions center. Leahy was previously a senior vice president for Capital One Bank in Edison.

LOREN B. FUHRING (Sp.Ed.) (M.S.Ed. ’01) (M.S.Ed. ’04) is the new superintendent for Lakehurst Elementary School. She had previously been splitting her time between Lakehurst and Island Heights before accepting this full-time position.

BRIAN THOMSON (Crim. J.), a Delaware State Police corporal, was recently featured in Delaware’s Cape Gazette for his heroic efforts to save a driver from a burning car. He successfully pulled the man to safety just minutes before the vehicle exploded. Thomson has been on the state’s police force for the past 14 years.

John J. Lamera (M.S.Ed.) (M.S.Ed ’04) was elected in November to serve on the Brick Township Board of Education for a term of three years. He is an assistant principal in Jackson Township.

Juan Mattos (M.A. Crim. J.), the first Latino to serve as U.S. Marshal for the District of New Jersey, received a 2015 Estrella del condado de Essex Award (Stars of Essex County) at the annual Latino Heritage Celebration on October 13. He was commended for his commitment to improving the lives of all residents, his leadership and dedication to public service. Mattos, who has been Marshal since 2011, entered the New Jersey State Police Academy in 1974.

Christie (Pearce) Rampone (Sp. Ed.) (H.N. ’05), player for Sky Blue FC and a 2015 NJ Hall of Fame inductee, was again voted its Defender of the Year. She is a three-time Olympic gold medalist and captain of the U.S. Women’s Olympic Soccer Team.

Brandon A. Maslan (Poli. Sci.) is a member advisor at Advancing Women Executives, a Los Angeles area business dedicated to increasing the number of women in senior management and on boards. A graduate of the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, Maslan was an attorney in Maryland from 2005 to 2011 before making the career change to recruiting. Also, he married Erin O’Brien on April 26, 2015, in West Hollywood, CA.

Adam Worth (Comm.) at Dodgers Stadium preparing for his first day of shooting the MLB playoffs. In March 2014 the videographer won a New York Emmy Award in Video Journalism for his piece, “After Hurricane Sandy.” He also received two nominations in cinematography and editing. For more information, see http://atomworth.com.
GREGORY L. ACQUAVIVA (Hist./Poli. Sci.) in August became vice president, state government affairs for UnitedHealth Group in Newark. He was previously chief of staff for the Office of Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno. In June he was honored by his law school alma mater, Seton Hall, at the 2015 “Many Are One” Alumni Awards Gala for his accomplishments in the field of law. He is the president of the Seton Hall Law Alumni Council and a member of the school of law’s Board of Visitors.

JAMIE L. KORNACEWICZ (M.A.T.) is engaged to marry Matthew Clemente in Spring 2016 at Bonnet Island Estate in Manahawkin. She is a second grade teacher in Middletown. Her fiancé works for AJ Jersey and coaches ice hockey for the Red Bank Generals and the 2015 State Champion Middletown North Lions.

TASHIA N. MALLETTE (Comm.) is the vice president, human resources for ServicesSource Inc, a national non-profit agency headquartered in Oakton, VA. She is a certified HR professional (PHR, SPHR and SHRM-SCP and holds a graduate certificate in healthcare management from Seton Hall University. Mallette is currently enrolled in the MP.S, Organization Development & Change program at Penn State University with an anticipated graduation date of May 2016.

ANTHONY J. SETARO (Comm.) is the co-owner of Jetsun Enterprises, a real estate development and investment company in Red Bank specializing in energy-efficient buildings.

BRYAN N. ZINSKI (Art), founder and owner of Summa Love Surfing & Yoga in Long Branch, was recently interviewed by easternsurf.com. He is also a professional graphic designer and is a committee member for Clean Ocean Action.

TOM DEBLASS (Sp. Ed.), the owner of Ocean County Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu in Forked River, will be inducted into the New Jersey Martial Arts Hall of Fame in the Grappling category on December 4. Earlier in the year DeBlass defeated Rodrigo Correia to become heavyweight champion in The Good Fight Submission Only World Championships. Other recent grappling honors include the 2014 ADCC NY Super Fight Champion, and 2014 Professional Grappling League Super Fight Champion.

CHRISTINE A. CLERICUZIO (Bus. Mrkt.) was recently hired as the recruiting director for MassMutual New Jersey-NYC Agency. She lives in Hillsborough.

MARCE E. GANNON (MSW) was the recipient of the School of Social Work’s Third Annual Alumni Award in November. He is the vice president of Community Impact at Aloha United Way where he oversees disbursement of funds and manages relations with more than 200 non-profit partner agencies. Gannon was previously the chief administrative officer and chief of community health services at Waikiki Health. Since attaining his MSW at Monmouth, he has earned an executive master’s degree in business administration at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.
JOHN J. VAN BRUNT (Bus. Mgmt. ’04) and COURTNEY FEDDELER (Music ’03) were married on April 18, 2015, at the Channel Club in Monmouth Beach. More than 40 Monmouth alumni attended. Monmouth graduates in the bridal party included best man, JEFF “Shoosies” BARNES ’02, maid of honor AMY (BRANDENBURG) GALLAGHER ’03, JOE PALAZZOLO ’03, BILLY STROBEL ’10, and ERIN SWETITS ’04.

CHRIS MORRISY and his band provided music for the ceremony, cocktail hour, and the reception. John is a member of Sigma Pi Fraternity, and Courtney is a member of Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority. They live in Landing. (The wedding pictures were taken by JESSICA MORRISY ’03, owner of Jessica Morrisy Photography in Ocean Grove.)

MELISSA ZIOBRO (Hist./Poli. Sci.) (M.A. Hist. ’07), a specialist professor of public history in Monmouth’s Department of History and Anthropology, gave the keynote address at Archives and History Day on October 3 at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan.

CLASS OF 2005

JON HELEOTIS (Comm.), the owner and head instructor of Spartan Mixed Martial Arts in Oakhurst, won accolades in the Asbury Park Press’s annual “Best of the Best” awards in the category of Best Martial Arts. Heliotis is a first degree black belt, and a 2-time NAGA champion, a LI Pride Champion and an NJSBJJ Brown Belt Super Fight Champion.

MICHAEL A. ST. MARTINE (Art) was inducted into the Bristol Township School District Athletic Hall of Fame, making him the youngest of nine former student athletes. The former catcher for the Hawks, St. Martine, was Monmouth’s fourth leading hitter during the 2003 season and led the roster in home runs (6) and RBIs (37). His stellar performance led to a selection from the Montreal Expos in the 12th round of the 2003 MLB Draft. He played 35 games for the club, working for the Vermont Expos and the Savannah Sand Gnats.

CLASS OF 2006

ALEXANDER P. BIESE (Music), who writes for the Asbury Park Press, participated in the talk, “How a Plant-Based Diet Saved My Life” on September 20 at Monmouth University. The event, sponsored by the Monmouth Area Vegetarian Society (MAVS), also featured a vegan potluck.

JOHN P. BOSMANS JR (Hist./Ed.) is engaged to marry Amanda Dilger in July 2016. He is a teacher in Ocean Township, and she is a teacher in Neptune.

DAVID JILES (Bus. Mgmt.) (2007) is engaged to marry Jamie L. Kampf in May 2016. He is a School Resource Officer/Patrolman for West Deptford Police Department, and she works for the Third Legislative District of New Jersey. They live in Deptford.
BAILEY A. FRUMEN (BSW) (MSW ’07), a psychotherapist, life coach, writer, and speaker, was recently named “one of the top 20 life coaches to watch” by popexpert.com. Her work has been published in Huffington Post, Elephant Journal, Aspire Magazine, Natural Awakenings, Popexpert, and numerous guest blogs. Through her Freedom & Abundance Action Guide, live workshops, speaking engagements, and transformational coaching, Bailey helps women around the world transcend fear, overwhelm, and uncertainty. For more information, see www.baileyfrumen.com.

LAUREN T. GROBELNY (Math./Ed.) (M.S. Math. ’11) married Eric Dean on July 25, 2015, at Sandy Hook Gateway National Park. She is vice president of leveraged loans with ZAIS Group in Red Bank. Her husband is a manager in the legal and compliance division of Morgan Stanley in New York City. They live in Holmdel.

KRISTI L. TINNES (Sp. Ed.) in May earned her second master’s degree, in Curriculum & Instructions and School Administration. She was also appointed assistant principal at John T. Hoggard High School in Wilmington, NC.

BRIAN T. BOLAND (Sp.Ed.) was named by Steve Edelson of The Asbury Park Press in November as “One of the Greatest Quarterbacks ever at the Jersey Shore.” He continued, “A three-year starter for the Mustangs, the 6-2, 210-pound Boland threw for more than 4,300 yards, with 33 TDs, during his career. As a senior in 2001, he completed 110 of 176 attempts for 1,715 yards and 16 TDs, while running for 11 TDs. As a four-year starter at Monmouth, Boland is still the school’s all-time leader in passing yardage, throwing for 7,812 yards, while leading the Hawks to three Northeast Conference crowns.”

DR. RYA J. BUTTERFIELD (M.A. Corp. & Pub. Comm.) was named president of the Association for Chinese Communication Studies, a division of the National Communication Association. She is an assistant professor in the department of Mass Communication at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, La.

CAITLIN D. CARROLL (Hist./Sp.Ed.) married former student, Christopher Knappenberger on August 8, 2015, at SkyView Golf Club in Sparta. Alumni in attendance included ALYSSA (O’DONNELL) GERMINARO ’06, BRYAN INDERGRUND ’07, ANTHONY ESPOSITO ’07, AMANDA HOBERT ’07, FRAN LAMONICA ’08, RYAN LANGSTON ’08, MEAGHAN (JOYCE) OLENDER ’09 and ALIE JOYCE ’12. Caitlin is an eighth-grade language arts teacher in the New Milford School District, and Chris is a feeder driver for UPS.

CORINA M. HART (Comm.) married Patrick Jenkins on August 10, 2015. She is an educational counselor, and her husband is the owner and CEO of Ignite Lacrosse. They live in Southern California.
CLASS NOTES

CLASS OF 2008

KATHLEEN D. DIMARIO (M.A. Psych. Couns. ’08) has published a new book called What Kind of Dog Am I?, which is about a rescued dog named Posha who is on a journey of self-discovery. Through Posha’s story, children are able to learn valuable life lessons of how they can find their own true identity and build self-esteem. DiMario is also an adjunct professor at Ocean County College’s School of Business, Social Science and Human Services, teaching several psychology courses including Child Psychology. She will be counting on the continuing support of her community as she spends the next month’s promoting her book at elementary schools across the state of New Jersey. She also is CEO of Second Acts Career Services in Toms River. For more information or to request Kathleen to speak, visit: www.poshatherescueddog.com.

MICHAEL A. MORGANTE (Bus. Fin.) was one of three officers hired recently by the Marlboro Police Department. The Marlboro native now lives in Englishtown. Kurt Peluso (M.A. Hist.) was re-elected in November to the Fair Lawn Council for a term of three years. He is director of the Meadowlands YMCA and lives in Fair Lawn with his wife, Linda, and their two children.

CLASS OF 2009

JAMIE BIESIADA (Comm.) was named as Travel Weekly’s new senior editor covering retail travel sellers in August. She will be responsible for reporting news about travel advisers and agencies, and technologies driving the retail distribution channel. She was previously managing editor for the Manasquan, N.J., Star News Group where she was responsible for overseeing a staff of 14 full-time and five part-time employees who produced content for two weekly newspapers, an entertainment magazine, related websites and social media feeds.

ILLIANA R. BLACKSHEAR (Bus. Adm.), a Northeast Conference (NEC) Team Conference champion in 2007, 2008 and 2009, was recently inducted into the West Orange Athletic Hall of Fame. The New Jersey native also excelled in soccer for which she was second team All-NEC, NEC Scholar-Athlete in 2005-2008 and Team Conference champion and NCAA team qualifier in 2007.
AMANDA (KLAUS) BROCKRIEDE (Comm.) who is a director of Leadership Programs at Monmouth University in the External Affairs department, has recently become a co-advisor to the Student Government Association. Her previous leadership roles include service as an elected member of the Alumni Association Board.

JENNIFER M. LOBELL (Anthro.) was recently appointed director of memory support at Francis Asbury Manor in Ocean Grove. She has 14 years of experience in the therapeutic activity field, having served as director of recreation for Meridian Nursing and Rehab at Bayshore. Lobell, who is a certified Memory Care Specialist, certified Alzheimer’s Disease and Dementia Care Trainer, and certified Dementia Care Manager, was named Activity Director of the Year in 2014 by the New Jersey Activity Professionals Association.

RONALD J. NEMES (M.S. Soft. Eng.) was recently hired as the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and Cyber Security Practice Leader for Baltimore-based Comprehensive Applied Security Solutions (COMPASS), which is a subsidiary of North Star Group.

WILLIAM RELEY (Music) and ALLISON M. STOVER (Bus. Mrkt.) were married on September 13, 2014, in Newtown, PA. Reiley, who is a judicial law clerk for NJ Superior Court in Newark, received a JD from Rutgers University School of Law in 2014.

JESSICA C. REVOIR (M.A. in Corporate Communications) is engaged to marry Anthony Tortorice in 2016. She is the assistant vice president of marketing for First Financial Federal Credit Union, and he works in law enforcement.

NICOLE L. RUSSO (Music/Crim. J.) married Jason Weingartner on August 15, 2015, at the New York Botanical Garden. Alumni in attendance included her Alpha Sigma Tau sorority sisters: EMILY (PUMPHREY) PEARSON ’10, CHRISTINA LIOTTO ’08, WHITNEY PLACE ’08, DANA KAUFMAN ’11 and MEGAN THORRY ’06. Also in 2015, she attained a bachelor’s degree in airport management & air traffic control from Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology and was hired as a state government relations coordinator for Davidoff Hutcher & Citron LLP in New York City. Jason is a 1997 undergraduate of Fordham University (History/Political Science) and earned a J.D. from Fordham Law in 2000. He is the executive director of the New York State Republican Committee. They live in Astoria, Queens, with their two dogs and two turtles.

ANDREW E. WOODHULL (Comm.) is the assistant director, online marketing for NuEra Labs in Lakewood. He was previously marketing coordinator for The Sawtooth Group in Red Bank.

Michael G. Casale (Hist./Ed.) (M.S.Ed. ’15) was recently named head coach for Central Regional’s varsity baseball team in Bayville. For the past six years, he has been a coach for the Central Regional freshman team.
MICHAEL P. FORGIE (Comm.) is the founder and owner of Next Step Connect, a digital marketing consulting service in Asbury Park. The company’s goal is to empower business owners through digital marketing by providing full-service marketing campaigns, including SEO, SEM, Facebook advertising, copywriting, email marketing and more. Forgie has also been a regular participant in alumni networking events as well as acting as a panelist and guest lecturer at Monmouth.

KEVANEY A. MARTIN (Comm.), who was a member of the Monmouth University women’s basketball team, is now a sports anchor/reporter at WFXR in Roanoke, VA. She was previously a reporter for Cal-Hi Sports Bay Area in San Francisco, CA.

GREGORY L. MONTAGNINO (Engl.), who received a master’s in Liberal Arts from The New School in New York City in 2013, has published his first book, *Teddy Madison*, and is currently working on the sequel. He is also a personal assistant for Health Connections Center in Philadelphia.

NICOLE E. MONTECALVO (Bus. Mgmt.) and MICHAEL OPPELT (Bus. Fin.) are engaged to be married on May 21, 2016, in Colts Neck. Nicole is the director of public relations at Bayshore Recycling and owns NE Occasion, an event planning company. Michael recently joined Bayshore Recycling and is in charge of Class-A Recycling Operations. They live in Little Silver.

KENNETH D. MUNDIE (Bus. Adm.) married Jennifer Rego on August 14, 2015, at St. Denis Church in Manasquan. He is a certified public accountant at CommVault Systems, a software company in Tinton Falls. She teaches English at Goetz Middle School in Jackson.

MALLORY C. RAPISARDA (Comm.), the owner of MCR Event Planning & Design of Tinton Falls, was profiled in the Small Business Spotlight Q &A section of the Asbury Park Press on October 19, 2015. For more information, visit www.mcreventsanddesign.com.

JENNIFER RENSON (Comm.) has published her third book of poetry, *Uncharted*. Her first young adult novel, *Carousel*, became available in August 2015. As she completes the prequel to *Carousel*, she continues to write for *Lost Treasure Magazine* about a variety of historical figures, places, objects, and mysteries.
SUSAN D. SUTHERLAND (Hist.) married Nicholas Dowling on March 21, 2015. She is the manager at Surf Taco in Long Branch, which has given her the opportunity to cater many events at Monmouth University, including the men’s basketball games. She is also the social media coordinator for the company. Nicholas is a police officer in Deal.

AMANDA F. TROIANO (Psych.) (Ment. Health Couns. ’14) is now a staff therapist for The Artemis Center for Guidance in Sewell. She also remains an on-call therapist for The Renfrew Center in Ridgewood.

DR. ANTHONY A. VALENTINO (M.A. Engl.) is now assistant professor of English at the County College of Morris (CCM). He previously held a one-year appointment there as assistant professor. Prior to joining CCM, he was an instructor at Brookdale Community College as well as an adjunct at multiple colleges including Monmouth University and Middlesex Community College. Dr. Valentino has also received a Doctor of Letters from Drew University and master’s and bachelor’s degrees from Montclair State University.

KAITLYN R. BERNASKI (Bus. Fin.), an Honors School graduate, has joined the Drazin & Warshaw law firm in Red Bank as an associate attorney, where she specializes in family law. She graduated from Seton Hall University School of Law in 2014 and served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Mara Zazzali-Hogan for the 2014-2015 term.

KAITLIN B. BRENNAN (M.S.Ed.) is engaged to marry James Carroll in August 2016. She is a school counselor in Marlboro Township, and he is a data analyst at the Educational Testing Service. They live in East Brunswick with their puppy, Gatsby.

HAYLEY C. KELLINGER (Hist./Elem. Ed.) and BRIAN BROOKS (Soft. Eng. ’11) are engaged to be married on November 12, 2016, in Asbury Park. She is a special education aide, and he is a system integration test engineer for Lockheed Martin.

ROBIN A. CRAIG (Bio.) graduated from Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine Medical School in May and began her pediatric residency at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune. WILLIAM M. HUGHES (Bus. Mrkt.) is the executive assistant to the senior vice president of advertising and publisher of T Magazine at The New York Times. As a Hawk, he acted as a project director for Professor John Buzz’a’s entrepreneurial class.

JOSEPH M. LOPARDO (Bus. Adm.), who has been a sales executive with the media company, Contently since 2014, recently helped open a new West Coast office. He and his wife, Renee, now live in San Francisco. Lopardo was featured in the Spring 2014 issue of Monmouth University Magazine.
WILLIAM J. MCGUCKIN (M.B.A.) is now senior vice president, consulting services, for Advanced Clinical, a full-service global CRO, functional outsourcing, and strategic staffing solutions provider. He was previously vice president of Life Science and Technology at a technology solutions provider.

JACLYN P. SPURKA (Psych.) is a lead clinician for Holcomb Behavioral Health Systems in Philadelphia, PA. She was previously an intern at the Belmont Center for Comprehensive Treatment from May 2012 to April 2013.

MAX K. TIMKO (Comm.) is now the creative marketing manager for Ion Labs, Inc., in Clearwater, FL. He is also the founder and writer for BourbonandBroadleaf.com, and the editor-in-chief of GovernmentContractingTips.com, and host of ‘The SAM Assistance Program’ on Youtube. He was previously the director of marketing at the U.S. Federal Contractor Registration.

AMANDA J. TUMMINIA (Comm.) is engaged to marry Joseph J. Palach on December 3, 2016, at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. Amanda is an account supervisor at Grey Healthcare Group. Joseph is a detective for the New Jersey State Police. They live in Secaucus.

TARA (IAURUZIO) MCGRATH (M.A.T.) was recently promoted to senior program manager at ApotheCom, a Huntsworth Health Company in the San Francisco Bay Area. She has been with the company since 2013.

AMANDA E. AVCI (Hist./Poli. Sci.) (M.S.Ed. ’15), a four-time scholarship recipient, is now an academic advisor at The New School in New York City. She was previously a senior admissions counselor at Caldwell University.

NICHOLAS LOCANDRO (B.S. Biology ’12) is engaged to marry VICTORIA CALARCO (M.S. Mental Health Counseling ’14) in July 2016 on Long Beach Island. He received an M.S. in Athletic Training from Seton Hall and began working with the New England Patriots in May 2014. She is a clinician at Devereux-Rhode Island where she provides counseling to children who are in foster placement.

NICOLE F. ANDRETTA (Comm.) was recently promoted to marketing coordinator at First Financial Federal Credit Union in Wall Township where she has worked since 2012. Among other things her new duties will include coordinating special events, developing print materials, and managing various e-channel aspects of First Financial’s website.

STACY MYERS (Bus. Fin.) is engaged to marry Robert Sierota in the fall of 2017. She is a senior financial analyst for FirstService Residential in New York City. Her fiancé is a telepresence engineer for NBC Universal.

ATTENTION ALUMNI
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KELLY C. OLIVEIRA (B.S.W.) (M.S.W. ’13) married Ricky Ferreira on August 15, 2015, in Monmouth’s Erlanger Gardens. The reception followed at South Gate Manor in Freehold. Monmouth friends in attendance included AMANDA MIGLIORE-PERELMAN ’12 ’14M, JILLIAN DEMKO ’12 ’14M, CHYNA GLOVER ’14M and AUBRIE PARK ’14M. She is working for Division of Child Protection and Permanency. Her husband is a corrections officer for Middlesex County Department of Corrections.

COLLEEN E. RUSSELL (Psych.), who received an M.A. in Communication Sciences and Disorders, Speech-Language Pathology from Montclair University earlier this year, is now a speech language pathologist at CareOne Management in Emerson.

CLASS OF 2013

MARIANA S. BONATO (Bus. Adm.), who graduated with a 3.92 GPA, is a global wealth management operations analyst with JPMorgan Chase.

BRADLEY T. BROWN (Comm.) is a broadcast assistant at the National Broadcast Association in Secaucus. Some of his voice-overs can be found at www.youtube.com/bradbrown036.

ALEXIS B. CEPONIS (Comm.) and THOMAS O’HARA (Soft. Eng.) are engaged to be married on April 2, 2016, in Lambertville. Tom is also pursuing a master’s in software engineering at Monmouth.

JESSICA A. DEPRIMA (BSW) (MSW ’14) and ANTHONY LAWRENCE (Bus. Adm.) were married on May 30, 2015. She is a care manager for the State of New Jersey Department of Human Services Office of the Public Guardian. Anthony, a former captain of the Monmouth baseball team, is a financial analyst at Customer’s Bank. They live in Ringoes.

NICOLE GROSS (M.B.A.) recently became the only female assistant coach in the NBA-D-League when she was hired by the Iowa Energy. She began working with the basketball team last year as a video coordinator. While pursuing an M.B.A., she served as a graduate manager for the Men’s Basketball team at Monmouth.

KIMBERLY J. KRAVITZ (Comm.) is a television reporter and producer for Me-TV Network, which serves the New York City and Philadelphia markets. She also participated in this year’s Miss New Jersey USA Pageant and won Miss Congeniality out of 100 girls and placed in the Top 15. Kravitz also won a Humanitarian Award for donating almost 100 coats to the Big Brother Big Sisters Winter Coat Drive.

CHRISTOPHER W. MONICO (Crim. J.) was one of three police officers hired in October by the Mahwah Police Department. Prior to college, he joined the Army National Guard and was subsequently accepted in the Morris County Police Academy Alternative Route program.

CHEVANNAH J. PAALVAST (Psych.) (M.B.A. ’14) was recently signed by the Lady Sharks in the Southern Peninsula Basketball Association in Australia.
In her senior year at Monmouth, she averaged 13.2 points, 6.8 rebounds, 2.3 assists, and 1.5 steals per game. RACHEL C. POPOVITCH (Psych.) attained a master’s degree earlier this year in industrial and organizational psychology from The Chicago School of Organizational Psychology. She was an organizational development intern at The Chicago Innovation Exchange before landing a project manager position at Catalyst Consulting Group in September.

DANI SCARMOZZINO (Bus. Adm.) is now an education coordinator in the LPN Department at Lincoln Technical Institute where she has worked since January 2014. PETRA LUDWIG SHAW (M.A. Corp. & Pub. Comm.) is now the Public Affairs Manager at Erickson Living, supervising media and government relations inquiries for a portfolio of senior living properties including Seabrook in Tinton Falls, and Cedar Crest in Pompton Plains. Erickson Living has been a leader in vibrant senior living for more than 30 years, now operating 18 communities in 10 states.

JOANTHAN D. WARHOL (Comm.), who authored an article in the Fall 2014 issue of the Monmouth University Magazine, is a digital content specialist at Wyndham Worldwide in Parsippany. He also recently recorded two albums of music and finished a draft of his first book.

CLASS OF 2014

ELIZABETH C. ANDERSON (Poli. Sci.) began her studies this fall at George Washington University Law School in D.C. where she plans to attain a J.D. in 2018.

DAVID AVILES (Soft. Eng.), a two-time scholarship recipient, is a software engineer for SyncLaunch and full stack engineer for Long Branch-based Interworld Highway LLC. He received a master’s in computer systems engineering from Columbia University earlier this year.

DANA C. COSTELLO (Health/Phys. Ed.) is an assistant coach for the girls’ basketball team at Jackson Memorial High School of which she is an alumna. She is a substitute teacher at Manchester Township High School and was an assistant girls basketball coach there last winter. This fall, she is the junior varsity and assistant coach for the girls soccer team.

SHANNON R. FITZGERALD (Fine Arts) and JOHN R. LOCKWOOD (Health/Phys. Ed.) were married on July 11, 2015, in Valencia, CA. Alumni in attendance included bridesmaids, ALICIA DESANTO ’14 and KAITIE SCHUMACHER ’14. As students, Shannon was a four-year member of the softball team, and John was on the football team for three years and then a strength and conditioning intern for his last year and a half due to a football injury. Shannon is now a graphic designer for a communications firm, and John is the assistant strength and conditioning coach at Cal State University Northridge.

JASON P. HOROWITZ (Bus. Adm.) (MBA ’15), founder of the Christopher A. Mejia Memorial Scholarship and runner-up for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Unsung Hero Award, is a licensed realtor with Rand Commercial Services. As an undergraduate student, he also received the award for Outstanding Student in Real Estate from the Leon Hess Business School.

REBECCA A. LEITT (Bio.) is a microbiologist at New Chapter, Inc., a Brattleboro, VT-based formulator, producer, packager, and distributor of whole-food cultured nutrients and herbal formulations, selling products to natural channel retail locations, as well as medical professionals and pharmacies.
DYLAN S. MAYNARD (Hist./Poli. Sci.), who is now studying toward a master’s in history at New York University, had an article published in the International Social Science Review. The paper, “Imagined Communities, Tangible Limits: Sendero Luminoso and the Incongruity of Marxism and Nationalism,” is his second one published since graduating from Monmouth.

ASHLEY N. PACIFICO (Comm.) in August was hired as the coordinator of special events and social media for the Mental Health Association of New Jersey. Last February, she appeared on Good Day New York on February 20, representing GBK Productions with its 2015 Oscar swag bag.

BELINDA M. RAO (Comm.) recently accepted a position at Boy Wonder Productions in Brooklyn, NY, as an assistant editor and media logger. She was previously a film teacher at First Star, Inc. at Rowan University.

EMILY G. SMITH (Anthro.) and MATTHEW DONALD SANGSTER (Psych. ’10) are engaged to be married on April 28, 2018, at Saint Catherine’s Church in Spring Lake, with the reception to be held at the Sandy Hook Chapel. They are both working on PhDs—he in Cognitive Engineering, and she in Mortuary Archaeology. Emily is an archaeologist/cultural resource technician for the Louis Berger Group, Inc. in Albany, NY, and Matthew is a research assistant at RPI in Troy, NY.

ERIC J. SPILLANE (Crim. J.) enlisted with the Pennsylvania State Police last November after graduating from the Pennsylvania State Police Academy and being promoted to state trooper.

KYLE S. TUCKER (Poli. Sci.) is a JD candidate at Syracuse University College of Law where he is expected to graduate in 2017. As a student, he was a member of the Political Science Club, the Debate Hawks and the Prelegal Society. He also played on the men’s football team.

SUSAN G. WITKOWSKI (Fine Arts) was recently promoted from junior graphic designer to graphic designer at ENA Marketing Communications in Shrewsbury. She joined the company as an intern in 2013 while majoring in graphic design and was hired full-time in June 2014.

KATRINA A. BOYLE (Poli. Sci.) interned last spring as part of the Washington Semester program at the Close Up Foundation, a nonprofit organization that has a goal to empower students to contribute to make a strong democracy through being active and informed citizens. Close Up has an annual text book, Current Issues, that she mainly worked on, collecting research and multimedia aspects for the foreign and public policy chapters. In addition to the text book, Close Up also has hundreds of students from all over the country come to DC where they learn about our government and policies first hand through tours and seeing different speakers. Boyle accompanied the students on some of the workshops at which time she met Ralph Nader (in photo) after he spoke for Close Up.

ASHTIN L. BRINKERHOFF (Poli. Sci.) is an office manager and legal assistant for the DC-based law firm of Marzulla Law. Brinkerhoff, who attended the Washington Semester program, hopes to attend Navy Officer Candidate School and become an intelligence officer.

JAMES J. CREECH (Poli. Sci.) began his studies this fall at Pace University Law School on a full scholarship. He is expected to attain a J.D. in 2018. The recipient of the Jane Freed Award for his honors paper on the politics of natural gas has interned at the law firm of Meyner and Landis in Newark and at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

JENNA C. FERRARO (Poli. Sci.) began her studies this fall at Drexel University Law School in Philadelphia. She is expected to attain a J.D. in 2018.
MICHAEL H. HAMILTON (Poli. Sci.), a member of the MU Debate Team and moot court team, received the Tomo Daiichi Generation Project Award in Japan for his civic engagement project designed to help those impacted by the Fukushima Nuclear Reactor Disaster. He also interned at Jacques & Associates, a full-service Washington, D.C. consulting firm representing leaders in the Defense, Space & Intelligence, and Homeland Security industries.

MEAGHAN M. HESS (Hist./Poli. Sci.) began her studies this fall at Gonzaga University Law School. She is expected to receive a J.D. in 2018. As a Hawk, Hess was named history and political science undergraduate of the year in 2014, acted as a youth representative at the United Nations and played for the lacrosse team.

RYAN J. KELLY (Poli. Sci.), a three-time MU Debate Team award winner, began his studies this fall at the London School of Economics where he plans to attain a master’s degree in comparative politics in 2016.

MICHAEL KULIK (Poli. Sci.), a member of the MU Debate Team, was recently hired by the New Jersey State Police. While attending the Washington Semester program this past spring, he interned in the U.S. Marshals Service.

KYLE MCKENNA (Comm.) is the lead NHL writer for About.com Sports and is a professional social media and sports enthusiast. He contributes to Hooked On Hockey Magazine, covering the New York Rangers. Known as “Mickey,” McKenna is also a daily writer and blogger who has established his personal brand, “The Little Thing5” (Pronounced - the little things). More information can be found at proicehockey.about.com and littlething5.com.

ASHLEY S. MEDINA (Poli. Sci.), who graduated in May, is continuing her education at Monmouth where she plans to attain a master’s in corporate and public communication in 2017. This past spring she interned at Restore America’s Estuaries in Arlington, VA.

DENNIS OWENS (M.A. Hist.), a retired Army officer who earned his degree through the GI Bill, is Monmouth University’s new coordinator of veteran services. He succeeds Jeff Hood who served in that position for five years.

TYLER F. VANDEGRIFT (Poli. Sci.) continues to work at Shia Rights Watch in Washington, D.C. where he started interning in January 2015 during his Washington Semester program.

KIMBERLY M. WOOD (Poli. Sci.) began her studies this fall at New York Law School where she plans to attain a J.D. in 2018. She has been a legal assistant at Falcon Law Firm in Oakhurst since 2013.

AYLA M. YILDIZ (For. Lang.), was recently selected as the New Jersey State Student Employee of the Year from the Northeast Association for Student Employment Administrators, a nonprofit association of professionals committed to programs for students who work while attending college.

CLASS OF 2015
It’s not too late to order your Yearbook!

Will Facebook or Instagram still be around in 50 years? Your yearbook will! Time tested and student approved, nothing endures quite like an actual book. Preserve your memories forever with a copy before they are gone forever.

To secure your copy, send a check for $90, payable to Monmouth University to:

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Monmouth University
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QUESTIONS?
Call (732) 571-3586 or email abellina@monmouth.edu for ordering information.
IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI

1942  NATHAN LIPETZ (A.A. Elec. Eng.)  DECEMBER 31, 2014
1945  MARJORIE BEERS  (Monmouth Junior College student)  JULY 9, 2015
1964  JUDITH B. ESPOSITO (Elem. Ed.)  SEPTEMBER 17, 2015
1966  PEDRO J. CABALLERO (For. Lang.)  SEPTEMBER 2015
1973  DOUGLAS M. HERZOG (M.S.Ed.)  AUGUST 3, 2015
1974  MAXINE L. DANIELS (M.S.Ed.)  SEPTEMBER 11, 2015
1975  THOMAS E. DANIELS  (M.B.A. ‘01)  AUGUST 21, 2015
1977  JEANNE FULTON (M.S.Ed.)  AUGUST 30, 2015
1978  DIANE M. DESTEFANO  (B.S.W.)  NOVEMBER 3, 2015
1982  ANN MARIE OXLEY  (M.B.A.)  MAY 11, 2015
1985  ERIC E. WESTMARK (Bus. Adm.)  AUGUST 22, 2015
1988  CLAIRE H. HENDERSON  (B.S.W.)  NOVEMBER 3, 2014
1991  STACEY L. WEATHERS  (Comm.)  OCTOBER 3, 2015
1992  ALVIN B. BAILEY  (Bus. Mgmt.)  (M.S.Ed. ‘95)  SEPTEMBER 17, 2015
1994  RICHARD M. CAHILL JR  (Comm.)  OCTOBER 2, 2015
1995  MICHAEL P. FAY  (Comm.)  AUGUST 9, 2015
2000  KELLY A. HENDRICKS  (Bus. Adm.)  (Crim. J. ‘00)  AUGUST 18, 2015

FRIENDS

ROBERT W. AYRES  (former director of Personnel Services)  OCTOBER 18, 2015
MICHAE L J. FORNACI  (Bus. Adm. ‘76)  SEPTEMBER 28, 2015
JOHN J. HOLLAND JR  (former adjunct faculty member in the School of Education)  JULY 27, 2015
ARTHUR Z. KAMIN  SEPTEMBER 22, 2015
LITA PASHELSKY MELTER  JULY 16, 2015
ALICE NICAS  (former member of Guggenheim Library Association)  NOVEMBER 8, 2015
HARRIET A. REGITZ  (former student)  OCTOBER 20, 2015
SAM SICILIANO  (former student)  JULY 29, 2015
SUSAN P. SPEEGEMAN  (former employee)  AUGUST 30, 2015
ANTHONY VATTAY  OCTOBER 6, 2015
JAMES R. GREENE  (former Dean of the College of Business Administration)  November 11, 2015

CLASS NOTES POLICY

Monmouth University encourages communications from alumni regarding career changes, promotions, relocations, volunteer work, marriages, births, and other information that is of interest to fellow classmates, alumni, and the University community. Although we love to see adorable baby pictures from alumni, individual photos of infants will not be published in Class Notes for safety reasons.

In addition to news items sent by alumni, we receive press releases from businesses or other organizations announcing alumni achievements. The Monmouth University Magazine staff also actively searches for alumni news online, and subscribes to an online news clipping service that provides news items about alumni. These items are edited and placed into the appropriate class section.

HOW TO SUBMIT A CLASS NOTE
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2. Fax: (732) 263-5164
3. Mail: Class Notes
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Meet Jennifer

“When I visited Monmouth, the campus was very beautiful. I could get across it easily by walking. The small class sizes were exactly what I wanted, and the professors are top-notch.”

“Coming in as an honors student, I was given the opportunity to be assigned a mentor, and a friend that I could just talk with about anything that was on my mind as I transitioned into college from high school.”

Achieving My Goals

“The moment I received my acceptance letter to Monmouth and enrolled in my first semester of classes, I chose a path that would, for the next four years, significantly change my life.”

“Between the many interesting courses, and the fantastic professors, each and every one of these experiences began to build up and shape who I am—enhancing my ability to achieve my future goal of pursuing a career in the Army Medical Corps.”

Research Opportunities

“Starting my research experience as a sophomore was a huge advantage, and being able to work in a lab consisting of unbelievable colleagues and a fantastic research professor gave me an opportunity to further my experience.”

“My research, which is biochemistry-based, focuses on creating a diagnostics tool that will help diagnose patients with cancer earlier. This opportunity has not only helped expose me to what I can do in the medical field but also helped me with the hands-on experience needed for medical school.”

“I work with DNA, RNA, hammerhead ribozymes, the SELEX process, and a lot more. I have used a variety of techniques and learned a lot of different methods that helped me present my research.”

Why I’m proud of Monmouth

“I know that my Monmouth education has prepared me for the real world. Not only am I qualified for a career that I want to pursue, I know that even after I graduate, Monmouth will be there for me.”

—Jennifer Lee, Class of 2016