

Quo Vadis

Volume 49: Issue 12

Middlesex County College

November 28, 2012

Phi Theta Kappa Inducts New Members

By Kim Silva
Staff Writer

Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society for two-year colleges, held a ceremony on Wednesday, Nov. 14 in Cafeteria C to welcome 79 new members. On the official website PTK.org, its mission is to “recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students; and to provide opportunities for individual growth and development through participation in honors, leadership, service and fellow programming.”

To be eligible, the PTK club website states that “full-time and matriculated part-time students are eligible for membership after having achieved a TERM GPA of 3.75 or better with a minimum CUM GPA of 3.5 in college-level courses. All eligible students must have earned at least 12 credits and be currently enrolled.” Students will then be notified that they may apply for membership.

As the ceremony began, several leadership officers, including Maria Thanos of the current Toy Drive event and a staff writer for the newspaper, stood in front of their stations, ready to sign up new members for service. A white flower was handed to each student who approached the lectern; and as indicated in the official PTK program, it symbolizes “purity and beauty, with its white buds signifying intellectual inspiration.” When everyone was seated again, Professor Yvonne



Seated, left to right: Amanda Knet, Kyea Vance, Charlotte Harris, Haleigh Simon, Tejal Sarbaugh. Standing: Kayelynn Gonzalez, Harnam Singh, Lovedeep Singh, Michael Barany, Angelica Alvarado-Lazo, Megan Dougherty, Sienna Cocco, Justine Durham. Photo courtesy of Middlesex County College

Sisco, adviser for PTK, encouraged the members to “become active and stay in touch on the PTK website.” She suggested that members purchase the gold sashes and tassels worn at graduation and reminded students that “this is a gateway to full academic access to over \$35 million in scholarships to four-year colleges”. Past valedictorian and former PTK president Jessica Soto now attends NYU in Manhattan Sisco said, while other graduates of the College have transferred to Columbia

University and the University of Pennsylvania. Co-president Linnaea Serzan, who just started her term said, “PTK membership is an enriching college experience and by also doing service we are giving back to the community.” She was impressed that so many new inductees that were interested in volunteering.

Dr. Kathleen Pearle, interim chairperson of the History and Social Science Department and adviser for the College Honors

program, was inducted as a 2012 honorary member. Past recipients include the College President Joann LaPerla-Morales, Vice-President Karen Hayes, and Professor of English, Dr. Daniel Zimmerman.

New PTK members are: Hael Abdulrazeq, Muhammed Akbar, Joseph Alai, Ayana Alexis, Angelica Alvarado-Lazo, Caitlin Baenziger, Michael Barany, Cesar Bautista, Maria Becosme, Mehdi Benkabbol, Kayla Bensema, Samantha Bonaparte,

Nicole Buongiovanni, Jessica Burton, Hao Wen Chen, Eunhye Choi, Sienna Coco, Paul Colado, Robert Cromwell, Leeza Cumsky, Jon Desoune, Matthew DeVita, Jennifer Diakunczak, Christina DiFabrizio, Dominique DiMeglio, Samira Dodson, Megan Dougherty, Vincent Dove, Justine Durham, Christine Fenton, Amanda Fusco, Tara Gillespie, Kayelynn Gonzalez, Thomas Griffin, Eric Guzman, Mark Hamri, Charlotte Harris, Maureen Herban, Jeimy Herrera-Velasquez, Seema Hershey, Jessica Jansen, Mher Jiminez, Jasmine Johnson, Annette Kabia, Uma Kalluri, Ramya Kappagantula, Nicole Kazar, Amanda Knet, Henry Kim, Louis Lang, Ashley McDonald, Sukhrob Makhkamov, Joshwel Martinez, Jane Mehlig, Nelson Mercado, Jr., Douvae Miller, Angelique Mitchell, Zenaby Mohammed, Alicia Montanaro, Natashe Nicholas, Mike Otieno, Arielle Qua, Mercha Rasool, Simon Readdie, Madilta Rehan, Danny Ribeiro, Alfredo Roche, Jessica Rodriguez, Madelyn Rodriguez, Miguel Romero, Michelle Ruderman, Annmarie Sabevick, Jose Sanchez, Lori Saplowski, Tejal Sarbaugh, Inbarasi Sathiyamoorthy, Alston Scrum, Marcus Scroggins, Wiwik Sie, Haleigh Simon, Gurpreet Singh, Harnam Singh, Lovedeep Singh, Desiree Squire, Moya Stewart-Gray, Naira Suvorova, Margaret Tach, Laura Tran, Kyea Vance, Diane vanderhoof, Lisbeth Valdez, Kevin Yarusinsky, and Weihao Ye. Both Megan Dougherty and Justine Durham are staff of Quo Vadis.

Scholarship Foundation Provides Opportunities to Students

By Megan Dougherty
Staff Writer

Students who are looking for scholarships should take an interest in the Middlesex County College Foundation during the 2012-2013 year. The College provides many scholarship opportunities and has funds completely separate from the College.

Veronica Clinton, Executive Director of MCCF, says since its creation the foundation has given over \$10 million in scholarship grants and has aided more than 15,000 students.

She stresses the fact that these funds are separate from the College, and require donations from organizations, individuals and other sources. This allows for the foundation to have complete control over who receives the scholarships, and how much is awarded.

MCCF fundraisers such as Casino Night and the Scholarship Gala are important events to raise monies. “It is rewarding to work in a business that helps students,” said Clinton.

On the MCCF homepage it states that the mission of the foundation is to “inspire the community to invest in the academic and career dreams of our students, empowering them to contribute to community prosperity.”

At the moment there are about 100 endowed and named annual scholarships, which are available for students who are qualified to receive the funds.

According to scholarships.com having a foundation that offers students a way to gain financial help is an excellent tool. It allows for students to have access to many transfer universities.

Student Organization Helps Needy



The Muslim Student Association provided gift baskets that consisted of books, games, snacks and magazines for individuals temporarily staying at the medical facility in the College gym. Photo provided by MSA president, Fatima Bahary.

Campus & Community

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Our Lady of Victories Hosts Craft Show

By Victoria Belen
Staff Writer

Our Lady of Victories Church held its annual Parish Christmas Bazaar in Sayreville on Saturday Nov. 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to begin celebrating the holiday season.

There were various games, prizes, vendors and all-time favorite: the cake, toy or mystery gift wheel that is always popular with families rushing through the doors for early Christmas shopping.

Our Lady of Victories Christmas Bazaar atmosphere is one reason people attended. The vendors sold their handmade items, along with fundraisers, the raffles and the outrageous prizes (valued \$50.00 and up). Items included gift cards, small household appliances, tools, themed baskets, bikes, electronics and more.

The people of Our Lady of Victories gave a treat to the children to those who came to join the scene.

"As soon as I walked in, this guy gave me a free cupcake and this toy. I like this craft show!" said

R.J., a ten year old who attended the Christmas Bazaar.

Children were dragging their parents to donate a dollar or two for the cake, toy or mystery gift wheel.

"In fact, the amount of customers who attended Our Lady of Victories Christmas Bazaar was the kids," said Lisa Belen, a vendor.

Sarah, a worker at the Bazaar explained the gift wheel. "It's easy. Parents donate a dollar, two dollars, five dollars for the prize their child wants, I spin the wheel and we wait to see what number it lands on. If the number of the gift was not what the wheel landed on, they get something for equal or lesser value. Either way, you and your child leave with a prize."

Items for sale included handbags, jewelry, handmade quilts, scarves and mittens, baskets, bake goods, books and toys.

Catch Sayreville's Our Lady of Victories Parish Christmas Bazaar next year or visit <http://www.olvsayrenj.com/> for more information.



Photos By Victoria Belen

Tips on How To Prepare for Final Exams

By Justine Durham
Staff Writer

Now that there is less than a month of school left, students and faculty have begun the dreadful and stressful discussion of final exams.

Finals week is the most demanding week of the semester; everything a teacher has taught is combined onto one comprehensive, challenging exam, forcing students to spend hours studying in the library recalling lectures from September.

But, it is important to prepare for exams earlier rather than the day before the test. You can't cram an entire semester of information into an all-nighter.



Get started as soon as possible. Before starting, create an outline

of material that you need to study. As you read over your

textbook and class notes, write a brief summary for each topic,

noting what subjects and topics are troublesome.

Outlines can also be done with a small group of classmates. Recruit friends from your class to quiz you with index cards and practice questions so you can all succeed.

Most importantly utilize the resources available to you. College tuition goes towards funding academic programs such as tutoring, and the college encourages teachers to provide office hours, giving students various opportunities to comprehend difficult subject matters.

When final exams finally approach, don't forget to stay calm. Do not panic at the exam, you have learned all of the material on the test throughout the semester. Even if at first glance the test

seems overwhelming, take a deep breath and recall how diligent you worked that semester.

Remind yourself that you are prepared. You didn't spend weeks studying to throw it all away in just a couple of minutes. Take your time during the tests, working through the exam slowly but efficiently.

The most exciting aspect of final exams is the sense of relief after they are all over! Even if you think you bombed the exam, worrying will not change the score. Relax and enjoy winter break.

You have a month to relax before focusing on another rigorous semester.

Good luck on your finals.

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Dec. 5
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Quo Vadis

Person on the Street: What is your dream job and what is your dream school?

By Kim Silva
Staff Writer



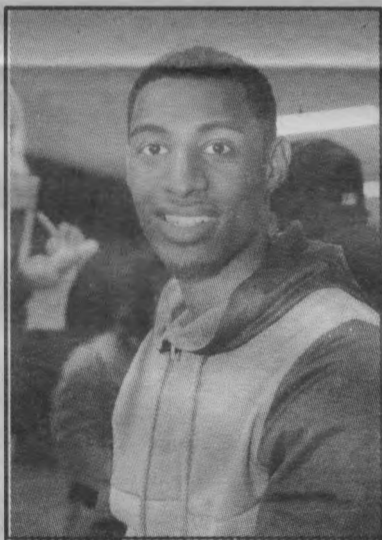
Genesis DeJesus, 19, Perth Amboy, Education major
My dream job is to be a singer, R & B and salsa, but I am studying to be a teacher. My dream school is NYU.



Nyasia Echevarria, 20, North Brunswick, General Liberal Arts major (Nursing)
My dream job is to be a nurse and my dream school is the University of Southern California (USC).



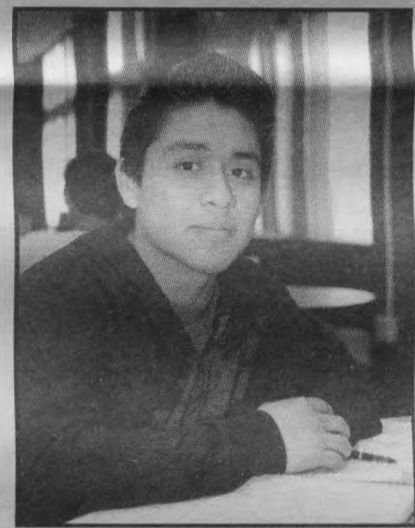
Jaleel Hunter, 20, Piscataway, Criminal Justice major
I would like to be an N.F.L. running back with the #32. My dad went to U. Conn and I would like to fill in his shoes.



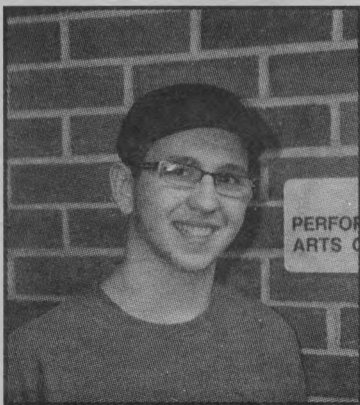
Samuel Mesfin, 20, Edison, Psychology
My dream job is to be a kick-boxing champion in the U.F.C. because I am a professional trainer right now. My dream school is the University of Maryland in College Park.



Amanda Torres, 20, Woodbridge, Biology major
My dream job is to be a marine biology and I will probably go to Rutgers. My dream school is St. Mary's College in Maryland.



Alberto Sanchez, 20, New Brunswick, Modern Languages
I would like to work for the U.N. as my dream job and become an ambassador representing the U.S. My dream schools are Princeton or Columbia.



Gage Siana, 18, Woodbridge, English
My dream job is to be an actor; I will probably become an English teacher. My dream school is Rutgers.



Yhony Fabian, 20, Perth Amboy, Liberal Arts-changing to Biology
I would like to study medicine and become a neurosurgeon. I would like to study at Harvard or Yale School of Medicine.



Jasmyne Johnson, 19, North Brunswick, Psychology
I would like to own my own business related to psychology. My dream school is V.S.U. in Virginia.



Calissa Towler, 20, Edison, Biology
My dream job is to be a pediatrician, and I would like to go to NYU to study medicine.

Arts & Entertainment

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The Twilight Saga is the Latest Pop Culture Craze

By Jennifer Koff
Staff Writer

From printed pages to motion pictures, author Stephenie Meyer's "Twilight Saga" has captured the attention and hearts of media and moviegoers alike. It is safe to say the history of film and pop culture have been altered within the course of four years and five movies, carrying the seemingly simple notion of eternal love and the vast concept of "forever."

However, this phenomenon could not have been immortalized by readers and audiences solely due to its flawless vampires and burly werewolves- but the ability to identify with a young woman as she discovers love, loss, and ultimately herself.

The "Twilight" novels and movies created a different sort of love story pairing two opposites-

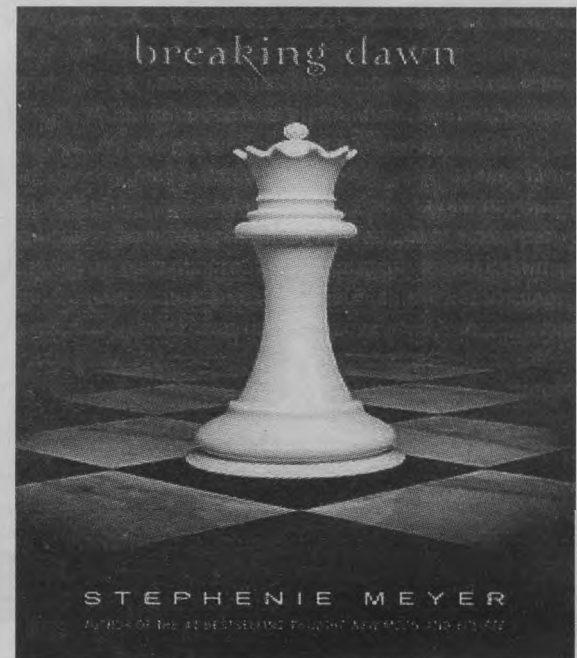
one of which had homicidal tendencies and the thirst for blood. This theme creates a question for the audience to latently ponder: is fantasy that becomes reality the appeal to this story? Or is it being engulfed in this fantasy and abandoning reality? The passionate love triangle within the novels and films triggers a range of emotions for the audience to identify with. No, not that thirst for blood or the need to "imprint," but the craving to be desired.

Surely any hopeless romantic would take Bella's nightmare of being loved by two men and make it a complete dream. The thought of being yearned for is a primary theme within this saga which identifies with the audience as well. The thought of spending eternity with your other half is a reverie everyone could share whether in fiction or reality.

The journey to find oneself if a pivotal theme within the "Twilight Saga" as the audience watches and reads Bella's physical and emotional travels to finally feel at ease in her own skin. The audience gradually sees Bella's transformation as she drifts through mortal mediocrity to ultimately soaring to immortal perfection.

Through the use of a different world containing vampires and werewolves, Stephenie Meyer was able to allude to the imperfections and insecurities everyone can relate to. As she demonstrates Bella being able to break free of her mortal chains and cast her into a whole other world, it is a metaphor to her audience to surpass all restraints and immerse themselves into the unknown to find who their true identity.

As the final installment of the



"Twilight Saga" premiered this past weekend, it seems as though the time has come to finally put the vampires to rest and send the werewolves into permanent hibernation. Each character has

left a special place in the heart of millions and created a worldwide frenzy. It goes to show that a legacy does not need to be bitten to live forever.

Bergen Performing Arts Center Holds Videogames Live Concert

By Victoria Belen
Staff Writer

On Thurs Nov. 29 at 8 p.m. you can attend "Videogames Live," at the Bergen Performing Arts Center, located at 30 North Van Brunt St in Englewood.

This new concert features all of today's popular videogames played in a multimedia environment. Tickets are on sale now.

Bergen PAC is northern New Jersey's non-profit organization. Student productions, ensembles and world class performers have all presented shows.

At affordable prices, audiences have reached over 250,000 each year. Learning through a series of classes, school students are able to attend workshops and practice during live performances.

Embracing the arts from rock to classical to dance to comedy, those 2-21 years old can develop and learn their creative style.

Bergen PAC's Arts Education and Community Outreach program has reached more than 30,000 students.

As a non-profit organization the Bergen PAC has performances and programs that enhance the quality of life, promoting arts education.

Their new "Videogames Live" event is just one of their newest upcoming events.

To buy tickets to "Videogames Live" contact 201-816-8160 or visit <http://www.bergenpac.org/events/detail/video-games-live>.

Find The Hidden Message

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R X L E L G R D M T I O K H S
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NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Illustration By: Victoria Belen

A Philosophical Case Against Prophecy

By Jonathan Finnerty
Staff Writer

One could watch nearly any "educational" channel and see the manner in which the "end times" are portrayed as urgent and impending.

Please dear reader, grab hold of your senses; by using your mental faculties you can discredit these prophecies.

Since the dawn of human intelligence, exploiters and pseudo-necromancers have used premonition as a tool of oppression.

One must think of motives when it comes to prophecy and prediction of the metaphysical kind.

First my paramour let's observe the most "dangerous" prophecy: December 21, 2012. Yours truly will not play the role of amateur archaeologist or pseudo-historian; no I will economically use my average mental capacity to

shed doubt and contempt on this nonsense.

Advanced as the Mayan culture was, it did not have the capabilities to predict any catastrophic events or cosmic events (considering we just reached an age when we now can actually do this).

Shedding the euphemism will be the first step: a culture settled in the rain forests and plateaus of South America ended their long count calendar on a day that translates into 12/21/12.

This culture had no idea the cosmic placement of this planet (or any of the further planets), but yet can "predict" the end of days, literally, down to the last day. With all of the advances in physics and astronomy of the modern era, we cannot and will not predict such a day because the entire notion is absurd to begin with.

Unless a meteor is sighted and calculated for that inevitable collision course, no such predictions are needed.

Modern scientists (who are now in charge of all things "mystical") have no need to dabble in asserting fear, their purpose is to pursue truth, not create it (except for the sun's eventual metamorphosis into a red giant which will consume us 5 billion years from now, supposedly).

Ockham's potent blade easily slices through this misunderstanding (my opinion) to a more reasonable answer: December 21, 2012 is going to be a day just like any other.

Eschatology is my next target (oh please you knew it was coming), and with all three main branches of Abrahamic faith utilizing this tool, it should be easy to cut through.

I'm most familiar with the

Christian rapture; therefore I will focus on its premonitions.

Throughout the Bible many prophecies occur, most of which are vague do-it-yourself or fill-in-the-blanks in its specific character. From the literal sense, we are warned of an anti-Christ rising to power (choose any of the despotic characters from history), followed by a series of "events" that must occur (again pick any tragic event).

One particular "event" popular with the more orthodox and extreme believers is the breeding of a pure red heifer, fit for the slaughter on the newly raised temple of Solomon (Numbers 19) which will bring about the return of animal sacrifice.

How refined and cosmopolitan these predictions are, along with the strange people who are actually trying to achieve this.

A great beast will rise from the

sea, seven heads, yada yada yada and the four horseman of the apocalypse will ride down from the heavens. This may have scared the simple minded peasants of the middle ages, but seriously?

Modern members of this death cult (it is the ultimate climax in the Christian Bible right?) have taken to a new deeper meaning of pseudo-symbolism.

The problem is anything can fit in to this ancient mad lib. Ask Harold Camping (1994,1995, 2011), Martin of Tours (375 CE.), Pope Sylvester II (1/1/1000), Popé Innocent III (1284), Sabatai Zevi (1648), Christopher Columbus (1658), the Shakers (1792), William Miller (10/22/1844), Jim Jones (1967), Chuck Smith (1981), Jerry Falwell (Y2K), and countless others.

Remember the insanity of "Y2K"? Fear, it is a hell of a drug.

Breaking the Mold with Cultures

By Megan Dougherty
Staff Writer

She is Indian, dark-skinned and Punjabi. I am Irish, pale-skinned and Catholic. Although it seems like we are completely different people from opposite worlds, we are best friends. With a friendship like ours there is no ignoring the progress that the world has made when it comes to its diversity, and the hope it brings for the future.

In history I would always read about how every race and culture stuck to their own groups, never really mingling with others. However, in today's world there is so much cultural variety in friendships, and it is an amazing turn of events.

We have finally been able to look past the stereotypes that come with each culture, and see the person for who they really are. I view someone's culture and religion as an added bonus, something interesting that makes

my friend who they are. In my own personal group of friends the cultures range from Indian to Jamaican to Polish and even Pakistani.

It is a great thing to be able to blend lives and friendships with those who are not of the same culture and it has brought me a lot of insight and knowledge.

It is an eye opening experience to have a close friend who is from a different race and religion. There are so many beliefs in her religion that I lack in mine, and it has slowly taught me to be more open and willing to learn about things that are out of my element.

They have rules (or rather beliefs) that I don't. For example, most girls have to live with their parents until they are married in Punjabi culture, but that is not a rule in the Catholic community.

I met my best friend in the seventh grade, and before that I had never really known too much

about any other culture that was not Irish-Catholic. Now, not only do I know about her Punjabi culture, but also about the many other cultures that make up India (which is quite a lot).

However, even with the great improvements that society has made in regards to cultural diversity, sometimes today when people learn that my best friend is Indian, or vice versa, we sometimes get that glance that says "Really?", proving that even in 2012 people are still not ready to move on.

Although it is acceptable to have a close friend be from a different culture and religion, there are still people who have yet to let go of their prejudices. That is the sad part, because the ones who refuse to let go of the past are missing out on all the great things that different cultures have to offer. They are missing out on a world that is truly inspirational and life changing.

Great Films Not Appreciated Today

By Monica DuFour
Staff Writer

The past two weeks, I've seen two incredible movies, "Cloud Atlas" and "Argo". They are both entirely two different films but equally as fantastic.

While I was at work, I was talking to my co-worker about what I did last weekend. I mentioned how I saw "Cloud Atlas" twice. She gave me a puzzled look and didn't know what movie I was talking about.

I was devastated. It is a fairly new movie and is still playing theaters.

It made me so disappointed that these great films aren't getting the views they should.

I always go on IMDB.com (a film information website) to look up information about various films. On the front page, it gives you a list of the top ten films based on the box office. Much to my dismay, "Breaking Dawn: Part Two" was number one with a gross of \$141 million in the first week. "Cloud Atlas" wasn't even in the top ten! Luckily "Argo" was rated sixth.

When I was in high school, I read the "Twilight" series of books because I was into fantasy and I heard good things.

They were entertaining books but nothing that was extraordinary. The last book came out and I was absolutely disgusted. Stephenie

Meyer, the author of the "Twilight" series, got overwhelmed with money and fame and wrote the worse book I've ever read. I was furious that I spent my money on this series. But it's such a large franchise that people can't stop buying into it.

I understand that "Breaking Dawn: Part Two" had more advertising, i.e., commercials, trailers, backgrounds to website, sponsor ads, merchandise, etc. It had the money to advertise itself, so it made the most money. "Breaking Dawn: Part Two" was also playing multiple shows a day at pretty much every theater.

Films like "Moonrise Kingdom" and "Perks of Being a Wallflower" played a few times in select theaters. Those two reasons are why great movies don't get the love they need.

Another reason as to why more independent and unique films are getting overlooked is because people would rather watch movies that don't require too much thinking, such as "Transformers".

A great film should inspire your mind like great literature. You should think of new possibilities and question the characters' words and behaviors.

I guess if you really want to open your mind to film, you just have to dig. I hope one day the "digging" gets easier.

Quo Vadis Editorial Policy

1. Quo Vadis is published 15 times a semester by the students of Middlesex County College.

2. Letters, articles, and photographs that are submitted become the property of Quo Vadis.

3. All letters and articles must be sent to quovadis_newspaper@hotmail.com. Submissions must include a complete

name, signature, and telephone number.

4. We encourage articles from students not associated with Quo Vadis.

5. The Editorial Boards reserves the right to reject or edit any material on the basis of length, taste, suitability, or clarity.

The Opinions expressed on

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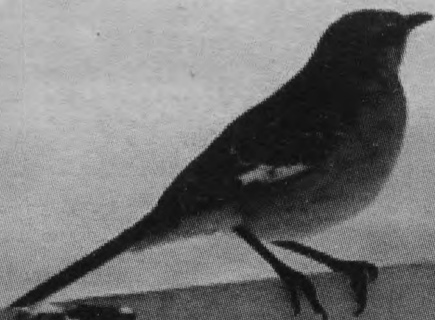


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The College Prepares for Wrestling Season

By Ben Rodger
Staff Writer

The College's Blue Colts Wrestling team is rounding into form as the preseason is winding down. There are less than three weeks before they take the mats at the Washington and Jefferson Invitational. As in any team sport, there needs to be contribution from not just the stars but from the entire roster.

"[That is] especially true in wrestling. You could have seven studs who pin every opponent but if the other seven wrestlers are terrible and get pinned themselves, you have a tie," said Steve Johnston, fifth year assistant coach at South Plainfield High School.

While head coach Mike Malinconico is expecting competitive efforts from every wrestler he runs out there, he wants to "see performances on another level" from his returning wrestlers. Sam Emburiga, Nick Richiusa, and Chris Raub all return for their second season at the College.

Johnston faced all three during their high school tenure in the Greater Middlesex Conference; Emburiga at Monroe, Richiusa and Raub at Sayreville. "Sayreville is always one of the tougher teams in the conference and those two embody that toughness."

As much as the rest of the team needs to perform, Coach Malin-

conico is looking to Emburiga to be his go-to-guy. "He is wrestling at a high level, higher than I had expected and I expected a lot. He has a legitimate title shot at 133 pounds."

The coach has been thoroughly impressed with his ability to adapt.

"In high school, they wrestle against other kids from the same team. They spend their whole career being the best on their team then come to college and their teammates are kids just like themselves. For him to be throwing some of these kids, kids with real chances to place at the national tournament, around the way he has been has been a treat to watch."

Retro Fitness Helps During Holiday Feasting

By Ben Rodger
Staff Writer

With the holiday season approaching, let Retro Fitness in Edison help you minimize the effects of feasting and get in shape before you get to the table.

The 17,000 square foot facility is located at 3775 Park Avenue and is open seven days a week, 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Friday and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

With a \$19.99 monthly promotional rate, you'll feel the burn in your muscles and not in your wallet.

Retro Fitness rates as one of the best available options in the area according to user reviews on Yelp.com.

Some of the favorite features

available to members are a smoothie bar for refreshments and a theater room where one can do a cardio workout while watching movies on the big screen.

Can't get rid of the baby weight because there is no one to watch the baby? Take advantage of the facilities child care services while you get your workout done.

Area resident Doug Botti has been thoroughly impressed during his two years of membership. "Great gym, friendly staff, clean equipment and locker room. It is very well spaced out with plenty of weights and cardio machines."

You can give them a call at 732-549-7387 or find them online at <http://edisonnj.retrofitness.net>.

Wrestling Coach Talks About His Past

By Chris Nalwasky
Staff Writer

Mike Malinconico, head coach of the College's wrestling team, is working on some last minute preps before the season is set to begin shortly but we step away from the team and focus more on himself.

Coach Malinconico found the love for wrestling at an early age.

Malinconico first began wrestling in second grade, and wrestled all the way through high school and college.

"I wrestled most of my life. I was second in the state my senior year of high school. I wrestled at Oklahoma State University, then did two years here, then transferred to Syracuse."

Oklahoma State is a wrestling

powerhouse, according to naac.com, the Cowboys finished the 2011-12 season ranked 3rd in the nation.

In addition, according to campusexplorer.com, Oklahoma State has a storied NCAA wrestling tradition.

Oklahoma State also won the first four championships, from 1928 to 1931, and holds nearly 35 titles overall.

Malinconico first arrived as coach here in 2007 with a vision "resurrecting the program" as it once was and it is beginning to rise again.

"We've had multiple academic All-Americans, and the team has finished in the top 10 in the county twice."

Promotion of Zizo Sherif Proves Successful

By Matthew Shumaker and Joseph Benedetto
Staff Writers

Numbers never lie, and the past results of the 2012 men's soccer season prove that the promotion from within of former Assistant Coach Zizo Sherif yielded great benefits. When former Head Coach Bill Andrews resigned at the end of last season, the College was forced with a decision. Do they seek new blood, or look to the leadership of the former Egyptian international? They chose the latter, and it made all the difference. The hiring of Sherif was a success due to the fact that the Colts saw an increase in wins, an increase in goals scored, a decrease in goals allowed and made an appearance in the Region XIX tournament.

In 2011, the men's team under Andrews limped to a 5-14 finish (3-13) which could be attributed to the lack of intensity during practices.

"The difference [between Sherif's and Andrew's practices] is that they are more intense and a lot of strategy comes into play," said Sean Farrell who played under both coaches. "We would have practice uniforms on so we look professional and act like one [as well]." Sherif's dedication to model professionalism saw his team improve their record to 8-9-2 (3-8-1).

In addition to the increase in wins, Sherif was able to instill the fundamental aspect of goal scoring into his team's arsenal. Under Andrews in 2011, the Middlesex only netted 30 goals, (1.57 goals per game). However, once Sherif was promoted, the Colts finished with 46 goals scored (2.3 goals per game), a 53.3 percent increase from the previous year's total.

Another important factor in the winning of games is defensive play. The Colts conceded 64 goals under Andrews (3.37 goals

per game). But they saw a massive improvement the following year, only allowing 38 to hit the back of the net (1.9 goals per game), which is a 68.4 percent decrease.

Lastly, the Colts failed to make an appearance in the Region XIX tournament due to their poor record in 2011 under Andrews. But at the end of the 2012 regular season, the Colts record allowed them to advance to the Region XIX tournament. They conceded only one goal in a loss to Brookdale.

All in all, the statistics prove that Sherif's leadership helped Middlesex improve their play, their record, their goal scoring numbers, their goals conceded and this allowed them to make the playoffs. Without Sherif, no one can really say where the program might have ended up at the end of this season, but one thing is certain. The numbers do not lie, and the results can be seen plain as day.

About the College's Athletics

Information courtesy of the College's website.

As a member of Region XIX of the National Junior College Athletic Association, the College fields varsity teams for men and women. Teams providing competition come from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware.

Middlesex is also a charter member of the Garden State Athletic Conference. The GSAC provides the opportunity for athletic competition among New Jersey Community Colleges.

In order to be a participant in the athletic programs at the College, you must be a full-time student and meet the eligibility standards set by the NJCAA. All student and transfer students who wish to participate in intercollegiate athletics should contact the Director of Athletics at (732) 906-2558 as early as possible.

Students are admitted freely to regularly scheduled home games. Students are encouraged to support the College's teams and to exemplify good sportsmanship at all times.

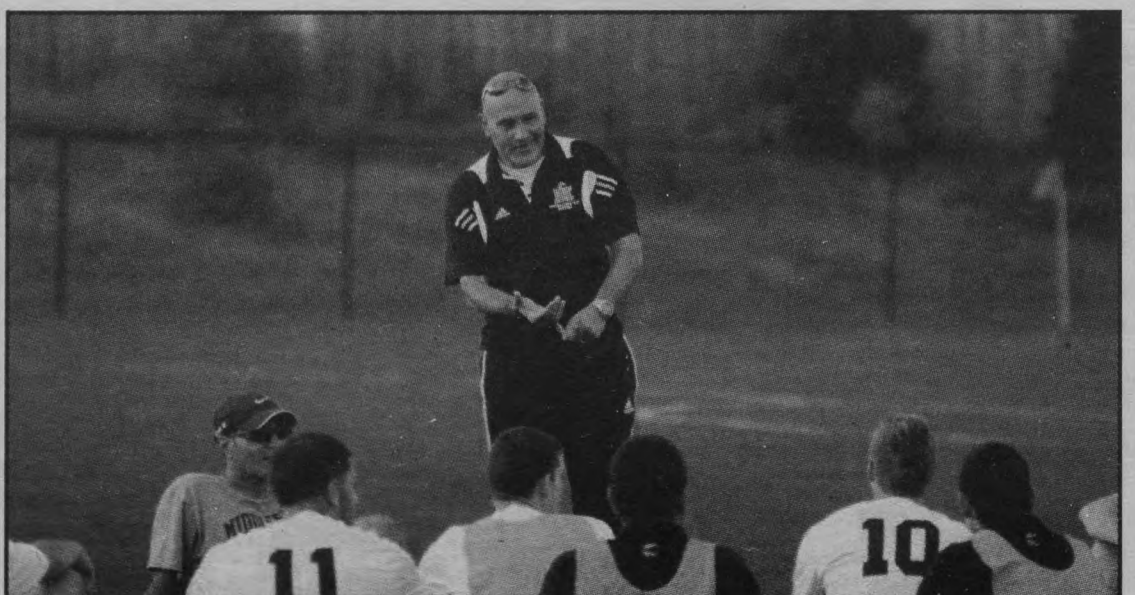


Photo by Rob Rivera