

Quo Vadis

The official newspaper of Middlesex County College

March 4, 2002

Spring Semester 2002

Volume 36, Number 17

"The vigilant protection of constitutional freedoms is nowhere more vital than in the community of American schools." Healy v. James, 1972



Richard Ellison, seen here in his office, was appointed chair of the Accounting and Legal Services Department recently. Ellison, who is also a teacher at MCC, replaces former chair Dr. Ronald C. Goldfarb. Photo By Joe Covino, Jr.

Ellison is appointed chair of Accounting Department

By Frank Cicerale
Editor-In-Chief

Richard A. Ellison was recently appointed chair of Department of Accounting and Legal Studies.

Ellison replaces former chair Dr. Ronald C. Goldfarb, who was appointed dean of the Division of Business, Computer Science, and Engineering Technologies.

Ellison has been teach-

ing accounting, business, and law courses at MCC since 1988. He earned a BS in accounting from Rutgers, and a masters in finance from Farleigh Dickinson. He is a licensed Certified Public Accountant, and has been a controller and chief financial officer of an Edison manufacturing firm.

"Rich is a dedicated professional with 35 years experience in both corporate financial management and in

administration," said Dr. Robert Fishco, vice president of Academic and Student Affairs. "His accounting, administrative, and management skills will greatly enhance the effectiveness and success of both our college and out students."

Ellison plans to expand the growth of the para-legal department and to expand the transferability for accounting, business, and
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New Jersey CPAs raise money for scholarship

By Jessica Levine
Reporter

New Jersey CPAs have raised more than \$1 million of scholarship money for accounting majors.

The scholarship is available to high school seniors planning to major in accounting. It is also available to college juniors who are entering their senior year in accounting majors.

There is also a manuscript contest open to college sophomores and juniors in accounting majors said Kathleen Brunet Eagan, director of Communication at the NJSCPA.

There is additional information available in the accounting offices on campus said Richard Ellison chairperson of the Accounting and Legal Services Department.

The campaign ran for 15 months and increased the amount of scholarships awarded to accounting students.

The money was raised, "by approaching leaders and members of CPA firms and members of NJCPA" as well as from non-profit organizations said Eagan.

"This is a fantastic
(continued on page 4)

Ecstasy is popular among students

By Mathew Schreiber
Reporter

The newest thing on college campuses is not hopscotch. It is ecstasy.

It is called MDMA. If you were on the street, though, you wouldn't ask for MDMA; you would ask for: Adam, XTC, bean, roll, E, M, X, doves, rave, energy, cloud nine, candy, or the love drug. You also might just ask for ecstasy.

After you take ecstasy, the effects do not take effect until two hours, but they will last for several hours.

One student at MCC said that "it's like an instant orgasm. It's like sex without sex. It's like a rush of feeling, a sensation that won't stop."

Some common physical effects include dizziness, weakness, nausea or vomiting, panic, anxiety, restlessness, hot and cold sweats, and abdominal pain. Other effects are increased heart rate, a loss of appetite and an increased sensitivity in touch and hearing.

A student at MCC said that when he took the drug he got "stomach pains" and he "felt all discombobulated."

Some psychological side effects include panic, depression, paranoia, and anxiety. Ecstasy may also cause hallucinations.

Another student said "It is the most heavenly experience in the world. I didn't like it. It relaxes you; it also clears your thoughts. In realizing that why do I have to take the drug to think that clearly?"

The latest reports say that ecstasy has surpassed marijuana in the most common drug on college cam-

pus.

MCC counselor Leslie Carter contested these reports.

"Even though ecstasy is becoming more and more popular on college campuses, it has not surpassed weed [marijuana] just yet," Carter said.

Carter says some MCC students are using the drug, although many students are unaware of the severity of it.

One student at MCC said that even people who have never done any other drug do ecstasy because people they know do it.

Another student said that E can be addicting for people that go to raves all the time.

"I get the Triple H: High, Horny, and Hard," described one student.

"Every part of your body is a sex organ," said another student.

Other students spoke of their dislike of drugs in general, and ecstasy in particular.

"Every time you take a pill, it puts a hole in your head," one student said.

She added that she knows people who take the drug often, and that some of those friends have taken the drug for over four years. She said that these friends are "out of it" or "not all there" and they can't talk or function.

More information on ecstasy and its effects, as well as information on area drug programs can be obtained by contacting the Middlesex Alcohol Drug Education, which meets Thursdays at 2 pm in Room 108, South 2.

Article prepared with assistance from Jessica Levine.

The Blue Filly

Jennifer Levine
Columnist

Mood: Good spirits
Music: "Don't Let Me Get Me" Pink



Oy. I am so tired from the *Vagina Monologues* this past weekend, but I'm in a really good mood. I met someone new. We're really close friends. I'm on the fashion prowl now for spring 2002. Very excited about the whole red, white, and blue revolution. I'm getting ahead of myself. Let me slow down.

On a really good note, that guy that I spoke of last week, who wasn't talking to me? We have since reconciled and are on better terms. He says that it will take a little time for him to trust me again, and I don't blame him. Thank goodness I got to talk to him. I was starting to worry if I lost him altogether.

Also, I think I have abandoned my original spring prospect, which I have never spoken of, but it shouldn't bother me to now. He was nice, and clever, and it seemed to me like he had all this potential.

Unfortunately, he had a lot of excess baggage that I just cannot handle, and has already invested so much into his current relationship. I don't think I should interfere.

So, I have moved onto bigger and better things. Oh, and the other prospect that I had my eye on fell off the face of the earth. I haven't seen hide or hair of him in three weeks.

Anyway, I'm all up for spring 2002 shopping. And I have the buzz for you gals. I watched Fashion Week on the Style Network the first

week last November and it paid off. Here are a few things to look for:

1. Deep Red, Pure White, and Indigo Blue: very in, but don't go overboard with American flag-inspired stuff.

2. Hanky hems and bell sleeves on peasant and gypsy-inspired tops, a la Britney in the ending scene of *Crossroads*.

3. Dirty denim, whisker fades, and drawstrings: very hot, but don't go for anything with words written all over it.

4. Street ch terrycloth, sport mesh, and other 80's high school gym-inspired stuff: casual everyday look.

5. Funky chunk rings, thick tortoise-shell bangles, and turquoise stones everywhere are mandatory accessories.

There's your fashion quotient. I'll be sure to add more in the coming weeks. Actually, I just went shopping today and picked up a red sweater vest. Very good for that nautical look with canvas sneaks.

That's all for this week. More on the non-existent love life coming soon. As usual, if you have any comments, questions or other things, you can e-mail them to me via the newspaper's address

ad d r e s s
quovadis_newspaper@middlesex.edu
or drop them off at the Quo Vadis office, room 316 in the College Center. Address them to Jen. Until then: This fine filly says farewell.

Olympics cheer up U.S.

Since the terrorist attacks of 9/11, America has had very few happy occasions and opportunities to rejoice.

However, with the close of the 2002 edition of the Winter Olympics, the United States has a lot of which to be proud.

In figure skating, 16-year-old Sarah Hughes, who hails from Long Island, captured the gold medal in women's figure skating. Here, an underdog skater from, of all places New York, comes through in the clutch and pulls off one of the biggest upsets in Olympic history.

Next U.S. representatives not only won the gold medal in the snowboarding competition, but also swept the podium in this competition. The fact that snowboarding is a sport that was started by U.S.

Generation Xers; the U.S. had to win it.

And how about Jim Shea and his skeleton run? With a photo of his grandfather placed inside oh his helmet, Shea rocketed around the track to capture the gold medal in his competition, and become a third generation gold medallist in his family.

Both his father and grandfather had won gold medals for speed skating in previous Olympic competitions.

Shea and many others believe his late grandfather, killed just a few weeks before the Olympics by a drunk driver, gave his sled an extra push.

Then we have Apolo Anton Ohno, the 19-year-old speed skater extraordinaire who nailed down both a gold and silver medal.

Overall, this was the

best outing by an American Olympic team ever. The U.S. racked up 34 medals, one short of Germany's 35.

Ever since the Revolutionary War, America has not only stood as the place for freedom, but a place where everyone, the favorite and the underdog, has a chance at success. That is the American way, and our athletes at the Olympics proved it. Both those athletes favored to win and those who were considered long shots came home with medals, making all who live in America proud.

So while terrorists can destroy our buildings, they cannot, and will not, destroy our way of life. That is the other part of the American way... we don't quit.

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Radio Club Seeks New Members

By Wendy K. Bodine
Reporter

The Radio Club of MCC is looking for new members to join its staff.

According to faculty advisor Louis Dell'Omo, while actual facilities are still in the works, the club is still meeting on a regular basis to discuss issues such as format, programming, and various community outreach services.

"Last year, the Radio Club sponsored a food drive in September," Dell'Omo said. "Also, last Christmas, we held a Toys-for-Tots toy drive, so we are very active in the college community."

While most of the directorial spaces on the radio station's staff are filled, members are always looking for anyone interested in working as on-air staff as well as behind the scenes.

Positions that are needed to be filled are

writers, newscasters, disc-jockeys, and anyone who would like to get involved in the various aspects of radio production not normally seen or heard by the public.

"We're looking for people to coordinate various other outreaches," Dell'Omo stated. "We are also looking for the ones who want to work on the other, more obvious aspects of radio."

Those interested can check the door of the Radio Club, WMCC, which is located upstairs in the College Center, in the corner office, across from the Corral Restaurant and the Myriad. Staff meetings are usually held Tuesdays at 3:30pm in the office, but someone is usually in the office during the day. Applications for volunteer opportunities can be picked up at the office as well.

The way that I see it

By Qi Zhao
Columnist

I was driving along a busy highway last week and there was an armored truck a few cars ahead of me.

Suddenly, the back doors of the truck opened, and a blue plastic bag fell out of the truck.

A car in front of me hit the bag, which immediately ripped open. Then, another bag fell out of the truck, and another. Money was flying everywhere.

I saw a one of the plastic bags of money right ahead of me.

I slammed on my brakes and stopped the car. I jumped out and tried to move the bag, but it was too heavy for me to lift. I had to drag it on the ground to my car, which fortunately was not too far away.

I pulled the bag and eventually moved it into the car little by

little. When I finished, I quickly drove away.

When I got home, I counted the money. I was pleasantly surprised to have found that I picked \$100,000 off of the road.

I began to dream about how I could spend the money. I have never been to Europe before, and I have been eager to go there for a long time. I have also longed to go to Rutgers to continue my education, but I do not have enough money to pay for my school fees. This unexpected gain would help me to achieve both of my dreams.

Later, I called my boyfriend and filled him in on the day's developments. He did not sound happy, however.

He suggested that I return the money.

I was shocked. I replied, "Why? Everyone else who passed there did this. Besides, nobody knows what I

did."

He explained to me, "We are new immigrants in the U.S. We do not have our green card yet. We should be on our best behavior. I also think that finders are not keepers. Moreover, you earn enough to get by. You do not need this ill-gotten gain."

I thought about this for a while, and I decided to return the money.

There is a Nepalese mantra that says: "Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck." It is absolutely true. Today I got my green card. At the same time, I realized that I should take responsibility for all my actions. I should live a good, honorable life. Then, when I get older and think back, I will be able to enjoy it all a second time.

Back to school: a non-traditional view

By Wendy K. Bodine
Reporter

If you had told me back in 1986, when I first embarked on my college career, that I'd be here in the New Millennium and still not completed my degree, I would have said you were nuts.

I was 17, graduated 53rd out of 158, with honors for dramatics, and I was ready to conquer the world with my genius.

I had all my financial aid lined up, and in the fall of

1986, I moved into my little corner of what was then called Trenton State College.

I figured I'd get my Bachelor of Arts in Communications by 1990, land a choice job soon after, and by the year 2000, I'd be making 6 figures, easy. Oh yeah, and I was gonna be married to Prince Charming and have 2.5 kids, a vine-covered cottage, and a dog too.

What was that line about "the best laid plans of

mice and men?"

Like it does for most people with stars in their eyes, life didn't exactly turn out the way I had planned.

Prince Charming turned out to be a toad in disguise, and the good ol' federal government decided that when my mother got a job with the Post Office, I didn't need their financial help anymore.

So in May of 1990, instead of graduating with my friends, I was in a rented

house in Ewing with my so-called Prince, nursing my newborn daughter.

Fast forward to the year 2001. Prince Charming has hopped on his horse and rode off into the sunset. The nursing newborn is now a beautiful 11-year old who is the joy of my life. We both live back home with Mom, who is indispensable as ever at this point.

August brought an unpleasant surprise.

When I return from vacation, I discovered that the

warehouse job I've been stuck in for seven and a half years decided it didn't need me anymore, and I'm out on the street without so much as a severance package or a handshake.

So what's a girl to do?

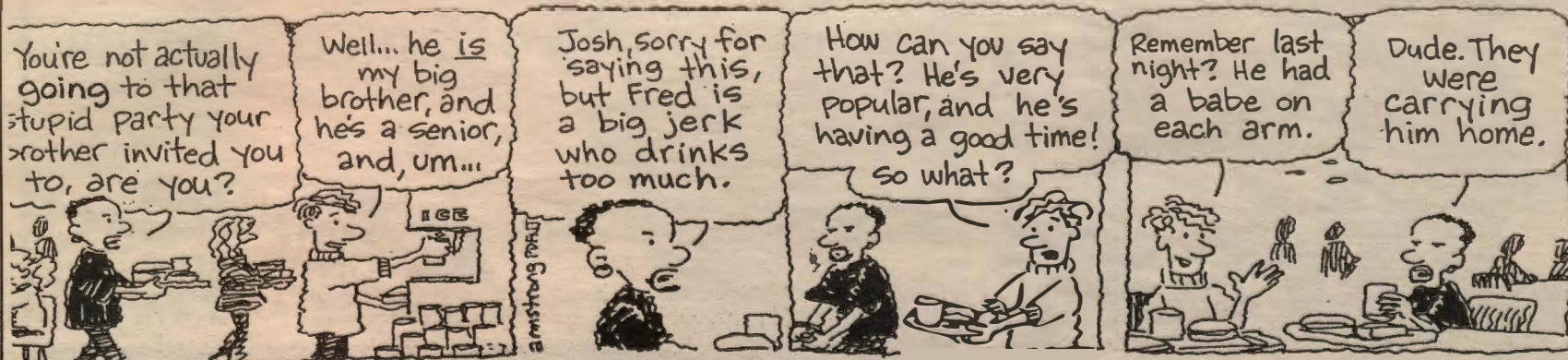
Thankfully for me, the odds were on my side.

I was already enrolled here at Middlesex for part-time. I was planning to come here at nights and work during the day, but I was able

(continued on page 7)

Over the Limit

By Robb Armstrong



"Over The Limit" created through funding from OJJDP

Group Sponsors Entrepreneur Search

By Wendy K. Bodine
Reporter

The East Coast Collegiate Entrepreneur Awards competition is currently being held in the East Coast region.

The Rothman Institute of Entrepreneurial Studies is administering a contest to find college students who run their own businesses while doing undergraduate studies.

This competition is being held nationwide, with the East Coast region being represented by four states: New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, and Delaware.

Each state will choose a first and second place winner, who will receive \$1,000 and \$500, respectively.

Each first-prize winner will then be eligible to represent the region, with the four-state winner receiving an additional \$1,000.

The winners from each region (14 nationwide) will then compete for the national prize of \$10,000, with an additional \$1,000 award for the nominator of the winner.

James Barrood, associate director of the Rothman Institute, stressed how important it is for schools to encourage and recognize students who pursue business ventures

“because it is these innovative small and growing businesses that are generally responsible for much of the job creation nationwide”.

This is the fifth year this competition has been held in New Jersey, and Barrood expects to receive at least 15-20 applications from this state alone.

The business can be anything, from a dog-walking service to a commercial website.

Last year's East Coast regional winner was a Princeton, New Jersey native who ran his own restaurant while attending at Rider University.

All interested applicants can get entry information on the official website at www.fdu.edu/centers/rothman or email to rothman@fdu.edu.

They can also call the office for more information at 973-443-8842.

All applicants should be carrying at least nine credits, and have a letter of reference ready from a banker (loan officer for the business) or a college faculty member.

Although the official deadline is Monday, March 4, Barrood stated that Middlesex County College students have the option of applying up until Thursday, March 7.

Winners will be notified in early May 2002.

New Jersey CPAs raise money for scholarship

(continued from page 1)

accomplishment. Yet again, New Jersey CPAs have demonstrated their commitment to their profession and to supporting accountancy education,” said Sharon L. Lamont, CPA and president of the NJSCPA.

Many people have a “narrow view of what CPAs do,” said Eagan. CPAs “investigate fraud and white collar crime. They’re also involved in financial planning,” said Eagan.

The additional funding will allow New Jersey CPAs to get the good word out about their profession said Richards, past president of the NJSCPA Scholarship Fund and a partner at Ernst & Young.

Eagan said that the “hiring environment for CPAs is still very good with good earning potential.”

“In recent years the role of the CPA in the worlds of business and finance has expanded dramatically,” said Richards. “Those who earn their CPA today are provided with a means for developing their strategic thinking, leadership and communication skills and are offered a wide range of career opportunities.”

Ellison is appointed chair of Accounting Department

(continued from page 1)

law majors here at MCC.

In addition to handling all of the responsibilities that go along with the chair position, Ellison will continue to teach upper level accounting courses.

“I feel that, as the chair, I should get to know those students in the upper levels who are serious about their careers,” said Ellison. “I also have a lot of respect for the part-time student

who takes courses at night, having been one myself. I understand the commitment of someone who has many responsibilities, including earning a living and supporting a family while getting an education and furthering a career.”

“I believe that Middlesex County College serves an important stepping stone in a business education,” Ellison continued. “Our graduates are capable of handling an entry level accounting position in any

corporation, and they are qualified to enter a program leading towards a bachelor’s degree in business at a four-year college or university.

“Therefore, as chair, I will continue to offer diversified hands-on experiences, arrange site visits to exemplary businesses, and bring the most enlightened guest speakers to class.

“I want to lay a foundation and prepare those students to enter the work world.”

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Quo Vadis

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Quo Vadis, the official newspaper of Middlesex County College, is looking for student volunteers.

Positions currently open include:

- News Reporter
- Sports Reporter
- Columnist
- Editor
- Photographer
- Layout Editor
- Cartoonist

If you are interested in joining the Quo Vadis staff, please call us at (732) 548-6000, ext. 3443 or e-mail us at quovadis_newspaper@hotmail.com.

You may also stop by our office, located in the College Center, Room 316 (Top Floor).

Positions are open to ALL MCC STUDENTS regardless of major and with or without prior experience.



Staff and faculty, such as those seen here, can dine on the excellent food prepared by the MCC's Department of Hotel, Restaurant, and Institution Management classes. The lunches, held in the Coral Restaurant, will continue through April.

Photo By Frank Cicerale

MCC students are cooking with class

By Michael Jeter
Assistant Editor

During the spring semester, students in the Department of Hotel, Restaurant & Institution Management will prepare and serve a series of three-course lunches.

The lunches will be held on the following Saturdays:

- March 9
- March 16
- April 13
- April 20
- April 27.

This activity is part of a class which associate Professor Deborah Lynch describes as a "snapshot" of what they will experience as profes-

sionals.

The menu will consist of a the following:

- shrimp scampi appetizer,
- penne with sausage and peppers
- focaccia
- ricotta torte.

Students in the program will both prepare and serve the meal.

The cost is \$4.50 and all lunches will be held in the Corral Restaurant, located on the third floor of the College Center Building.

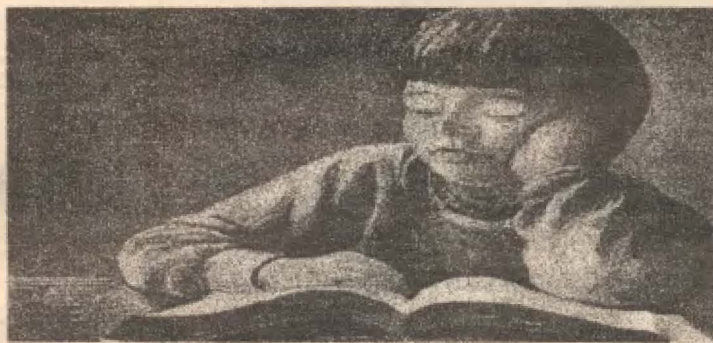
The lunches last from 11:30 am until 1:00 pm.

For more information about menus or reservations, call 732-906-2538.

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Help our local area children

MCC Cheerdance team shows a new form of cheerleading

By Tiffany Sellars
Reporter

As times change, so does cheerleading.

Middlesex County College proves this with the Cheerdance squad.

Cheerdance is a form of cheerleading that places more emphasis on competition, much like what you see on an ESPN broadcast.

This is much different from the cheerleading seen at a local basketball game.

MCC had a cheerleading squad.

However, just two short years ago, the Cheerdance squad was introduced.

Aimee Mittacchione, the dance teacher at MCC, teaches the

girls all of their dance steps.

"Most girls have been involved in either dance or cheerleading in high school," said Mittacchione. "They join the Cheerdance team for the love of dancing and cheering, and to express their school spirit."

Greg Lablanc, a fitness and health teacher at MCC, assists with the stunts and the girl's personal training.

"There are currently 11 or 12 members, and I am one of the two dance captains for the Cheerdance team," said MCC student and Cheerdance co-captain Robin Bull. "The best part about the dance team is being able to build great friendships with the

other members, and, as always, having hours of fun," continued Bull.

Currently, the Cheerdance squad performs at all the men's home basketball teams and at any student activities events, such as the Student Activities Fair held on January 28.

The Cheerdance squad has not had a competition yet.

However, they have been practicing for an upcoming competition in May.

While the date and time of the competition is not known yet, further information on the Cheerdance team can be obtained from Student Activities.

Article contribution from Frank Cicerale, Editor-In-Chief

Back to school

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to switch my schedule at the last minute so I could go to school in the day and be home for my daughter at night. Mom is ultra-supportive of me finishing the degree I started back in the 80's, and has agreed to help out in any way she can to make this possible.

I was a little uneasy coming back to a college campus for the first time in over 10 years. But as time went on, I noticed not much has changed. Kids (excuse me; traditional students) still hang out together at the College Center, or in little groups outside various buildings. They still talk about the same things: music, classwork, romantic relationships, work (or the lack thereof), and what they plan on doing this weekend. Some still dress in ways that must make their parents

cringe occasionally, right down to the rainbow-colored hair and jewelry in places I'm not sure God intended it to be.

I was sure I was going to feel like a fish out of water. But I was pleasantly surprised by just the opposite. Things have changed on college campuses. Younger students are more tolerant of us older ones. We are able to talk and share together in class without fear of ridicule.

When I was in college back in the 80s, it wasn't uncommon for the occasional snicker behind someone's back who was a little closer to the professor's age than you. Now, many of the students I share a classroom with are pleasantly polite and friendly. I'm starting to get that "right at home" feeling again.



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Students active on and off campus

Jessica Levine
Reporter

PSI BETA and the People In Education (P.I.E.) clubs offer a variety of experiences for psychology and education majors, and are currently trying to revitalize interest on campus for the groups.

At MCC there are about 200 psychology majors, and more than twice that in Education, said John Gutowski, an advisor of PSI BETA and chairperson of Psychology and Education.

The groups are collecting children's books between April 22 and May 1. Children's books may be donated at the Student Activities office.

The book collection is just one of the many community service projects that the groups participate in.

"The activities are tailored towards psychology or education majors" said Holly Casazza, one of the advisors of the PSI BETA honors society.

PSI BETA or P.I.E members can also volunteer to work with the STRAIGHT UP PROGRAM, which establishes redirection for youth.

The program presents rehabilitation techniques and is directed to help troubled youth.

The community service projects are "related to outreach projects, tutoring, and educational trips," said Gutowski.

PSI BETA also visits NYC once a semester to observe Dr Albert Ellis, a "pioneer in Rational Emotive Behavioral Therapy (REBT), a form of therapy that

deals with primarily irrational thought patterns" said Casazza. The students observe Ellis doing an intervention with people from the audience.

At the end of the therapy session, Ellis invites comments and advice from the audience said Gutowski.

PSI BETA has also visited Salem, Massachusetts, to study the psychology of the "massive belief in witches," and how people were "deluded into thinking there were supernatural forces" at work said Gutowski.

Once students are inducted into PSI BETA, they are also inducted into the National Honors Society in Psychology and can enter the honors society for four-year universities, said Gutowski.

In order for students to enter PSI BETA, they must have a GPA of a 3.25 or higher and a "B" or better in a psychology class, explained Casazza.

The P.I.E. club is open to any student who expresses interest in education.

There are two scholarships offered by the Psychology and Education Department in memory of Steven Rosengarten, a former professor at MCC.

The scholarship is funded by Rosengarten's widow and is for students who major in psychology.

The scholarship has been expanded to include students who major in education with a background in psychology said Gutowski.

Meetings for PSI BETA are every Wednesday at 2pm in cafeteria C.



The unsung heroes of every athletic team is...yes, you guessed it, the one's who hand out the equipment. Individuals such as Shannon Williams, seen here, must sort out all the equipment for the various MCC athletic teams. They make sure that all of MCC's athletes look their finest when playing a game or a match.

Photo By Joe Covino, Jr.

If you can't make the funk – "Fake the Funk"

By Neesa Joseph
Columnist

With so many events on campus, academic and otherwise, students tend to pay attention only to those activities that fit our realm of interest.

March 15, Adelante is hosting an event that will suit anyone and everyone.

The event will be "Fake the Funk", a lip sync competition. Registration is open everyone, students and non-stu-

dents, and both groups and single acts can participate.

Three cash prizes of \$150, \$100, and \$50 will be awarded to the winners.

Adelante's club advisor, Aaron Bruce, has helped coordinate similar events at other colleges, and hopes that "Fake the Funk" will also be a success.

He calls it a celebration of music, culture and dance. It gives students a chance to display their tal-

ents while having fun and a chance to make a little cash at the same time.

Adelante is the same club that hosted the Male Expo last semester.

For those of you ladies who missed the chance to bid on some of MCC's finest men, you don't want to miss this one because you never know who will be showing off their talents.

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