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College Cuts Ribbon on Johnson Commons Learning Center

Kathleen Garrihy
Staff Writer

Faculty members, students and staff joined The College President Dr. Joann La Perla-Morales and Dr. Karen Hays, vice president of academic and student affairs, to celebrate the formal dedication of the Johnson Commons Learning Center on Thursday, Oct. 29, 2010. As the crowd looked on, La Perla-Morales cut the ribbon of the state-of-the-art facility. The Center, which was made possible by a donation from the Johnson family, has been operating since Jan. 25, 2010 in the Instructional Resource Center adjacent to the library.

It houses dozens of new computers equipped with advanced learning software for students in developmental reading, math and writing. Students using the center's interactive software receive immediate feedback on their progress and see how they are benefiting from the software.

"This represents an effort to provide computer resources to help students reach their

educational and career goals," La Perla-Morales said. "We are using technology in a positive way—for the good of students."

Hays said that the Johnson Commons Learning Center was conceived by Susan Shulman, a member of the math department, who saw the center as a better way to help students learn outside of the classroom. Hays also acknowledged Donald Drost, executive director of facilities management, and Neil Sachnoff, executive director of information and technology and their respective teams for their contributions to the Center.

"[The Center] is a fabulous example of how people collaborate on campus and work to help students learn," she said.

According to The College website, the Center's mission is to provide academic support to students and to empower them to become efficient, confident and independent learners by helping them to identify their strengths and weaknesses and

to develop the skills they need to succeed in their academic careers.

"Students learn how to be college students," said Alice Picardo, director of First Year Experience. "They also learn more about themselves as persons."

Picardo also praised the lab assistants and tutors who staff the Center as the key to its success. "We couldn't do it without them," she said.

The administration views the Learning Center as a means to increased student retention while promoting positive attitudes and improving students' self-confidence in their ability to learn,



At the ribbon cutting, front row, left to right: Alice Picardo, director of the first year experience initiative and learning center; College President Joann La Perla-Morales; Karen Hays, vice president for academic and student affairs; and Melissa Platt, Learning Center senior lab coordinator. Back row: Donald Drost, executive director of facilities management; Professor Susan Shulman, Mathematics Department; Professor Lucille Alfieri, English Department; Professor Clairie Vassiliadis, Mathematics Department; Professor Ellen Shur, English Department; and Dan Zimmerman, chair of the English Department.

according to The College website. The Center provides on-line supplemental instruction and personal tutoring in developmental mathematics, reading

and English. The Johnson Commons Learning Center is part of The College's continuing efforts to meet the needs of its students.

"It seems we are always improving the campus," said La Perla-Morales. "This is what was meant to be. I am proud to be a part of this institution."



George J. Lisicki Named to Middlesex County College Board of Trustees

George J. Lisicki, former national commander in chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, was named to the Middlesex County College Board of Trustees. He was appointed by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Mr. Lisicki served in the U.S. Army for three years and fought in Vietnam in 1967-

68, earning the Bronze Star and Distinguished Service Medal among others. He was also with the Pentagon Staff Communications Center from 1968-69.

Mr. Lisicki joined the VFW Post 2314 in Carteret in 1971 and became a life member five years later. He served as post, district and state commander, as well as a member of the national council.

In 2007, Mr. Lisicki was elected to a two-year term as national commander, overseeing the organization of 2.4 million members.

"I am very happy to be joining the Middlesex County College Board," he said. "Anyone who has fought for his country has a special interest in making sure it stays stable and successful. I have always taken an interest

in education and joining this Board will allow me to contribute to the success of the College."

Professionally, Mr. Lisicki spent his 33-year career with Union Carbide, where he was a senior laboratory technician and site services coordinator. He was also a New Jersey real estate commissioner and an investigator for the state's Weights and Measures Division.

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Professor Teaches and Celebrates Life of Music at The College

Kevin Kiem
Staff Writer

Music Professor Mary Ann Bogar knows what it takes to have a successful career in music. A lifetime student of music herself, she is not at all shy to impart her knowledge to a younger generation. "Always practice the chosen

major instrument, so you do not lose your skills," says Bogar.

Bogar's life in music began at the age of five when she received her first piano lessons, which to this day is still her favorite instrument. Shortly thereafter, she moved on to clarinet, and once her hands grew a little bigger,

guitar. When she got a little older, she started playing in bands.

"I was in several bands, playing keyboards, saxophone and guitar," says Bogar. "Some were disco groups and others were wedding groups or Top 40."

She went to school at Trenton State College before

transferring to Rutgers University, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree, Master of Arts degree, postgraduate honors, the Supervisor's Certificate and the Principal's Certificate.

"I enjoy the pleasure imparted to a young student when he or she begins an instrument for the first time,"

says Bogar, who loves to offer advice to students. She also said she stresses that there is no such thing as too much practice.

"Never forget what it was like to be young in a competitive field," she said.

New Psychology Honors Course Available In Spring Semester

Phillip C. Pleva
Staff Writer

The Honors Program at The College will be offering an Introduction to Psychology Honors course (PSY 123-H) during the spring 2011 semester for current and prospective honors students.

Dr. John Gutowski, professor of psychology, said the course is structured after

a graduate-level seminar. Gutowski said that students in his class are encouraged to think creatively and are given a forum to share their thoughts and research regarding psychology with their peers. Through discussion, debate and interaction with other like-minded individuals, he said his course will be an enjoyable and thought-provoking experience for students.

Gutowski said that he enjoys teaching an honors course because he learns new concepts and ideas along with his students. When a student is able to become an expert in a certain topic, Gutowski said that both he and the entire class benefit from the research he or she has gathered.

To qualify for the Introduction to Psychology Honors course, a student must

meet certain criteria to join the Honors Program. Dr. Mathew Spano, the co-director of the Honors Program, said that a prospective Honors student must be finished with all developmental coursework and have completed over 12 college credits. Additionally, Spano said students who have a cumulative GPA of 3.25 to 3.49 are eligible to take one honors class with a professor's

recommendation. He also said that all students with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher are able to participate in multiple honors classes.

Prospective students are asked to contact either Spano (mspano@middlesexcc.edu) or co-director Dr. Donna Marie Gardner (dgardner@middlesexcc.edu) with any questions.

New Hip Hop Dance Club Encourages Students To Dance

Sandy Pleeter
Staff Writer

The College's Hip Hop Dance Club, an organization that allows members to express themselves through dance to a variety of musical pieces, has begun planning activities for this semester.

Created in 2001, the club gathers regularly to introduce, practice and

review choreographed routines. Incorporated music, which is chosen by the club's choreographer, varies in style. According to the club's page on Campus Cruiser, members have danced to R&B, reggae and freestyle as well as hip hop compositions. Past songs include "Rude Boy," "Billie Jean," "Temperature" and "Sexy Back."

Once prepared,

members perform their routines in a variety of venues. Hip Hop Dance Club Advisor Lori Johnson says, "The club has performed for the campus community on several occasions—for example, the [College's] Halloween Party, Kwanza and the End-of-Semester Party. The club has also performed at local high schools as well as some of the local universities, such as

Montclair."

This semester, the club hopes to perform during the Student Activities Halloween Party on Oct. 25, 2010. However, due to a new policy created this semester at The College that requires members to attain notes from their personal physicians before performing, this may not happen. Because The College's administration does

not consider dance a sport, the college nurse will not conduct the mandatory examinations.

The Hip Hop Dance club meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 2-4 p.m. in room 101-102 of the College Center. Any student of The College, regardless of dance experience may join.

Annual Transfer Fair Visits

Ross Zeller
Staff Writer

Students attending The College who plan on transferring will have an opportunity to get all the necessary information about the transfer process to four-year colleges at the 42nd Annual Fall Transfer Fair, occurring on Nov. 15, 16 and 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. in the College Center lobby.

According to information from The College's website, college admission representatives from most of the New Jersey four-year colleges, along with representatives from several universities in New

York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Connecticut will be attending the event. The College will host between 20 to 25 college admission representatives per day - different representatives from different colleges each day.

According to a college spokesman, if students are unavailable during the days of the transfer fair, there is a drop-in schedule in Edison Hall, room 100, that gives the times available to stop in for a 10 minute question session with transfer counselors on Nov. 1 to Nov. 12.

A list of the colleges attending the fair can be found through The College website or Campus Cruiser.

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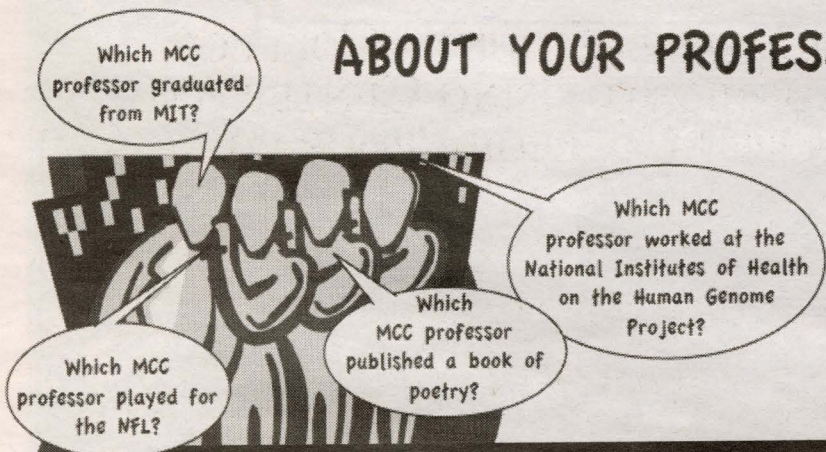
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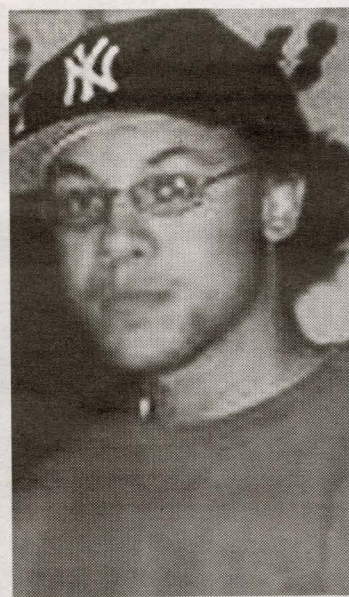
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Former Editor of Quo Vadis Meets in Fatal Car Accident in Arizona



EDISON - Former Middlesex County College student and editor of the Quo Vadis newspaper and Blue Colt Vibe magazine, Reginald Jerry James Grant, was driving back to Arizona State University, where he was a junior, and was killed in a fatal car accident last weekend.

After taking an introduction to journalism class in 2006, Reginald served as co-editor of the Quo Vadis newspaper for two semesters. Later, he was one of the first co-editors of the Blue Colt Vibe magazine.

“His ideas and contributions for both publications survive today.”

- Edwards said

Journalism professor Melissa Edwards said for the more than two years Reginald Grant was involved with the journalism program he was an excellent and dedicated staff member. He often spent extra time working towards writing stories for the newspaper and encouraging others to be their best, she said.

“His ideas and contributions for both publications survive today,” said Edwards. Both students and faculty on campus knew Reginald Grant and respected his work ethic and his intellect, said some former Quo Vadis staff members.

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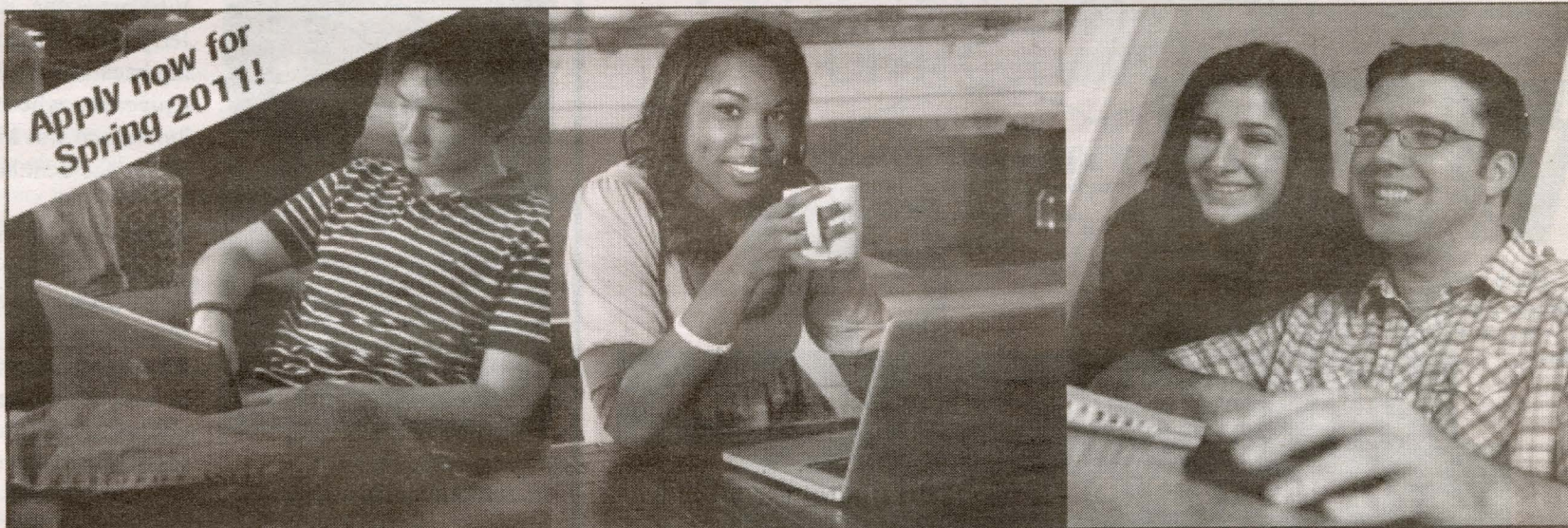
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Quo Vadis pays homage to our fallen colleague,

Reginald Jerry James Grant.

He was part of the journalism program at MCC from 2006 to 2008.

**Former Colleague and
Classmate: John Dempsey,
Former Quo Vadis Editor**

Reginald Grant was a great person and I will miss him dearly.

I will miss our conversations.

We could talk for hours on topics ranging from food to society, from classic films to travel, from electronics to education.

He had a profound perspective on life that was always beyond his years, and I sought his guidance in my own life on multiple occasions.

I will miss our experiences together. From a week-long trip to Las Vegas with a couple of friends to working on news articles together at school, I always had a more enriching experience if Reggie were involved.

While there are many things I will miss about Reggie, I will miss nothing more than our friendship.

Through our relationship, he taught me how to be a better friend, a better person, how to get the most out of life, and he did these things without trying.

He was such a subtly influential person whose impact was anything but subtle. Reggie was more than just my friend, he was a mentor and a man who I looked up to like a brother.

**From Colleague and Classmate:
Ricky Dworzanski,
Former Quo Vadis Editor**

I, like others, am absolutely stunned over this tragedy. I remember Reggie as the first person I recognized when I started working at Circuit City in Woodbridge because we started working on the MCC newspaper around the same time. I have fond memories of his positivity, 1000 watt smile, laid-back persona, inside jokes at work, and genuine care for others. A common theme that was repeated when I have spoke with others close to Reggie was that he never passed judgment on others.

Reggie accepted everyone for who they were. Reggie was not only a mainstay at the MCC journalism program, but one of the "originals" at Circuit City and this tragedy will impact everyone who ever came in contact with him.

Reggie was striving for what he wanted in life and was making his own breaks in journalism by furthering his education in Arizona.

Reggie is a wonderful person, friend, co-worker, and human being with a shining soul. I know he is in great place right now smiling over the out-pour of love he is receiving.

I am humbled and privileged to have the opportunity to have known Reggie and my heart goes out to the Grant family.

It is just an awful situation that really makes you take a step back and appreciate life and all those around you that much more.

Greed-Fueled Standoff Between News Corp. And Cablevision

Paul Lazaro
Copy Editor

Since October 16, Cablevision customers in the tri-state area have been unable to view several channels due to a seemingly simple dispute between News Corp. and Cablevision. News Corp. owns the channels that have been removed from Cablevision's line-up. These include Fox 5, My9, National Geographic Wild and Fox Business. The origin of the dispute lies in Cablevision's refusal to pay News Corp. \$150 million a year for these channels. Cablevision currently pays \$70 million a year.

I am not what would be considered a regular TV

viewer. Sometimes, I tell people that the only reason I have cable service is because Cablevision has channel 61, News12 Traffic and Weather. It broadcasts nothing but the traffic and weather, every two minutes. It's an ingenious idea. Occasionally, I'll flip to ESPN in the morning for SportsCenter. But I never watch enough TV to merit the cost.

Why should my cable company pay more than twice what it's paying now to air News Corp.'s channels? What is so extraordinary about these channels that they merit such a large increase in cost?

I am not familiar with the prices charged by companies that own channels. Nor am I familiar with the

process by which cable companies decide how much they should charge their subscribers. However, by using simple logic, I can take a good, educated guess and say that my cable bill will go up if News Corp. gets its way.

I do not claim to know the current financial state of the readers of this publication, but I presume that the recession has people thinking of saving money, not spending it. Now, the executives running News Corp., or any major corporation, must know this because they have more education, wisdom and experience than I do. With that in mind, I am forced to ask my next couple of questions.

Why would you

burden the public with another expense? Is it good business to kick someone when they're down?

Within the last six months or so, when I have had the time, I have switched on Fox in the evening several times. To my surprise, I saw almost the same lineup of shows that I saw 10 years ago. As a teenager, I used to watch Fox every weekday. I am a big fan of "The Simpsons" and would watch it religiously in the evenings. Every now and then, I'd tune in early and catch the end of "Home Improvement" or forget to change the channel afterwards and watch the beginning of "Seinfeld." With no significant change in Fox's programming, one has to wonder what News

Corp. is charging more for.

Cablevision has agreed to let a third party mediate the dispute. They also agreed to submit to binding arbitration, which means that they will go along with any decision that the third party makes. To the best of my knowledge, News Corp. has not followed suit.

In many different places, among many different people, I have seen a kinship during this financially clouded time—a common attitude and demeanor that shows that we are in this together and we will pull each other out of it. News Corp.'s actions do not show an understanding of this. It does not show any sympathy, let alone empathy.

Teaching The Value Of Extortion Through Trick-Or-Treating

Lynn Lin
Opinion & Editorial Editor

As day gives way to the night, and the sun bids farewell to the laughter of joyful children venturing from door to door dressed as ghoulish creatures and super heroes, the darker side of trick-or-treating soon rears its ugly head. As several knocks echo through, expecting the obligatory gleeful shout of "trick-or-treat," I reluctantly grab my bowl of goodies to distribute amongst the kids and, consequently, making their dentists quite happy. As I open the door, I am greeted with a sight much different from what was expected: the remnants of cracked eggs, the shells scattered about the steps as the broken yolk drips from above, and an eerie screech of

childish laughter coupled with the stomps of hasty echoes in the distance.

Why does Halloween bring out the worst in people? Seriously, the youths of today are in dire need of discipline.

With Halloween well behind us, I am relieved that this ordeal is over with, a sentiment which is shared among many who are on the receiving end of the annoying shouts of "trick-or-treat!" preceded by a fury of knocks and door bell rings—at least until next year.

Unlike other holidays, Halloween is quite unique in that it somewhat forces participation in its silly traditions, regardless of who you are. Specifically speaking, the tradition which compels people of all ages to come knocking at my door,

disturbing the peace, as they attempt to extort sugary treats from me with a seemingly empty threat of trick-or-treat.

How exactly am I supposed to respond to this? A simple "sorry, I don't have any candy" should suffice but nothing is ever that simple. There is absolutely no way for me to announce my displeasure and reluctance of distributing candy to strangers without inducing the many awkward moments of having to pretend that no one is home as kids stand outside with their bags in hand not yet packed with sugary treats, or having to shoo away the trick-or-treaters.

"But it is Halloween!" says the masked child.

Am I obligated to

satisfy a laundry list of candy for complete strangers simply because the calendar demands it? I fail to understand how gorging on Snickers, Milky Ways, KitKats and other sugary delights, which will inevitably lead to a night of hunching over a toilet, can possibly be any fun. Why not just submerge one's head into a giant bag of sugar and cut out the middleman?

Sadly, even with all my objections, I caved. The usual idle threat of mischief on the homeowner if the demands for candy are ignored or not adequately satisfied is far from idle. It is quite active. The insanity does not end with just adolescents with an egg and toilet paper fetish. Halloween teaches people of all ages the value of extortion, the true meaning

of "trick-or-treat," to demand candy through the barrel of a toilet paper tube, yolk-filled grenades, and flaming bags of poop. How cliché.

In recent years, I opted to simply avoid being home, and if not, I pulled the "pretend no one was home" routine. Unfortunately, it does not matter what actions I take, whether I submit to the demands for candy or pretend I am not home, as the clock ticks past 7 p.m., the end result is always the same: a yolk coat all over my front door and steps, albeit the severity seems to depend on the quality of the treats, if any. So, avoid the plain apples unless you wish to see it returned via your front window.

Students Subjected To Stressful Parking Conditions

Arthur Hayworth
Staff Writer

Parking at The College is an event for me as well as my fellow students every time we attend class. It's always a scene trying to find parking, whether it's far or close to one of my classes. To be quite honest, I have given up on finding parking close to my class because it creates more stress than anything else.

Parking becomes somewhat of a game or competition; it comes along with dirty looks, getting cut off and occasionally the middle finger. Still, nothing seems to be getting done by the officials. The number of students at The College grows every year but the number

of parking spots stays the same. The tuition has gone up, the book prices are out of control, yet the condition of the parking stays exactly the same.

I now leave my house one hour before my class starts, even though I live twenty minutes away, and I still don't have enough time to find parking. Many students, to the professor's dissatisfaction, come in to class late and disturb everyone. Not everyone has the luxury of looking for parking for forty minutes. Many of our students go to class straight from work and simply have no in between time to look for parking.

With autumn here and winter approaching, the

weather conditions are rough and are only going to get worse. Walking in the cold, rain and wind with books in your hands while you're parked miles away is not the easiest or safest. I urge the officials to finally start taking this issue seriously and realize with the money students are paying for their college tuition, they are not given what they deserve.

This issue has been here for years and has only gotten worse. It is extremely shameful. Is this the type of work these officials are getting paid for? I plan on addressing this with each and every official who works here at The College, until this issue is resolved.

Quo Vadis EDITORIAL POLICY

1. Quo Vadis is published 15 times a semester by the students of Middlesex County College (MCC).
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 Board reserves the right to reject or edit any material on the basis of length, taste, suitability or clarity.

The opinions expressed on the pages of Quo Vadis are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Board of Trustees, the Administration or the Editorial Board of Quo Vadis.

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November 9, 2010

Middlesex Soccer Programs on Track after Solid 2010 Campaigns

Philip Mathew
Sports Editor

Coming off winning seasons in 2009, continued progress was expected for The College's soccer teams. With the constant turnover of rosters in junior colleges, keeping a winning program on the field both competitively and academically makes coaching a difficult task. Beginning from scratch, with no program, players or such in 2007, Lady Colts head coach Ted Fiorentino along with third-year assistant Fred Mensah have built a solid program that took a share of the Region 19 regular season title and a fourth place finish overall in 2009.

With the return of leading goal and point scorer in forward

Jillian Collova, Fiorentino had a base to build the 2010 squad off of. Collova's goal scoring prowess woke up the Lady Colts program in 2009, scoring 13 goals and one assist to finish with 27 points. However, a difficult scheduling saw the Lady Colts open up on the road against perennially tough Brookdale CC, who dispatched MCC from the 2009 playoffs with a 2-0 defeat. The season opener on September 2 was much worse, with the ladies losing 6-1. Playing all but four games on the road meant this team had to become close-knit for true success. Region games versus Bergen and Raritan Valley CC brought a split, leaving the Lady Colts at 1-2 in region going to the Howard CC Tournament in Maryland. This trip seemingly brought the team together because after the tournament games on September 18 & 19, the Lady Colts went on a six-game winning streak, scoring

21 goals versus five given up. The streak took place over three weeks, due to weather issues during the end of September, providing a gap nine days between the first and second victories. Moreover, in a week stretch from October 2-9, the Lady Colts won four region games.

revenge. For the Lady Colts, that was not to be as they lost 5-0 to finish the season at 10-7 overall and 7-5 in Region 19. The overall and region record stand to be the best in the four years since the program was revived.

Collova finished the 2010 season as the 11th ranked

a great feat and solid move to keep the season on track. For Colts head coach Bill Andrews and new assistant Zizo Sherif, following a 10 win season in 2009 with the ever changing roster would be difficult. Playing at home for all but six games was a plus though, in another solid

Region 19 opponents Bucks County CC, Manor College and Sussex County CC. This streak got the Colts into the thick of the Region 19 regular season title fight at 7-3 as of October 4. Weather played a key role in the untimely defeats to Raritan Valley and Cumberland CC following the



Freshman midfielder Andreina Gomez has been a key component to the Lady Colts and is shown here fighting off a defender for the loose ball.

winning streak. Both games were regularly scheduled in that portion but were moved behind and played as a part of a five games in seven days stretch, from October 2 to October 9. The time element, for playing, practicing and studying becomes a huge problem when games are so closely clustered. This is always a struggle for the student athletes at The College and this group stood tall. The Colts finished the regular season with two wins in three games, losing a tough game at home versus Ocean

Before the win streak, the team was 2-4 overall and 1-2 in region. Afterwards, they were 8-4 overall and 5-2 in region, providing the women an opportunity for a high seed with three games to play. Two tough losses out of the final three games left the Lady Colts at 9-6 overall and 6-4 in Region 19. All three were region games and the scoring prowess had disappeared, scoring only two goals in three games. While they beat Gloucester CC at home on October 14, a 1-0 defeat against Camden on October 12 and a 2-1 loss to Ocean on October 16 on the road meant the Lady Colts would have to continue on the road if they were to win Region 19 and go to nationals. Coincidentally enough, they would face the same two teams they lost to again in the playoffs. Camden was the first round opponent on October 23 and the Lady Colts won 2-0, setting up a rematch against Ocean three days later for

scorer in region, with 12 goals and four assists totaling 28 points. With 25 goals and 56 points in her career, Collova has left a mark to be reached for in future years. Freshman midfielder Miriam Majeski finished eighth in scoring this year, with 15 goals and an assist for 32 points, and another season here could see that record broken on both counts, along with stability for the program. Freshman forward Margarita Calanos finished 21st in region scoring, with six goals and 13 points total. The combination of Majeski and Calanos could take this team farther than ever in 2011. One player that should not be overlooked is sophomore goalkeeper Cheyenne Howard, who was moved from her defender position to play goal during the season. Finishing with an amazing .632 goals against average, Howard only surrendered six goals in 92 shots faced. This left Howard second in goalkeeping stats;

season. Sherif's energy and experience in national play brought a much needed change of pace to the program and the team seemed to benefit from his participation. His continued involvement should help in recruiting and building on momentum from this season. The Colts opened their season August 31 with a 7-0 road trouncing of Region 19 rival Passaic County CC. Two losses followed against always difficult Brookdale CC, who dismissed Andrews team from the playoffs in 2009 and Drew University JV leaving them at 1-2. Two region wins against Montgomery and Northampton CC followed, giving the Colts a 3-1 Region 19 mark. Losses to Union CC and CC of Morris kept the Colts from mounting any momentum through the first three weeks of the season. Standing at 4-5 overall and 4-3 in region on September 25, the Colts went on a three game winning streak versus

CC, 1-0. At 9-8 overall and 8-7 in Region 19, the Colts finished sixth in the regular season standings and earned a first round bye. However, the nemesis that is Brookdale stood in the way for the second round, and the Colts met their demise there on October 28, losing 2-0. Standouts for the team were sophomore forward Sulamon Kadelu, who finish ninth in scoring for the region, with 15 goals and two assists for a total of 34 points. Following the 2009 season where he led the team in scoring, Kadelu ends his Colts career with 21 goals and 48 points. Sophomore midfielder Jonathan El Maarouf finished 13th in region with 12 goals and 27 points. Freshman Jose Rodriguez was 15th in region with 10 goals and 24 points, setting himself up to be the leader going into next season.

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Art and Photo Club Holds Bake Sale to Raise Funds for Animal Shelter



Photo by Francine Krimsky

From left to right:
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