

## Inside

College.....	P2
A&E.....	P4
Community.....	P5
Opinion.....	P7
Sports.....	P8

# Board Shuffles Administration

## Two new positions created, others consolidated

by Matt Witkowski  
Managing Editor

Mercer County Community College's board of trustees has reorganized the college's administration, adding two new administrative positions and adjusting others.

In addition, trustees at their Nov. 17 board meeting appointed Thomas Wilfrid, vice president of academic and student affairs, as acting president.

Wilfrid will serve in the position until trustees appoint a permanent replacement for former President Robert Rose, who was fired in October for alleged financial improprieties. Speaking of the adminis-

trative changes, Trustee David Applebaum, who chaired the Organizational Ad-Hoc Committee, said, "Lots of things didn't really need to be modified, but some things needed tightening up."

Applebaum's committee was formed prior to Rose's termination to review and recommend changes to the administrative structure. Applebaum said that the reorganization work was led by the administration.

The board approved the addition of a director of policy development and compliance. The director will be



MCCC Acting President Tom Wilfrid.

charged with "cleaning up the

college's compliance with regulations and laws," Applebaum said. The position will report directly to and advise the president.

Also added was a vice president for administration, a third vice president position who will also function as the college's chief financial officer. The position will oversee the day-to-day operations of the college and be charged with managing the college's funds.

Rose had removed a similar position in a structural reshuffling which took effect this summer.

"A search will begin immediately" for these positions, Applebaum said.

Dr. Beverly Richardson, in addition to being provost of the James Kerney Campus, has been given the role vice president of college advancement, a position previously held by Bill Mate.

Topping the list of changes were Kay Eaton, who was

named director of college advancement; Dr. Diane Campbell, who was named dean for enrollment and student services; and John Simone, promoted to director of student activities.

Wilfrid, who was on the ad-hoc committee, said that the revisions did not add to the budget of the college because other jobs had been combined.

Although Wilfrid had been functioning as president since Rose was put on leave this summer, the board's November vote was the first official recognition of his title.

Wilfrid, who has been with the college since 1969, says that he plans to apply for the position of president when the board's search begins.

All title changes are subject to further review and took effect as of Nov. 21.

Faculty at the board meeting continued to direct questions to the board about its handling of Rose's termination.

Robert Pugh, president of the Faculty Association, questioned trustees on their rationale.

Con't BOARD, P6

# Critics: MCCC Lacking Health Services

by Matt Witkowski and  
Michelle Treanor  
Editors

Until 1990, if Mercer County Community College students, teachers or staff members felt ill during the course of a day, they could visit the school nurse in SC116.

In addition to responding to emergencies, the nurse provided health counseling, advice and screenings, according to the 1987-1988 Student Handbook.

For budgetary reasons, the position was abolished in 1990 by former President John P. Hanley. Since then, security has taken up the mantle of responding to emergency medical needs.

All guards are trained as first responders, said Arnold Marx, supervisor of security. One guard is an emergency medical technician (EMT), and three more are in EMT training.

When someone calls in a medical emergency, the nearest guard is dispatched to the scene. Based on information gathered over the phone, security will call 911, depending on the situation's severity.

But many in the MCCC community say there is need for much more comprehensive health services.

"It is important to have a nurse on campus, to provide both wellness and educational seminars for students," said Linda Martin, MCCC's director of nursing education.

Martin, a registered nurse, recently wrote a term paper on MCCC's lack of health services. In it, she contends that MCCC

is at odds with its own mission statement and philosophy by lacking health services. She proposes a health "center," in which students could discuss health concerns with a medical professional as well as seek medical

care. The opportunity to go in and get treated, she said.

"These services could be offered by health educators already on campus," Martin added.

Arlene Stinson, director of academic support services, said she would also like to see a more comprehensive plan. One of the responsibilities of Stinson's department is to provide services to disabled students.

"[MCCC] needs not only medical care, but education, someone who can address the health concerns of students," Stinson said.

Security guard and EMT John Wambach simply wishes he had a place to take students who need treatment. He said that he often has problems finding somewhere to tend to an ill student.

"It would be a great benefit."  
Con't HEALTH, P6

*"MCCC needs not only medical care, but education, someone who can address the health concerns of students." - Arlene Stinson*

care.

Martin argued that students leaving high school may not have a doctor and may have nowhere to go when encountering health problems. Having a nurse on campus would eradicate this problem, allowing stu-

# MCCC To Host Comedy Show

by Michelle Treanor  
Editor-In-Chief

Fernandez, Joe Conte and Chris McDevitt.

The entire show is being put together by MCCC students Keenan A. Westcott and Josiah DeAndrea, who will be co-hosting and performing in the show.

So how did they get Fernandez and Conte to agree to the gig?

"They both preformed at the Late Night Series one night and we approached them with the idea," said DeAndrea.

"They are used to performing in bars and comedy clubs."  
Con't COMEDY, P6

## PTK Induction



Photos courtesy PTK

Mercer County Community College's chapter of the invitation-only 2-year college honor society Phi Theta Kappa inducted club officers and 65 new members in to its ranks on Nov. 16. At right, PTK Vice President of Leadership Marie Luisi shakes hands with MCCC Acting President Thomas Wilfrid.

# College News

News From the Mercer County Community College Campus

## Flight Club Fair Funds Championship Trip

by Kelly Capers  
Sports Editor

Attendees got 30-minute scenic airplane rides over Mercer County at last month's "Pennies-a-Pound Flight Fair," an event to fund Mercer County Community College's Flight Team.

The Nov. 5 event drew a steady crowd at the team's home base at Trenton-Mercer Airport to raise funds that will send the regional champion flight team to the National Intercollegiate Flying Association's (NIFA) National Competition at Ohio State University next May.

The sky was clear of clouds, and the great visibility allowed passengers to see for miles as the pilots, including team members, pointed out major landmarks and even flew some passengers over their homes.

The cost for a flight was 20 cents per pound, with a minimum cost of \$8 and a maximum of \$22.

The Flight Fair is just the beginning of events to raise funds for the trek to Ohio. In addition, the team will search for corporate sponsorship; host a walkathon and a plane wash at Tren-

ton-Mercer airport; hold bake sales in the student center; and put on another Flight Fair in April.

The team in October took first place at the NIFA Region VII competition at Bridgewater State College in New Bedford, Mass.

"We hope to do well at the competition in Ohio and make a name for Mercer," said Sean Day, a second-year student of Mercer's aviation flight technology program and team member.

"We need to make ourselves noticed around school," said sophomore Evan Conley, the team captain.

Conley said the team isn't based on campus so not many students at the school know it even exists, let alone will compete for a national championship.

"We plan to hold another Flight Fair and we'll be making many appearances on campus to get the word out," the captain said.

Conley was awarded top pilot at the regional competition, in which Mercer competed against four-year universities and colleges throughout the region.

The team raised over \$1,000 from the event, which will contribute to the \$9,000 it needs for the national competition.



Photo by Kelly Capers  
Mike Scuderi, a first year Aviation Flight Technology student, marshalls a taxiing airplane at Mercer County Community College's annual "Flight Fair" on Nov. 5.

## New Program Aims to Speed Skills Learning

by Matt Witkowski  
Managing Editor

Beginning in the spring semester at the James Kerney Campus, Mercer County Community College will offer a condensed package of basic English courses in five months rather than an entire school year.

Spanning the spring session and the first summer session, 20 weeks in all, students will be able to complete Eng 023, Eng 024, Eng 033 and Eng 034, in addition to a learning seminar, CSS101. Normally, the foundation level English courses need to be taken over the course of two semesters.

The new "English Learning Community" program is targeted toward students who need to complete foundation-level English composition and reading, but want to get ahead quickly in order to begin studying their majors.

"You're essentially getting two semesters for the price of one," said Professor Donna Richardson-Hall, upon whose doctorate dissertation the learning community was based.

Instructors in various portions of the program will work together to ensure crossover, making the English and composition classes tight-knit, Richardson-Hall said.

A major portion of the learning community will be lab time, and the program will also include peer tutoring.

One notable aspect of the learning community is its inclusion of CSS101, or the college success seminar. CSS101 aims to teach students successful methods for getting through college and presents material in a non-standard way. A large portion of the grade is based upon attendance and journals that students will keep during the class, and the midterm is based solely on the book "Who Moved My Cheese."

"CSS is really the glue that holds it all together," Richardson-Hall said.

Although it allows students to complete foundation courses faster than normal, the learning community doesn't cut corners, Richardson-Hall said.

"These courses are not watered down," she said. "The way that it's presented will be different, but these are accelerated courses for students who honestly want to get ahead to start their major in the fall."

The learning community is a pilot program this spring and, based on its performance, may be offered in the fall 2006 semester, Richardson-Hall said.

Enrollment into the program is by permission only. Those interested may visit a counselor for details.

## Teachers Defend Alt. High School Students

by Will Collier  
The College Voice

Teachers have defended the presence of alternative high school students on the Mercer West Windsor Campus after a handful of discipline problems was reported this semester.

Complaints about the behavior of students of the Thomas J. Rubino Academy were aired at an October meeting of the College-Wide Forum, a group that considers campus policies such as academic regulations.

Mercer County high school students have since the late 1990s attended the Thomas J. Rubino Academy, formerly the Alternative High School, in a facility adjacent to the Fine Arts building on the campus' northwest corner.

The Rubino curriculum includes a focus on technical courses and school-to-work experiences, providing a different structure for those struggling in traditional high schools. Local townships and Mercer County fund the school, with a small annual fee paid to MCCC for providing the facility.

Recent complaints included students swearing loudly and causing a ruckus while socializing in and around the Student Center.

Jason Corel, a Rubino Academy teacher, said some complaints were unjustified, with critics branding Rubino students as troublemakers without cause.

"Some (college) students are cursing and wrestling around in the free areas, and (critics) shouldn't automatically say that it must be those alternative students causing all the trouble," Corel said.

"A lot of our kids come from troubled backgrounds, so it's easy to make that kind of statement," he continued. "They're a good group of kids who haven't had the same opportunities as other students."

Alwyn Haywood, MCCC communication professor, also defended the students.

"They're people, and as long as you have people you're going to have 'problems,'" Haywood said. "The question is, 'Are you vast enough in your vision and in your humanity, deep enough in your love and your appreciation?' It seems to me that is what our college has been lacking; vision."

Acting MCCC President Thomas Wilfrid, who was involved when the

Con't DEFEND, P6

## Mercer Wins Grant to Help Learning Disabled

by Caitlin Sheridan  
The College Voice

Mercer County Community College was awarded a \$50,000 grant in October to create model programs that will expand educational opportunities for students with Down syndrome and other learning disabilities.

As part of the three-year grant from the National Down Syndrome Society, Mercer will help develop a model program for students aged 18 to 25 with cognitive disabilities or Down syndrome. The program is to enable students to participate in post-secondary educa-

tion and help them excel in academics, employment and life.

"Our vision is to create a model program in New Jersey that can be replicated in communities across the country," said Steve Riggio, vice chair of the NDSS board of directors. Riggio and his wife, Laura, who have a 16-year-old daughter with Down syndrome, have provided grant funding.

According to the NDSS grant proposal form, the first year that the grant is in effect will be used for planning. The plan will be put in action in the following two years.

The College of New Jersey also received \$50,000 to help develop the program.

MCCC will have something akin to

a transitional program for students yet to graduate from high school, while TCNJ's program will also include a post-secondary program, said Rebecca Daley, NDSS project manager.

Riggio said, "Both of the institutions selected to receive grants embrace our belief that young adults with intellectual disabilities deserve the opportunity to enrich their lives through higher education."

MCCC's program will have four main components, Daley said: academics, vocation, independent life skills and social communication and recreation.

The NDSS is a non-profit organization that seeks to help those affected by Down syndrome through education, research and advocacy.

# Hospitality Club Reaches New Heights

by *Diana Mickolas*  
*The College Voice*

The Hospitality Club has grown in popularity this semester at Mercer County Community College.

The previously dormant club's biggest project has been its volunteer work for the holidays at the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. Members, primarily students who study catering, food preparation and the hotel industry, have been collecting donations to take to the soup kitchen.

Donation boxes placed around the student center often appear empty, but Gina Wieger, club treasurer, said they've received plenty of contributions.

"We have about 100 donations of food stored in our office that the club will be cooking at the soup kitchens," Wieger said.

"We still need donations, especially

baby food, clothes and toys," she added.

The club has also hosted a bake sale outside the cafeteria and catered an 80-person Thanksgiving luncheon held by Student Activities. They also baked homemade pies which sold for \$10, while \$1 raffle tickets gave buyers a chance to win a turkey or ham.

The club's catering experience has also been appreciated at the Kelsey Theatre, where it bakes desserts and other food for all the plays.

Through their activities and projects, the club is learning back-of-the-house cooking and preparation, and front-of-the-house dining experience – valuable job experience when it comes time to seek employment.

The club meets every Monday at 4:30 p.m. in the Conference Lounge in the Student Center. For more information visit its Web page, <http://www.mccc.edu/hospitality/index.shtml>.

# Group Gives Students Chance to “Chill”

by *Melissa Nini*  
*The College Voice*

Tests, term papers, finals — so much to do and so little time. Many Mercer County Community College students are stressed.

"I have no nails right now," said Corey Snedeker, 20, humanities major. "I'm so stressed I've bitten them all off."

Snedeker's anxiety is caused by the pressure to finish projects and research papers while looking for a new job. To top it off, she is moving.

"The average college student has a good amount of stress," said Cindy Matyas, MCCC student advocate and senior adjunct instructor of the arts and communication division.

In addition to typical school and work considerations, Matyas said many MCCC students are stressed by tight finances, relationships or sexuality problems, as well as unexpected life changes or obstacles, such as a sick parent or new job.

To help students deal with stress, Matyas has started Chill and Chat, a peer support group aimed at proving students with a place to get support and insight into their worries. Matyas also hopes the group will allow students to be heard, respected, accepted and understood. Matyas said all discussions within the group remain confidential.

Facilitated by Matyas and Emese Jobbik, an intern counselor from The College of New Jersey, Chill and Chat began in October with weekly meetings and remains an open group. Matyas hopes to draw enough students to create groups for specialized problems, such as grief counseling or anger management.

The group now meets from noon to 1 p.m. each Tuesday in LA227. Things

are off to a good start, Matyas said, with each meeting bringing in new students. She is hoping for at least a dozen regular attendees.

The group plans to switch to newly-renovated ET127 soon, a more comfortable and private room where Matyas plans to add a couch, pillows and rugs.

Crises can lead to temporary stress, while continuing burdens can make high levels of anxiety routine for others, Matyas said.

Brittany Larratta, 20, a second-year education student, said that her school load doesn't usually cause her stress, but she recently started to worry about her future.

"I was trying to juggle work, school, and family," Larratta said. "I didn't know what direction I was going in" for a degree.

Not all stress is bad – deadline pressure often helps us to get things done, and without it our lives might be much more boring. But when strain becomes too great or too routine, it can cause problems.

According to Johns Hopkins University, undue stress can cause symptoms like fatigue, agitation, sleeping problems, upset stomach, headaches, irritability, chest pain, high blood pressure, weight fluctuations, anxiety and depression, among other things. In addition, long-term stress can affect the immune system and the heart and is a possible cause of cancer.

Looking for stress relief? First, take a deep breath. Among other stress reduction techniques, experts suggest that students eat well, exercise, manage time, be organized, have a more positive outlook, make time for fun, socialize, and use a relaxation technique such as meditation. Also, don't forget to laugh!

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# MCCC More International Than Ever

by *Paloma Aleixo*  
*The College Voice*

Mercer County Community College is attracting a growing, active population of international students.

According to MCCC's Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, 444 foreign nationals are enrolled this semester, with 167 here on student visas. Students from Liberia, Poland, South Korea, India and Haiti make up the greatest portion.

Amy Immordino, a counselor with Enrollment Services, says that many international students enroll at MCCC for the selection of majors.

"We have the aviation program, the funeral services program, and the hospitality program that all other colleges in New Jersey don't have," Immordino said.

Berki Manisali came from Turkey in 2004 to pursue a business administration degree. Now he is president of the college's International Student Organization (ISO).

"MCCC, especially the International Student Department and Student Activi-

ties, supports the international students," Manisali said. "I think it is one of the reasons why new international students enroll in programs each semester."

For those interested in different cultures and languages, this fall semester will be host to many internationally-oriented events.

The ISO was scheduled to host the college's annual Festival of Lights at noon Dec. 6. The intent of this event is to bring different cultures together and promote integration among the college's full-time international students.

With the theme "Capture the Story," the Festival of Lights planned to represent each culture by its holiday. ISO members were to tell how they celebrate their culture's holidays.

The celebration will was scheduled to feature musical performances as well, including Jenny Lee from Taiwan playing "Polonise" in G Minor by Chopin, and a ballet performance of the song "Nataraja" presented by Patricia Bemifa.

The Hospitality Club has also been instrumental in celebrating international culture at MCCC. They catered International Foods on Dec. 1 with a selection of Asian, Italian and Mediterranean foods, and helped with the Festival of Lights as well.

# Databases Expand Library's Reach, Power

by *Robin Ervin*  
*Staff Writer*

Mercer County Community College's campus library is more than just books. When combined with the library's database, it is a gateway to an astounding realm of knowledge.

"The library is no longer just a storage center for information resources," said Library Manager Pam Price, who has witnessed the transformation firsthand. "It is now an access center and hub, which works in partnership with faculty in the teaching and learning process."

Through the library's Web portal, a student can connect to 40 information databases. Each database contains an astounding assortment of articles and journals that can be of immense value to students doing research papers. Each database contains links to professional journals in full text. Just by typing in a key word – "Antigone," for example – generates 250 links to full-length academic journal articles in both HTML and PDF formats.

Also handy on the library's Web page, under the Research and Report

guides link, are Modern Language Association (MLA) and American Psychological Association (APA) guidelines that will be needed to help annotate the information gathered.

This is not to say that computers are the only resource available. As vast as the databases are, sometimes the best place to go for information is the librarians themselves. Librarians are experts in locating hard to find information, and they are always eager to help students research topics from architecture to zoology.

The help doesn't stop when students leave the library, either. Those doing research at home can still ask a librarian for help by clicking on the library Web page's "ask a librarian" link, through which librarians are available to answer questions as late as 2 a.m.

The campus library also has numerous telecourses available on video. These videos cover most of MCCC courses and are available for 24-hour checkout.

To learn more, visit either the library or [www.mccc.edu/student\\_library](http://www.mccc.edu/student_library).

**THE COLLEGE VOICE**  
The Student Newspaper of  
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# Arts & Entertainment



## At Mercer's Late Night Series, Anything Goes

by Robin Ervin  
Staff Writer

The lights go down as Late Night's charismatic host, Post Midnight, walks onto the stage amid wild cheers from the audience.

So opens another Late Night Series show. The Late Night Series theater, located next to the Kelsey Theater in room CM122 at Mercer County Community College's West Windsor Campus, is one of the most happening places to be most Friday nights.

Three years ago, former Mercer Professor Nick Anselmo, the college's then-theater director, created the Late Night Series.

"I was looking for an outlet for the theater, dance and music students, so I created this hybrid, open-mic show, and it's done pretty well," said Anselmo, who now teaches at Drexel University.

"Some of it is planned and some of it is random, so it's not a pure open-mic, because (the director) knows which acts will be appearing," he continued. "It's like a poetry slam, except nobody is competing against anybody. It's all about listening to the material. That's what I wanted to create: a place where artists could go, feel safe and express themselves any way they wanted."

Almost anything goes at the Late Night Series show, which usually features between 10 and 12 acts during its two-and-a-half hours.

Acts range from serious to humorous, from a soulful blues guitarist to a young man strumming a guitar while singing of his love for celery. A variety of musicians, dancers, singers, comedians and actors perform. Acts usually audition with theater producer Lyndsey Potosky prior to appearing; those who audition in advance get 10 minutes on stage, while those who walk in shortly before the 10 p.m. curtain get five minutes.

Like a ringmaster in charge of a one-ring circus, Post Midnight sets the tone for each show and elicits the audiences' help in deciding which act will go next.

"So, what do you want to see?" Midnight shouted at a recent show. "Music, comedy, dancing?" The crowd cries for music. Midnight looks at his list of performers and calls out a guitarist's name. The guitarist takes the stage and begins playing soulful blues on an acoustic guitar.

Meanwhile, upstairs in the theater rafters, members of NextGen TV, over

Con't SERIES, P6

## Review: My Chemical Romance Rocks Fans Old and New

by Caitlin Sheridan  
The College Voice

CAMDEN, NJ — As the house lights went down and sounds of Morrissey flooded the Tweeter Center on Friday, Oct. 14, the screams and cheers of the crowd could be heard clear across the Ben Franklin Bridge.

All of this excitement built in anticipation of the headlining My Chemical Romance. As the recorded Morrissey died down, My Chemical Romance began with the song "Thank You For The Venom."

Just last year the Bellevue, N.J., natives were supporting acts of Story of the Year and Lostprophets. But they now have earned their place in the touring hierarchy and have bands such as synth-rockers Reggie, The Full Effect and The Alkaline Trio opening for them.

While the crowd consisted mainly of 13- to 16-year-old girls sporting the

band's T-shirts, speckled throughout the sea of teenage girls were older fans — who, unlike the teens, could recite the lyrics of the opening songs and show some emotion rather than confused looks when MCR performed "Astro Zombies," originally by the New Jersey punk legends The Misfits.

The entire set was upbeat and energetic, and the band managed to cover all three of their hit singles, "I'm Not Okay," "Helena," and "The Ghost of You."

After performing a new, unrecorded song at the end of the set, the entire show literally went out with a bang: four air cannons shot red and white confetti throughout the pavilion.

MCR's U.S. tour wrapped up in Baltimore on Oct. 21, but that didn't mean the end of the road for the quartet.

"After this we're in Europe, and after that Canada," said Gerard Way, MCR's lead singer. "It's safe to say we won't see home until Christmas."

## Review: Blind Deceptions Turns Death Into Art

by Sara Pawson  
The College Voice

When tragedy struck the members of Blind Deceptions, they turned it into an astonishing tribute. The life of Cynthia Rura, mother to band member Tim Rura, was cut short after an extensive illness eight months ago.

Tim Rura, a Mercer County Community College student, along with band mates Jared Wood, Connor Byrne, Tim "Fitzy" Fitzpatrick and Adam Grey, created "The Cynthia EP," which was released on Oct. 7.

Cynthia Rura was like a second mom to the members of Blind Deceptions.

"My mom was very supportive of the band. Being a lover of music herself, she was proud to have a son who involved himself in music," Rura said.

Wood said, "We've been writing and recording this EP since April 2005, and after the unexpected death of Tim Rura's mom we thought it was necessary to dedicate it to her."

The melodic and expressive five-song extended play includes the strong vocals of Byrne and heavy baselines of Rura, especially in the song "I Feel as You

Feel."

The two musical masterpieces on the EP are "My Father is for Sale" and "Inspire a Dying Soldier."

"Father" is a strong contrast to what BD fans are used to hearing at live shows. Byrne usually screams his lyrics, but this song is light and flowing, with acoustic guitar complemented by sincere, intense lyrics that come straight from the soul. Though the shortest of the five songs, it lacks nothing in musical mastery.

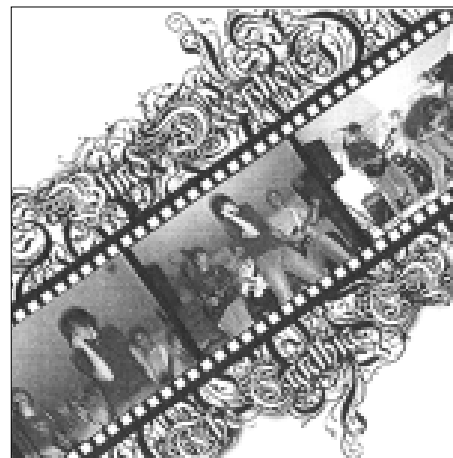
"Solidier" brings to the EP what BD does best: rock out. Passionate drumming by Grey, Fitzpatrick's riffs, and the dual vocals of Byrne and Wood cause this song to almost literally fly off the disc into your waiting ears.

Wood said the band is not in it for the fame or money.

"We simply just love to play," he said. "We all share the same goal of just reaching out to others through our music."

To find out more about Blind Deceptions or to buy "The Cynthia EP," visit [www.blinddeceptions.com](http://www.blinddeceptions.com) or [www.myspace.com/Blinddeceptions](http://www.myspace.com/Blinddeceptions).

Want to see them live? Check them out at a Dec. 9 show at the Enterprise Fire Co. in Hamilton, N.J.



## Professor's TV Show Lets Student Stories "Happen"

by Sara Pawson  
The College Voice

Have you ever thought to yourself, "I've got a story and I want people to know"? If so, then Mercer Professor Alwyn Haywood has the perfect platform for you.

Haywood, assistant professor of communications, has created "What Might Happen," a new television show that airs on the college's MCTV network. Hosted by Haywood, the show primarily features students as guests. Its purpose, Haywood says, is to broaden outlooks and opinions on the world, people and life.

In the first episode, Haywood spoke to two Palestinian students and one Israeli student about the Middle East conflict. They discussed the news media's effect on their lives and their feelings about the American media's reporting of the events.

Haywood calls his show "edutainment," a phrase first coined by hip-hop artist KRS-One that the professor has adapted to his own philosophy. "Since we are an educational facil-

ity, we would like to enlighten the viewer but also have a little entertainment," he said. "I'm interested in having fun while at the same time being serious about my interviewee and what it is they bring to the table of humanity."

As for future shows, Haywood has expressed interest in politically-focused episodes that would involve talking to state and local government officials. Haywood also said that he would like to have former MCCC President Robert Rose on the program.

Haywood is looking for any students, faculty or staff who want to share a story, talk about issues important to them or bring a problem to the forefront that may otherwise be ignored.

"I would like to find out the story and share it with the greater community," he said.

To explore being a guest on "What Might Happen," call Haywood at (609) 586-4800, ext. 3362.

"What Might Happen" broadcasts on MCTV throughout Mercer County. The station runs a variety of student-produced programming, in addition to college information and programs for telecourses.

Join the Voice!

[mcccvoice@gmail.com](mailto:mcccvoice@gmail.com)



# Community

Happenings From Beyond the Campus

## Gov-Elect Promises Education Changes

by Michelle Treanor  
Editor-In-Chief

Democrat Jon Corzine won last month's gubernatorial election by 9 percentage points over Republican Doug Forrester in part by talking a lot about education and creating a "smarter New Jersey."

"Leaving no child behind is not good enough," Corzine often said in his stump speech. "We must make sure that every child can get ahead."

At his winning rally on election night, Corzine said he would "work every day to support education."

So what might Corzine's election mean for students at Mercer County Community College?

For starters, it might mean more tuition money for low- and moderate-income students.

The first step of the gover-

nor-elect's seven-step plan for higher education calls for an additional 10,000 Tuition Assistance Grants, a boost over the current level of 61,000 eligible recipients.

The grants average \$3,400 per student, but thousands of eligible recipients are turned away each year for lack of state funding. Corzine also wants the program to be fully funded.

Calls to legislative leaders about the likelihood of support for Corzine's plans in the Democrat-dominated State Legislature were not returned by The Voice's deadline.

Other steps in Corzine's higher ed plan include:

— To continue support for the Student Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship (NJ STARS) program. The program offers free two-year college tuition and fees to all New Jersey high school students in the top fifth of their graduating class. Some legisla-

tors want to expand the program to four-year colleges, which could cut enrollments at community colleges like Mercer.

— To keep New Jersey college grads in the state workforce, or to bring back native high school grads who attended college elsewhere, Corzine would annually forgive \$1,000 in student loans or providing up to \$1,000 in tax credits for up to five years for those getting jobs in "high-need" sectors

such as nursing; high school math or science teaching; child care; and law enforcement, fire services or emergency medical services.

— To attract native high school grads to New Jersey colleges, Corzine would fund 1,000

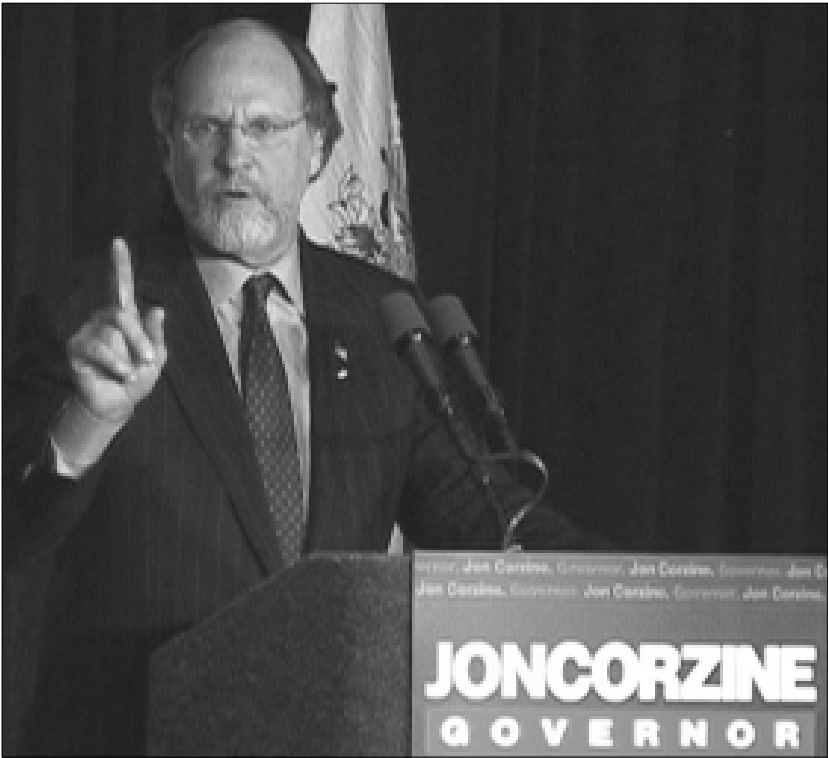


Photo courtesy MCN Live

New Jersey Governor-Elect Jon Corzine speaking at his campaign headquarters in New Brunswick after winning against challenger Doug Forrester.

merit-based scholarships averaging \$5,000 a year for outstanding high school graduates who attend any state public college or university.

— To help children of those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, Corzine would offer

\$5,000 in annual tuition assistance to enroll in the state's public colleges and universities.

For more information on the governor-elect's promises for education and other policies, visit his website at [www.corzineforgovernor.com](http://www.corzineforgovernor.com).

## Marketplace Provides Retail, Job Opportunities

by Sara Pawson  
The College Voice

HAMILTON, N.J. — Where once lay open land a few miles southeast of Mercer County Community College now stands the Hamilton Marketplace, a shopping and dining plaza with almost 60 restaurants and retail shops, and many more to join soon.

Wal-Mart, Pier One, Subway, Party City, Cold Stone Creamery, Barnes and Nobel, Ruby Tuesday, Pearle Vision, Hallmark, and McDonald's are among the stores that already adorn the plaza.

Hal English, director of eco-

nom ic development for Hamilton Township, has been overseeing the project. English said the marketplace draws people from far outlying areas, making it enticing for retail outlets.

"Stores are dying to get in there," he said.

When the project first came into consideration, some Hamilton Township residents opposed the idea as unneeded development. They filed a lawsuit against Hamilton Mayor Glen Gilmore, although the case was eventually dismissed.

But with concerns persisting about Hamilton Township's open space, some companies have agreed to donate funds for

open space conservation in Hamilton. Both the Bombay Company and Old Navy have agreed to do so in order to move into the marketplace.

Among the many stores slated to arrive in coming months are a new "chill and grill" Dairy Queen, a sit-down restaurant which will include a drive-thru window. A 105-room Hilton Gardens hotel is slated to be built, as well as an Outback Steakhouse. The hotel and steakhouse are a part of the second phase of the Marketplace's expansion plan. The development has been a boon for local job seekers, English said.

"Hundreds and hundreds of jobs have been created, especially for students," he said.



The Hamilton Marketplace has approx. 60 retail shops and restaurants.

Photo by Sara Pawson

### Work for The College Voice!

The College Voice is hiring editorial and writing staff for next semester.

We're looking for experienced editors, or those who are unexperienced and want to give it a try.

Creative? We also need layout artists, photographers, and writers.

All work you will do for the Voice is viable job experience, and enjoyable, too.

If you're interested, see our contact information on P3.

Come join us, and express *your* Voice.

### Flight Fair



Photo by Kelly Capers

The MCCC Flight Club held a Flight Fair on Nov. 5. See our article on page 2.

## Board

Con't from P1

nale for firing Rose. Trustees have pointed to two reports, including one by Mercer County Inspector General Robert Farkas, that provided evidence of improprieties. But faculty leaders backing Rose have said the evidence is scanty.

“What in the Farkas report was so bad that it caused us to lose our president?” Pugh asked.

Rocky Peterson, the board’s attorney, said that a document with an answer to that question will be released in early December.

Asked if any allegations were being investigated against the whistleblowers who alerted officials to Rose’s alleged improprieties, trustees said that Peterson and Farkas would be

looking into the matter.

Pugh also questioned how much the college has spent on its investigation of Rose’s alleged financial misdeeds.

Trustees told Pugh the figure totaled \$110,000, but later retracted that amount, saying that it was the estimate for the year, not year-to-date. Board Chairman Anthony Cimino said that trustees spent \$10,000 for a forensic audit and \$25,000 for Peterson’s services and other outstanding bills.

Peterson said that the college’s insurance should cover some of the costs of litigation related to the wrongful termination lawsuit Rose filed last month against the college.

“The good news is that we have plenty of money,” Pugh said.

## Health

Con't from P1

efit for the students to have a safe place to lie down if they are sick, and have someone that can watch over them,” Wambach said.

Previous efforts to lobby the administration for health services have failed. In 1999, Fred Weiner and Martha Gunning, both student advocates, went before the College-Wide Forum and presented a plan for health services.

“We were always rebuffed,” Weiner said, adding that a lack of money contributed to the plan’s rejection.

Gunning still believes that a campus nurse is a pressing need.

“We’re having more and more students coming here with health issues,” said Gunning. “The need for health services is clearly demonstrated by the needs of the individuals who come here.”

Several community colleges throughout New Jersey currently offer health services.

The County College of Morris, with 748 fewer students than

MCCC’s enrollment of 8,928, employs a full-time nurse who offers many forms of health services, including emergency care, health counseling, referrals and over-the-counter medications.

“[MCCC] should be in the forefront, leading the other community colleges, not falling behind,” Weiner said.

But while Morris spends more on its students per year, students also pay \$10.50 more per credit.

Acting President Tom Wilfrid said that while “it would be nice to consider [a nurse] a high priority,” it’s not among the college’s most critical concerns.

The college’s \$44.6 million budget leaves him with limited options, he said. He also said he believes that the need for an emotional counselor is more pressing.

But Wilfrid offered hope for those who want health services along the lines of Martin’s plan.

“We’re interested in her idea,” Wilfrid said. “If we could find a solution to these problems that also raises the educational value, the priority becomes higher.”

## Defend

Con't from P2

academy was created, said he understands that any alternative high school operating on a college campus will encounter problems.

Wilfrid said he wants to set up a program in which academy and college staff can routinely deal with be-

## Comedy

Con't from P1

and never have preformed at a theater before so they were all for the idea,” he said.

“McDevitt had heard about the show through the Trenton Times and sent us an audition [video] via his website,” said Westcott. “We judged [him] from the video and fell in love with him,” said Westcott.

Westcott and DeAndrea are currently trying to get other professional comedians to perform such as Dat Phan, winner of the first season of NBC’s Last Comic Standing.

But unlike Fernandez and Conte, who are doing the show for free, Phan requires money — money that the co-hosts currently don’t have, but are seeking.

“We have been approached by a member of the board of trustees about

havioral problems and other complaints. Improving communication between the academy and college is a top goal, he said.

“Security isn’t accustomed to dealing with high school students, but we shouldn’t lose sight of the fact that a program like this does a lot of good for kids,” Wilfrid said.

possibly getting some funding,” said Westcott.

They currently have a 90 percent chance of getting funding from the board, he said.

To help raise additional funds, they will also be selling CDs and DVDs of the Late Night Series at the show, the prices of which have yet to be determined.

“Siah and I were originally going to have the money we made from the show be donated to the ‘Kyrus & Siah Charity Organization For Paying Their 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Tuition Fund,’ but for some reason that got shot down,” joked Westcott.

The show will be held 8 PM, Jan. 21, 2006, at MCCC’s Kelsey Theatre. Tickets will go on sale beginning Dec. 12 and will cost \$16 for general admission and \$12 for students and seniors. All proceeds will go to benefit Kelsey Theatre.

For the latest information on the show, or if you would like to be a sponsor visit the shows website at [www.parentaladvisoryshow.bravehost.com](http://www.parentaladvisoryshow.bravehost.com).

## Series

Con't from P4

seen by Professor Steve Voorhees, operate a small control room and film the show so it can be aired later on local cable Channel 23.

“When I joined MCCC, I decided this (Late Night) would be a great thing to put on television, so I worked with Nick Anselmo in putting together a small control room,” Voorhees said. “While we can’t put some of the acts on TV, many of the acts demonstrate some of the talents of our students that we don’t get a chance to see in the classroom.”

MCCC student Rebecca Samonski produces and directs the

Late Night TV staff. During the show, Samonski operates the switcher and directs the camera operators. Afterwards, she edits the footage into a 30-minute show to be broadcast the following Friday.

“I thought there would be a lot of amateur talent, but there is definitely professional level talent coming into this show,” Samonski said. “I was in awe the first time I came. I love the sense of accomplishment when I see the finished product on TV.”

Back downstairs, a young woman dances animatedly to the beat of her favorite music, to be followed by a stand-up comedian and then a poet reading an ode to Klingon women. Just another Friday night on the Late Night stage.

### - The following is an annoucement from Criminal Justice Club Advisor Cavit Cooley -

The Mercer County Community College Criminal Justice Club has been very active over the course of the Fall semester. The Club began this semester’s activities on October 13th by sponsoring a Career Opportunities in Corrections Workshop open to the entire campus community. Presenters included representatives from the Mercer County Correction Center, New Jersey Department of Corrections, New Jersey State Parole Board, and an Intensive Supervision Probation Officer from Camden. Refreshments were served and all in attendance were exposed to the wide variety of career opportunities found nationwide in corrections.

Later in the month, students and faculty advisors toured the Trenton Police Department’s Canine Unit where officers demonstrated the use of canines in drug and weapon searches, the use of canines in crowd control and arrest procedure, as well as exposing students to the training and care involved in such operations.

Also in October, Club members held their annual fundraiser at the Student Center (see enclosed photo). With the purchase of a ticket, students, faculty, and staff could guess the quantity of candy contained in a jar. Architecture student Nick Gordon was the winner. Proceeds went to pets victimized in Hurricane Katrina.

In November, Club members toured the Garden State Youth Correctional Facility in Yardville, NJ gaining much insight into the design, operation, and programming associated with such prisons.

Most recently, students have been participating in a ride-along with officers of the West Windsor Police Department on patrol as well as observing the daily operation of the agency.

The Criminal Justice Club is open to all Mercer County Community College students. For more information about the Club, please see Professors Peter Horne or Cavit Cooley in BS 136.

# Opinion

The Voice of the Students, Faculty, and Staff of Mercer

## Remember Rose's Legacy

I was recently perusing The College Voice's newspaper archive to put together a small display of issues through the years for the bulletin board outside our office. I often sort through the archives, partially for curiosity and partially to get ideas about where to take the paper in the future.

This time through, it wasn't a cartoon image of a perplexed hippie circa 1970 that caught my eye. Instead, I came across a February 2002 edition with a picture of Dr. Robert Rose on the front. Given the board of trustees' recent decision to fire Dr. Rose amid charges of financial misdeeds, even thievery, my curiosity was sparked about how previous papers had covered the former president.

On the issue's first page, I noticed a box dedicated to something called the "President's Corner." In it, Dr. Rose mentioned several initiatives he and his staff had begun as a result of suggestions from campus community members. One initiative suggested by many was the formation of a committee of faculty, staff and students "to take a critical look at Mercer's cafeteria in order to determine a plan that will make it a more attractive place."

As I went through other issues from when Dr. Rose was president, I noticed he was mentioned often for reasons other than controversy. He went to student functions; he began committees; and he initiated improvements and started projects, sometimes motivated simply by feedback.

Seeing all this made me recall conversations I've had with faculty and staff, including many fervent supporters. Even the more moderate have described Dr. Rose as always keeping his door open to anyone with a concern, and as someone who cared deeply about students and their experiences.

Looking at earlier Voice editions, it seems that Dr.

### COMMENTARY

by Matt Witkowski  
Managing Editor  
The College Voice

than it covered Dr. Rose during his tenure.

Seeing the comparison, I realized that the man who created an atmosphere where students, staff and faculty could go to the college's highest office and expect to have their concerns listened to and acted upon, is gone.

I would venture to say that a community college president who makes an effort to act in areas in which he's not obligated, and does so routinely, is rare.

Outsiders unfamiliar with Dr. Rose's presidency (such as those students who joined MCCC this semester, as Dr. Rose was on leave before the semester began) might say that this characterization is simply an idealistic legend of a fallen hero. Let's assume for a moment that that's the case.

I am anxious as the board of trustees begins the search for a new president. I wonder if the new president will foster the atmosphere that I saw evidence of in my Voice explorations, or if he or she will bring a different agenda and become another mythical figure – a business CEO who redirects you to underlings because he lacks the time to listen to your concerns.

I say to the board, just because you may believe that the legacy of Dr. Rose is false, or that the good he did was overshadowed by his indiscretions, it doesn't mean that we don't want someone to reach, or even eclipse, the standard of community building –imaginary or not – many believe that Dr. Rose set.

Mr. Cimino, when the board starts choosing our president, or CEO as you might say, make sure you pick one with this in mind.

Rose's predecessor, Dr. Thomas Sepe, was much less of a presence among students. In a December 1997 interview, he characterized as "accurate" the observation that he was, to many, a "mythical figure." Also, the paper mentioned Dr. Sepe much less often

## Race Matters?

### COMMENTARY

by John Frederick  
MCCC Student

When we speak of race, what exactly are we referring to? Is race simply a means to classify one's ethnic status, or is there more to it? How are race and class connected? Most importantly, how does race matter?

In another sense of the word, race can be seen as a struggle for resources: a race for power and control. In that regard, race refers to competition; in a race, there are winners and, undeniably, losers.

Some could argue that with the successes of affirmative action, institutional racism is no longer a reality. There is a burgeoning black middle class in the United State, which contrasts with a growing epidemic of black poverty. The fact that "African-American" is a politically correct term used to address black people, whereas others are simply referred to as Americans, shows that race matters to some extent.

On Oct. 15, the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Million Man March, the Millions More Movement March was held in Washington, D.C., in an effort to promote unity and equality for people of African descent.

Considering that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. marched on Washington some 40 years ago in an effort for racial equality, what does this tell us about racial issues today? What does it mean when "African-American" men feel the need to assert their collective identities and agendas in a country where all men and women are assumed to be equal? Perhaps race matters more than the general public recognizes or cares to admit.

The Millions More Movement persists because change has not meant progress for a large segment of the national black community, despite being entrenched here for over 400 years. Parity is never possible in a free market society, but the disparities are stark when race and class are combined.

This is indeed a complicated and involved subject, but I believe it's pertinent to the survival of a united nation. It is not just about black and white, but yellow, brown, red, beige — everyone.

My sincerest hope is that race will no longer be an issue in how people deal with each other, how policies are set and how progress is made in our society. But right now, it is an issue -- indeed, a global issue -- and we need to discuss it.

If we agree that race matters, we can change how it matters.

## Mercer Must Adapt to Changing Health Needs

The student body of community colleges is no longer comprised of the traditional college student. As a result of this demographic shift, the needs of the student body have also changed.

Many Mercer students are completing educations while raising families, and many are forced to maintain full-time employment in order to receive health care benefits for their beneficiaries. If the community college is to truly address the needs of their students, these health care needs must be considered.

Several areas of health risk have been identified for college students, including in a recent *Journal of School Health* article. These areas include prevention of pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, suicide, violence, accidents, injuries and tobacco, alcohol and drug use.

For current MCCC students, another consideration is wellness

### COMMENTARY

by Linda Martin  
MCCC Director of  
Nursing Education

care. Students are required to have immunizations updated or verified prior to beginning coursework. Students in any health profession program must have a physical examination and complete lab studies before beginning their clinical experiences. Students without a regular health care provider have limited resources for meeting these requirements.

Development of a health services program at MCCC would enable the college to provide services and educational programs to enhance student wellness. Programs on health and wellness could be offered by health educators already on campus. In addition, peer instructors could be

trained to work with individual students seeking information. Health care providers and counselors could be available to teach students about issues of interest, and treatment options could be provided by advanced practice nurses.

An improved college health program could provide physical exams and immunizations, as well as community outreach programs. A health services center could collaborate with the college's nursing program as a site for clinical experiences in community health, while providing such services as a day of immunizations for area children. Nursing and Allied Health students could even participate in the college's community health fair.

Ideally, the college's health services program could provide needed health care services for its student body as well as outreach programs for its constituency.

# Sports

Covering the Vikings of Mercer County Community College

## Vikes' Title Run Halted At Nationals

by Kelly Capers  
Sports Editor

Mercer's bid to defend its national men's soccer title came an abrupt end Nov. 18 when the club fell in a 3-2, double-over-time heartbreaker to Georgia Perimeter College in the NJCAA Division I semifinals in Tyler, Texas.

Avenging their loss in last year's final, the Jaguars (20-2-1) handed top-seeded Mercer its only loss of the season.

Georgia Perimeter's Alberto Chamarro tallied the game-winner by beating Viking goalie Tom DeStefano with a shot into the top corner. The shot came following an assist by Ricardo Cardoso, the tourney's most valuable player.

After the Jaguars' Cardoso tallied the game's first goal, Refael Segal responded 22 minutes into the game to tie it up. Mario Kapxhiu scored Mercer's second goal on a penalty kick late in the first half. The team's battled through a scoreless over-time period before Chamarro's goal ended it.

The fourth-seeded Jaguars then went on to capture the national title, beating five-time champion Yavapai College of Arizona 3-1 in the Nov. 20 final. Yavapai defeated Mercer in both the 2002 and 2003 finals.

Mercer won the third-place game, defeating Louisburg Col-



Photo by Kelly Capers

*The Mercer Men's Soccer Team celebrates with their tournament plaque after defeating Bryant & Stratton Business Institute 2-0 during the NJCAA Division 1 Northeast District Championship Final on November 6 at Mercer's Soccer Stadium. The win advanced the Viking to the National Tournament.*

lege of North Carolina 2-1. Earlier in the tournament, the Vikings advanced to the semifinals with a 4-0 shutout over Jefferson College of Missouri.

Kapxhiu and Segal, both mid-fielders, were both chosen

to the all-tournament team.

Though they suffered a disappointing finish, the Vikings ended the 2005 season with a stellar 20-1-1 record, outscoring opponents 82-13. Key players throughout the season include

goalie DeStefano, Segal, Awel Mohammed, Marcus Price and Anthony Moy.

DeStefano ended the season ranked as the nation's third-best goalie, allowing only seven goals in 45 shots and contribut-

ing heavily to the team's 13 shut-out wins.

Mohammed finished as the nation's 24<sup>th</sup> best scorer, with 18 goals and six assists. Segal finished with 13 goals and 11 assists.

## Strong Start Has Hoopsters at No. 14

by Mark Brehaut  
The College Voice

The Mercer County College men's basketball team is off to a strong start, winning four of its first five games and climbing to the national 14<sup>th</sup> spot in its division as it anticipates an outstanding season under seventh-year head coach Kelly Williams.

The Vikings took another step Thursday toward their goal of winning the Region 19 Division and advancing to the national tournament by beating a good Salem team on the road, 52-49.

The team's lone loss came Nov. 19 at the hands of Community College of Rhode Island, ranked fifth in the latest National Junior College Athletic Association's Division II poll. In a nip-and-tuck opening-round game of the MCCC Shootout, CCRI squeaked by, 91-85. CCRI

went 22-11 last year and qualified for the national tournament.

"Early in the season (that) game (showed) us exactly how good we are and how well we match up against quality teams," Williams said.

Mercer rebounded the next night with an 85-58 over Bronx Community College (NY). That helped the Vikings climb to the 14<sup>th</sup> spot in the Nov. 29 poll, proving that Williams' squad is already making a name for itself.

Though it returns only two sophomores, this looks to be Mercer's strongest team in years, one that could easily improve on last year's 18-13 record. That comes largely from a strong recruiting class, including more overseas recruits.

Mercer's balanced backcourt is led by returning sophomore Mantas Armonas

of Lithuania, while the frontcourt looks dominant with the addition of 6-foot-8-inch center Jores Dongo of Gabon.

"I'm very pleased with the caliber players we brought in this year," Williams said. "We should make a strong run. He (Dongo) is going to be a presence inside."

Mercer has a tough schedule ahead. December's slate includes road contests against Delaware Tech on Thursday and Camden on Saturday, then home games Dec. 13 against Ocean and Dec. 15 against Essex.

After the holiday break, the Vikings will have to step up on Jan. 7 when they meet what looks to be the region's toughest competition this year, Lackawanna College.

"Without question our most competitive and spirited game. This game is huge," Williams said.

## Williams Notches 100th Career Win

by Kelly Capers  
Sports Editor

The head coach of the Mercer County Community College men's basketball team must be feeling thankful for the way his young team has been performing under his guidance so far this year.

Coach Kelly Williams reached a high point last month in his seven years coaching the Vikings by achieving his 100th career win at Mercer.

The win came during Mercer's away game on Nov. 29

against Brookdale Community College. The 73-60 lifted the Vikings record to 3-1 for their 2005 season. Last year's Vikings were defeated twice by Brookdale during the regular season, so the win felt extra special for Williams.

The school planned to honor Williams during half-time of Mercer's home game on Tues., Dec. 6, against Atlantic Cape Community College. Results were not available by The Voice deadline.

Assistant coaches for the team are Gary Williams, Mike Falco, Greg Grant and Scott Nance.

*Join the Voice  
Next Semester!*

*See Page 5 For Details*