Tuition Hikes Realized For Fall Semester

By Emelyne Smith
News Editor

Mercer County Community College students will pay at least 7 percent more to take classes this fall, but a boost in county funding kept the price tag from rising even higher.

Mercer County residents will see a tuition hike and fee bills jump by $7 per credit hour, to $98. Other New Jersey residents will pay $10 more per credit hour, or $131.50, while out-of-state students will pay $13 per credit hour, or $157.

Finalized by trustees at an April 20 board meeting, the hike was spurred by New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine’s proposed cuts in state aid to higher education. State lawmakers are trying to close a $4.5 billion budget deficit.

Corzine’s proposed cuts will slash the state’s share of MCCC’s budget from $9.5 million to about $8.5 million. That cut the state’s portion to less than one-fifth of the school’s $47.4 million operating budget for 2006-07. That’s down from New Jersey’s decades-old plan to cover about a third of its community college budgets.

Mercer County officials helped bridge the $1 million shortfall by boosting aid to the college by almost 10 percent. Without county funds, acting President Tom Wilfrid had projected an increase of between $9 and $12 per credit hour for county residents.

Mercer County Executive Brian Hughes announced on April 18 that $650,000 in county surplus funds would be added to the county’s normal allotment to MCCC.

Wilfrid said in an email that the extra payment resulted from weeks of discussions with county officials.

“All involved were trying to come up with a balance between addressing the state budget shortfall by burdening county taxpayers or burdening the students,” he said.

“The solution arrived at shares the load more or less equally between them.”

The payment represents the highest one-year boost from the county to the school’s 40-year history. Mercer County’s contribution to the college budget now stands at 28 percent, up 3 percent from last year.

Wilfrid also delivered his budget presentation to about 60 students at a Student Government Association meeting on the West Windsor campus.

SGA President Johanna Garrison and SGA Vice President Whitney Potts described the meeting as informative but agreed the hike was no bargain.

“Con’t TUITION, P7!”

Smokers Put Butts Out As State Ban Becomes Law

By Paul Plumer
A&E Editor

The cliché of the smoke-filled bar became a figment of memory and fiction in establishments across the state April 15, when New Jersey’s smoking ban came into effect — at least in most bars.

Reactions to the ban have ranged from satisfaction to outrage and defiance.

“I see this move as an oppression of my personal freedom,” said Nick Polizzi, as he grudgingly put out his cigarette one recent day at Triumph Brewing Company in Princeton.

“I don’t pay taxes so some bureaucrats can tell me where I can smoke,” Polozzi said. “This is what we get for voting liberal.”

Sitting nearby was Alexis Watson, looking subtly content.

“This was absolutely a positive thing for everyone,” she said. “Non-smokers like me don’t have to deal with second-hand smoke, smokers are given the initia- tive to quit and bar owners don’t have to deal with all the nasty butts.”

Following last year’s action by state lawmakers, cigarettes, cigars and pipe smoking are considered illegal in bars, restaurants and all other public buildings in New Jersey.

Smokers are also barred from smoking within 15 feet of public build- ings.

First-time fines for failure to comply range from $250 to $1,000 for both the offender and the business that allows the violation.

Despite the possible penalties, patrons at Champions Sports Bar in Trenton chose to stand defiant. On the day the ban came into effect, smoking not only failed to cease, it seemed to increase throughout the morning.

“I plan on chain smoking until the bar kicks me out,” said a resolute Rondo Peterson. “This will be my last stand, and I don’t give a flip — using a stronger word-unprintable from a family newspaper.”

Joe’s Millhill Saloon in Trenton had a completely alien sent a day after the new ban took effect, with the scent of clean air.

“I have gotten any problems from anyone so far,” said bartender Dave Miller. “I just quit smoking four days ago in preparation, so I’m not in nicotine shock right now.”

Casinos were the only businesses spared, as industry insiders convinced lawmakers that a smoking ban would drive down profits and in turn lessen the share that goes to the state.

New Jersey is the 11th state to ban indoor smoking. California, Connecticut, Cuba, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington have imple- mented similar laws.

Recent bans in the United States are certainly not the first. In 1950, Pope Urban VII threatened excommunication from the Catholic church for anyone who “took tobacco in the porch way of or inside a church, whether by chewing it, smoking it with a pipe or sniffing it in pow- dery form through the nose.”

Many business owners have rallied together to file a lawsuit against the state for dis- crimination, claiming the case is unfair.

U.S. District Court Judge Stanley R. Chesler refused to file the ban on April 14, but legal actions remain pending in state and federal courts.

Classified & Fun.....................................P9
Sports..................................................P12

News..................................................P2
Features.............................................P4
A&E.....................................................P6
Opinion..............................................P8
 Classified & Fun.....................................P9
Sports..................................................P12

Index
SGA President Meets with Governor Corzine

By Emelyne Smith
News Editor

Johanna Garrison, Mercer County Community College student president, patiently waited at the governor's mansion on Princeton's outskirts, for an informal 2-hour discussion of the tuition hikes hitting New Jersey colleges come fall. A week earlier Corzine had delivered his state budget address, proposing an unprecedented $169 million cut in college aid. The remaining $1.9 billion is insufficient to keep New Jersey's two- and four-year colleges, including MCCC, from raising tuition.

Corzine opened the meeting with a general overview of state finances but didn’t mention exact numbers regarding higher education. He said he would be meeting with college presidents but wanted to hear from students as well.

"He wanted us to voice our concerns about how the budget would impact individual schools," Garrison said. "People did ask a lot of questions and made suggestions about getting students involved in these discussions." Garrison herself didn’t speak since she felt Mercer had delivered his state budget address, proposing an unprecedented $169 million cut in college aid. The remaining $1.9 billion is insufficient to keep New Jersey's two- and four-year colleges, including MCCC, from raising tuition.

Corzine opened the meeting with a general overview of state finances but didn’t mention exact numbers regarding higher education. He said he would be meeting with college presidents but wanted to hear from students as well.

"He wanted us to voice our concerns about how the budget would impact individual schools," Garrison said. "People did ask a lot of questions and made suggestions about getting students involved in these discussions." Garrison herself didn’t speak since she felt Mercer.

Dodgeball Tournament Generates Enthusiasm

By Maria Koehler
The College Voice

Six colored balls – yellow, orange, blue, purple, green and red – lie on the gymnasium floor when moderator Casey Oakes shouts "One, two, three, dodge ball!" To music from Sean Paul, Gwen Stefani and Madonna, men and women run for the balls. Two five-player teams have three minutes to whack their opponents with the balls before their players are struck. Two referees make sure players follow the rules.

The Latin Cycle ended up out-dodging 19 other teams to win a $200 cash prize at the Mercer County Community College gym April 7. "The decorations, food and entertainment were classy and surprisingly sophisticated for a student-run event," said Jessica Harris, Student Activities program assistant, who singled out Boyle for praise.

"We couldn’t have done it without you," Harris said.

"There were several outstanding performances and a good variety of musical genres selected," said Jessica Harris, program assistant of Student Activities, which organized the show. About 200 students and staff streamed through the cafeteria during lunchtime hours to watch.

Some 15 people performed in the official contest, and another 25 sang afterward.

Prom-goers Dance At Mercer For Equal Rights

By Scott Schendlinger
The College Voice

About 60 supporters of equal rights came together April 22 in the Mercer County Community College Conference Center to celebrate the Gay-Straight Alliance’s Pride Prom. Live music, catered food, dancing and two guest speakers entertained attendees from The College of New Jersey, Rider College, Gettysburg (Pa.) College and Ramapo Valley Community College.

The night was "a success" and "a great start," said Liz Boyle, a Gay-Straight Alliance member and event organizer. "There’s room for improvement, but we accomplished what we came out for: the fight for equality."

Part of the event’s purpose was to allow lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender (LBGT) organizations of central New Jersey to get to know each other and have fun. People whose sexual preferences barred them from social events like proms wanted a chance to redo those events and have a great night, Boyle said.

It also raised money for the teen council of HITOPS, a Princeton-based non-profit organization that educates high school students about safe sex, HIV/AIDS, rape, depression and other topics.

Guest speakers were David Nixon, president of Capital Rainbow Fest, and Noel Ramirez, president of TCNJ’s LBGT organization, PRISM. The Morrison Brothers ended the night with music and dancing.

"The decorations, food and entertainment were classy and surprisingly sophisticated for a student-run event," said Jessica Harris, Student Activities program assistant, who singled out Boyle for praise.

"We couldn’t have done a finer job ourselves."
State Budget Stalls Contract Negotiations

By Scott Schendlinger

The College Voice

With negotiations at a standstill until the state budget passes, completing a new Mercer County Community College faculty contract before July looks unlikely.

Professor Arthur Schwartz, chief MCCC Faculty Association negotiator for every contract since 1978, said no talks are taking place to replace the current contract, set to expire June 30.

He said that the faculty’s proposal has been on the table for more than a month, but the board of trustees has refused to counteroffer.

Acting President Thomas Wilfrid said in an email that trustees are awaiting state budget approval before continuing negotiations.

To close New Jersey’s $4.5 billion budget gap, Gov. John Corzine has announced plans to cut $169 million in state education budget won’t follow.

He said that the faculty typically sets the faculty’s negotiating stance.

If labor contracts expire, workers will continue under the expired contracts’ terms.

Professor Robert Pugh, association president, said negotiations are not going well because no one is meeting to discuss them.

He said the delay worries him.

Last month, Pugh and Schwartz expressed concern that trustees for the first time have hired an outside negotiator, labor consultant James Reily, to lead talks with Mercer workers.

Pugh said the longer negotiations take, the higher the chances that faculty members will take job actions, such as refusing to serve on voluntary school committees.

Schwartz and Pugh also expressed concern that another union might settle before the faculty.

Schwartz said the faculty typically sets itself first, and other unions follow.

Schwartz said no New Jersey community college has received less than a 4 percent pay increase in recent contract negotiations.

He also said the faculty has no intention of giving up health benefits.

The following is an announcement from Phi Theta Kappa:

Graduating members of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of two-year Colleges, will be honored in a special ceremony preceding Commencement on May 25th. Special recognitions will be awarded to members who have been particularly active in chapter events based on the organization’s Hallmarks of Leadership, Scholarship, Fellowship and Service.

Faculty, staff, as well as family and friends of graduates, are cordially invited to attend the ceremony in Kelsey Theater at 4 PM on Thursday, May 25.

Graduates are asked to bring the honors regalia they have purchased from Phi Theta Kappa register to the theater and register no later than 3:45. Graduates and their guests are requested to place a reservation with one of the chapter’s advisors, Helene Plank (plankh@mccc.edu, x 3217) or Professor Laura Sosa (laura@mccc.edu, x 3475).

Barbara Wethe, Co-VP for Publicity, pwethe@gmail.com, 609-799-6528

By Najia Rizvi

The College Voice

Mercer County Community College’s faculty and staff are questioning whether campus security officers are complying with a federal law that requires them to keep public records.

Under the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Campus Crime Statistics Act – all funded colleges shall make, keep, and maintain a daily log of crimes reported on campus.

The law requires that the log be made available for public viewing by students, employees and the public.

Mike Dill, head of campus security, said that to his knowledge MCCC fully complies with the Clery Act.

“We are doing what the law asks us to do,” Dill said.

Recently, a March on-campus car break-in remained unrecorded in the logbook until five days after the initial crime.

The delay prompted questions from faculty and staff.

Dill said the delay occurred because a student witness called the West Windsor police instead of notifying security.

Arnie Marx, supervisor of security, said the information wasn’t added sooner because officials were waiting for incident details from the police.

Colleges that receive federal dollars are required to report crimes including murder, sex offenses, robbery, assault, burglary, car theft and arson.

Reports must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education and must be accessible to the public.

Dill has decided to include petty thefts in the security logbook and says students have a right to know what goes on at MCCC.

He added, though, that many students don’t report crimes that fit under those categorized by the Clery Act.

English Professor Jim Franklin said the law’s crime classifications are vague.

“Mercer does comply with the Clery Act, yet they only report a brief list,” Franklin said. “Security has no intention of giving up health benefits.

Financial aid is only available for American citizens and non-citizens with alien registration cards. Students who fall outside of both categories are registered as F-1s.

“F-1s don’t qualify for any financial aid, federal, state, or student loans,” said Jason Taylor, associate director of financial aid.

Immockondi said F-1 applicants are informed before enrollment that the school cannot assist them financially.

MCCC currently enrolls 172 students with F-1 status, who hail from 44 different countries.
MCCC Student Rides Bike Over 1,500 Miles

By Danielle Cifelli
Features/Sports Editor

Making a trip half-way across the country is no big deal with a car, a plane or even a motorcycle. But on a bicycle?...

New Program Makes DREAMs Come True

By Danielle Cifelli
Features/Sports Editor

Susan Onaitis’ office may be quaint and hidden on the library’s upper floor, but the work she and others are doing for Mercer County Community College is a bold step for children with intellectual disabilities.

African Lecture Series Focuses on Pop Music History

By William Carr
The College Voice

The soul of James Brown, the experimentation of Radiohead and the blues-driven sadness of Muddy Waters all have roots in early African-American music. These artists and many others were part of a tour of African musical influences dating back to the slave trade conducted April 5 by James Kelly, Mercer County Community College professor of music.

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**Mercer Prof Cultivates Minds, Captivates Hearts**

By Esther Mills
Managing Editor

Joan Goldstein has spent 13 years as an adjunct pro-

fessor in Mercer County Community College’s English and

sociology departments opening her students’ minds and

hearts.

She started a class – a lot of things I wasn’t taught in high school,” said Timmy Moore, a Mercer student. “She opened my

mind so that I could see.”

 Fellow professors also acclaim her. “She’s good to her stu-

dents, she’s kind and she’s concerned,” said English pro-

fessor David Leeb. “She does a whole lot of good things.”

“I’m a glowing,” said Goldstein. “Students follow me from course to course.”

Goldstein designed a Women and Literature class which has been so popular that more than 50 students have enrolled. A group of nurses who worked at Saint Francis Hospital came together to take the class.

“Getting them going and persuading them it is a tech-
nique Goldstein uses to motiv-

ate her students. Goldstein’s education – a doctorate in research sociology from The

University of Iowa – lies behind her power in the classroom.

“Being on the cutting-edge is nothing new for Goldstein. In 1978 she got her doctorate at a time when most women were still housewives. College profes-
sors were mostly men, and if a job opportunity arose, a good recommendation would generally be given to a less

able man.”

“There was no incentive for professors to feel like you were entitled to your due,” said Goldstein. Therefore, her motivation has always been internal. “I never thought of obstacles I always thought of how good it was that I was doing it.”

Goldstein held several teaching jobs while obtaining her doctorate, at times com-
muting from a job on one side of New York City to classes on the other. Though the process was arduous, her teaching skills were refined by the many hours she need-
ed to pay for college. She taught at Brooklyn College, City College of New York, Lehman College and Hunter College – all of which helped

her hone her classroom tech-
nique. But Goldstein’s talents are not limited to teaching. She has written three books. “Pine Barrens of New Jersey,” “The Politics of Offshore Oil,” and “Demanding Clean Water. The Fight for Basic Human Rights.”

Goldstein is always eager to share her writ-

ten work. Last month she

team with musician John

Burkhalter to share her

newest poems, “Sketches,” at Princeton Marketfair’s Barnes & Noble. As she read poems about her students, Burkhalter accompanied with sounds created on ancient instruments.

Goldstein’s passions are often on her

mind, and Goldstein loves to communicate with them. “I always tell students that I can answer them if they write me,” Goldstein said. “Their dialogue is so rich. They let you know who they are. I'm like the gardener - all these little flowers out there. I give them water and the sunshine – they start to grow – I am delighted – I am thrilled.”

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**Computer Gaming Addicts**

By Chris McClothy
The College Voice

At 9:15 every morning, Robyn Dmytrow forces her-

self out of bed for her 10 a.m. class at Mercer County Community College.

As usual, she has to rush through her morning routine to make it on time. She always skips breakfast. On the 20-minute drive to the West Windsor campus she is virtually half-asleep. She still finds a way to make it to

Dmytrow is an example of a trend among college stu-

dents: gaming addiction. A study done by Simon Fraser University revealed that one in four teenage gamers believe he or she is addicted to gaming and is troubled by a lack of control. According to the study, the gaming-addict mentality does not end after the teen years but can be very prevalent among col-

lege students.

The biggest age bracket of the gaming market is 18 to 23, making stressed-out col-

lege students the most likely to become addicted.

In rare cases, addiction to gaming can become severe enough to debilitate one’s life. According to the National Institute on Media and the Family, symptoms of severe addiction among adult gamers can look much like those of drug use: obses-

sion and preoccupation, interference with human relationships, sleep depriva-
tion, neglect of personal hygiene, lying about use and feelings of withdrawal and depression after stopping.

One study suggests that a cause of gaming addiction may be similar to that of drug addiction, as well.

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**A Safer Way for Students to Speed**

By William Carr
The College Voice

The scene is all too familiar. A driver would cruise the Mercer’s West Windsor cam-
pus pulled over on Old Trenton Road for speeding and are greeted by a police officer and fast

vehicles in which they may be tempted to speed. Most of these owners can tell stories of their driving recklessness or how fast they’ve driven on

a city street. “I love my radar detector and pay no attention to post-
ed speed limits,” admits one such owner, MCCC stu-
dent Jeremy Horta.

Another student, Andrew Morabito, said, “I have been pulled over before for speed-
ing, and I love to drive fast.”

And a driver of a fast

sports car who wished to remain anonymous told of driving recently in speeds

Con’t SPEED, P7

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**Review: Slowdown Café Enhances Heightstown**

By Zohair Zaidi
The College Voice

From the sultry paninos to the hearty brownies, Slowdown Café offers a vari-
yety of tastes and temptations to anyone willing to indulge. The café, located in downtown Heightstown, aims to provide a relaxed atmos-
phere for those who enter its doors. Its use of soft lighting and red, vibrant tablecloths brings a touch of European class to small-town New Jersey. Along the walls of Slowdown are pictures of Hightstown dating back to the late 19th century to remind patrons of the town’s history.

Michael Vanderbeck bought the property three years ago in hopes of adding personality to the town. Vanderbeck was involved in the revitalization of Hightstown as a council member three years ago. “It was obvious that Hightstown needed a café where the community could

meet and greet each other,” Vanderbeck said.

The café serves a wide variety of hot and cold drinks. From the refreshing lattes to the stimulating peanut butter ice cream, Slowdown presents a European taste with a touch of Americana. It also provides local rock bands with a venue.

“Local bands such as Steve have gotten popular

Con’t CAFE, P11

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Prof Depicts Aspect of U.S. and Russian History

By Chris Cole
The College Voice

Paintings by Yevgeniy Fiks, a Mercer County Community College professor of visual arts, are reminders of the past and present relationship between Russia and the United States. Fiks’ black-and-white oils, which currently hang in galleries in Moscow and New York City, are recreations of scenes from American-made Soviet propaganda films released during World War II.

Like many Hollywood films, the films were unfaithful depictions of real life. While the United States had cut ties with the Soviet Union shortly after its Communist revolution of 1917, President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s administration sought to improve the Soviet image when it became an ally against Nazi Germany.

“The films are glamorous versions of Russian life,” Fiks said. “Every Russian depicted in the film, including Stalin, is still notably glamorous despite her clothes, and the lighting is perfect.”

Fiks places in some of his movie-scene paintings the logos of American film studios like Warner Bros. and Metro Goldwyn-Mayer in the left-hand corners.

“I included the logos in some of the paintings because I wanted to make it clear that the Russian propaganda movies were written, directed and produced by Hollywood,” he said.

Fiks, who lives in New York City, has taught computer graphics and animation at Mercer since 1999. He moved to the United States with his parents in 1994, when he was 21, and soon began exploring the history of relations between his two homes.

Allies against the Axis nations, the Soviet Union and the United States saw their relationship deteriorate after World War II. During four decades of the Cold War, U.S. perceptions of Russia changed drastically, an attitude evident in numerous American movies released between 1946 and 1990.

“In comparison with the American-produced films about Russia that inspired my paintings, movies like ‘Rocky IV’ depict Russians as rude, ignorant and corrupt,” Fiks noted.

Unlike the movies upon which Fiks based his paintings, the artist considers his works not propaganda but reminders of the two countries’ history.

“I created the paintings to educate people,” Fiks said. “I am a historian, a writer, a historian, my intention is to inform.”

Kelsey Review Reaches Milestone With New Editions

By Christine Busacca
The College Voice

With its 25th year of publication and coaching, the Kelsey Review is being reformed with a new editorial staff during its silver anniversary. Robin Schore, dean of the Mercer County Community College liberal arts division, has resigned as the literary magazine’s editor after 24 years.

“I have tired blood. I’m the least talented of all the editors involved with the Kelsey Review,” Schore said. “Fresh, younger and brighter minds are ready to take my place.”

MCCC English professor Ed Carmien and Holly Johnson will be taking over and lead the review’s five-person editorial board.

The Review’s objective is not to make Mercer County residents who are writers or artists to submit their work for publication. Published every September, the review accepts short fiction, poetry, essays, brief excerpts from novels, black-and-white lined drawings and cartoons.

What makes the Review different from other publications is its regional focus.

“Mercer County is ideal,” Johnson said. “It is close to numerous schools, universities and businesses that have talented individuals.”

The magazine’s editorial board evaluates each submission and encourages originality and freshness. Those whose work is rejected receive constructive comments on how to improve their writing for the next publication.

“As a writer who has been rejected numerous times for publication, being reviewed and getting feedback is almost just as good as being published,” Carmien said.

Both Johnson and Carmien believe their first challenge as editors will be keeping up the high standard that was created during his 24-year reign.

“Luckily for us, the other three board members have been involved with the Kelsey Review before,” Johnson said. “Plus, we can always go down the hall and knock on Schore’s door if we have any questions.”

For the 25th anniversary, the editorial board wants to capture the history of Mercer County.

For further information about submitting material, contact Carmien at carrme@mccc.cuny.edu or Johnson at johncon@micc.edu.

Career Services “Not Applicable?” No Way!

In the 2005 Mercer County Community College Graduating Student Survey recently made available, 25%-35% of students marked “not applicable” next to Career Services. Why? We asked ourselves in Career Services. We aren’t just about jobs. We aren’t just for students who don’t know what they want to major in. We’re really here for everyone because we help with career planning in all of its stages. Aren’t career goals and career changes what most students are here for?

According to Mercer Quick Facts Fall 2005 the greatest number of students is majoring in Nursing, followed closely by those majoring in Humanities and Social Sciences. If nursing students need help with resumes and cover letters or lists of local hospitals, or suggestions of other places to work, we are here to help. We do interview coaching as well.

If your major is Humanities and Social Sciences, do you know what you can do with a major in history? We have information to give you to explore many possibilities of areas to work in, employers to seek out and strategies to explore to get into these areas. Government, museums, libraries, historic sites, research institutes, news departments of radio and television stations and colleges and universities are a few of the places that would welcome history majors.

Would you like to know what the average pay is for workers in your major? The required education? Skills needed? Job titles? Job outlook? (Will there be opportunities for you to get a job in the field when you graduate?) Job security? We have Gig5 on our web page to answer those questions and more. Call us at x 397 for the access code.

26 initial members remain Kappa Lambda’s largest induction.

An early inductee and former student president was Michael Beihl, inducted in 1989. Beihl went on to major in languages and returned to Mercer to coordinate the English as a Second Language program.

The chapter has about 30 active members, joining several hundred since it was founded. Those interested should speak with Richman or Bartkowicz.
COMMENTARY: “Vendetta”’s Truth Will Set You Free

By Chris Cole
The College Voice

The anti-establishment values conveyed in the recent movie “V for Vendetta” are expressed with symbolism, the same technique by which Dada Surrealists expressed their messages to subvert authority. “V for Vendetta” contains layers of meaning through both symbolic dialogue and visual and verbal metaphors, which form pieces of a huge puzzle.

“Vendetta” tells the story of a totalitarian government set in England. A young woman named E.V. suddenly and seemingly at random finds herself entwined with a crusader who wears a Guy Fawkes mask and is known only as “V.” The government dubbs V a “terrorist,” he is the movie’s hero.

The mask is a symbol, V’s name is a symbol; V’s whole being is a symbol. Guy Fawkes was a revolutionary crusader in the 17th Century. The name “V” is a symbol of Fawkes’ November 5 murder plot that cost him his life. V himself is a symbol of the freedom the oppressed people of the film’s England crave.

Surrealism is a 20th century artistic style which posits the human subconscious and that seemingly random objects are somehow connected. Created by the Dadaists, Surrealism became its own political movement. The followers of Dada revolted against the idea that art created realm for art’s values. Dadaists believed that art should be interpretive and not solely a symbol of religion. They used surrealism to attack authoritative figures like the Pope, whom the Dadaists saw as a symbol of oppression.

“The Dadaists blamed the government for the Second World War,” says MCC art professor Mel Leipzig. “The Dadaists were inspired by the rebellious Futurists who came before them, but the difference is that the Futurists protested by using violence while the Dadaists refused.”

In “Vendetta,” V says that “artists use lies to reveal the truth” and “political lies use lies to bury the truth.” The Dadaists wanted people to come to their own conclusions about truth and not be controlled by power-mad, propagandistic governments.

MCC students have different perspectives on “V for Vendetta”’s meaning. Student Aaron Zeichner knew the plot from the comic book that inspired the movie, but Zeichner believed the film took the story to its conclusion. The movie’s release was apparently delayed after the July 7, 2005, subway bombings in London.

“To me the film is less about acts of terrorism than about tyrannical government,” Zeichner said. “V was a symphony of emotions that people of society felt towards their government.” Student Kevin Harper called the film “awesome.” He said V tapped the public’s unconscious emotions and “inspired the people to embrace the truth.”

“In the same way that slaves would destroy a slave ship, the buildings that represented the government had to be destroyed, as if to start with a clean slate,” Harper continued. “V showed the people the way but left it up to them to decide if they wanted to follow. V wanted the people to make their own choice.”

Leipzig said, “Any government is the superego, because it is the oppressive force that dictates to the ego, which is the self. The rules and regulations that a government enforces are all apart of the superego.”

“V for Vendetta” and Dadaist Surrealism both seek to represent the deepest truths through the use of symbols – surface signs with deeper, more significant meanings behind them. “Vendetta” and Surrealism demonstrate how truth can set the mind free.

TUITION

Con’t from P1

president failed to inform students about the reasons behind the tuition hikes.

“Willard never really got into why the tuition was being raised,” said Polls, who receives no financial aid and assistance and pays out-of-county tuition.

“Students at the meeting were listening and

being nice,” Garrison said. “There just wasn’t enough time for questions.”

Garrison also noted that, though any tuition hike makes an impact, Mercer students will not suffer to the same degree as other New Jersey college students. The state’s $169 million cut to higher education will raise tuitions at all of New Jersey’s public colleges next fall.

Few Mercer students complained immediately about the tuition increases, which remain less than those projected at colleges like Rutgers.

Banking major Doug Francimore, who uses the school’s tuition waiver program, said, “Mercer is still a bargain compared to other schools.”

Willard told trustees he doesn’t expect tuition costs to hurt enrollment rates for the fall. The school is projecting 1 percent enrollment growth next year.

Professor Brings Still Lives To Life

By Christine Busacca
The College Voice

Laser pointer in hand and slideshow at the ready, an entertaining Professor Brings showed the viewer how the visual and verbal metaphors, both symbolic dialogue and their messages to subvert authority.

Professor Brings showed the viewer how the visual and verbal metaphors, both symbolic dialogue and their messages to subvert authority.

Leipzig has participated in numerous one-man and group shows. His works are displayed in the White House Collection, Yale University Art Gallery and the New Jersey State Museum.

“Anyway was related to a show, don’t feel bad. All great painters were,” said Leipzig, referring to Picasso, O’Keeffe, Van Gogh, Cezanne and several others.

The professor’s passion and humor allowed the audience to share his enthusiasm from first slide to last.

SPEED

Con’t from P5

exceeding 160 mph on the Jersey turnpike.

What such students may not know is that they can go push their vehicles to the limits in a safe environment. Englishtown Raceway Park is no more than 25 minutes from Mercer County and is a cheap, easy, and safe place for students to enjoy their vehicles.

Located in Old Bridge township, Raceway Park features a quarter-mile drag strip, as well as a dirt track and autocross. For around $40, a person can test her car on the drag strip, as well as rent a helmet (which is required). The number of times a person can use the track usually depends on how early she arrives. The autocross and drift events cost more but allow for more track time.

Any vehicle can be used on the track as long as it meets safety standards. After a pass is made down the track, the driver receives a sheet displaying the time and speed it took to get through the quarter mile.

State Trooper Danny Lugo said that as the weather gets nicer, he pulls over about eight or nine younger men and women for speeding in an average week. He said he rarely catches people in the act of racing but is sure it happens often.

For more information about Raceway Park visit www.racewaypark.com.

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

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The following is an announcement from Phi Theta Kappa:

Project Graduation
Feed a body - feed a mind!

Congratulations prospective graduates! You have succeeded in completing your program of study here at Mercer. Thank of the help you have received along the way: faculty, staff, family, friends, and maybe scholars aid and have given you where you are.

Now it is time for you to give someone less fortunate a hand. When you go to the Student Center Between May 22 and 25 to pick up your cap and gown, please take a donation of non-perishable food items of a child's meal to be donated to a local shelter in Mercer County. Help battle hunger and literacy in our community.

Mercer’s Alpha Theta Gamma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the National Honor Society of Two-Year Colleges is supporting this event.

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The mission of Phi Theta Kappa’s Project Graduation is to battle the social issues of hunger and illiteracy affecting our community.

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PROFIT

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PROFIT

May 8th, 2006

THE COLLEGE VOICE
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
Arrogance and treachery are trademark qualities of some of society’s most successful men and women. That said, is the old saying still true today? Do nice guys finish last?

The nice guy stands in contrast to the cutthroat personas of prominent people like Bill O’Reilly, or the contestants battling for Donald Trump’s approval on television’s “The Apprentice.”

The nice guy doesn’t get the girl. Nice guys are likely to relate more to movie characters played by Luke Wilson rather than Matthew McConaughey’s hot shots.

In various fields of life, being nice can hinder success. In corporate settings, people are often rewarded for being firm and shrewd. To make it in today’s competitive job market, many people figure their surest pathway to success is to lie and cheat.

“There are times when you have to be firm, but shrewd is too harsh a word,” said Matthew McConaughey.

In the fall of 2005, The College Voice got a new faculty advisor, Professor Gavin McCormick. At the same time, I needed to fulfill an elective and decided that Journalism I would be a worthy class.

On the first day, Gavin told the class that there was a newspaper, The College Voice, which needed assembly, the old advisor, an adjunct professor, had left, and almost the entire student staff had also vacated.

I decided I was up for the challenge. Individually, Gavin and I decided that the newspaper should be much better than it had been in previous years. I identified two goals I wanted to accomplish: to bring respect, quality and relevance to the paper, and to help create a functioning structure that would transcend regimes.

Figuring out how to run the paper has largely been a mélange of trial and error for all involved, as if we were set in a dark room to wander around and create a map. I’ve come to expect this, and have even embraced it; I’ve dedicated my time on the newspaper to cutting a path for those who follow.

I didn’t want the new staff to become discouraged in seeing that we were still figuring out how to run the paper, so I told them there would be expected bumps. I told them their efforts would be but a step in determining how to make the paper run, continuing the effort of the previous semester. They, too, were up to the challenge.

The inevitable question is whether there’s a price for ruthless behavior. If someone treats others badly just to land a top position, it’s assumed that he’ll get what he deserves, his comeuppance.

“I disagree with the thought of shrewdness being a requirement for survival in the world,” said MCCC student Greg Paul. “Sure, some people do succeed by using treachery, but those people, for the most part, lack any ethics, which stops them from exercising moral judgment. In the end, those kinds of people usually get what they deserve.”

I, for one, think that being a “nice guy” like Gavin is the way. There’s a huge difference between being a nice person and being a pushover.

It’s true that arrogant people do get ahead, but I’ve found that if I stay true to myself, my natural personality will get me through anything, and ultimately bring me success.

In most cases, the jerks of the world are jerks because it’s the only way that they know how to be. In one way, they are antisocial because their behavior is static: they are the same mean people all of the time.

Nice guys can communicate with all types of people. They can adjust their behavior to accommodate others, and make themselves more comfortable. Nice guys are well-rounded — a quality that can generate all kinds of success.

The newspaper you hold in your hand is the sum total of the efforts of everyone involved in the re-creation of The College Voice over the past year.

With admitted bias, I venture to say that this issue is the best in the newspaper’s history. The content is comparable to that of a real newspaper, and miles better than many college newspapers.

The quality is such that at least two editors have been contacted by The (Trenton) Times to do freelance journalism based on their work on The College Voice. This is a far point from where the newspaper once was.

I am most proud that the success we’ve created cannot be attributed to one single person. We would not have reached this point if of those involved this year were not on board.

While the goal creating a quality newspaper has been achieved, creating a lasting structure has unfortunately hit a snag at the end of this semester. Gavin will be leaving Mercer County Community College.

I always assumed that the lessons learned in running the newspaper would be kept alive by the newspaper’s advisor. With Gavin leaving, that job is left to me, other staff members who will return next semester and the next advisor (who has not been selected). So much time invested by so many people cannot be allowed to fall away. I’d like to thank the entire staff this year for being dedicated to a daunting challenge. I wish those moving on luck in wherever life may take them, and remind them that they have done something truly important with their time on the newspaper. Forever, you’ll always been the first full staff of “The New College Voice.”

I’d also like to thank Gavin for his wisdom, advice and dedication to the newspaper. You’ve personally taught me much in my time working with you, and it’s unfortunate that you must leave so soon.

It was a pleasure working with all of you, and I promise that the future staff and I will keep the momentum going.
A Manga by Maria Koehler

What do you like to do in your free time?

I like swimming.

Wow, she's cute!

It's hot in here.

My first interview without my best friend.

You're so right.

Isn't it me who asks the questions?

What are you doing on Saturday?

I'm right with what?

You know, I don't think we'll get any fish.

What makes you say that?

I think it's because of what the sign says...

I see Acid Pond.

I see, BURP! Yummy, Duck.
Contest Rules
All staff of the College Voice are excluded from this offer. Faculty and staff are not excluded. Any answers should be emailed to mcccvoice@gmail.com. Only those answers submitted by email will be accepted. The first ten people to submit correct answers to any of the puzzles on this page including the sudoku will receive the Tristan and Isolde DVD advertised above. Confirmation will be sent out to those first ten email addresses telling you where and when you may pick up your prize.
Although the discussion was comments by saying, "I'll Corzine responded to many
participants, for the state is
Garrison responded to many
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Garrison said that
although the discussion was
healthy, it would bring about no immediate changes.

Mercury’s tuition will rise by about 7 percent
next fall, largely as a result of the decline in state funding.
Lawmakers face a June 30 budget deadline that will ulti-
mately determine the state’s contribution to schools.

Garrison, 23, a humani-
ties major, said she plans to run for SGA president again
when her term is up in May.

"I love this position and the opportuni-
ties it gives," she said. "I would never have had the chance to meet the
governor otherwise."

The Latin Cycles are looking forward to a May 12
regional tournament in Bordentown, where the final
match will be against a team of football players from the
Philadelphia Eagles.

Funds raised during the tournament are set aside for
students to attend the Phi Lambda recruitment and
activities, Oakes said. Goals include charting incoming students at
other New Jersey colleges and increasing membership
at existing chapters, he said.

Money will also help
Mercury’s campus support
Drug Abuse Resistance
Education, a program given
in some schools to
a national leadership conference in
North Carolina.

"We want to keep
the program open-ended and
flexible so the students can
develop to what they want to
do," Onatis said.

Student mentors will
soon be assigned to DREAM
students by showing them
around campus and helping with
class work. Mentors will be paid and
may use the work to fulfill
campus service requirements of
some courses.

"The mentors will
be asked to go further." Franklin said that Eric
Parvin, the college’s assistant
to the director, convinced
students to attend the
logbook and get
"stoned free," he said.

Franklin said that Eric
Perkins, the college’s former
vice president of administr-
tion, didn’t take action to
bring MCC into compliance with the Clean Act. But he said
complaints led the school to abide by the law
during Robert Ross’s presi-
dency, which ended last year.

According to
Franklin, in 2001 faculty
members complained that
someone was stealing from
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The Clergy Act was
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Crime reports for
MCCC and other colleges can be obtained from the U.S.
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Cricket Fever Strikes Mercer County's Expatriots

Cricket fever has again taken hold among Mercer County residents from India and Pakistan, who crave the end of winter to play the game they grew up with. Cricket is a growing sport around the world, although it isn’t popular in the United States. "Cricket League of New Jersey offers expatriate Indian and Pakistani communities a chance to play the sport the way they grew up with," said skipper Marius Kapruth, who hails from Albania in the early 21st centuries. The game has similarities to baseball, including bowlers, who try to score four runs on a 22-yard pitch in the middle of an oval ground, and a batsman can hit the ball anywhere he wants. Also, a batsman can score four runs if he hits the ball three times but, however, he can be put out if the bowler knocks one of two wooden pegs (or "bails") off a couple of stumps (the "wicket") set behind him. Cricket is infa- mous for its five-day games, which aren’t frequently played in the United States. Cricket League of New Jersey holds 30-40 games, which last about six hours. (An over is set of six pitches.) Cricket League of New Jersey has 42 registered teams from all over the state; Hightstown Cricket Club and Warriors both represent Mercer County. The league has 31 registered grounds, three in Mercer County. Anoop Desai, captain of the Warriors, is hoping for a great season. "Warriors came into existence in 1999, and Desai has been there for the entire ride. We are an about-average team, not the best or the worst in the league," he said. "Warriors managed to make it to the playoffs last year but lost their first playoff game. Hightstown Cricket Club, founded in 2004, has climbed the ranks quickly. Venkat Krishnan, the team captain, said, "Hightstown Cricket Club has it all, and there are no individual heroes in this team." In its first season the team made the first-division playoffs (consisting of the league’s top 16 teams). Krishnan is looking forward to stiff competition this sea- son as the top-five clubs play only one other. Cricket brings the sub- continent communities together here in the United States. The Indian and Paki stan expatriates sacri- fice free time on the week- ends to play, believing it’s more than just sport but a way to remember their roots.

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Soccer Coach stays Home To Find Players Abroad

By Maria Koehler

The College Voice

Community College’s soccer coach Charlie Inverso has never gone overseas to find players. He feels the same as the top-division clubs in the country as the top-division clubs in the country. The coach is in charge of recruiting players and helping them find a way to West Windsor, N.J. “Players are recruiting us,” he said.

Inverso started looking for international players in 1997, after his first year as coach. Over the years he has brought dozens of foreign players to Mercer, helping his teams win five national titles.

Inverso says the 6-foot-4 Kapruth is a “pure soccer player” and an “excellent pass- er” who knows how to “get him- self out of tough situations.”

Kapruth, a sophomore on a full scholarship, says, “It’s amazing. I just love it here.”

He is friends with everybody on the team, which he says is so tal- ented it’s “like an all-star team.”

Kapruth wants to transfer to Southern Connecticut University because it’s only an hour from his home in New York.

Rigorous daily practices have proven no problem for him since, he says, “Coach is nice.”

Kapruth shares an apartment with two teammates, including center defender Kobi Rahav. Rahav, 22, who hails from Israel, has studied English since the third grade and came to the United States last August. An Israeli friend who had studied at Mercer called Inverso about him.

Inverso likes the way the freshman plays and says he hopes Rahav takes “on the leadership next year.”

Rahav, who twisted his ankle on artificial turf during an exhibition game in April, says it is hard to stay moti-vated during the off-season but adds that he’s “self-motivated” once the fall rolls around.

Rahav, who studies busi- ness administration, bought a car in March, so he no longer has to travel to campus by bus. Living with team- mates who’ve become friends and doing his own laundry has been a great experience, he said. “I’ve started a new life. It’s like a big journey. It’s fun.”

Rahav is glad he miss- es his native food, family, friends and dog, and he’s looking forward to a trip home this month.

Sports

Covering the Vikings of Mercer County Community College

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