Chemistry professor Geddes awarded “Innovator of the Year” for the second time

Megan Masciana
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The technology makes a difference, Geddes said. “It’s an honor. I didn’t expect to win it, I certainly didn’t expect it. This Institute has gone through a rapid growth period and we have received a lot of recognition for what we have done. I was pleased to receive the award, which reflects the hard work of all the people in the department. It was a surprise,” said Geddes.

Geddes previously won the same award in 2008 for a fast and sensitive technology, which detects a heart attack in twenty seconds. It is the fastest technology to date.

IoF was founded by Geddes in 2001 and has since become one of the most prominent academic institutions for fluorescence. Research at the IoF is concerned with the development of new and existing fluorescence and laser-based phenomena for resolving clinically, biologically and industrially important questions of national and international importance. The Institute of Fluorescence also works on the development of clinical devices for health care safeguarding and continuous monitoring, the development of technologies to facilitate the early and rapid detection of bio-warfare agents; as well as developing fundamental scientific principles and theories, which are likely to find a global impact and use.

This time Geddes received the award for a new type of plastic he developed. “When light is shone on the plastic, it absorbs the energy and releases it slowly. One practical application of this material would be safety jackets for construction workers. The plastic will reflect when cars shine on it and then the plastic will keep shining since it has absorbed the light from passing cars.”

“The technology makes a difference. I think it’s a quantum leap in energy physics. As the world becomes more energy conscious, this kind of technology can make a real impact,” Geddes said.

Performing Arts and Humanities Facility breaks ground

Two weeks after UMBC broke ground for the addition to Patapsco Hall, the hard hats and shovels were out again. This past Friday, it was time to celebrate the new Performing Arts and Humanities Facility (PAHF) when President Harbowski for the second time participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for the new PAHF last Friday.

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President Harbowski and Governor O’Malley participated in the ground-breaking ceremony for the new PAHF last Friday.

Michael Donnelly
SENIOR STAFF

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The new building will house the departments of Ancient Studies, Dance, English, Music, Philosophy and Theatre. Beyond that, it will also be home to the James T. and Virginia M. Dresher Center for the Humanities, the Dresher Humanities Scholars Program, and the Linehan Artist Scholars Program. It will also be another Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified building on the campus.

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After being rudely awakened at 4 a.m., the bride (Titli) and I decided to get a few more hours of shut-eye before the wedding day chaos descended upon us. But the minute we closed our eyes, the chatter in the living room picked up again. We could hear ribbons of fresh gossip from the aunts intertwined with the rhythm of herbs being ground. Finally, around 6 a.m., Titli and I got up one last time and resignedly got out of our cocoon.

As we made our bed, flaked of dried henna fell from the sheets like brown snowflakes. We had gotten our henna done only a few hours ago, so we had let it dry and slept with it still on our hands. The color turned out magnificently— a rich, dark, bold orange. Perfect! Leg- end says that the darker the color, the deeper the love between the bride and the groom.

Titli and I managed to break our teeth and stumble into my aunt's kitchen. It was only after we drank the hot, butter-sweet coffee that our sleepy haze lifted and the excitement settled in. The wedding day was finally here.

One of the pre-wedding traditions includes the turmeric ceremony, called “gauyee holud.” In the gauyee holud, all of the women in the bride's family cover her in turmeric paste and wish her luck for her future. The turmeric paste is supposed to make the bride's skin glow, but in reality, it just gives her skin a yellowish tint that makes her look ill and smell funny! But it’s a lot of fun to cover the bride in yellow goop! The bride usually wears yellow clothes to match the color of the turmeric. The ceremony is preceded by a “puja,” or a worshiping ceremony. This puja, more specifically called “vriddh,” invokes the blessings of the ancestors and the gods. The puja took place in my aunt's house, while the actual gauyee holud took place in the wedding hall.

By 8 a.m., everyone hurried to eat breakfast, shower, and get dressed. Meanwhile, Titli, dressed in her bright yellow cotton sari, sat prettily in her puja in one of the rooms. The priest chanted and blessed the bride-to-be, and after nearly an hour, he finished the puja. Next, we switched down the family to board the cars to the wedding hall.

By 11 a.m., we were there and the gauyee holud was ready to begin! Almost a hundred people had gathered to watch the gauyee holud and join us for lunch afterward.

After the gauyee holud finished, members of the groom’s family came to drop off their gifts. The bride exchanged gifts between the bride and the groom’s family. There was a tray with two large freshwater fish, pots filled with desserts, and clothing and jewelry for the bride, suits for all the female members of the bride’s family, shoes, and much more. All arranged on brightly colored, handwoven trays.

After eating lunch, Titli, a few aunts, my mom, and I made our way back to my aunt’s house to get ready. Around 2 p.m., the makeup artists, Dhrub, and I were greeted by a great flat (apartment) since my aunt’s house was already crowded and the humidity in the air wouldn’t help our hair and makeup. First up, of course, was the bride. Her makeup took close to three hours! Dhrub applied foundation, eyeliner, lipstick, blush, and an array of other products to Titli’s face. He finished it off by sending her hair in a stylish bun and wrapping garlands of fresh jasmine flowers around it. He also painted an intricate design, called “chandan,” on Titli’s forehead. The chandan is a traditional decoration for all Bengali brides.

The end result was simply stunning. Titli looked like an Indian princess! But a more defining piece of jewelry was the jewelry. Titli wore a Banarasi sari-six yards of the finest red-orange silk crafted in the North Indian city of Banaras. The sari was embroidered with gold, green, and purple motifs throughout. Dhrub draped the sari around Titli in old Bengali style, where a length of the sari folds over the front and ends up hanging over one shoulder.

The jewelry too, was simply magnificent. There was a gold choker inherited from my grandmother, a set of pearls from my mother, and a wrought gold “taara-haar,” or long necklace embedded with rubies and pearls. Her earrings were shaped like panies (a pair of wrought gold cuffs with emeralds set in them), and she also wore thick pairs of golden bracelets, maharani rings set with precious stones, silver anklets, another necklace set with rubies that had belonged to my aunt when she had gotten married, and so much more! Titli donned “shahidha” and “pol,” a pair of red and white bangles, as well. Shudhars are made of conch shells, while polas are made of red coral. The whole outfit was completed by an indescribable red veil and a “mituk,” or head ornament.

As soon as Titli was completely ready, the rest of us fought to get our hair and makeup done by Dhrub. It was a battle and get my hair done in less than five minutes! Dhrub diligently arranged my hair into an elegant bun and tied two garlands of fresh white jasmine flowers around the bun to finish off. As soon as my hair was done, I made a mad dash back to my aunt’s house, dressed in sweatspants and an old shirt with jasmine in my hair and all of my jewelry on. I got quite a few stares from people as I didn’t have a single item to do my makeup in less than ten minutes, and then put on my sari. For the wedding, I wore a royal blue chiffon sari with copper embroidery all over it and paired it with a new set of gold-and-pearl jewelry.

Meanwhile, the car downstairs honked insistently as I got dressed. I was one of the last people in the house to get ready. I threw on a pair of satin slippers, grabbed my purse, and hurled myself down the stairs managing not to break any bones. I pushed past a lot of people with the front gate and made it to the car. I got a couple of astonished looks (from the same people who had stared at me a half an hour earlier, scurrying down the street in American clothes and Indian jewelry like a madwoman), but I paid them no attention. I had a wedding to get to!

Comments can be sent to chat1@umbc.edu

Visiting a crowded, colorful, and pungent London market

Clare Sheldon
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

Being an avid supporter of farmers’ markets, my excitement built as several Londoners recommended a visit to the Borough Market. Being an avid supporter of farmers’ markets, my excitement built as several Londoners recommended a visit to the Borough Market.

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UMBC introduces a new Master's degree in cybersecurity

Emma Marston
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

UMBC has created two new graduate programs in cybersecurity education: a Master's degree in cybersecurity and a graduate certificate in cybersecurity strategy and policy. Both programs are aimed at students with an information technology degree as well as working professionals seeking to enter the field.

UMBC has considered this program for years, but the recent interest in cybersecurity pressed the graduate program, according to computer science professor Charles Nicholas.

Cybersecurity has become more visible in the past few years, especially with the military's increased interest in technology. Also, businesses are becoming more dependent on computers, and while they do prove useful, computers are vulnerable to outside attacks. It is not just files and money that are at risk either.

"Right now it's not that easy to go to that extreme, but there is the potential to cause large scale damage by affecting big systems," Nicholas says.

For example, if a virus slows down the computer system of a hospital or a business, no money or information is necessarily at stake, but people who have legitimate needs will not be able to use their computers.

"The Master's program is more technical, but the program is not just for people who are especially skilled with computers," assures Graduate Program Director Richard Forno.

In this program, it is important to produce students not just technically capable of dealing with security threats, but also well-versed in theory, policy, management techniques, and other skills that do not deal purely with computers.

"Technology permeates everything. We need to have people who can deal with threats and also recognize new ones," Forno explains.

Albert Kinney, Director of Defense Cyber Security Capability at HP Enterprise Services, says that what makes UMBC's program unique is that it emphasizes management abilities as well as technical skill.

"These programs are available, but you won’t find one with law, policy, and management like this," Kinney notes. "We’re in a unique position, being here in Maryland, and we’re focusing on what the agencies here need.

Graduate classes for the program will start in Spring 2011. The majority of the classes will be lectures, but there will also be some online and hybrid courses available as well.

Comments can be sent to emmami@umbc.edu

POLICE LOG

SEPTEMBER 11, 2010
Off Campus
Assist Other Agency
UMBC Police responded to an off-campus location at the request of a Baltimore County police officer. Upon arrival was learned that Baltimore County Police had charged a 22-year-old UMBC student with furnishing alcohol to person(s) under 21.

Math/Physics Bldg
Thief from Coin Operated Machine (Attempted)
A UMBC police officer discovered two vending machines had been pried open.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2010
Terrace Apartments
Assault with Hands, etc, Simple
In reference to an earlier case, a intoxicated UMBC student assaulted a paramedic while being treated for a head injury. The paramedic is not going to press charges.

Sassafras Terrace
Alcohol Violation
UMBC Police were notified of an injured student lying on the ground. Further investigation revealed that the aggrieved and combative student was extremely intoxicated. Medical services took the undergraduate to the local hospital for a laceration on his head.

Choptank / West Hill
Alcohol Violation
An intoxicated UMBC student was observed walking on campus after attending an off-campus party.

Admin Bldg
1st Floor
Theft from Coin Operated Machine (Attempted)
A UMBC police officer discovered a possible attempt to gain access to a vending machine.

Potomac Hall
Threatening Telephone Message
A UMBC student reported receiving threatening phone calls.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2010
Sonheim Hall 1st Floor
Suspicious Condition
A vendor reported possible currencymissing from a vending machine. Further investigation revealed a possible attempt to gain access to the machine.

Bookstore
Disorderly Conduct
A UMBC staff member reported that a customer threw a headphone box after being denied a refund.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2010
IT/E Building
Theft from Coin Operated Machine (Attempted)
Someone attempted to gain entry into a snack vending machine.

Math/Physics Bldg
THEFT FROM COIN OPERATED MACHINE
A UMBC student reported receiving threatening phone calls.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2010
The Commons Garage
Level 2
Theft from Automobile
A UMBC student reported that a GPS and bag containing a computer were stolen from his unsecured vehicle.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2010
Potomac Hall
 Sick Student
A UMBC police officer conducted a welfare check after receiving information that a subject was seen carrying an unconscious female in the building. Upon checking the officer found two non-students sleeping in the room. An ambulance was requested after officers were unable to awaken one of the subjects. Subjects were checked by paramedics, one was transported to the hospital and the other required no medical assistance.

Apples of the Day

It spreads from person to person: Avoid the flu this cold season

Regina Ulis
STAFF WRITER

Only a year ago, newspaper headlines warned us about the symptoms and dangers of the swine flu. Sanitizer dispensers were installed around campus and lines for the H1N1 vaccine stretched down Academic Row.

But now, the swine flu is hardly mentioned and we have let our antibacterial guard down. Up to 50 million cases of the flu in the US are still reported each year, leading up to 400,000 deaths. Moreover, seasonal influenza is still commonly found on college campuses and measures must still be taken to prevent it.

Where does the flu come from?

Three different influenza viruses cause seasonal flu; creativity, they are called A, B, and C. Both A and B type influenza are the respiratory diseases that we often see starting this time of year and continuing into the winter. Type C, the most benign, is usually associated with mild or no symptoms.

One of the reasons the flu is still so prevalent in our society is that the virus changes over time. This hinders our immune system from building up a permanent defense. Generally, the flu is passed from one person to another by breathing in airborne viruses from coughs or sneezes, which is why it is more prevalent in large groups of people. Less frequently, it is caught by touching surfaces with the virus on them.

Since it is a respiratory disease, symptoms of the flu include coughing and a sore throat. Other signs of having the flu include a headache, runny nose, and fatigue. If the disease develops into a fever, symptoms also begin to include dizziness, chills, and nausea. The fever tends to last a couple of days, whereas the coughing and sneezing may persist for many days after, giving the disease its “respiratory” nature.

If you are experiencing symptoms, it is important to increase liquid intake and take warm soups to ease general body pains. Congestion can be reduced by using nasal strips or a humidifier. Fever and coughs are easily treated with items from the drug store items such as Tylenol or cough drops.

However, if symptoms get worse or are persistent, a visit to the doctor’s office may be in order.

Still, it is important to keep in mind that even though the flu is so prevalent each year, it can always be prevented. One option is to get an annual flu vaccine. It is available as a shot or as a spray, and many hospitals, pharmacies, and clinics offer them at this time of the year. Of course, other methods of prevention include frequent hand washing and a healthy diet.

With the swine flu off our radar, it is easy to forget about the dangers of the common seasonal flu. Because it is a harmful virus that can possibly turn life threatening, it is important to take preventative measures each year. Yet, it is also good to keep in mind that even if you are experiencing symptoms of the flu, plenty of liquids and medicine can easily be used to treat it.

Most importantly, stay healthy this fall and winter season!

Comments can be sent to ralis1@umbc.edu
comes a smaller place the population expands. The biggest threat to national security is... [the lack of] clean water and air and energy. We harvest very little of the energy that hits planet Earth,” said Geddes. He also mentioned that it is important to reduce national dependence on oil and nuclear power and believes that his plastic may assist in that goal. Geddes added, “I think that the MD executives committee deserves congratulations for recognizing the importance of green energy. It must be very difficult for the committee to pick the innovator since so many professors have done such wonderful things around the world. Under President Obama policy is taking a step in the right direction.”

In the last few years, Dr Geddes has given many television interviews, appeared on the Discovery Channel and in newspapers as well as being reviewed in popular magazines, such as Photonics Spectra, Pharmagenomics, and Raman Spectroscopy International. Dr Geddes’ research has also been highlighted in editorials at the front of several notable journals, including Nature, JACS, and Analytical Chemistry. Professor LaCourse, head of the Department of Chemistry, thinks that what Dr. Geddes has achieved is a reflection of the creativity, drive, and zeal in the entire Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and we are proud of him. Whenever any member of the department makes an achievement it helps with the overall stature of the department.”

Under Professor Geddes’ leadership, the IoF has merited an international recognition for its research in vaccine development and plasmonics. Approaches and concepts both developed and discovered by the group at IoF such as Metal-Enhanced Fluorescence (MEF), Metal-Enhanced Chemiluminescence (MEC), Surface-Plasmon Coupled Phenomenon, Microwave-Accelerated Enhanced Fluorescence (MAMEF), and the glucose-sensing contact lens, are well-recognized, highly cited and currently used in laboratories around the world today.

Among the many fluorescence-sensing methodologies that Geddes has developed, the glucose-sensing contact lens is amongst the highest cited and Geddes has appeared on the Discovery Channel to discuss it. He developed the contact lens for diabetes health care monitoring and management. When the technology is embedded in the contact lens, the wearer can see a significant change in color of the small spot which tracks the glucose levels in tears and consequently in blood. By comparing the spot to a calibrated color strip, the wearer is aware of blood glucose levels and can apply any necessary treatment. The technology is completely non-invasive and continuous. Dr. Geddes is working to advance the program so that the contact lens can detect various clinical agents in human tears, such as sodium, potassium, lithium etc., as well as testing the utility of the lens to detect a soldier’s or first responder’s exposure to bio warfare agents, such as cyanide. The contact lens is not in commercial production, however, Geddes says that he is currently talking with companies.

Professor Geddes was named “Innovator of the Year” for a new type of plastic he developed. Plasmonix is also working to release new platforms for digital fluorescence readout and devices for medical diagnostics. “Overall achievement is what we strive for here at UMBC,” says LaCourse.

Maryland Daily Record recognizes UMBC’s Dr. Geddes

UMBC alumni appointed to Baltimore City District Court

Caitlyn Leiter-Mason
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On July 23, Governor Martin O’Malley announced nine judicial appointments, three of which were UMBC alumni. Yolanda Tanner was appointed to the Baltimore City Circuit Court and Aaron Friedman to the Baltimore City District Court. The third appointment was Ricardo Zwaig, who started serving on the Howard County District Court this month. Zwaig is the first male Hispanic judge in Maryland.

“This nomination is great news. People across the campus couldn’t be happier for Ricardo. He is a great supporter of UMBC students, and has been a terrific role model for students and alumni,” Greg Simmons, Vice President of Institutional Advancement said. These nominations are further evidence that UMBC graduates are making significant and important contributions to Maryland in many, many ways. Zwaig graduated from UMBC in 1977 with a degree in Spanish from the Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics. Dr. Jack Sliman, Professor of Spanish and Intercultural Communication, remembers meeting Zwaig in his Introduction to Latin American Literature class. “Ricardo has never been shy and his sense of humor always shines,” Sinnigen recalled. “Very outspoken, he expressed insightful ideas about the literary texts and their social contexts. Forcefully and cogently.”

Following college, Zwaig attended the University of Maryland School of Law. He worked as a public defender for 19 years before establishing Zwaig and Zwaig Law Firm with his brother Michael Zwaig, also a UMBC graduate. Their practice focuses on criminal, business, and immigration law and serves the Hispanic community. “Over the years [Zwaig] has matured greatly, and the combination of keen analytical skills, empathy for those who need to struggle against an unfair system, and responsible attention to detail have made him an outstanding lawyer,” Sinnigen said.

The news of the appointment came during a time of increased violence against the Latino population in Baltimore. The recent passage of anti-immigrant legislation in Arizona has created a surge in animosity towards Hispanic communities. However, there is hope that Zwaig’s appointment will help create a better climate on the courts.

“It is important that highly competent individuals who are familiar with those inequities help make the system more just, like Zwaig,” Sinnigen remarked. “Going to court is intimidating for anyone, so just imagine if you... come from a very different cultural backgrounds. Judges like Zwaig are needed to begin to bridge that gap.”

On September 29, there will be a reception to honor Zwaig’s accomplishments in the Skylight Room at 4:30 p.m. Dr. Hrabowski will introduce Zwaig, who will then share some words about his time at UMBC and how his experience here has influenced him and impacted his career.

Comments can be sent to cait13@umbc.edu
How sharing certain media files can get you into trouble

Although file sharing itself is not illegal, anyone, including UMBC students, can still be in trouble if they share any media content protected under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). According to UMBC’s file sharing policy, the downloading or sharing of copyrighted work without permission is prohibited and violates the DMCA. Students will be held responsible for any such activities, including activities involving downloadable audio books, software, videogames, and digital copies of audio books as shared media forms, but these are copyrighted materials, and UMBC has legal and ethical obligations to respond to reports of copyright infringement, said Cullen.

According to Cullen, all copyright infringement reports to the university are made by agents acting on behalf of the copyrighted material, such as musicians, artists, software companies, and TV media corporations, who monitor the illegal downloading of material owned and copyrighted by their clients. Such agents include The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) and the Motion Picture Association of American (MPAA).

Activity coming from a UMBC student account is usually tracked by the network-specific IP address, the IP beginning with 130.85.XXX.XXX, according to the SJP home page. Once a claim has been filed, UMBC’s Office of the General Council is contacted in order to determine the file name, type, and protocol, and the date and time of the download, and in turn contacts UMBC’s Department of Information Technology (DoIT). DoIT is able to determine further information about the controversial activity, such as the student’s name and user i.d., before talking to Student Judicial Programs, who will typically alert a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Comments can be sent to emjacks1@umbc.edu.

For more information, the Student Judicial Programs’ page can be found at http://www.umbc.edu/sjp/copyrightfaq.html.

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The total number of reports in the past year, from 2009-2010, was 304, and it has increased by 21% in the past year. File sharing has increased by 21% in the past year.

Within UMBC’s judicial programs, what gets stolen the most, and how does one get caught? “Music downloads are the most common form of reports that we see, more so than movie and TV downloads, though their numbers are [pretty much] equal,” said Cullen. “We rarely [if ever] see cracked software, videogames, and digital copies of audio books as shared media forms, but these are copyrighted materials, and UMBC has legal and ethical obligations to respond to reports of copyright infringement,” said Cullen.

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If found guilty, however, the student will face several repercussions, including a fine of $175, suspension of ResNet (on campus internet) for two weeks, and an educational poster, a flyer educating other students about copyright violations, the hazards of peer to peer file sharing, and the dangers of using an unsecured wireless router, says the SJP page. For a second time violation, the charges are a bit more extreme. Students will be put on judicial probation and will have to pay a $300 fine, risk a four-week suspension of ResNet, and attend an educational program assigned by a conduct officer.

It seems like these punishments are effective thus far. Said a student, 20, who chose to remain nameless, “I only downloaded one song, and didn’t really expect to get punished for it at first, but after going through all of that, I’m definitely not going to risk anything to do it again.” Cullen echoed this statement with his own statistics. “Last year, we had 234 students in for first-time copyright, and they are usually receive only 5-10 repeat of- fenders per year—not in the same year, but the second time in their academic careers,” he said.

The total number of reports in the past year, from 2009-2010, has decreased more than 25% over the previous academic year, with only a 21% increase in file sharing. Illegal downloading is not on the rise, but proportionally more students were identified as violators last year. This continuous file sharing, Cullen believes, is made easier through the use of router sharing, and he advises students not to do so. Wireless routers are the source of a good many file sharing violations. “They are a convenience [in terms of speed], but also a significant risk,” he explained. “Usually, wireless routers are secure and password protected, but if, for example, User One authenticates to ResNet on an unsecured wireless router, they have opened a connection to the Internet that any subsequent user can utilize. If User Two uploads copyrighted content and is ‘detected’ by an outsider, it will be User One’s name and password that activated the IP address through which the violation occurred. And therefore User One will face disciplinary action. There is no way to ‘de-activate’ a wireless router once it has been enabled, except by powering off the router or shutting down every device that has connected to the wireless router,” said that being the case, students should remain wary of router sharing and use.

For more information, the Student Judicial Programs’ page can be found at http://www.umbc.edu/sjp/copyrightfaq.html.
OPINION

STAFF EDITORIAL

Athletes hit the books hard at UMBC

You can have whatever opinion you want about UMBC athletics, but one thing that can’t ever be said to describe the student-athletes is “dumb jock.” Last year, 192 student-athletes were named to the America East Conference Honor Roll List after accumulating a 3.0 GPA and of those 192, 76 were named to the Commissioner’s Honor Roll list. Why yes, I am a student-athlete, thankyouverymuch. You can have whatever opinion you want about UMBC athletics, but one thing that can’t ever be said to describe the student-athletes is “dumb jock.” Last year, 192 student-athletes were named to the America East Conference Honor Roll List after accumulating a 3.0 GPA and of those 192, 76 were named to the Commissioner’s Honor Roll list. Why yes, I am a student-athlete, thankyouverymuch.

Learning what it means to be a leader

Christopher McKinney SENIOR STAFF WRITER

When you hear the word “leader,” what do you think of? A prestigious political figure, a famous athlete, or a brilliant scholar? Everyone's thoughts and views of leaders are different, and that's exactly what makes leadership one of the hardest theories to study. Many people think of leadership as being all about having a formal position and title within an organization, whether it is president of a school club, director of a department, or even leader of a nation. That's the beauty of leadership, and of those 192, 76 were named to the Commissioner’s Honor Roll list. Why yes, I am a student-athlete, thankyouverymuch.

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Legalize it for all of our sakes

Ryanne Milani
Senior Staff Writer

Let’s face it: everyone still talks about weed. The drug has been making a bit of a comeback recently in the form of medical marijuana, and chemotherapy patients in the United States and Canada are continuously proving just how helpful the drug can be. Actual, scientific— and not quite as incredibly biased— research is finally being done on the long-term effects of the use of the cannabis plant. We’ve long since moved past the days of Reefer Madness—a hilarious time when overly-concerned parents and teachers were convinced that smoking marijuana would make innocent young people turn into crazy, uncontrollable rapists and murderers. All in all, these past 73 years of the widespread (illegal) use of the drug have proven that it’s not all that bad, and I, along with millions of people around the country, think its finally time to take that final step and legalize it.

We all know our country is having a lot of economic problems. Our capitalist nation runs on tax dollars and money that we just don’t have. Wouldn’t it be nice to be able to export a widely-used product that doesn’t cost very much to produce? (Let’s face it— marijuana grows on the sides of major roads in several states). Here’s a ready-made solution: people are already willing to spend hundreds of dollars in cash each month for the drug, and all of the money is disappearing into individual drug dealers’ pockets. What if all that money could be used to fund, say, a hospital? What if it was used to lessen our debt?

Noto mention, medical marijuana is extremely beneficial to people with certain health problems— so helpful, in fact, that many cancer patients will admit to willingly breaking the law and risking their comfort just to have the temporary relief that marijuana provides. Unfortunately, even patients that can legally smoke medical marijuana can still get in trouble with the law if they have too much product in their possession at one time. Basically, this means a large number of people get stuck with hefty fines for trying to relieve their pain and suffering caused by their illness. This isn’t fair or right, and shouldn’t happen.

As for the so-called long-term effects of the use of marijuana, scientists have been unable to successfully prove that the drug can cause mental disorders such as schizophrenia in the average user. Prolonged use can cause certain memory loss problems — but then again, so can lead poisoning, drinking, working under certain conditions, falling and hitting one’s head, and thousands of other average activities. In very specific smokers that already have schizophrenic tendencies, the use of the drug may cause an episode, but the drug itself does not create the mental disorder.

On the other hand, alcohol is a legal and popular substance used by people across all social boundaries, and its short-term effects alone are much more damaging than memory loss; one night of drinking can land a person in the hospital, near death, because of alcohol poisoning. There is no known way to overdose on marijuana by smoking it. The long-term effects of continued alcohol use include, but are not limited to addiction, liver disease, heart disease, mental disorders, kidney, and death—and that’s just the physical destruction. Marijuana is not physiologically addictive, and although it can cause certain hing problems when smoked, the same problems could be caused by cigarettes and hookah.

Our country has changed a lot in 73 years, and I think it’s finally ready for marijuana to start becoming legal again. All changes take time, but this is a change that may help us move forward and grow as a nation, and I think that’s something we can all agree is a good thing.

Comments can be sent to milani1@umbc.edu

COUNTERPOINT

Christopher McKinney
Senior Staff Writer

There has been a lot of discussion lately in particular states about legalizing marijuana (California is among five states considering legislation this November). Yes, go ahead and read the previous sentence again: some Americans are actually considering legalizing marijuana. Granted, marijuana does have its legal medicinal purposes, particularly for those suffering from certain types of cancer. Honestly, if it helps and a fully qualified doctor has written a prescription for marijuana to ease your pain, that’s okay, but breaking the law and either carrying around too much marijuana on your person or taking the drug just to relieve pain whenever you need it is simply wrong and borderline dependent. This goes to show exactly why marijuana needs to be regulated strictly by the Drug Enforcement Agency and the Food and Drug Administration.

Remember back in secondary school, when we had to learn about smoking and its effects on the body, and how second-hand smoke is almost as bad as actually smoking? It really isn’t a stretch, arguing that if marijuana is legalized, everyone would be affected. So, in looking out for the welfare of every American, the right thing to do is clear: don’t legalize marijuana!

Marijuana is currently classified as a Schedule 1 Controlled Substance, meaning that it has a high potential for addiction and harm, why would we want to legalize it? Not only that, if the propositions manage to pass, the federal government could actually bring suit against the states that legalize marijuana under the fact that the states would essentially be doing the federal government’s job of regulating drugs through out the nation (thankfully our forefathers thought ahead and included the supremacy clause).

So, if California voters decide in November to legalize marijuana, will it become law and actually stay law? Is this one of those instances where their votes will count? I guess there’s a little ambiguity there (thank you, Judge Vaughn Walker!), but the facts remain that legalizing marijuana will do no good for our society; it will only do harm to those innocent victims of this absurd campaign.

Comments can be sent to cmckinny@umbc.edu
This issue is sad, said and done: Time to move on, folks

Collin Wojciechowski
EDITORIAL STAFF

I don't want to hear anymore about it. From anywhere. Anywhere. Ever. Again. The issue is passed and, quite frankly, dead at this point. Misinformation, panic and, at the end of the day, sheer laziness have taken their turns spinning this debate, but now it is time for all of us to take a step back and examine the real positives and realities of the situation.

What am I yelling in print form about, you may ask? I know that typically when I sound this heated to the three of you actually reading this, I'm upset about something racist or ignorant that Tea Party or Glenn Beck, or Glenn Beck at a tea party with Tea Partiers has recently done. However, this week I'm taking a break from my crusade against FOX and friends (which, for the record, sounds like the cast of a children's show that Barney would beat up behind Mr. Rodger's Neighborhood) to tackle an issue closer to home. Very much closer. Right outside your dorm room window closer. That debacle to which I allude is the saga of parking and the new Performing Arts and Humanities Facility on campus.

Now, I know what you're thinking. You've got to be able to analyze different situations and know how to react and make the most of it (that all sounds very cliché, but quite frankly, it's true). This runs into the line of thought (and second myth) that just because you have a title and position means you're a leader. What really makes a leader is having the respect of those you're leading and the consistency to earn their trust. You've got to be able to analyze different situations and know how to react and what leadership style is appropriate.

Leadership is just as much, if not more so, about those you are leading than about yourself.

Leadership 101 always includes trust-building activities.

UMBC Leadership
> from Leader [8]

leadership experiences a person has had that shapes their character, personality, and their ability to lead. Leadership can be taught, but the best way to learn to be an excellent leader is to take up the reins of leadership and either be successful, or learn from your failures. Everyone has the potential to be a great leader; it just depends on whether you seize your chance and make the most of it (that all sounds very cliché, but quite frankly, it's true).
UMBC’s Pakistan relief efforts are making progress

I am really pleased with the momentum around campus for raising funds for and awareness of Pakistan’s flood victims. In case you are unfamiliar with the effects of the floods, let me provide you with “Key Facts” from BBC News: “At least 1,600 are believed to have been killed, and entire villages have been swept away. Some 20 million people have been affected and 6 million are in urgent need of food aid, according to the UN. Around $460 million is required for immediate needs, around $275 million has been donated so far.” However, the number of deaths is increasing, and is likely higher than 1,600. I believe it goes without saying that in a situation like this we have a human duty to take action.

What has UMBC done to contribute to the relief effort? In the past two weeks, Service, Volunteerism, and Awareness (SVA), an SGA department within the Executive Branch, has brought together student organizations to coordinate a campus-wide effort to raise funds for flood victims. PakSA and SVA connected, and from there both SVA and PakSA were able to recruit more organizations to volunteer support, such as Chinese Student Association (CSA), Sigma Beta Rho Fraternity, Pre-Med Society, South Asian Student Association (SASA), Black Student Union (BSU), Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, as well as others. Just last week, many of these organizations met to discuss plans for the next few months. Yesterday, you might have walked passed Main St. in The Commons from 11-2pm, and seen people decorating the donation boxes which are currently being put around campus to collect clothing and food. There was also a scrumptious bake sale, and all the organizations had members bake to raise money for Pakistan. Monetary donations collected from student organization members, SVA and the participating organizations’ leaders will be purchasing supplies to be sent to Pakistan. On October 11, all students are encouraged to come to Main St. from 11-2 to assemble care packages that will be sent to Pakistan that week.

Want to be part of the effort? You can contact me (at the bottom of the article), I am the Assistant Director of Service, Volunteerism, and Awareness within SGA. I would be more than happy to discuss with you how to get involved. SVA meets on Thursdays from 6-7pm in the Student Org. Space, and all are welcome. If you are in a student organization on campus, mention the Pakistan relief effort at the next meeting for that organization. If you are a student leader, get your organization involved! E-mail me, and if possible come to the SVA meeting on Thursday, or get a representative to attend SVA and the participating student organizations are always in need of further support and fundraising ideas! Also in the works is a possible charity concert, talent show, or guest speaker and/or dinner. If you are interested in planning or being a part of any of the above ideas, or if you have your own idea, be sure to e-mail me!

I think everyone reading this article can agree that the lack of a widespread campus initiative for Haiti was beyond disappointing last year. UMBC UNITED: Pakistan, also dubbed the Pakistan Relief Effort, needs every UMBC student’s support. Everyone has the power to change and to do good. With such diversity at UMBC, my goal is to have all types of organizations be involved in this relief effort. When the next disaster strikes around the world, SVA wants to have a template in place, from the efforts for Pakistan, so that funds can be raised to support those in need in an efficient and fast manner.

I applaud the efforts put in place thus far but remind everyone that they can only truly succeed if the entire campus takes an active role in there success.

Comments can be sent to radbios@umbc.edu
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Red and yellow balloons led the way on Saturday the 18th at 7:00 pm towards the amphitheater behind the Fine Arts Building. UMBC’s Gospel Choir was hosting their opening program for the semester “Ignite” Tenntone Kayode-Oyo, a junior at UMBC, eagerly told me how “Ignite” stood for “Internalize God Night”. Another gospel choir member, senior Jasmine Frazier said, “The event gives a fresh start to the semester and it’s mostly for promoting awareness to the freshmen.”

“We’re here to expose them to something familiar, or unfamiliar, but the reason why we’re outside is to attract passersby and let anyone who wishes to listen,” said sophomore Shuri Mason. More people kept climbing the steps to come to the amphitheater, grabbed some complimentary refreshments, and took a seat on those grey stairs. As the UMBC gospel choir did a sound check, the fresh blue sky began fading as the lighting on the stage was running out of space to accommodate the crowd.

With only a brisk wind accompanying the evening performance in my life.

Clear, I’ve never been to a gospel choir performance before. As the lead singer hit the first note with the bass, drums and keyboard joining the crowd, I thought I was about to be part of a mosh pit. It was that intense. UMBC always receives compliments about how diverse it is, but the true beauty doesn’t just lie in numbers and what country or ethnic background we belong too. It’s about sharing personal and important values with complete strangers. The ability to have 200 or so students from different backgrounds and religions coexisting peacefully and respecting each other’s beliefs and still wanting to learn and share is what makes UMBC unique.

Brandon Cumphor and One Way got the crowd to sing along at Ig-Nite (Internalize God Night) in the Fine Arts Amphitheater last Saturday Night.

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The Town exhibits Ben Affleck’s directing prowess

Daniel Supanick

STAFF WRITER

Ben Affleck makes a good leading man under the right circumstances (i.e. Kevin Smith movies). So, it was that in his directorial debut Gone Baby Gone, Affleck showed evidence of storytelling and directorial talent that introduced his detractors to the idea of reconsidering him as an artist. With his new film, The Town, he doesn’t match his great debut (it doesn’t present as compelling a moral dilemma), but he does confirm himself as one of the more promising new directors working today. The Town is the rare film that takes a social topic, applies it to a formula, and still manages to both communicate a point effectively and tell an engaging story. While it does lean a bit on clichés and time-worn story structure, it uses them in a way that’s effective within the film’s naturalistic setting, and also benefits from a strong ensemble cast.

The Town is not hard to follow, but manages to keep a level of intelligence in interpreting its subject. The film follows several inhabitants of Charlestown, a segment of Boston known for breeding bank robbers, and how their lives are affected by one particular bank robbery. We have the four bank robbers, their friends and families, a bank manager, and the FBI agents trying to catch them.

The story in The Town takes place in a realistic setting. It feels individual to its environment, both in its culture and its physicality. To back up this realism, Affleck gives his characters very real portrayals—no body in the film feels like a caricature. In much of the way we get the sense of this section of Boston by its surroundings, we also get the sense of place through these people. They all feel as though they have taken much from this place. The script is so well done and the characters are so well-written that when plot points come up that have been used in movies like it, they work because they feel organic, and feel as though they’re the natural conclusion, not because the story has to lead there. Another of the film’s admirable qualities lies in Affleck’s framing and composition of shots, and Robert Elswit’s cinematography in general. Neither does it feel the need to get too close up in anyone’s face during a shot, and always maintain some spatial awareness in each scene. This also benefits the film’s action scenes, which are allowed to breathe and play out without Affleck using extreme close-up frames of the subjects. Affleck also manages to pull out some creative shots while the editing is never superfluous and always logical, reserving quick cuts only when they’re necessary.

This spatial awareness and editing prowess especially serve the basis scenes in the film, but what makes many of these scenes work is the tone that Affleck chooses to strike with them. For many of them, he chooses to have them take place quietly, letting the tension sit without over-editing or letting noise distract from the real mood of the environment. It’s this quiet that makes it far more tense, thus giving it a greater sense of danger.

As mentioned before, the film’s ensemble cast is uniformly excellent. Affleck puts in a solid leading performance, and Rebecca Hall is equally great as the bank manager that falls for Affleck’s character. If there were any stand-out performances, though, they’d have to be Jeremy Renner’s turn as Affleck’s sidekick, and Blake Lively in a change-of-pace role as a drug-addicted single mother, not unlike Amy Ryan’s character in Gone Baby Gone. It’s the cast that works all-around, and helps the movie function.

While the movie is good, it does end on some plot holes, and doesn’t successfully cover some of its more glaring clichés. Those aside, though, The Town is an all-around strong film. It shows that Affleck knows his way around formulas, and can also deliver a solid lead performance against expectations. Affleck is really shaping up to become one of the industry’s more interesting filmmakers, and The Town is just a small indication of what he can do with studio-grade material. See, guys? I told you Affleck ain’t all that bad.

Comments may be sent to Daniels7@umbc.edu

Author Steve Luxenberg discusses memoir, Annie’s Ghost

Vanessa Rueda

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Wednesday, September 15th, Steve Luxenberg, associate editor of the Washington Post, visited UMBC to talk about his book, Annie’s Ghost: A Journey into a Family Secret. Incredibly humorous, yet moving, Luxenberg’s talk was an enthralling discussion about writing a memoir that introduced his detractors to the idea of reconsidering him as an artist. While he didn’t elaborate much on how he felt when he found out that his mother had been lying about his aunt, he did elaborate on the methods he used to piece together the truth. He called the state of Michigan, old acquaintances, and a long-distance relative. Needless to say, some members of the audience and myself were puzzled as to why he never talked to his mother about the secret. Then again, a journalist never looks for the easy way out.

He went into detail on how mental illness was perceived in the 1930s and 1940s. He stressed that it was almost a faux pas to have an immediate family member institutionalized, and how those unfortunate beings were practically abandoned so rest of the family could lead a somewhat normal life. Luxenberg didn’t touch on his view of the matter, but he did provide the audience with enough information for them to make their own conclusions.

Luxenberg’s talk was an enthralling one, having to do with the fact that he kept it lively with humor, light and entertaining sarcasm, and even advice for other writers, researchers, and those wanting to dig deeper into a family secret of their own.

Comments may be sent to vanessa5@umbc.edu

Steve Luxenberg, author of Annie’s Ghosts: A Journey into a Family Secret, spoke about the process of writing his memoir last Wednesday in the A.O.K. Library.
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Following the introduction were
appeared sporadically throughout
shout out different plot twists of the
future," where the crowd was able to
an audience-participation segment
who this past Thursday began with
hosts Braslavsky and Friedman,
opening skits and remarks from
said, 'Why don't you set one up?'.
at the Ottobar and he basically
created by UMBC students Alex
Chucklestorm, the fourth install-
many chuckles filled a full house at
Comedian Kyle Dunnigan elicits
Samantha Medema
STAFF WRITER
Sounds of (you guessed it) many,
many chuckles filled a full house at
the Ottobar during Thursday night's
Chucklestorm, the fourth install-
ment of an improv/comedy event
created by UMBC students Alex
Braslavsky and Dan Friedman.
Chucklestorm started last June af-
Ter, according to Braslavsky. 'One
of the owners of the [Ottobar] started
doing these little skits and videos...
and after having me host an event
one night, I started talking to [him]
about comedy shows taking place
at the Ottobar and he basically said,
'Why don't you set one up?'
Chucklestorm typically starts with
opening skits and remarks from
hosts Braslavsky and Friedman,
who past this Thursday began with
an audience-participation segment
called "Choose Your Own Adven-
ture," where the crowd was able to
shoot out different plot twists of the
improvised skit.
Braslavsky and Friedman also
appeared sporadically throughout
the show, introducing comedians
and improv-ing between segments.
Following, one direct path in terms of
were fantastic sets from local and aspir-
ing comedians Umar Khan, Eli
Sairs, Aparna Nancherla, and Seat-
tive native Dartannon London, whose
set was complete with sound effects
and a song about a well-known Full
House alum that got many cheers
from the audience. To recruit comed-
ians for these events, Braslavsky
explains: 'We go around to different
comic shows in the area, [and] if
I like one of the performers, I'll ap-
proach him/her and invite them to
do our show."
Arguably, the highlight of Chuck-
lestorm was the last set, performed by
L.A. comedian Kyle Dunnigan,
known for his Comedy Central
Presents special and for his role as
"Craig" on Reno 911.
Dunnigan's routine, which involves a
voice-looping bit (called the "Oh Yeah"
segment on his YouTube page), left
the crowd at Ottobar literally howl-
ing with laughter and elicted much
applause.
Based on Chucklestorm's success,
Brlasavsky says that he is "pretty
psyched about how [the shows]
have been so far. Good turn-Outs
pretty much every month, the crowd
seems really engaged and I'm always
pretty pleased with the comics,"
add-ing that they are "still playing
around with the format (headliners,
including myself and others)." But I
like where the show's at now. With
each month, the show gets smoother
and smoother."
Spiderman musical makes it to the Great White Way

Lauren Roepcke
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When you think of Broadway, most everyone thinks of classic performances such as Phantom of the Opera, Guys and Dolls, Wicked, Hair, Spelling the King and I, among countless other productions. Now musical waves have started taking a different, more modern turn, as in Next To Normal, Billy Elliot the Musical, Green Day’s American Idiot, and finally The Addams Family. Broadway is starting to take on a new face.

In 2002, Spiderman, one of the greatest Marvel action comics came out as a big-time movie, was nominated for two Oscars in “Best Sound” and “Best Visual Effects,” and won 11 awards on top of another 40 nominations. In 2010, Spiderman is a $50 million dollar Broadway production. This is apparently the most expensive play in Broadway history, mostly due to the special effects. The aerial technology for the production was created by a member of Cirque du Soleil, which means it definitely going to be a crazy show!

Unfortunately Golden Globe nominee Tobey Maguire won’t be starring. Instead actors Reeve Carney and Jenny Dalmiano will be starring as Peter Parker and Mary Jane Watson. Reeve Carney is the lead singer and guitarist of the band CARNEY, who completed their U.S. tour. He also stars in the in and coming film version of Tempest. Jennifer Dalmiano has starred on Broadway before, receiving a Tony Award nomination in 2009 for Next To Normal. She has also appeared on the CW series Gossip Girl.

The most important aspect of this production of Spiderman is that they’re not actually just taking everything from one movie. They are drawing from more than 40 years of Spiderman comic books for inspiration. The characters range from the good of familiar villains, such as the Green Goblin, while also including ad- ditional “never-imagined/never before seen” villains.

U2’s Bono and The Edge have been working closely with director Julie Taymor to create an original soundtrack for Spiderman. They have said potential lover is a male or a female, straight or gay, etc. etc. The bottom line is that if someone likes you then they will make an effort to contact you and to get together. The only thing to worry about is the balance between playing it cool and coming on too strong. You may put off responding to someone, calling someone, or asking to hang out again for the sake of success. Let this go on for a little while and eventually just be willing to talk openly with someone about whether you enjoy staying connected via text or like talking on the phone, etc. etc.

2. The very beginning of a budding romance should be allowed some exceptions. When you first start talking to someone who you’re interested in it can be quite hard to strike the balance between playing it cool and coming on too strong. You may put off responding to someone, calling someone, or asking to hang out again for the sake of success. Let this go on for a little while and eventually just be willing to talk openly with someone about whether you enjoy staying connected via text or like talking on the phone, etc. etc.

1. This does not mean that someone needs to respond to your text that said, “Hey, what’s up?” or voice mail that you left them right away, every time. People get busy and others just don’t latch onto their cell phones. At the same time if someone consistently takes 8 hours to get back to you every time you contact them, then you might want to seriously question their romantic involvement.

2. The very beginning of a budding romance should be allowed some exceptions. When you first start talking to someone who you’re interested in it can be quite hard to strike the balance between playing it cool and coming on too strong. You may put off responding to someone, calling someone, or asking to hang out again for the sake of success. Let this go on for a little while and eventually just be willing to talk openly with someone about whether you enjoy staying connected via text or like talking on the phone, etc. etc.

Overall, just use your best judgment and don’t let someone play games with you. If you feel unsure about whether or not they like you or are interested, just ask them. It’s that easy.

Ask Archer.

Concerned or contemplative queries should be directed to Archer at archer.tumblr.com/ask.
**AROUND CAMPUS**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**
Free Hour Craft, Commons Mainstreet. Noon. Success Seminar: Graduate Students and Money. Library, 7th Floor. 3 p.m. Enjoy free lunch and learn how to secure funding, fellowships, part-time jobs, financial aid, and more.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**
Prevailing as a Confident Woman in Science and Engineering.
 COMMONS 332. Noon. Michelle Goddard, P.E., from EBC discusses how women can maintain confidence in academia and the workplace. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to wiseguards@umbc.edu.

SEB Weekly Movie: Toy Story 3. Commons front desk for $2 with your student ID. Free popcorn.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**
Saturday Morning Breakfast Club.
COMMONS Sports Zone. 11 a.m. Re-live your childhood years of Saturday morning cartoons with SEB. Watch classics like "Scooby Doo," "Bobby's World," and "Tom and Jerry," while enjoying a sumptuous breakfast feast!

Men's Rugby: UMBC vs. GW. Walker Field. 1 p.m. Rooftop Roller Rink, Commons Garage. 8 p.m.

SEB Weekly Movie: Toy Story 3. LH1. 8 p.m. Purchase tickets at the Commons front desk for $2 with your student ID. Free popcorn.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**
Football & Wings: Ravens v. Browns. Commons Sports Zone. 1 p.m.

Sleigh Bells. UC. 8 p.m. Get your tickets for $12 at the CIC with your student ID.

"Dexter" Series Premiere. Commons Sports Zone. 8:15 p.m. Kick-off the new season with a Dexter-themed trivia game. Winner gets a Season 4 DVD.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**
The Many Faces of Jesus.
MOSAIC Center. 5:30 p.m. A look at how Jesus has been portrayed over the past 2,000 years in art, pop culture and Scripture. Oh, and free dinner too.
Crossword

Across
1. Fake
6. A hollow in a cliff
10. Anagram of “Salt”
14. Without company
15. Comply with
16. Harvest
17. Tropical vine
18. Engage in sexual intercourse
19. Construct
20. Thick dark syrup
22. A digging tool
24. Honk
25. Most destitute
26. Fertile
27. Biblical garden
28. Cypher
29. Pastime
30. Smell
31. A craftsman who works with stone
32. Sully
33. Dependency
34. Witnessed
35. Portent
36. Not
38. Carnival attractions
40. Swelling under the skin
41. Disqualified
42. Relevant
44. Bambi was one
45. Declare untrue
46. Very thin
48. Cake or pie
51. Burn slightly
52. Secular
53. White supremacy
54. A noblewoman
55. Departure
56. Give rise to
61. Confederate States
62. Whip
63. Not a single one

Down
1. Ointment
2. Mélange
3. Objective
4. Abnormal
5. Spring or autumn
6. It displays a tail in the sky
7. Fabrics made from goat hair
8. Animal doctor
9. Blight
10. Knight’s “suit”
11. Depart
12. Relate
21. Mats of grass
21. French for “Man”
23. Masts of grass
24. A jury or board
26. Central points
27. Biblical garden
28. Cypher
29. Pastime
30. Smell
31. A craftsman who works with stone
32. Sully
33. Dependency
34. Witnessed
35. Portent
36. Not
38. Carnival attractions
40. Swelling under the skin
41. Disqualified
42. Relevant
43. Jacob’s brother
47. Cause to start burning
48. Float
49. Not late
50. A large ladle
51. Burn slightly
52. Not upper
54. Usually topped with ice cream
55. Departure
56. Give rise to

Sudoku

What to do:
Fill all empty squares so that the numbers 1 to 9 appear once in each row, column and 3x3 box. You might want to use a pencil!

Solutions to Last Week’s Puzzles
Stern loads non-conference schedule with top-tier teams

Throughout the years, Phil Stern has done a fantastic job scheduling top-tier teams on the non-conference schedule for the women’s basketball team. This past week their 2010-11 non-conference schedule was released, and of the 13 teams on it, five of them made it to some sort of post season, whether it be the WNIT or NCAA tournament.

Highlighting this year’s schedule is back-to-back road games against ACC powerhouses Maryland and Virginia. UMBC played Virginia in a down-to-the-buzzer game last year in the RAC and never see them play in the RAC. This year the men’s team’s non-conference schedule is highlighted by games at Connecticut and Notre Dame, two Big East powerhouses that usually play in the NCAA tournament each year.

Winning those games may seem a little far-fetched, but just think back to two years ago when the men’s team shocked Nebraska in Lincoln, a place the Cornhuskers won 31 straight non-conference games going into their ACC/MAC tournament. Nebraska has since slipped out of the picture and now is just 22 seconds remaining in overtime to lead the team past La Salle, Caringi III tied the game with five minutes to spare in regulation, leading to an overtime victory. Against Mount St. Mary’s, Caringi III also came through with the game winning goal in the 78th minute after the team trailed 2-0 at the half. Caringi came off the bench in both games and only took three total shots, and was able to net two of them. He is second on the team with four goals and has an assist this season while shooting .375. Caringi was named the America East Conference Rookie of the Week for the second time in three weeks due to his efforts.

Athlete of the Week: Pete Caringi III

Freshman forward Pete Caringi III was one of the heroes for the men’s soccer team in their victories over La Salle and Mount St. Mary’s this past week. Caringi III scored his third and fourth goals of the year, both of which were necessary in the wins. Against La Salle, Caringi III tied the game with five minutes to spare in regulation, leading to an overtime victory. Against Mount St. Mary’s, Caringi III also came through with the game winning goal in the 78th minute after the team trailed 2-0 at the half. Caringi came off the bench in both games and only took three total shots, and was able to net two of them. He is second on the team with four goals and has an assist this season while shooting .375. Caringi III was named the America East Conference Rookie of the Week for the second time in three weeks due to his efforts.

Honorable Mention: Levi Houapeu, Men’s Soccer

Senior Levi Houapeu is no stranger to scoring goals; he netted his fifth and sixth this week, helping to lead the Retrievers to back-to-back wins. Houapeu scored the game winning goal with just 22 seconds remaining in overtime to lead the team past La Salle. Just three days later he scored the game tying goal in the teams 3-2 win over Mount St. Mary’s.
The “Sports Zone” is far from living up to its name

Corey Johns
Editorial Staff

Is it so much to ask to watch the Baltimore Ravens season opener in the Sports Zone of the Campus of a Baltimore university? Apparently it is.

UMBC may not have a reputation for being the sportiest campus around, but not showing the Ravens Monday night game in the Sports Zone of the Commons is just baffling.

When I walked up to the Sports Zone with just a few minutes remaining before kickoff I was expecting to see the 80 inch projector screen showing the pre-game with a handful of Ravens fans sitting at the tables watching. But to my surprise when I walk up there is no projector screen, no Ravens fans, no game. Instead there is a gathering of several fraternity members there for “The Dating Game.”

So where on campus was this game being shown? The first floor of Flat Tuersdays, on three 22 inch televisions with barely enough seating to fit 20 people.

Why not just change the name of the Sports Zone to “The Lounge”? It will be far more fitting. The only thing that remotely relates the Sports Zone to sports is that they have a few lacrosse sticks and basketball jersey’s hanging up on the walls. Otherwise there are no sports, pretty much ever.

Ravens games, Orioles games, heck even Wizards games should be shown there every night. If you go in the Sports Zone throughout the day, it’s not ESPN being shown on the two flat screen televisions on the walls, it’s CNN. The only thing that could be considered to be a sport shown on the televisions on a regular basis in the Sports Zone is Monday Night Raw, which is not a sport; it’s a show.

When UMBC plays a televised road game, it’s not shown, no matter what sport. When the Ravens play, it’s rarely shown. The time it was shown last year the game nearly ran past midnight (closing time of the commons) and the staff was threatening to kick students out before the end of the game.

And try finding a person who has the authority to change the channel on the televisions; they don’t exist. You can ask to watch the Orioles game, but you won’t get it.

This article was previously featured on www.retrieverweekly.com/blog.

Comments can be sent to cjohns2@umbc.edu.
Back from injuries, Hoeks is one of the best in the AEC

> from Hoeks [23]

The ACL injury may have affected Hoeks for the better on a mental level, but it never quite seemed to affect her for the worse on a physical level. She may not jump as high anymore, her sophomore year she was touching nine-foot-nine according to Blanchard, but what makes her so good on the court is her arm, which wasn’t affected by the injuries to her knees. “Sabrina’s got a whip of an arm and she’s usually the model we use to show other kids how we want them to hit. She used tremendous amounts of torque,” Blanchard said. “I’m jealous of the way she can hit because I don’t think I had that kind of torque when I played.”

“My jump serve wasn’t as consistent as it is now, where as I can place it,” Hoeks said. “I feel like even if I couldn’t jump again that much, that high, I’d still be rocking my jump serve. It’s something I can hold onto and know confidently that I can go in the backcourt and do something for the team.”

Blanchard compared Hoeks’ hitting motion to that of a major league pitcher’s throwing motion, which gives her a lot of power behind each swing, especially her jump serve.

But the injury forced Hoeks to slow herself down when she plays, which Blanchard believes has made her a much more complete player.

“It forced her to do some additional fundamental work that she kind of flew through, and it forced her to become more mentally aware of what she’s doing,” he said. “It also forced her to become more aware of what her body’s doing. ‘She’s had to become sort of the crafty old woman. She’s been forced to make her game evolve, and she’s gotten crisper, and she’s developed more shots, and she’s realizing now that she just can’t hit through every single block.”

The other thing that Hoeks never lost with her injury was her relentless attitude, especially on defense. It’s very rare that you’ll see a ball hit the court us bounds without her diving toward it. “That is something that is one of my pet peeves, to watch a ball drop that I know someone could have gotten,” she said. “I go for balls that I know I might not get but surprisingly every once in a while it will bump off my finger just enough to where someone else can get the ball back over and I’ll be so happy that I actually went for it.”

Her passion for the game of volleyball was never lost either, and above all that is what Blanchard believes makes her such a great player. Actually, it was one of the things that led to her recruitment to UMBC. In 2006 Blanchard was asked by his mentor, Jim McLaughlin, who was coming off a national championship with University of Washington at the time, to run the top court at his Gold Medal Squared volleyball camp. That is where he spotted Hoeks. He was convinced that if she was four inches taller she would have been playing for Washington. “They want kids like her, who have the same kind of arm and her kind of jumping ability but they just have to be in a little bit bigger package.” Blanchard said. Hoeks showed a very strong arm, listened to everything Blanchard and McLaughlin had to say, and had an emotional commitment to the sport. “I remember one day at camp she was crying because she was frustrated with the fact that she couldn’t get it,” Blanchard said.

It took just two days after seeing her for Blanchard to offer her a spot on the UMBC team. However, he did not have a scholarship for her and she would have to be a walk-on her first year, but she would be given a scholarship her next three, and after taking her official visit Hoeks, a native of Olympia, Wash., which is roughly 2,900 miles away from UMBC, passed on a full-ride from Portland State, which was just two hours away from her home town, to come to UMBC.

“I didn’t want to play in Washington, Idaho, or Oregon,” Hoeks said. “I wanted to go off on my own, be on my own, and do my own thing. It just sounded like I needed to take the offer and I did and when I came out for my official visit I had a great time, it was nice and I took it.”

But that year, in the most tragic of circumstances, Hoeks was given a scholarship. That summer, fellow incoming freshman Madison Bingaman passed away after an automobile accident. Hoeks immediately started crying when she heard the news and didn’t want the scholarship, but according to Blanchard ‘she’s done a really good job of honoring that scholarship.”

Despite her injuries, and the short period of time where she wanted to quit, Blanchard said that Hoeks has been one of the best things to happen to his volleyball team and coaching career.

“It’s been a pleasure to have her here for all four years,” he said. “She’s helped me to become a better coach. She’s always been candid and honest with me, and she’s always been candid and honest with her teammates, and I don’t think you can ask for a much better player or teammate than someone who’s been honest with their coaches and teammates.”
DiD you know...

The men's soccer team's 2-1 overtime victory against La Salle last Wednesday was their first overtime win since they beat Adelphi 3-2 in double overtime on September 7, 2008. The last time they won a single overtime game was October 22, 2005 when they beat Maine, 1-0.

GOOD CALL with Dan Levin

Football and basketball aren’t the only interesting college sports

Dan Levin
EDITORIAL STAFF

Most American sports fans will spend their Saturdays during the fall watching college football. The same can be said about sports fans with college basketball in March. These two sports are far and away the most popular among college athletics, so much so that they even rival their professional counterparts.

Because of that popularity, everyone knows when a football team like Boise State goes undefeated or when the UConn Huskies women’s basketball team rattles off 78 consecutive wins (which, by the way, will continue this season). But how about a streak even longer than that? One even longer then John Wooden’s UCLA basketball streak? How about the Penn State Nittany Lions volleyball team, who from September 2007 to September 11, 2010, had not lost a match. A winning streak of 109 consecutive matches that included three national titles was ended two weeks ago by the Stanford Cardinal, the same Stanford Cardinal that defeated Penn State right before this incredible streak started.

Many people did not even know about this streak or that it was even still going on because many major sports outlets didn’t cover it. Why? Because volleyball is not one of the mainstream sports in this country. The only time volleyball really gets much support is during the Summer Olympics when Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh are dominating all other competition in search of a gold medal. But even they have some untold stories of greatness that many did know. Like that May-Treanor led the 1998 Cal State, Long Beach 49ers to a 36-0 record, the only undefeated record in Division-I volleyball history (of course, until Penn State came along). Walsh was a member of the aforementioned Stanford Cardinal team, where in 1999 she was named co-National Player of the Year.

These seemingly unnoticed acts of sports greatness happen all the time, including at UMBC. How many Retriever fans out there know that the men’s swimming and diving team have won 13 straight conference titles? It even goes back to last season when the men’s soccer team started 9-0 and catapulted to their highest national ranking in program history, 18th in the nation. UMBC athletics have been very successful since their move to the America East Conference. Although the most popular titles have been in men’s and women’s basketball, not that it’s a bad thing, but sometimes glory can be found in something other than football and basketball.

This season men’s soccer is currently 4-2 and have a legitimate shot at a conference title this year, and men’s swimming and diving is definitely in contention to win consecutive title number 14. So UMBC fans, get out there and support each and every one of your sports teams, as you never know who’s going to come out on top.

By the way, anybody know what the number one NCAA Division-I sports streak of all time is? That would be the University of Miami’s men’s tennis team, who won 137 consecutive matches between the years of 1957 and 1964.

Comments can be sent to daniel23@umbc.edu.
Imagine having something you love taken away from you. Now imagine working hard to get that back, only to have it taken away from you again. It might be easy to just give up and not ever try again, but Sabrina Hoeks never quit. She battled back from a season ending injury twice, and is having a fantastic senior season in which she has recorded five straight double-doubles and leads the UMBC volleyball team with 115 kills and 29 aces, and is second on the team with 107 digs. Her aces mark ranks first in the America East Conference and her kills mark ranks ninth.

On October 26, 2008 during the first set of a match at University at Albany, Hoeks tore her left Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL). After coming back from the injury and breaking into the starting lineup as a junior, within a week of the one-year anniversary of the injury, she tore her right ACL.

"At the moment of my injury I didn't know what to think. I was really upset," Hoeks said, getting upset even talking about her injury. "I was so upset that I had come back from one knee injury, was finally starting to go through games without it swelling up. I was finally getting through practices every day without having to take days off in between. It had been a year since my first injury and when I went down it was the worst."

But within ten minutes of her injury she scheduled a surgery through the team for two weeks away because she wanted to come back for her senior season.

"I had my mind set that I was coming back because I went through it once. I could do it twice, and I knew what to do the second time, too," she said.

Hoeks was able to come back much faster from her second injury, partly because she did not have a meniscus tear to recover from as well, but it was also because she knew exactly how to get back from the injury. After her surgery Hoeks was put through three hours of rehabilitation a day. "I could just do [exercises] on my own," she said. "I could be walking around in daily activity and just say I'm bored I think I'll do a one leg squat."

She also went to a rapid recovery treatment center in Texas that her brother-in-law's uncle owned, to get back from the injury at a faster rate.

"It takes a significant amount of intestinal fortitude and it takes a significant amount of work [to come back from an ACL tear]," said UMBC volleyball coach Ian Blanchard, who has also had four knee surgeries including one that left a four inch scar down the middle of his left knee after tearing his knee cap in half. "One of the things that Sabrina has going for herself, first of all, she had an enormous amount of desire and will to get back, and that's the most important thing you need to have if you're going to make this change, if you're going to get better. Second of all, she never started feeling sorry for herself. She was like you know what these are the cards I've been dealt, fine, now what do I do. Third of all she has an exceptional work ethic. When she gets into the gym she's going after it and she's determined and she's set very high goals for herself."

As a New England Patriots fan Blanchard compared Hoeks to Wes Welker, who came back from an ACL tear in nine months, saying she is a "freak of nature," when it comes to recovering from an ACL tear.

"It feels great to be back," Hoeks said. "I thank God about it every day that I am back. Being out, [having] something taken away from me that I've been doing since I was eight years-old and being told I can't do it anymore was really, really hard. Volleyball takes up a lot of my mental time, a lot of my physical time, and without that I really haven't really have a stress relief have so much more ap- preciation, even more than I did last year when I can back."

Hoeks is a "fun girl in that she likes to joke, she likes to smile, she's always got this positive kind of energy and this positive life force," according to Blanchard. Not exactly the kind of person one would wish any sort of harm on. But oddly enough it may have been her first ACL injury that saved her volleyball career. Hoeks said she contemplated quitting the team during her sophomore year because she "wasn't happy." She wasn't happy with the way she was being coached, her lack of playing time, or the mentality of her teammates. But the day before she was going to walk into Blanchard's office and ask for permission to talk to other coaches, her first injury occurred and she said a lot of things to think about at that moment. I knew I had to stop being a selfish little mini-omnopompo and I needed to fix things on the team. I knew I was here for a reason, and I was here to stay, and there was something I had to do about it, and if I wasn't happy with it I should do something about it."

"She was frustrated...and right about that time, about half way through that season, that's when she tore her ACL for the first time and suddenly volleyball was taken away from her, and that taught her a very harsh life lesson: don't take these things for granted no matter how hard or how bad you think it is. All of a sudden it's been taken away from you, you can't practice, you can't do anything now, and it was just devastating," Blanchard said. That spring, months into her rehabilitation, Hoeks had her chance to confront Blanchard about her problems with the team, and she said things have changed. "I've been pretty happy her since," she said. "I've known that it takes a lot of commitment and there are sacrifices that we need to make even to have a commitment, to even have a motivation even, to get on the floor every morning even if you're tired. It's a mindset, and I didn't have it before I tore my ACL."

Another thing that Hoeks learned from her ACL injuries was how to be a part of a team. While she said she wouldn't have considered herself an individual she separated herself from the team because the emotions, or lack thereof, of her teammates affected her mood, so since then she has learned how to "put a wall up to that and not let it affect me."

Now Hoeks is one of just two seniors on the team and a captain, which she said is really hard considering the team is pretty much all freshmen. "I'm used to being the youngest on the team and a captain, which she said is really hard considering the team is pretty much all freshmen.

Sabrina Hoeks has recorded 25 aces through 12 games, averaging 0.64 per set. Both of those marks lead the AEC.
Despite suffering two season-ending ACL injuries, Sabrina Hoeks is having a great senior season.

For article, see page 23