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MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
AND ITS NEIGHBORING AREAS

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## Budget woes put aviation program in peril

By Alexandra Hough  
The College Voice

In recent years Mercer County Community College's aviation program, has been recognized for its excellence. The program is the only one of its kind in the state and the longest running two-year aviation program in the nation, but the costs of the program are high, both for students and for the college. This past week Aviation students were informed that the program may be closed. At Mercer's board of trustees meeting this May, board members will vote on whether the program should remain at the college or be eliminated by August 2009.

It's no secret that the Aviation program, while bringing prestige to the college and serving a certain sector of the community, has been a financial burden. Many community colleges have been forced to close similar programs for financial reasons. Considering the combination of new budget cuts for higher education, increasing fuel costs,



COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO

Flight team and Aviation club member, Ian Johansen during the sold-out flight club fund-raising event at Trenton-Mercer Airport on Saturday, March 29, 2008.

the commercial airline industry being in disrepair and Mercer having to raise tuition to meet operating costs, it is not surprising that the Aviation program's financial feasibility has come under scrutiny. Nevertheless, should the school be forced to terminate the program, it will be the end of an era

For almost 30 years students have been

able to get their commercial, instrument, and private pilot license in about four or five semesters.

"Most people you meet in Aviation have wanted to fly their whole life. We have kids from all over the state," said Aviation student Ian Johansen.

After leaving Mercer's two year pro-

gram, students generally continue to four year schools to earn their degree as required for most legacy airlines such as Continental. However, with just a two year degree students can still earn a job at a smaller regional airline or start a career in aviation management.

Over the past few years, Mercer's flight team, culled from the Aviation

program's roughly 70 students, has been successful in both ground and flying events. The team won the Region VII competition of the National Intercollegiate Flying Association the past two years and will attend nationals this May to compete against other schools including the US Naval Academy and Ohio State University.

See Aviation page 2

## Honor society students attend international convention

By Susana Sanchez  
The College Voice

This month four Mercer students attended Phi Theta Kappa International Convention at the Philadelphia Convention Center. Famous author Amy Tan, who was one of the speakers, said, "I know you think of a person like me as a high achiever, but the truth is that I wasn't all the time a good student. I cheated, I used Cliffs Notes," but she went on to encourage academic excellence.

Although Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) sounds like a sorority, PTK is actually an international aca-

demical honors society for two-year and junior colleges. It has more than two million members from the 50 states and more than seven countries.

Being part of PTK has its benefits. Rutgers, NYU, and Drexel, among other colleges across the nation, offer certain transfer scholarships exclusively to PTK members. Also, attending the conventions is a rewarding experience. As Laura Christiansen, a PTK officer and Mercer student, says, "I returned inspired and full of ideas for our



chapter. It was an amazing culmination of all the work I put into my education."

During the 90th PTK convention, from April 3-5, students attended educational forums and general sessions. They could participate in the forum of their choice and topics ranged from "Scholar Dollar\$ Need Cash for

See PTK page 3



PHOTO | LAURA CHRISTIANSEN

Renowned author, Amy Tan, speaking to PTK convention participants on Friday, April 4, 2008.



Aviation student preparing for take off at March 29th Flight Fest. COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO



Mercer's flight team's trophy collection at Trenton-Mercer Airport. COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO

## Cuts in funding to two-year colleges may force Aviation to close

By Alexandra Hough  
The College Voice

Cont. from page 1

In order to participate in nationals the program holds Flight Fests to raise money including last month's record breaking event. The event raised over \$2,000, the most so far.

"We had to turn people away at around 1:30 because we had a waiting list that surpassed 4 o'clock. We ended up flying until 5:30," which was well past the fest's intended length, Johansen said. Johansen, an avid flyer with goals of one day flying for a postal carrier such as UPS, was one of the organizers of the

event. The money raised at the event is small, however, compared to the thousands it takes to support the program. Up to now a state grant had helped the program and enabled the school to maintain and update their airplanes.

When asked how she feels the board may

vote, Mercer's president, Dr. Patricia Donohue, said in a phone interview that she did not want to preempt "the decisions the Board makes." She noted, however, that the program has faced difficulties. "I came in and said we really need to do an academic and success study. We need to know how many students were in the pro-

gram, how many graduate, and how successful they are upon graduation. Those numbers are all low," Dr. Donohue said. "We lose several hundred thousand dollars for the college each year."

While awaiting the final decision regarding the fate of their program, the Aviation students will continue

raising funds in order for the flight team to attend Nationals this year. A second Flight Fest will be held on April 26 at the Trenton-Mercer Airport from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about the Aviation program or the upcoming Flight Fest visit <http://www.mccc.edu/aviation/>

## EARTH DAY - ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS MEET CAMPUS ACTION

By Christine Yursha  
Reporter

After a series of warm days with the trees bursting into bloom, it can be easy to forget about the environmental woes facing our planet today. According to climatecrisis.net, the web-site set up by Al Gore as a companion to his award winning documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*:

- The number of Category 4 and 5 hurricanes has almost doubled in the last 30 years.
- At least 279 species of plants and animals are already responding to global warming, moving closer to

the poles.

- Deaths from global warming will double in just 25 years -- to 300,000 people a year.
- The Arctic Ocean could be ice free in summer by 2050.

These facts are debated throughout the scientific community but are thought by many to be accurate and they beg for action to be taken.

Earth Day was founded on April 22, 1970, when a group of concerned citizens banded together to protest what was happening to their environment. Although many steps have been made with regards to environmental issues, the

environment is in worse shape than it was on that first Earth Day.

This year for Earth Day Mercer is planning a series of events starting on April 21 and ending on April 25 to raise environmental awareness..

Professor Amy Iseneker who leads the Sustainability Task Force says that their goal is for the "campus to be more environmental friendly." She is the Program Coordinator of the Ornamental Horticulture and Plant Science at Mercer. When asked

why students should get involved, she replied, "Students also need to become globally aware, and try and take the necessary steps towards being more green."

Campus events will include:

- April 21 -12-1pm: Spring Swirl Fest : Speech students will give speeches having to do with the environment. Also this will be Recycling Rewards Day where if a Sustainability Task Force member sees a student recycling they will

get a voucher for a free lunch

- April 22- 10am-4pm: Register to Vote with Professor Blinderman and sign the Sky Petition-which will go to Congress to help reduce fossil energy.
- April 24, 12-1:30pm Meet in the student center for the BIG CAMPUS CLEAN UP with Professor Iseneker, gloves and bags will be provided. The team who does most will win a prize.
- April 25- 12:30pm: Arbor Day. Professor Iseneker will help find a good spot to plant a tree on campus. Students meet at the Student Center.

The Sustainability Task Force is looking forward to the events and hopes that many students will be involved in the activities. Professor Blinderman who is also on the task force said this about Earth day, "One of the things Earth Day 2008 is focusing on is voter registration. Voting is one of our most basic rights and by exercising that right we can not only voice our opinion but also have an impact on the future."

What can Mercer students do in their everyday life to help the environment? Easy! Recycle paper and bottles, carpool to school, use energy efficient light bulbs and turn off the lights when you leave a room.

## Parking problems: part perception, part pain in the patoot

By Abraham Silwany  
Reporter

About 50 percent of the students that took part in a campus-wide survey state that they were completely unhappy with the parking situation here at Mercer County Community College. None of the students surveyed thought the parking was good. Parking is a common complaint amongst students, in fact it's hard to find a student who isn't upset about the distance of the parking lots or the

actual parking spots that are available. But is it really that bad?

There are two parking lots available for students here at Mercer located on the east and west sides of the campus and separate parking lots for faculty and staff. In contrast, nearby Rider University only has one parking lot. This one lot has to be shared among faculty, commuters, visitors and residents. "A few times last semester I parked in places that were

not for parking like emergency areas and whatnot because I went around the lot two times and couldn't find any spot. I ended up getting a ticket" says Chris Weick a sophomore at Rider. By contrast, you can always find a legal spot here at Mercer even if it is far away.

Another common complaint is the length of the walk from the parking lot to the classrooms. "The parking lot at Mercer is crazy. There is no reason for you to have to

park miles away from the college" says Mariya Daniels, a freshman. But at the New Brunswick Campus of Rutgers University commuters have to park where ever their parking pass is assigned regardless of where their classes are. As a result they generally park then take a bus to get to class. Even the James Kerney campus which is right in the middle of Trenton seems to have a more serious parking problem than the West Windsor campus.

That's not to say that the parking here at Mercer doesn't need work. Compared to The College of New Jersey things are not good. "I commute to school and I've never had too much trouble finding a parking spot because we have a lot of options" says Carolyn Steber a junior at TCNJ which has 4 parking lots available to its commuting students. TCNJ enrolls a comparable amount of students to Mercer.

There is currently a ten year plan in place

to renovate some areas around the school with a planning firm in Trenton. "There is no way to deny it, parking is an issue" says Dr. Diane Campbell, Dean of Students. The planning firm has met with the faculty and staff during pre-class week of this semester, "Parking is a top priority" says Dean Campbell. The planning firm also met with the student government in February. Parking improvements may be a long way off, but people are at least thinking about them.



## PTK honors academic achievement with real world opportunities

By Susana Sanchez  
The College Voice

Cont. from page 1

College,” to “Motivating Members,” and “Positioning yourself to Win Scholarships” among many others that were oriented to help students and their chapters.

During the general sessions students got the opportunity to hear from many successful people. Christiane Amanpour, CNN’s chief international correspondent, James Rubin, news anchor and world affairs commentator for SKY news, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Florida District Congresswoman, George Will, Washington Post columnist and Pulitzer Prize winner, and best selling author Amy Tan gave speeches that supplied their audience with their intellectual insight.

Speakers inspired the audiences. Congressman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen is in fact a community college-PTK alumnus and the first Hispanic woman elected to the US Congress. She said that if someone would have told her she would become a congresswoman she would have said,

“¿Estas Loco?” (Are you crazy?). She assured the audience that their goals were not crazy and were actually well within reach.

Amy Tan surprised her audience with personal and funny stories. Tan said at her community college tuition was about ten dollars a semester and one could take as many classes as they wanted, so she did. Because of her demanding schedule she at one point turned to those helpful summary books that are often frowned upon by professors, Cliffs Notes. After she became a famous novelist she one day found herself in a bookstore and saw that there were Cliffs Notes for her own most famous book, *The Joy Luck Club*. She opened them and began to read one section that said she had had a relationship with an older man tied to organized crime drug dealers. She noted, “I remember him being older, and being friends with some Canadian hippies, who sold hashish, but I don’t remember them as being very organized about it.” Her humorous speech



COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO

Mercer’s PTK members who attended the 2008 Conference in Philadelphia included, back row from left, Susana Sanchez, Carolynne Lewis-Arevalo Ronald Russel III, and front Laura Christiansen.

helped students to see the lighter side but still encouraged them to be ambitious.

Phi Theta Kappa welcomes qualified students to join the organization. The induction ceremony for the newest members was held on April 9 in the Kelsey Theater, but the opportunity to join remains available.

At Mercer, the PTK chapter does activities aimed to fulfill the goals of scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship.

Next month the chapter is heading to Trenton to help Habitat for Humanity build homes to improve the area. Also, the chapter does other activities like inviting speakers and planning social events. To become a member you must have a 3.5 G.P.A or better.

PTK is an academic honor organization that helps student succeed. The organization’s website is found at <http://www.ptk.org>. Mercer’s chapter is at [www.mccc.edu/ptk/](http://www.mccc.edu/ptk/)



PHOTO | LAURA CHRISTIANSEN

George Will, conservative columnist and Pulitzer Prize Winner for *The Washington Post*, addressing students at the 2008 Phi Theta Kappa Convention in Philadelphia, Penn.



## Picture of the Week



English Professor Jack Tabor with daughter Ramsey. The photo just missed deadline for last issue’s Baby Boom article.

### Community Calendar

May 1-31, 2008

| Sun   | Mon  | Tues   | Wed  | Thurs   | Fri   | Sat   |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|---|
|   |  |  |  | 1   | 2<br>8 p.m.<br>3Penny at Kelsey Theatre   | 3<br>2 p.m. and 4 p.m.<br>Sleeping Beauty at Kelsey Theatre<br><br>8 p.m.<br>3Penny at Kelsey Theatre |
| 4<br>2 p.m.<br>3Penny at Kelsey Theatre                 | 5<br>5:30 to 6:30 p.m.<br>Free Yoga class sponsored by Student Activities (PE 225)                             | 6  | 7<br>5:30 to 7:30 p.m.<br>Information session for adults returning to education (Conference Center)                              | 8<br>9 p.m.<br>Philo at Mill Hill Saloon  | 9<br>8 p.m.<br>3Penny at Kelsey Theatre   | 10<br>8 p.m.<br>3Penny at Kelsey Theatre  |
| 11<br>2 p.m.<br>3Penny at Kelsey Theatre                | 12<br>7:30 p.m.<br>Zakir Hussain at McCarter   | 13<br>7:30 p.m.<br>A Seagull in the Hamptons at McCarter | 14<br>11 a.m. and 8 p.m.<br>Lil Abner at Bucks County Playhouse  | 15<br>7 p.m.<br>Chris Smither at Patriots Theatre   | 16<br>7 to 11 p.m.<br>DREAM program<br>Mystery Theater Night Fundraiser (Conference Center) | 17<br>8 p.m.<br>Mercer Dance Ensemble at Kelsey Theatre   |
| 18<br>2 p.m.<br>Mercer Dance Ensemble at Kelsey Theatre | 19   | 20<br>7:30 p.m.<br>A Seagull in the Hamptons at McCarter | 21<br>Acoustic Showcase at KatManDu<br><br> | 22<br>2:30 p.m.<br>2008 Honors Convocation at Kelsey Theatre<br><br>5:30 p.m.<br>Commencement (WW campus) | 23<br>8 p.m.<br>Footloose at Bucks County Playhouse   | 24<br>3 p.m. and 8 p.m.<br>A Seagull in the Hamptons at McCarter                                      |
| 25<br>2 p.m.<br>Footloose at Bucks County Playhouse     | 26<br>Memorial Day<br><br> | 27   | 28<br>Acoustic Showcase at KatManDu  | 29  | 30<br>8 p.m.<br>The Full Month at Kelsey Theatre  | 31<br>8 p.m.<br>The Full Monty at Kelsey Theatre  |



## THEATER REVIEW

### Kelsey Theater's *Singin' in the Rain*

Good family fun and surprising special ef-

**fects** By Anthony Galasso  
and Maris Fischer  
Reporters

The year is 2008 and the place is Mercer's Kelsey Theater, but the way John Mauer's production of *Singin' in the Rain* began, you felt as though it was 1927 in Hollywood, California.

Kelsey Theater's celebrated family musical *Singin' in the Rain* is based on the 1952 MGM film. It offers a look at the hilarious transition from silent films to talkies. The public's demands for musicals calls for a movement where characters need to fulfill their parts through song and dance. Some of the actors have the ability to make the transition and others have voices that are better suited to silent films.

John Mauer's production of the play kept the audience's attention throughout. The costumes and props were effective in setting the tone of the 1920s. Flashbacks, an important part in the plot, were conveyed using a movie projector. This strategy worked well and kept the audience focused and entertained. The voices of the actors and actresses carried easily with the use of small, portable microphones. Along with the natural flow of voices, the dancing was graceful and suited each song performed.

Publicity for the performance said there would be actual rain for the famous title



The full cast of *Singin' in the Rain* from Maurer Productions Onstage. Lead actors are Michael Stephens of Yardley, PA, Jim Petro of Hamilton, and Nicole Farina-Machin of Robbinsville

number that Gene Kelly performed in the film version. Theatergoers who came to view the spectacle were not disappointed. The rain looked realistic and was abundant. Lead actor, Michael Stephens explained a trade secret for having rain on stage without electrocuting the actors saying, "We actually put condoms over the microphones' battery packs so they would stay dry." The microphone used by Stephens, however, stayed uncovered.

The plot of the play is straightforward. Don Lockwood played by Michael Stephens and Lina Lamont played by Vicky Czarnik are Hollywood's

big stars but the demands for singing and dancing in the new "talking" pictures puts Lina's career in jeopardy due to her high squeaky voice and lack of musicality. The up and coming star Kathy Seldon, played by Nicole Ferina-Machin, has the voice to fulfill the demands of the public, as well as the romantic attention of Don Lockwood but she has to contend with Lamont's ambitions to keep her career alive.

The performance features plenty of romance, but the kissing was somewhat off-putting due to the fact that Michael Stephens (Don Lockwood) looks a lot older than Nicole Farina-Machin (Kathy

Seldon). Nevertheless, the actors were true to their characters and worked well together. Everything flowed with humor and excitement.

Director John Mauer said "Working with the cast was the best part of the show. Everybody in *Singin' in the Rain* was so happy to be in the show and so eager to create something memorable." The show was memorable indeed.

Information on all upcoming performances at Mercer's Kelsey Theater can be found at:

[www.kelseyatmccc.org](http://www.kelseyatmccc.org).

### Mercer's third annual SGA ball focuses on etiquette while raising funds for March of Dimes

By Shaheed Morris  
Reporter

Todd Jones knows the difference between a rebound and an assist. But the Vikings basketball guard had to come to MCCC's third annual Student Government Ball to learn the difference between a dinner fork and a salad fork.

"I learned how to eat with proper etiquette,"

Jones said.

Jones came to the event in a suit but many of the students in attendance wore checker-dot apparel, typical of the disco craze of the 1970s and '80s which was the theme of the night. Disco music blared throughout the Atrium in the MCCC Conference Center.

The ball started

with a well presented three-course meal of salad, assorted cheeses, fruit, chicken francaise, ginger sesame flank steak, fettucine alfredo, and seasonal vegetables. While students ate, ball moderator Jessica Harris demonstrated some of the finer points etiquette, including the correct way to butter bread.

"Most people think that etiquette refers to

rich people, but everyone needs to know how to eat and use the proper silverware at formal settings such as banquets and balls," Harris said.

After the dinner, students headed into the ballroom and danced. DJ Robert La Fauci played a variety of music ranging from '70s artist Gloria Gaynor to today's Soulja Boy.

Student Stacia Quackenbush, who spent the night on the dance floor, assessed the event as it ended. "I had a great time," she said. "I enjoyed meeting and interacting with new people."

A total of 75 students, faculty and staff bought the \$10 tickets to the event. Proceeds benefited the March of Dimes.



The MCCC Student Company presents an avant garde version of William Shakespeare's classic.

Dates: Fri. & Sat. Apr. 18, 19, 25, 26, 2008 at 8pm Sun. Apr. 27, 2008 at 2pm  
For tickets visit: [www.kelseyatmccc.org](http://www.kelseyatmccc.org)

#### Do you see a typo?

We spotted 3 in our last issue. This time we hope to get it down to 0.

If you see an error in our spelling, punctuation or grammar let us know!

E-mail us at [MercerVoice@gmail.com](mailto:MercerVoice@gmail.com)

## DON'T LET SPRING ALLERGIES KEEP YOU INDOORS

If you are 12 years of age or older and have Spring allergies (Trees & Grasses) you may consider participating in a Spring allergy study.

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE AT NO CHARGE

Allergy Evaluation by a Board Certified Physician

Study Related Allergy Testing

Investigational Medication

YOU WILL BE COMPENSATED FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

For more information about this study, please call:

PRINCETON CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH

1-800-325-2202

24 Vreeland Drive Skillman, NJ 08558

[www.princetonclinicalresearch.com](http://www.princetonclinicalresearch.com)



## 1 in 4 teen girls has a STI, major study finds

Current methods used to teach teens safe sex apparently not working

By Alexandra Hough  
The College Voice

A recent study shows that one in four girls aged 14-19 may have a sexually transmitted infection or STI.

The National Health and Nutritional Examination Survey results were presented at a scientific meeting in Chicago last month. The study showed that teen girls are experiencing an epidemic of STIs and the population hardest hit is African American teens. In the study 58 percent of African American teen girls were found to have a least one of four common STIs. This adds up to 3.2 million teen girls in total who have a sexually transmitted infection nationwide.

The survey data was collected in a nationwide sampling in 2004, so one may wonder if the rates have gone down since then, but the CDC indicates they may have gone up instead. In analyzing the possible reasons for this, much criticism has been launched at the current governmental policy of funding abstinence only sex education programs in schools, while cutting funds to programs that discuss safe sex. Cecile Richards the president of Planned Parenthood for America has referred to abstinence-only education as a "\$1.5 billion failure."

Lucinda Holt, managing editor of the teen sex magazine and

Website, [sexetc.org](http://sexetc.org) said in an interview that "Many teens visit Sexetc.org worried that they or their girlfriends might be pregnant, but they are not as concerned about STDs. I would hope that this study inspires us to make sure teens have accurate information and they are encouraged to delay having sex until they are ready to take the steps to fully protect themselves."

Teens may find it hard to protect themselves both because they may lack adequate information and because they may be infected and not realize it. The four most common STIs found in teen girls, according to the study were HPV, chlamydia, genital herpes and trichomoniasis. Both herpes and chlamydia can exhibit no signs or infrequent signs and are sometimes referred to as "silent" diseases.

But the silent diseases can pose major threats particularly to women's health. As another possible consequence of the abstinence-only initiative, teen pregnancy rates have begun to rise after years of declining and all of these STIs pose serious risks during pregnancy. Mothers can unknowingly pass infections to their babies and low birth weight, illness and even infant death can be the result. Furthermore, several strains of HPV can lead to infertility in women

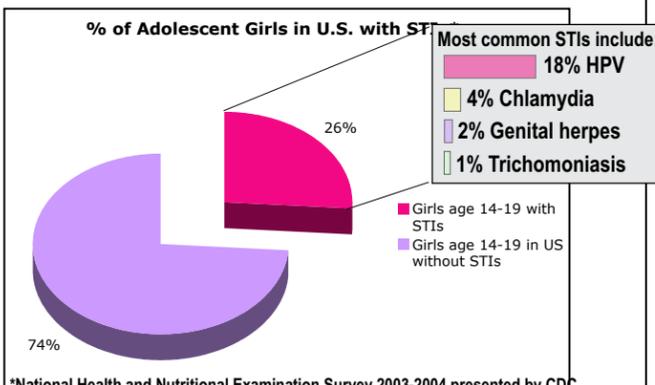


Abstinence only sex education classes that have been heavily funded by the federal government have come under fire as a result of new STI data.

and others can cause cervical cancer. There is now a vaccine called Gardasil that teens can get to protect against the cervical cancer causing strains, but the vaccine is expensive and many parents will not allow daughters to get such a vaccine because they think it is condoning early sex.

The statistics may make it sound like girls are somehow less educated or more reckless than boys, but according to Holt of [sexetc.org](http://sexetc.org) "Girls were used for this study because they're easier to track. They're more likely to visit an STD clinic or health care provider and have regular, early exams. This is why the focus of

the study was on girls." The only way for girls to protect themselves completely is to abstain from sex, but according to Jennifer Miller, Vice President of Community Service, Planned Parenthood Association of the Mercer Area "The study underscores what we have known for a long time. Teenagers need to use protection, such as condoms to prevent STIs not only pregnancy." They must be encouraged to get regular gynecological exams and get STI testing if they have had any unprotected sex. Doing so may seem inconvenient but it may seem less so when women realize it could save their lives or the lives



## Sexual health at college Are Mercer students safe?

By Chris Turrisi,  
Justin Cartwright  
and Ricardo Oliveras  
Reporters

The rate of college students contracting STIs is growing every year. And a survey of safe sex practices among Mercer students suggests they may be adding to the statistics.

According to a 2006 Utah State University study.

- 1 in 5 people in the United States has an STI.
- 88 percent of people in the United States with an STI are between the ages of 20-29
- 32 percent of the population with an STI are 18-19 years old.
- Every year there are at least 19 million cases of STIs in the United States.

How do Mercer students compare?

The survey of 40 students found that many students had been sexually active since their mid teens. The average age for losing their virginity was 16.8 which matches the national aver-

age of 16.9 almost exactly. When asked about their current level of sexual activity 62 percent of Mercer students said they were sexually active at least some of the time, and only 35 percent said they used protection every time they had sex.

Although nearly three quarters of students said that they were concerned about the possibility of contracting a Sexually Transmitted Infection, only 45 percent had ever been tested for a STI.

When asked his thoughts on sexual activity among college students and the risk of STIs, a 19 year old Mercer freshman who asked to remain anonymous said, "I feel like college students feel as though they are invincible when it comes to sex, like they could never catch anything."

A sophomore girl who also asked to remain anonymous commented on her sex education classes in high school saying "I think that Sex Ed did teach us a lot about the dangers of sex but some people either didn't pay attention or they just don't care."

The survey results suggests that many Mercer students are thinking about sex but they are not necessarily focussing on the consequences of unsafe sex. Few students claimed any awareness that STIs could cause infertility or sterility or that infections could be passed on during pregnancy. Most seemed to feel that a round of antibiotics could cure most infections. While oral medications can treat some STIs others do not have a cure and can last for life.



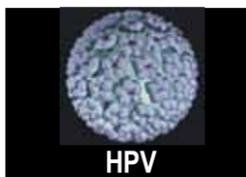
Need reproductive health care?

Planned Parenthood provides fully confidential testing and counseling in Mercer County. Locations:

East State Street  
437 East State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
(609) 599-4881

Hamilton Square  
Golden Crest Corporate Center  
2279 Route 33 - Suite 510  
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690  
(609) 689-4964

TCNJ  
Eickhoff Hall, Room 140  
The College of New Jersey  
(609) 771-2110



HPV

**What is it?**  
There are more than 40 types of HPV that cause everything from genital warts to cervical cancer.

**Who can get it?**  
HPV is passed through sexual contact and both men and women can get it, though many people show no symptoms and don't know they have it.

**How do I know if I've got it?**  
You can't see the virus itself, but you can see the results of many of the diseases it causes including genital warts. To know if you've got it, you need to have a regular STI test.

**How do I avoid it?**  
Do not have sex. If you do have sex, use a condom every time and put it on correctly.

**Is there a treatment?**  
There is no treatment for HPV itself though there is a vaccine for girls against the four types of HPV that cause most cervical cancer and genital warts.



Chlamydia

**What is it?**  
Also known as "the clap," chlamydia poses serious health risks to women as it can cause infertility, pelvic inflammatory disease and cause premature delivery in pregnant women. It can also harm newborns whose mothers are infected.

**Who can get it?**  
Chlamydia is passed through vaginal, anal and oral sex and both men and women can get it.

**How do I know if I've got it?**  
Not everyone shows symptoms so it's sometimes referred to as a "silent" disease. But those who do experience burning sensation while urinating and may have vaginal or penile discharge.

**How do I avoid it?**  
Do not have sex. If you do have sex, use a condom every time and put it on correctly.

**Is there a treatment?**  
It can be detected through regular STI testing and treated with antibiotics.



Herpes

**What is it?**  
Several different viruses cause herpes which has both oral and genital varieties. Some common varieties can be potentially fatal in babies if the mother passes the infection to her unborn child.

**Who can get it?**  
Herpes is passed through vaginal, anal and oral sex and both men and women can get it.

**How do I know if I've got it?**  
Although often there are no symptoms, herpes manifests itself in periodic outbreaks that cause blisters or ulcers in the genital region.

**How do I avoid it?**  
Do not have sex. If you do have sex, use a condom every time and put it on correctly.

**Is there a treatment?**  
There is no cure for herpes and once you've got it you may go on having it for life. Even if you show no signs of it you may be able to pass it on to a partner.



Trichomoniasis

**What is it?**  
Also known as "trick," this common STD is actually a parasite that lives in the genital region.

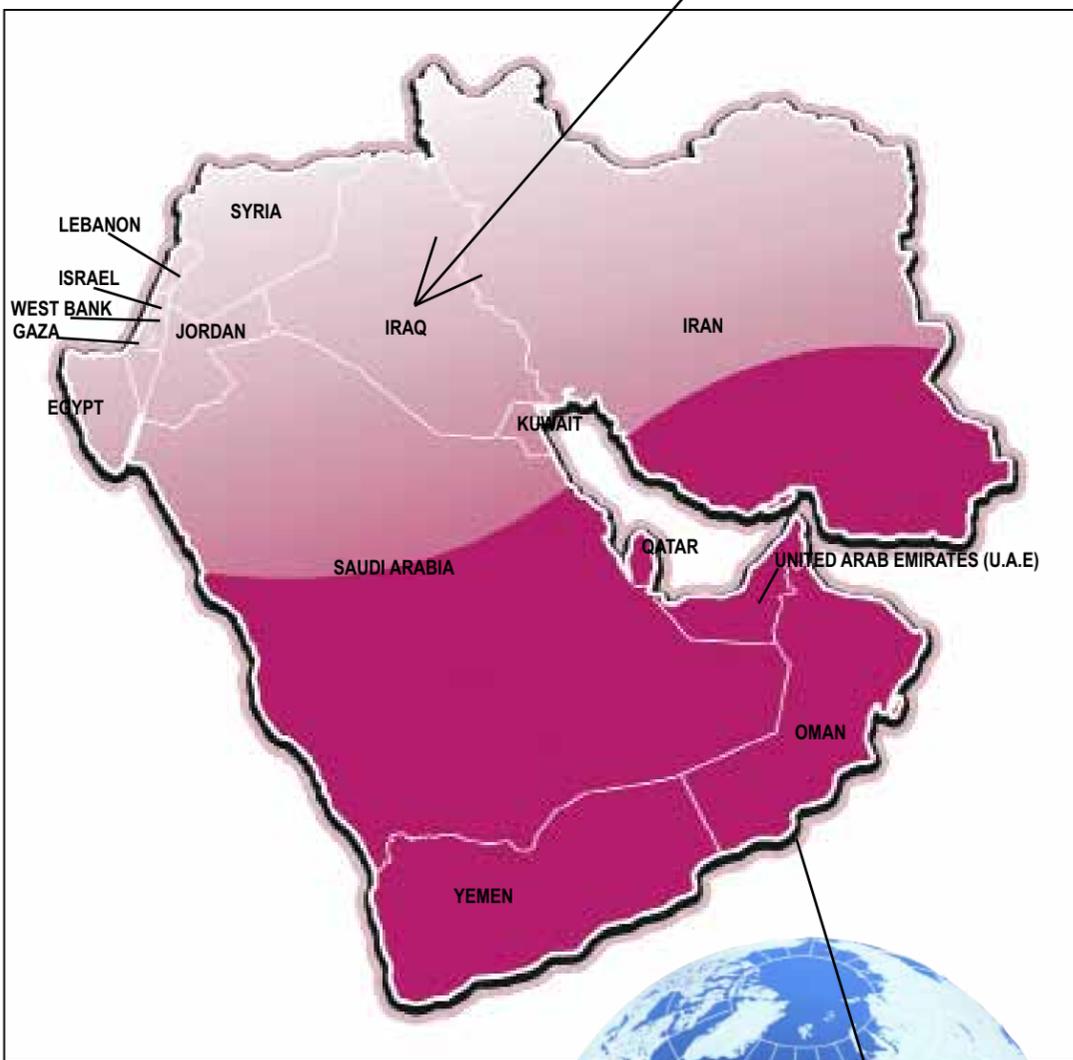
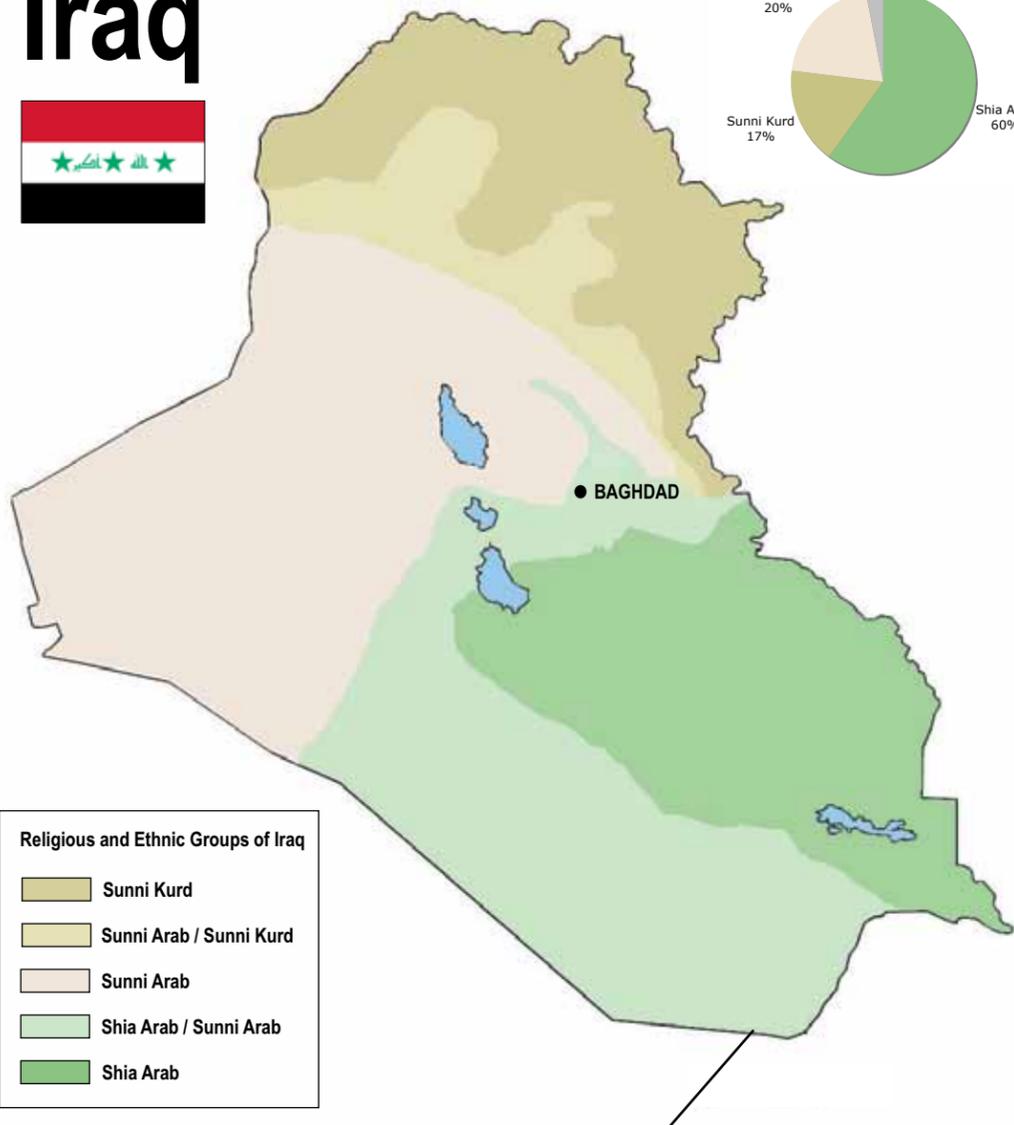
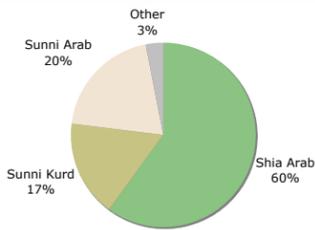
**Who can get it?**  
Trichomoniasis is passed through sexual activity and both men and women can get it.

**How do I know if I've got it?**  
Symptoms include an irritation inside the penis in men, or a frothy vaginal discharge with a strong odor, and painful urination in women.

**How do I avoid it?**  
Do not have sex. If you do have sex, use a condom every time and put it on correctly.

**Is there a treatment?**  
It can be detected through regular STI testing and is treatable with oral medication.

## Iraq



## After 5 years of war, still confused on the basics

By Carmela Pecana,  
Abraham Silwany  
and Jason Brown  
Reporters

When thinking back to the attacks of 9/11 it's hard not to think of terrorism, but research shows that both Mercer students and politicians know less about the current War on Terror than one might expect. In the media, terms such as Al Qaeda, radical Islam, Middle East, Sunni and Shia are often confused or used interchangeably.

At Mercer County College, 30 students were surveyed to find out just how much they knew about Iraq, the War on Terror and the Muslim faith. When shown a map of the Middle East 60 percent of students could correctly identify Iraq, but 40 percent had no idea where it was. When they were asked whether they thought difference between a Sunni and Shiite Muslim was mainly political or spiritual, the majority correctly chose spiritual. But when asked which of the two sects Osama Bin Laden and Saddam Hussein belonged to, most students answered incorrectly and a very small but odd percentage believed Hussein to be a Catholic. In reality, both Bin Laden and Hussein are Sunnis.

Students, however, are not the only ones who have been stumped by these topics lately. In a New York Times article, Jeff Stein, an op-ed contributor, conducted an interview with Terry Everett who is a seven-term Alabama Representative and vice chairman of the House intelligence subcommittee on technical and tactical intelligence. When Stein asked Everett if he could explain the difference between a Sunni and a Shiite Everett responded, "No, to be honest with you, I don't know. I thought it was differences in their religion, different families or something."

Another elected official who has been simi-

larly stumped is Representative Jo Ann Davis, a Virginia Republican who, The New York Times reports "heads a House intelligence subcommittee charged with overseeing the C.I.A.'s performance in recruiting Islamic spies." When asked to explain the key differences between Sunni and Shiite she responded, "It's a difference in their fundamental religious beliefs. The Sunni are more radical than the Shia. Or vice versa. But I think it's the Sunnis who're more radical than the Shia."

Davis was on the right track but her understanding was sketchy at best. Some Sunnis are radicals but considering that Sunnis make up 83 percent of the world's 1.8 billion Muslims, her notion is greatly over-simplified.

Similarly perplexed is the F.B.I.'s new chief of their national security branch, Willie Hulton, who, according to Stein, incorrectly guessed that Iran was predominately Sunni when it is actually Shiite.

Although Stein credits Hulton with being one of the people who stays up nights trying to figure out how to get us out of the middle of a civil war, the fact that five years into the war top officials are still uncertain about basic facts supports critics' views that the war was badly organized and not justified in the first place. It may be little surprise that The Gallup Poll reports President Bush's job approval rating is currently 28 percent, the lowest of his administration.

For those needing to bone up, the table at top right provides the fundamentals regarding Sunni versus Shiite beliefs. More detailed discussion can be found at <http://hnn.us/articles/934.html>

**The Human Cost of the War in Iraq**  
Each pair of shoes represents 1,000 war dead. As of this writing, the U.S. has lost 4,024 men and women during the fighting in Iraq. The lowest scholarly estimate of Iraqi dead is 82,662 men, women and children.

= 1,000 U.S. dead  
 = 1,000 Iraqi dead



## Veterans Affairs at Mercer helps soldiers become students

By Leah Alabre  
Reporter

At least 120 students who are veterans of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan currently attend Mercer. To help them in their adjustment to civilian life there is a Veteran's Services office on the second floor of the Student Center. The person who helps with the adjustment of soldiers is Paul Scheid. Scheid, a veteran himself, served in the U.S. Army Military Police Corps and retired as a Major.



Now Scheid helps council soldiers coming back from the Middle East. "If soldiers are having a difficult problem they should come to me and I'll get them the help they need, there are lots of resources available" said Scheid.

Scheid helps veterans with anything they need but one focus of his work is helping students who may be suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). According to The National Institutes of Health this is a mental condition that involves symptoms such as feeling like the traumatic events are happening again, having trouble sleeping or having nightmares, not feeling close to friends and loved ones, becoming easily angered, and feeling guilty. For most people, PTSD starts about three months after a traumatic event. However, sometimes signs of PTSD can show up years later.

A study released in 2004 by the New England Journal of Medicine reported that at least one in six veterans suffered from PTSD, but four years later the V.A. reports that number has most likely increased as warfare has intensified and any measurable progress in Iraq or Afghanistan has been elusive. At the same time, public perceptions of the war have grown more negative. A series of heart-breaking statistics show that homelessness is increasing among veterans

and that many wounded veterans are not receiving adequate care after returning to the U.S.

Scheid notes, "In WWII it took soldiers 30 to 60 days to get back to the states and within that time they had time to talk everything out, but now soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan are home in 13 hours or so and don't have time to process. They think that they can help themselves, but that's not good for them."

In addition to basic counselling, the Veteran's Affairs office also deals with other things like helping soldiers gain access to educational funding through the G.I. Bill.

Although the Veterans Affairs office has been a campus fixture for some time, many students are unaware that it is there and don't know what it does. "A Veterans center, is that for like really old alumni?" said one student.

As the presidential election looms, two candidates, Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton have indicated that they would try to bring troops home as soon as possible, but significant troop depletion appears to be a long way off. Mercer is likely to see the number of veterans on campus increasing in the months and years to come. Besides being patient and tactful, fellow students can support veterans by directing them to Paul Scheid in SC 262.

### A GUIDE TO THE TWO MAIN MUSLIM SECTS - SUNNI AND SHIITE

The world religion of Islam is based on the teachings of the prophet Mohammed (c. 570-632 C.E.). It is a monotheistic Abrahamic religion with many practices including "The Five Pillars" of Islam. These involve professing one's faith, praying five times daily, tithing, fasting during Ramadan, and making a pilgrimage to the city of Mecca. The religious teachings are contained in a book called the Qu'ran. There are currently 1.8 billion Muslims in the world but they do not all have the same views. There are different groups or sects. Roughly 85 percent of Muslims belong to the Sunni sect and 15 percent belong to the Shia (Shiite) sect. So what are the key differences between the two main sects? Here we've assembled a

brief list

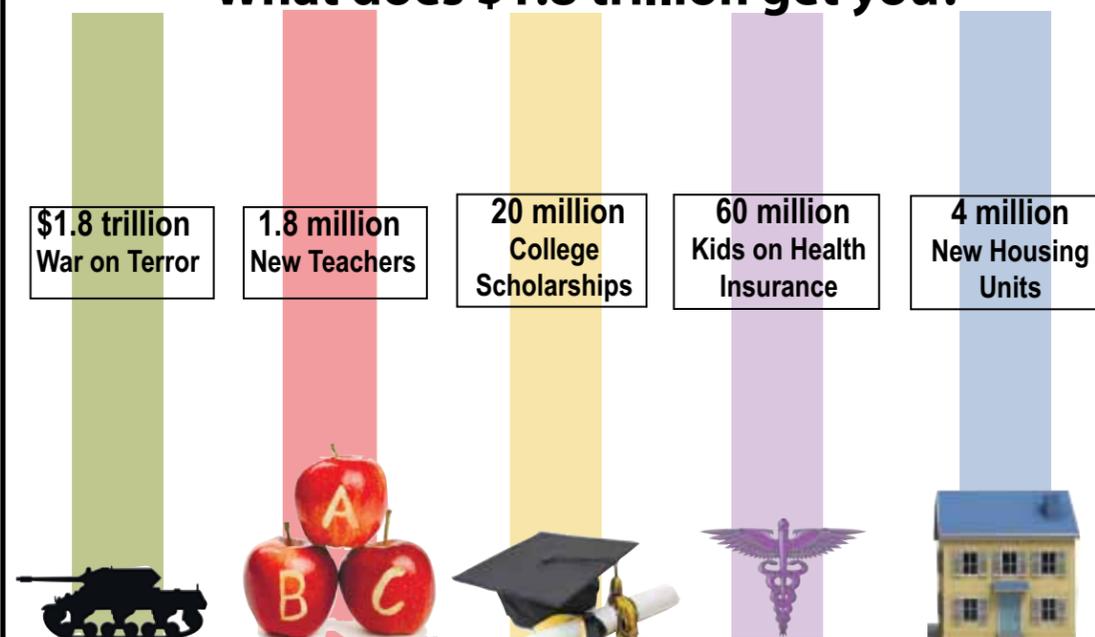
| Sunni Muslims   | Shiite Muslims   |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Believe that after Mohammed died, power to lead the people was correctly given to one of Mohammed's most senior companions. They looked to him as a "caliph" or head of state even though he was not a blood relative of the prophet.</li> <li>Recognize the heirs of the first four caliphs as legitimate religious leaders. These heirs ruled continuously in the Arab world until the break-up of the Ottoman Empire following the end of the First World War.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Believe that after Mohammed died, power to lead the people resided with his cousin Ali ibn Abi Talib and then was passed to his heirs who are known as Imams.</li> <li>In 931 the Twelfth Imam disappeared and the Shia faced a lack of divinely guided religious leadership until 1978 with the rise of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini who they see as a legitimate religious figure.</li> <li>Believe the "Mahdi" or "rightly guided one" has already come and will re-</li> </ul> |

### EMERGENCY ENGLISH - HEBREW - ARABIC WORDS

| English  | Hebrew   |      | Arabic   |        |
|----------|----------|------|----------|--------|
|          | Phonetic | Word | Phonetic | Word   |
| Peace    | shalom   | שלום | salaam   | السلام |
| Heart    | lev      | לב   | qalb     | القلب  |
| Blessing | bracha   | ברכה | baraka   | النعمة |
| Mother   | em       | אם   | umm      | الأم   |
| Father   | aba      | אב   | ab       | الأب   |
| Holy     | quadosh  | שדוש | quds     | المقدس |
| Camel    | gamal    | גמל  | jamal    | الجمل  |
| Coffee   | cafe     | קפה  | qahwa    | القهوة |

## CALCULATING THE COST OF WAR\*

What does \$1.8 trillion get you?



\*Source: The National Priorities Project www.nationalpriorities.org



**Music Review: Panic's "Odd" Gets By With A Little Help From Some Friends**

By Jason Stives  
The College Voice

A warning to those who read the following album review. Panic! At the Disco fans could find this album very disappointing but Panic at the Disco fans --sans the exclamation point-- will rejoice in the new sound that emanates off the group's sophomore release, "Pretty. Odd." Indeed the album's unusual title does indicate the feel and presence of the album and truly is a departure from the band's original motif. Gone are the synthe-laden dance floor beats and the tongue and cheek song titles but the band's drive to create catchy FM radio tunes still remains.

Dropping the exclamation point from their name proved to be a sign that this is not the same band that WPST listeners were use to when their Decaydence debut, "A Fever You Can't Sweat" was released back in 2005. The band has dropped the exclamation point and in return picked up a handful of the greatest albums of all time for inspiration. Indeed, Pretty.Odd is Panic's attempt at being The Beatle's "Sgt. Pepper" as well as their attempt to capture the spirit of the music of the late sixties es-

pecially that of the Beach Boys, Bob Dylan, and the Byrds.

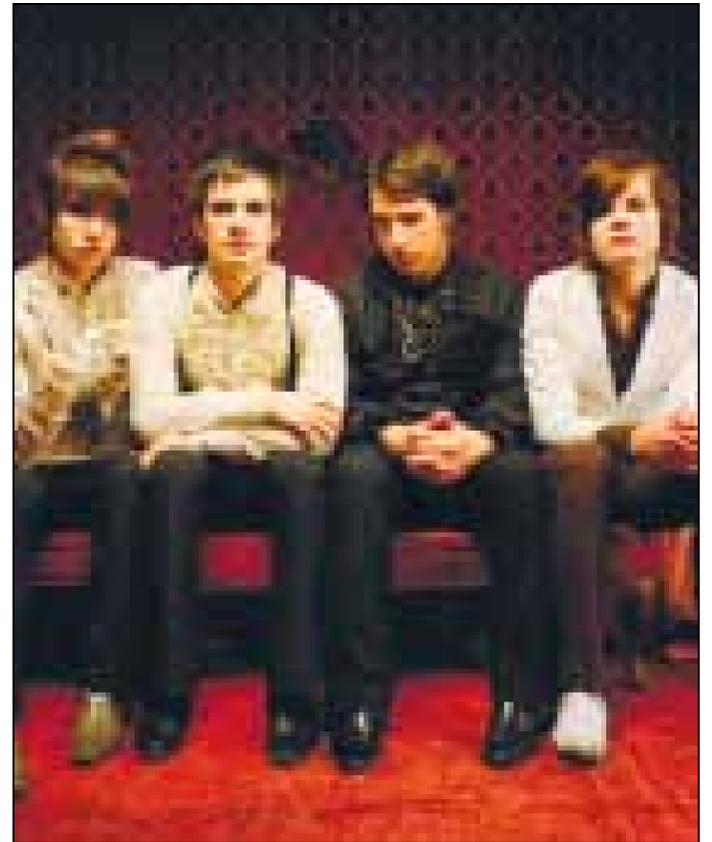
The album's lead single "Nine in the Afternoon," couldn't be a better example of the influence that the fab four has had on this Vegas quartet. Soaring strings coupled with melancholic lyrics about the end of the world turn this song into the band's attempt at a modern version of "Penny Lane." Other tracks like the album's second single "That Green Gentleman" and "Northern Downpour" prove to be catchy arena sing along song.

From The Kinks-like riffs of "She's a Handsome Woman" to the ragtime inspired "I Have Friends in Holy Spaces," Panic at the Disco puddle jumps their way through every musical genre to form one giant bonanza of 20th Century pop music.

While the album has a consistent flow of songs that fit the sound of the album, not every song is perfect. While three songs too long, Pretty.Odd. also features the most catchy yet misplaced track on a pop rock album. The aptly titled "Folkin Around" falls somewhere in between a Bob Dylan knock off and

a reinterpretation of the Beatles' "I've Just Seen a Face" but is strangely addictive. In a rare instance in many of today's act's, the singer steps away from the microphone and allows the guitarist to act as lead singer. Lead guitarist Ryan Ross swaps positions with singer Brandon Urie on the track "Behind the Sea." The rest of the album works best exactly in the order provided. Listeners should not skip tracks upon listening or they will upset the flow of the album.

While still early in the new year, Panic at the Disco has been able to create one of the most refreshing albums in years. The key word being refreshing because the influences and sounds produced on this album are neither new nor original but it still feels fresh. Many current bands continue to trudge up the road to ruin that is mainstream rock music, but Panic has taken their fans back to the street where great rock music began. They hope to open the minds of many teeny boppers to what their parents grew up with and maybe they will also open some parents' minds up to the music of today.



Panic at the Disco's album, *Pretty. Odd.* Released by Fueled by Ramen on March 25, 2008.

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## TENNIS: Men's tennis team triumphs...repeatedly!

By Patrick Amaral  
and John Bunting  
Reporters

Mercer Men's tennis team has done something quite impressive. In their first seven games, the Vikings have taken on each opponent and beaten them soundly. The Vikings are undefeated and have a lot of momentum going into the Regional XIX Tournament which will take place at Mercer, April 25-27. If they do well then, it's on to the National Tournament in Plato, TX, which will take place May 10-16.

The team is lead by Head Coach, Marc Vecchiolla. Vec-

chiolla was appointed to the head coach position for men's tennis late last year. It's clear his coaching style has had a significant impact on the team. The Vikings are currently a force to be reckoned with.

*"Working hard and having fun" is Coach Vecchiolla's winning strategy.*

Coach Vecchiolla attributes his success with Mercer's Men's tennis team to the straightforward strategy of "working hard and having fun."

When last fac-

ing Bergen, several traits of the current Vikings team were clearly displayed. Mercer looked calm, cool, and collected during each one of their matches. As a small but loyal group watched the game, each player that was not playing, cheered on their teammates during each pause throughout the match.

Play was intense, with both doubles matches going on at the same time. Action in both matches was fierce and spectators were torn about which game to watch.

Occasionally

looking pressured, the Vikings kept stress under control and went on to win against Bergen 9-0.

The Vikings' eight man team includes three sophomores: Marc Nichols, Ozcan Dalgic, and Drew Holsman, and five freshmen: Luis Gutierrez, Jason Bielski, Ken Newman, Joon Lee, and Daisuke Katsumata.

The remaining matches of the Vikings Men's tennis team games are all away. Their schedule can be found on the MCCC website under News and Events: Sports Schedules and Scores.

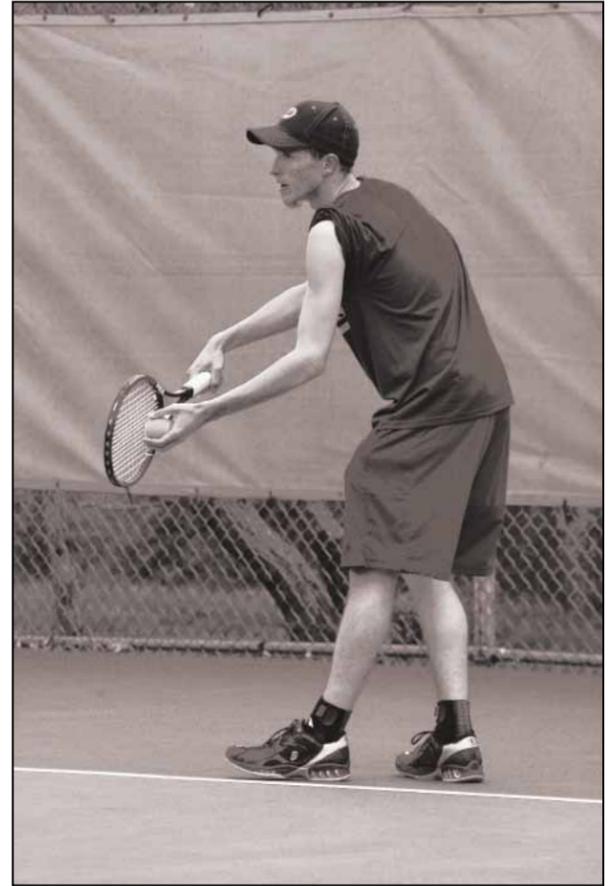


PHOTO | STEVEN MURPHY  
*Sophomore Drew Holsman prepares to serve in a match against Gloucester on Friday, April 11, 2008.*



PHOTO | ALEXANDRA HOUGH  
*With the bases loaded, number 20, sophomore Chuck Krichling, makes contact.*



PHOTO | ALEXANDRA HOUGH  
*Teammates look on to see if Krichling can make it to third with the bases loaded. He did.*

## BASEBALL: Fan support may help Vikings go the distance

By Mohamad Cheble  
Reporter

Mercer County Community College's baseball team hasn't had much of a fan following this season, but that hasn't stopped the Vikings from dominating the past few weeks.

The team ended April 15, tax day, by clocking in 15 runs in a shutout against Sussex County. That victory marked the Vikings' 23rd win and ninth straight victory for the month of April.

About 10 smiling spectators cheered the Vikings

as they walked off the diamond at Mercer County Park following the blowout victory against Sussex. That victory nudged the team's winning percentage up to 74.2 percent, keeping the team well on track to achieving head coach Matt Wolski's regular season goals.

Wolski went on record earlier in the season saying he'd like a "win total of 60 percent to 70 percent because we don't have enough players to compete every day through a demanding

schedule with the expectations of staying fresh and healthy the entire year."

The team certainly looked healthy and fresh throughout April, especially during its April 15 game.

Fans of the team are dedicated and show up consistently to cheer the team on. Most of them are friends of or related to Vikings' players, however.

Bruce Angebrannt, father of No. 19, freshman catcher David Angebrannt, said the Vikings have

been "exciting to watch." He said the team is "doing well" and rated this year's team an 8.5 out of 10 when asked to rate them on a scale of one to ten. In fact, none of the Vikings' dedicated fans gave the team a rating lower than 8.

Standing at 5-foot-11, Ewing High grad David Angebrannt has been sustaining a batting average of .300 or better throughout the season. And Frank Mercurio, No. 13, has been the team's lead-

ing slugger.

Said one spectator, a family member of sophomore Chuck Krichling, "They are a great group of athletes who play every game as a team."

Many Mercer students surveyed in an informal poll said they want the baseball team to do well, but virtually all of those students admitted that they've never seen a Vikings baseball game in person. Most students seem aware that the team is having a decent

season, but the support of home town fans can often give teams an added edge against the competition.

Added support may help the team go to this year's championship — a dream that Vikings players have cited as their current goal.

"The bigger the representation of the school's population (at the games)," Wolski said, "the better the team feels about its chances."

Team schedules can be found at [www.mccc.edu](http://www.mccc.edu).

## DEBATE: What is causing so many teens to practice unsafe sex?

Hormones may get the blame but psychology and poor communications skills are to the real culprits.

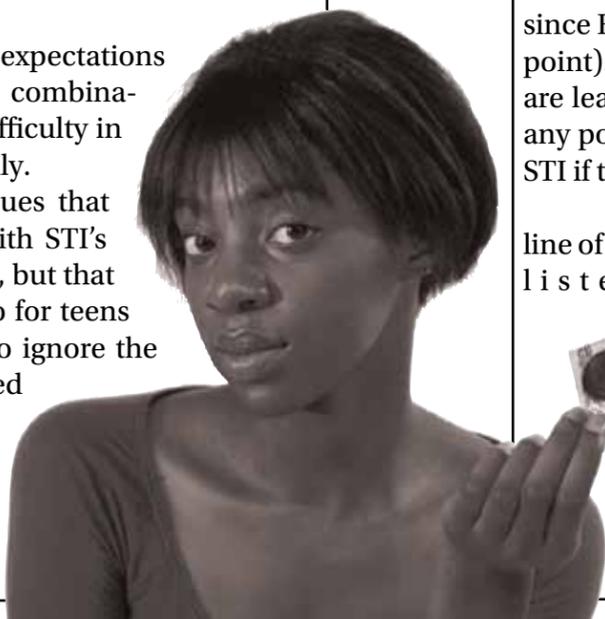
In an age where information is everything, the new statistics on STI's show information as far as safe sex goes is ignored by teens. They choose pleasure over common sense all the time. Traditionally hormones and impulsiveness have been blamed for this, and there's no denying these are significant elements of teen life, but they may not be the real reasons teens practice unsafe sex. The reasons why they do may have less to do with pure carnality and more to do with psychology.

A lot of girls think that being willing to have unprotected sex will show their boyfriend they can be trusted. Unprotected sex becomes a way to demonstrate she is his and no one else's. Girls may not be able to communicate this loyalty in any other way.

Boys on the other hand communicate poorly amongst themselves and pass along the myth that to feel everything, a condom gets in the way.

Of course, heat of the moment expectations and hormones are there, but it's the combination with teen psychology and the difficulty in communication that is the most deadly.

Besides the psychological issues that prompt poor choices, the trouble with STI's is not that teens aren't aware of them, but that so many STI's give few symptoms. So for teens who look and feel healthy it's easy to ignore the advice telling them to get tested. Sex ed classes don't address the psychological issues or really help teens learn to communicate and they can't change the fact that STI's are often silent diseases.



Teens are not getting complete sex education when they need it; the result is unsafe practices.

Parents don't want to talk to teens about sex because the idea of their "little" boy or girl engaging in intercourse frightens the hell out of them. So they leave the talking to public figures like teachers and politicians. Of course these people have their own agendas and usually are no more properly trained than the people who are suppose to do the talking, the parents. Because the information is coming from a public authority figure rather than mom and dad, the chances of teenagers listening to what they are told decreases greatly.

Some people think that talking about safe sex is like encouraging sex in general, but just saying "don't do it" is a poor solution. Studies on teens to who take abstinence pledges show that it causes them to hold off about 18 months longer than teens who don't take the pledge. Some teens will abstain but many teens are going to do what teens have been doing since Romeo and Juliet (well, since before that, but you get the point). By focussing on "don't do it," educators AND parents are leaving kids dangerously uninformed. They are ruling out any possibility that kids will even know to go get tested for an STI if they need to.

Sex ed is not going to come to the rescue, so the last line of defense is really the parents. True, most teenagers won't listen to anybody, but they are even less likely to listen to high school nurses and talking heads than to their parents. At least with your own family when you screw up there are consequences. So it is time for parents to take some responsibility for informing their kids and getting more specific about STI's because teens DO want to know the information and they're tired of getting it from after school movies.



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## Post Gen Xers give new meaning to the term sloth

When I was a little kid, my contemporaries.

I heard about how irresponsible and lazy the Generation Xers were. They all seemed to have dreams of moving to Seattle and joining a grunge band. I figured my own generation, the Post Gen Xers, couldn't be any worse than that.

Before I charge my generation with sloth, I must note that while most of the people I have come across lack the responsibility and drive to succeed in life, there are many who succeed and do so against great odds. Maybe if I went to Harvard or Princeton I'd be among a disproportionate number of those people, but my feeling is that in every day life they are not that common, particularly among

I see students as well as non-students my age living the America dream of doing nothing. Their major aspirations seem to be to sit on a crushed velvet sofa watching a HD television set with digital satellite cable.

I once read that the flower children of the sixties were referred to as the "under the counter culture" because they were willing to experiment and be risky compared to their parents' generation. My generation is definitely the "over the counter" culture. Their focus is on material goods and not on what they can do and think on their own.

There are many things you can blame for our lack of direction. Of course there are the usual

suspects, parents who don't push their kids to achieve beyond what they think they are capable of, media images of California beaches and so many pretty people that you'd think being pretty was a profession.

Parents and teachers may feel they ARE encouraging young people out of this stupor, certainly they encourage us to be relentlessly upbeat. Our high schools are filled with teachers and guest lecturers who tell us to think positive, as if positive thinking alone will save us from the endless days of standardized tests and reduced price lunches. This kind of positive thinking has nothing to do with thinking for one's self, however. It isn't doing much for the dream-

ers who are also doers. It's just fluff and cliches without substance.

I like to believe there was a time when a swift kick in the ass from parents could reduce a child's laziness. Maybe those were the same days when parents engaged kids in discussion, encouraging them to question and consider ideas. Either reaction would be useful at this point. Something must be done to correct the dangerous level of sloth that has gripped the youth of the nation, otherwise the country will fall into disrepair, no one will run for political office twenty years from now, they'll all be home watching TV.

### THE WAY IT IS



**Jason Stives**

## WE ROCKED THE VOTE TO THE TUNE OF 64 NEW REGISTERED VOTERS!

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!



FROM LEFT: Copy Editor, Caroline Fling; Viewpoints Editor, Jason Stives; Editor-in-Chief, Alexandra Hough; Arts & Entertainment Editor, Bartholomew Battista. April 2, 2008 College Voice sponsored Rock the Vote event in MCCC Student Center.

By Jason Stives  
The College Voice

While November is still months away, students turned out in droves on April 2 to attend the Rock the Vote Rally held in the Student Center. In one hour, the College Voice staff was able to rustle up some 64 new voters and registration forms were given out to over 75 more. In fact, the event was so popular that staffers had to rush to the photo copiers to make more forms.

Students were lured to the event by the freedom-loving music of Bruce Springsteen and John Mellancamp and by the promise of free pizza for new registrants. The event, which was hosted by the College Voice staff as part of their community service commitment, received

additional support from members of the Journalism 101 class who helped reel in potential voters and helped assure the success of the rally.

Junior reporter and journalism student Shaheed Morris brought in the most new voters. He put his excellent people skills to work as he recruited voters even as the table and supplies were being put away at the end of the event.

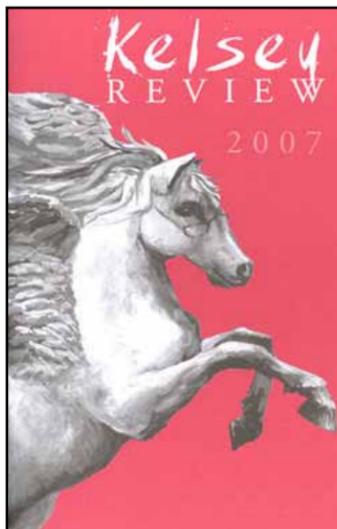
In addition to registering to vote, many students stopped by to talk politics and talk about their preferences for the up-coming election. Several students asked the same question: "Where do I sign up for Obama?"

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Featured Artist (alternative/punk/surf band): Boardboards

WHERE: MCCC - CM122  
WHEN: Series occurs 1st & 3rd Fridays of every month  
DOORS OPEN AT 9:30PM FOR OPEN-MIC SIGNUP  
PERFORMANCES BEGIN AT 10:00PM



**SUBMIT YOUR STORIES, POEMS AND ART for consideration!**

Deadline is May 1, 2008  
Must live or work in Mercer County.  
Send disposable copies of all materials with a cover letter and SASE to:

*The Kelsey Review*  
Liberal Arts Division  
Mercer County Community College  
P.O. Box B, Trenton, NJ 08690

Mercer County's famous literary magazine appears each fall.  
For more info go to:

[www.mccc.edu/community\\_kelsey-review.shtml](http://www.mccc.edu/community_kelsey-review.shtml)

**JOIN US!**



Make friends, hone your skills, improve your resume.

Drop by SC 218

or e-mail us at

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

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*The College Voice* is written and edited by students of Mercer County Community College and published every 3 weeks under the advisement of a faculty adviser. The material printed in *The College Voice*, be it articles, advertisements or opinion pieces, does not necessarily represent the views of the editors, the faculty, staff, administration or the board of trustees of Mercer County Community College.

**WRITE TO *The College Voice!***

Do you have something to say? *The College Voice* accepts letters to the editor. Submissions should be no more than 300 words; longer submissions may be shortened. Submit materials in electronic format, and include your name and status at MCCC (major and year, faculty or staff position or alumnus). All materials submitted become the property of *The College Voice*, which reserves the right to reject or edit material based on length, taste or clarity.

**HOW TO CONTACT US:**

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write to: *The College Voice*  
Mercer County College  
PO Box B  
Trenton, NJ 08550

# horoscopes



**Capricorn**  
DEC. 22 - JAN. 19

If you want people to turn to you in a crisis, stay calm and clear sighted. Don't over react to the bad news.



**Aquarius**  
JAN. 20 - FEB. 18

Tired much? You've been burning the candle at both ends. Rest soon or it's going to catch up with you.



**Pisces**  
FEB. 19 - MAR. 20

The semester is almost over. Push hard to the end then rest this summer. Read only magazines!



**Aries**  
MAR. 21 - APR. 19

The last thing you want is more work, but a new project will present itself. It's worth the extra effort!



**Taurus**  
APR. 20 - MAY 20

People sometimes call you stubborn but you know darn well when you're right. Stick to your guns!



**Gemini**  
MAY 21 - JUN. 20

Where's the party? Right now it's where ever you are! Have fun but try not to over do it. It could get messy.



**Cancer**  
JUN. 21 - JUL. 22

Prioritize! That's the name of the game right now. You have too much to do and too little time to do it.



**Leo**  
JUL. 23 - AUG. 22

You need to make time for family. You may have to get creative around all those busy schedules.



**Virgo**

AUG. 23 - SEPT. 22

You've been sick a lot but the warm air is on its way. Expect to be cool free and healthy very soon.



**Libra**

SEPT. 23 - OCT. 22

It's time to stop sitting on the fence and choose sides. People will respect you for your decision.



**Scorpio**

OCT. 23 - NOV. 21

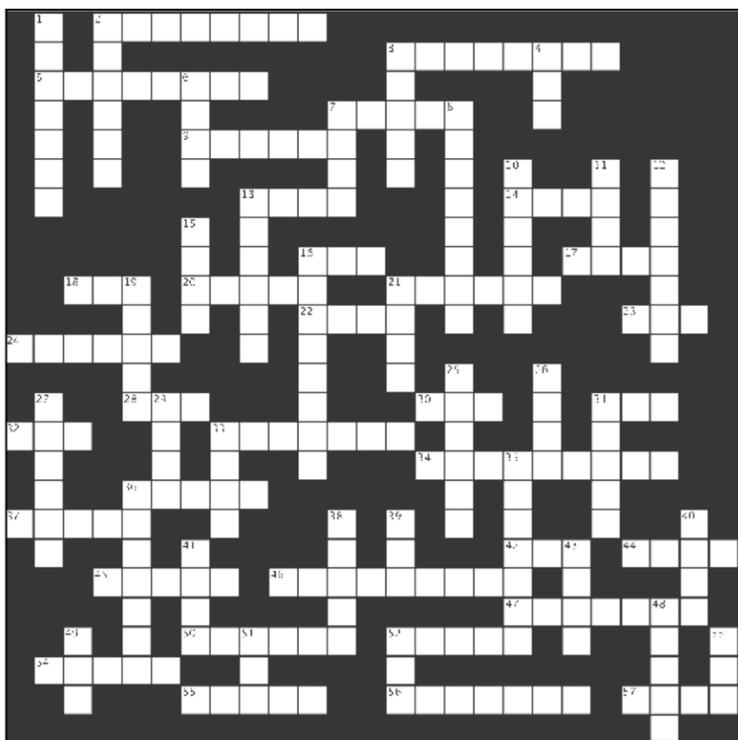
You are gearing up for a new adventure. Pack light and bring a camera with you for the time of your life!



**Sagittarius**

NOV. 22 - DEC. 21

You've been thinking about joining someone or something. Now is a perfect time do it!



For solution to this puzzle see our next issue!

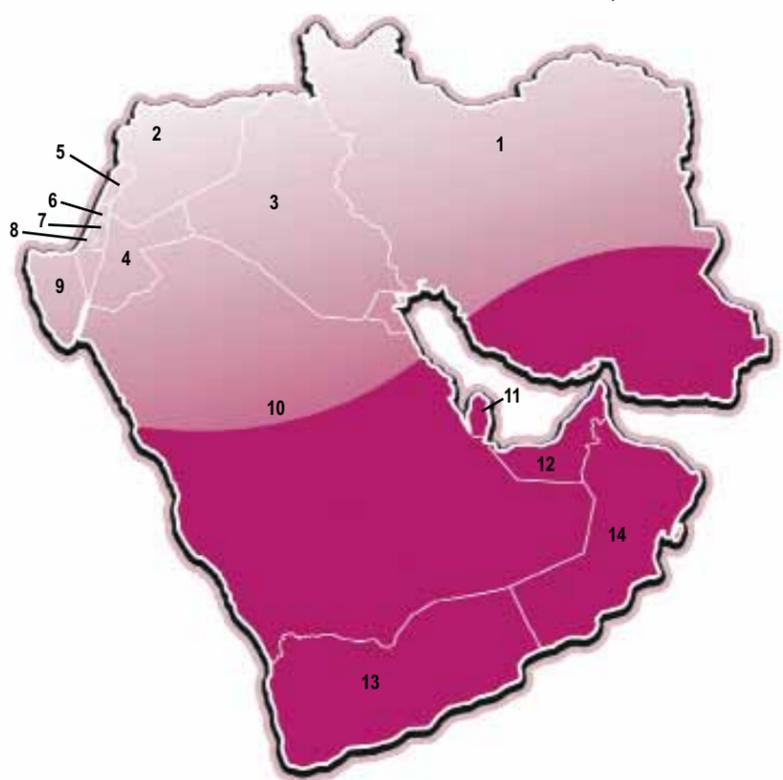
## DOWN

1. African American Princeton native who sang "Old Man River"
2. Hendrix haze color
3. There are two main varieties, the East Coast and West Coast
4. Fox's lair
6. Lymph bump
7. NaCl as it is better known
8. Biblical letters
10. Mercer County Executive
11. Snow monster
12. *The Sun Also Rises* profession
13. Occupant of 221B Baker Street
15. Larger relative of goldfish
16. Popular euphemism for female private parts
19. m&ms or nerds
21. Between queen and ten
25. Lee Harvey's wife
26. Something you tie
27. Star Trek species with pointy ears
29. Off white color
31. *The Devil Wears* \_\_\_\_\_
33. Commercial jingle "\_\_\_\_on! \_\_\_\_off"
35. Number of ounces in a pound
36. *Little Shop of* \_\_\_\_\_
38. Food for Odysseus

## ACROSS

2. Militant 60's group, The Black \_\_\_\_\_
3. Lead actress Susan who starred in *Rocky Horror* and *Bull Durham*
5. Wine color and region
7. A piece of cake?
9. Actress Fanning
13. NJ 12 district congressman who used to be a rocket scientist
14. spur on
16. compete for
17. Opera singer
18. Group that rules the airwaves
20. The dance of love
21. Wooster's factotem
22. \_\_\_\_ Pinkett Smith
23. Bart Simpson comment, "Don't have a \_\_\_\_ man!"
24. Wound treatment
28. A longing
30. An eagle is two under it
31. Taro root pudding
32. Brynner who starred in *The King and I*
33. Horse in Espanol
34. Bess Truman, Hillary Clinton or Laura Bush (2 wds.)
36. The H in HIV
37. Oprah's production company
42. Playtex problem

## MIDDLE EAST GEOGRAPHY QUIZ

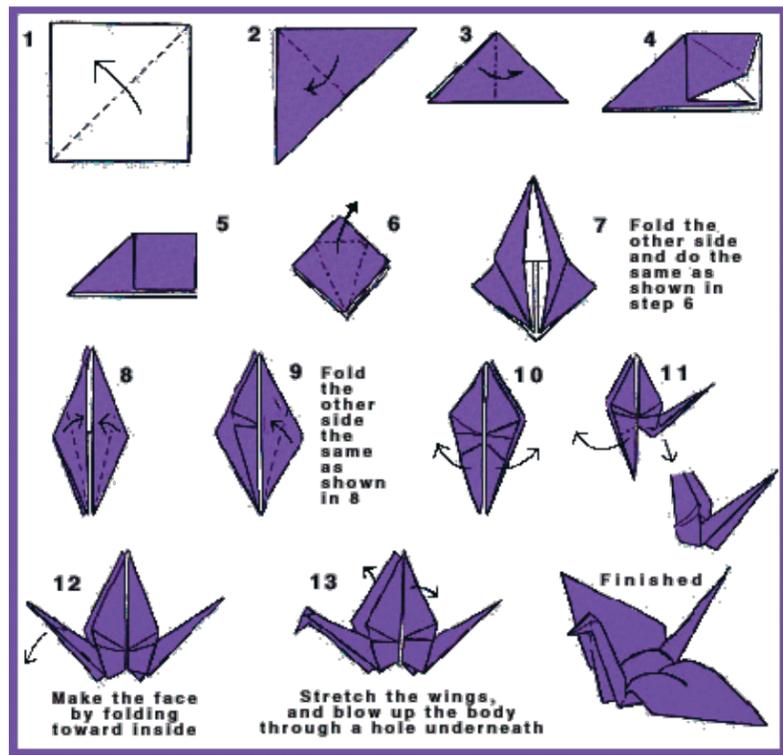


1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_

- Answer Key:
1. Iran
  2. Syria
  3. Iraq
  4. Qatar
  5. Jordan
  6. Israel
  7. West Bank
  8. Gaza
  9. Egypt
  10. Saudi Arabia
  11. U.A.E.
  12. Yemen
  13. Oman
  14. Oman

## FOLD A CRANE FOR WORLD PEACE

Legend has it that if you fold 1,000 paper cranes it will bring peace. Origami, the Japanese art of paper folding is a peaceful pass-time that can certainly bring inner peace and if everyone stopped and folded a few it would likely inspire peaceful interactions world wide. When you have a free minute, find or make a square sheet of paper and fold a crane for peace.



Solution to previous puzzle.

