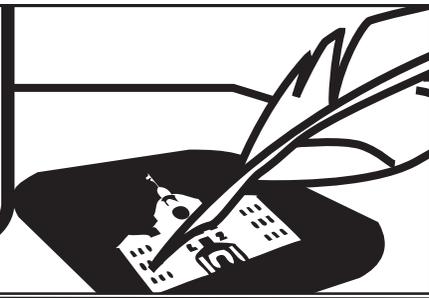


# The Quill



The Quill, Nov., 2018

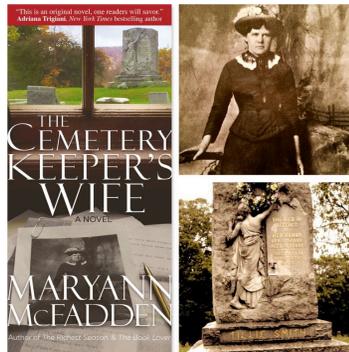
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## A #Me, Too forerunner? Tillie seen in 2018 POV

By Kathleen Bird

More than 132 years after her murder on this campus, the ghost of 18-year-old kitchen worker Tillie Smith is finally being put to rest at Centenary University.

Smith, treated lightly and somewhat jokingly as a benign ghost that supposedly has haunted the campus since her death in April 1886 and the subject of Halloween “Tillie Walk” events retracing her steps through Hackettstown streets before her murder, is now being reframed as the victim of a brutal rape and murder by strangulation.

The renewed interest on Tillie Smith’s life and death is in no small part due to a recently published book by local author Maryann McFadden, *The Cemetery Keeper’s Wife*. It is a novel, a work of fiction that relies on some facts about the scandalous, sensational – and sensationalized – crime in Victorian-era America.

“Tillie was more of a ghost legend, which was emphasized more than the important part of the story, which is that she was brutally sexually assaulted and murdered,” said President David P. Haney recently.

Although Tillie, whose birth name was Matilda, was buried in 1886, her story is nevertheless timeless and especially relevant today, “in consonance with the Me, Too movement and

the increase in awareness that sexual abuse is still a problem,” Haney said.

“The Tillie story is very much relevant today. We’ve treated her as a kind of local legend, like a Halloween story,” rather than an 18-year-old young woman employee of the then Centenary Collegiate Institute who was a victim of a horrible crime, he added. “I don’t care if it was in the late 1800s. It’s our campus (where she died) and it is a horrible event that is still happening here and everywhere else,” Haney said. “I think we have a real obligation to reframe the issue and honor Tillie. There’s no statute of limitations on that in my mind. Even though it happened 130 years ago, it’s still how we present her (now).”

After Tillie’s body was found on the morning of April 9, 1886, after she missed the 10 p.m. curfew, her virginity became an issue in the trial of janitor James Titus, who was accused of the crime, convicted and sentenced to death. The trial occurred in a heightened atmosphere and demand for an arrest stoked by competing local and New York City newspapers in the practice of sensational “yellow journalism” designed to boost paper sales.

Titus later confessed and pleaded guilty in order to spare himself death by

hanging, and some saw it as merely an effort to avoid the death penalty. He served 19 years in prison before he was released on parole.

Tillie was initially buried in a pauper’s grave but her body was moved to the highest point of Union Cemetery on Mountain Avenue. A huge monument to chastity was erected with funds raised by community leaders, college officials and the New York newspapers.

The reframing of Tillie Smith’s story is largely attributed to Maryann McFadden’s book. *The Cemetery Keeper’s Wife* poignantly blends fact and fiction as two women scarred by shame, and separated by more than a century, reach across time and rewrite history,” according to the book cover’s summary.

In the novel, the protagonist, Rachel Miller, walks through the Seay Administration Building, where there actually used to be a café named for the former kitchen employee.

“...I stopped in front of a little coffee bar, and my mouth dropped open. Above the entrance hung a sign: Tillie’s Café. A bolt of anger shot through me. I’d heard the talk several times about Tillie’s ghost roaming the college, and of course I saw the evidence of partying college kids at her grave,” McFadden wrote. (Continued on P. 7)

## Centenary president to resign in June



*Dr. David P. Haney, Centenary University president, recently communicated in e-mails to the faculty, staff, and students, his decision to step down from his position. Below is his e-mail to the student body:*

Dear Centenary Students:

I’m writing to share the news that yesterday, I announced my resignation as president of Centenary University effective June 30 to pursue other opportunities within higher education.

This has been a very difficult decision for my spouse, Lisa Baldwin, and me. When we arrived here nearly three years ago, everyone welcomed us warmly. Since then, we have met so many wonderful Centenary students in the University’s classrooms, at Cyclone games, and at many community service initiatives. We will also never forget how you embraced—and named—our dog, Jefferson. Your intelligence, your caring spirit, and your commitment to Centenary and this community are indeed impressive.

While it’s always hard to leave a place you’ve grown to call home, moving on to new opportunities is a normal part of life. College presidents are similar to you. We spend several years at an institution doing our best work and preparing for the next stage in our professional journey. Over the past three years, I’ve been fortunate to work with dedicated faculty, administrators, and staff who are dedicated to carrying this transition forward. As always, our students will remain at the heart of their efforts.

During my final semester at Centenary, I will continue to have an open door and welcome the opportunity to interact with you. Lisa and I have made many wonderful friends here at Centenary, including with our students, and we will cherish these memories for the rest of our lives.

Sincerely, David P. Haney, President

# Viewpoint!

Articles on pp. 2 -5 were contributed by students in Prof. Kerry Barnett's Advanced Composition class

## It's all about voting

By Sara Schaarschmidt

Voter turnout presented a low in the 2016 presidential race between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. Over 40 percent of eligible voters didn't vote to choose our leader and the face of the United States for the next four years, or longer. Of that percentage of the voting age population (VAP) that chose not to vote, many of them claimed that they didn't vote because they felt as if their vote didn't matter. A study done by Public Religion Research Institute, a non-profit located in Washington, D.C., conducted several public opinion polls regarding this topic, showing a nation divided between having faith in their vote, and having none at all. Many also felt that they had not enough knowledge to confidently vote for a candidate. Here is your Q&A Midterm Voting Guide.

What is the General or Midterm Election? The General/Midterm Election is a nationwide election that occurs halfway through a President's four-year term in office. In this election, voters elect representatives for every level of office from the U.S. Senate, down to local school board representatives. This serves as a part of the "checks-and-balances" system our founding fathers set up in our Constitution to keep leadership fair and balanced throughout a President's term. This year in New Jersey, the office positions up for election are in the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Senate, Special State Legislative, School Boards, and Municipal Government. This year, it takes place on November 6th.

How and where do I vote? Your local polling

station is based on your home address. Voting is free, all you need to do is be registered to vote. If you aren't registered, you can visit [www.vote.gov](http://www.vote.gov) and the process is quick and easy. As a Centenary student, you could visit the Career Development Center and ask about voter registration and voting options while being away from home. It's important you go to your voting station, as your name will not be on the roster in another region's station.

Who is up for election and how can I find out who I'm voting for? There are many websites and resources where you can learn more about who you're voting for. A personal suggestion would be [www.ballotpedia.org](http://www.ballotpedia.org). All New Jersey elections for are presented in a simple, organized Wikipedia-esque format. You get to see all candidates on every ballot—with their affiliated party, headshot, and campaign message. Some have extended biographies and government history, and those that don't have links to related media and campaign pages. Along with just this source, if you have questions about a certain candidate, you can utilize Google Search and even YouTube (TheYoungTurks is a great, non-biased political talk show you could check out)!

You may feel your vote may not count, and you are only one person. Having the ability to vote directly for lower and higher-level officials is a privilege we as citizens may tend to take for granted, especially at a young age. Be an active citizen, keep yourself informed for your own benefit and for the educational benefit of others, and be a part of the process!

## Centenary TV studio gets an upgrade, partners with Comcast



Newly-furbished studio awaits student anchor.

Photo: Zack Martino

By Zack Martino

One of the most notable aspects of the Centenary Communication, Writing and Design program is the TV studio located in the Lackland Center. It serves television production-related classes and is an open space that can be used for a variety of projects.

Now, after striking a deal with Comcast, the TV studio is getting a makeover and will also be used by a party outside of the university.

"Comcast approached us last semester," said Prof. Matt Mendres. "They wanted to find a television studio in the northwest part of the state to use for their online news program called *Newsmakers*." They came in the spring to visit us, looked at our facilities and decided it would work out... In exchange for our allowing Comcast to shoot a bunch of episodes of *Newsmakers* three times a year, they provide us with this set and with professional lighting that we get to keep." *Newsmakers* shot its first episode in late October in the newly-furbished studio.

Production began on *Comcast Newsmakers* in 1990 just outside of Washington D.C. Since then, the program has grown to include both national and regional broadcasts. Topics discussed include the economy, education and the government.

The deal agreed upon between Comcast and Centenary not only benefits both entities, but students studying Communication at Centenary.

"Our partnership with Centenary University provides students the opportunity to regularly observe a professional production while bringing notable *Newsmakers* guests to the campus and enhancing the technology in the studio," said Charles Smith, senior director of government affairs for Comcast.

Mendres not only sees the benefits the new studio will bring to those in the Communication department but for others on campus.

"At the very least, it's going to make our projects in our TV production classes look a lot better," he said. "Anything looks better than just a cyclorama in the background. But I also want to open it up to use for anybody else on campus. I want any other professor or any other academic program who needs some kind of video project done with a professional background to be able to use this. So I'm putting the word out that anybody on campus who could use this for any reason is free to do so."

# Op-ed page

## Editorial

### *#Me, Too culpability/responsibility*

The Quill is the student newspaper of Centenary University, Hackettstown, NJ 07840.

The Quill will publish letters to the editor; however, such letters must not be libelous and must be signed and in good taste. We will refrain from printing your name if you so request.

Address your letters to The Editor, The Quill, at levd@centenaryuniversity.edu

with your full name at the bottom of the email

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(The Quill also welcomes freelancers among the student body who may contact Prof. Debbie Lev through campus email.)

Over the years we have seen progress that is technological, political, environmental, and even social. However, with new advancements come the possible misuse and taking advantage of something that was created to make things better. The newest advancement I am referring to is that of the #Me,Too movement founded by Tarana Burke, who is an American social activist and community organizer.

Burke has been using the term “Me,Too” since early 2006, and her sexual misconduct allegations against Harvey Weinstein. She was instrumental in creating the now popularized movement with the help of Actress Alyssa Milano who used the term as a hashtag on her Twitter in 2017. The Movement’s mission and primary purpose is to help lift women who have been sexually abused or taken advantage of into the spotlight, exposing the people responsible for ruining the lives of their victims. Sounds like a step in the right direction, right? Well, the answer to this is both yes and no.

With a movement as powerful and large as this one, the power is in the hands of the accusers, which can be a good or bad thing. In an article by Liz Rowley on the website The Cut, Burke suggested that the movement may have lost its way in an overlay of drama from accusers and even the media. Sometimes, innocent people who have had messy relationships in the past or even just an unpleasant date can now be shoved into this spotlight of career-ending doom.

So far, celebrities such as Aziz Ansari and Chris Hardwick have fallen victim to past encounters they have both had with women they spent time with. Ansari was accused of sexual misconduct by a woman he had gone on a date with, who did not have legal charges brought against him, just a very tone-deaf story published on the website called “babe.net” by the woman in question. Hardwick had been in a committed relationship for three years with a woman named Chloe Dykstra who also typed up a post that was aimed at her ex-boyfriend under the guise of #Me,Too. Dykstra never named Hardwick directly in her blog post on “Medium.com”; however, once the post was published, people swarmed him in an echo chamber of public opinion condemning him and his company called The Nerdist as well as the TV channel AMC where he hosted a late-night talk show called “The Talking Dead.” Both men almost had their careers ended due to the misuse of the powerful movement #Me,Too and therein lies the possible danger of something so easily manipulatable.

The #Me,Too movement does have its place in our world because it has helped unmask actual abusers in our society, deserving of exile and lawful punishment. This movement is important and in no way should be used as a tool to strike down innocent people just because you’re angry their life is better than yours or that you dated them and it was a bad relationship, instead of picking yourself up and moving on.

Something this important and crucial to the healing of the many victims in our country depends on this power being wielded correctly and responsibly. I have no doubt this movement will uncover and expose many who are guilty of what they will be accused of. Having that accountability might once and for all help teach people that no means no, not yes, not maybe; it means no.

Brendan.McDonnell

**Corrections:** In the October Quill, the article on the PSEG ISS Green Teams program at Montclair State University, the internship was incorrectly described. Rory Langan was the only person from Centenary there. Both the internship and his Green Team were based at Montclair State University, not at Centenary. The director of the program was Dr. Amy Tuininga, but she was not the Centenary advisor, and the institute for which she works is the PSEG Institute for Sustainability Studies, not the PSE&G Institute for Sustainability Studies. Each Green Team had five people, not six. Langan’s Green Team did gather data for Newark (the city for which they worked); however, it was not for sustainable presentations, but for their final presentation. Dr. Ashwani Vasisth, not Dr. Vasisth Ashwani, helped them to understand the guidelines for creating a Greenhouse Gas Inventory Framework which they constructed. They did not maintain a Greenhouse Inventory. The Newark Green Team never worked with greenhouses or health and hospitals. Langan’s team was tasked with creating outreach materials promoting sustainability for a music festival in Newark, creating a Greenhouse Gas Inventory Framework, and creating an Environmental Stewardship map framework. Lastly, Prof. Michael Russell did not work with his group, and NJ HEPS stands for New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability.

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**WHERE:** HACKETTSTOWN CAMPUS IN SEAY PARLOR

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<http://seniors.legacystudios.com/centenary-university-nj/>  
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## Get involved!

By Justin Velez

Now that one year of college is down, and I am starting my second year, I can say that there is a trend that many college students have in common that isn't really noticed.

There are many students who come to college and aren't very social. They tend to just be in and out of classes, go into their rooms and then just stay bored. In reality, there is no reason for them to be bored and do nothing.

It is said that 57 percent of kids on campus participate in student activities. Yes, this is more than half but in reality this is a low number when you think how many kids are actually on campus. Just using an example of Centenary University, there are approximately 1,000 students here.

So 57 percent is around 600, meaning there are 400 not participating in activities.

There are many different activities on campus, from something as simple as making smores to doing something more complex like going to another continent to study. These are things that students overlook because they don't realize all the fun and good opportunities that come from leaving your room for a few hours, taking part in an activity, or traveling.

Yes, of course, people enjoy sitting in bed under their covers watching Netflix, but after a while we all know this activity can get boring.

Students don't realize that they are often causing themselves to be down and feel as if they have no support groups when classes get hard. However, students who have gone out and met plenty of people, are able to have people to rely on, people to help them when college stress hits you. The positive that comes out of this is that you will meet plenty of people and while in college you're supposed to enjoy your four years to the best of your capability. When you are stuck in your room for a semester before you decide to step outside of your room you have already lost half of a year. This doesn't do anything positive for you, and you'll regret it later.

Sporting teams, if you're looking for a better turnout at your home games, try showing support to other teams and other student-hosted activities; you may see more fans at your games when you play. At Centenary we support those who support us, so let's get into some activities and out of our beds. There is way more to do outside of the room than inside; you can meet people, and enjoy the campus feel. Let's make college fun and enjoyable.

# Campus

## STEM lab not just a virtual reality



A peek into the STEM lab on Lackland's second floor.

Photo: Mike Finelli

By Mike Finelli

You might not know that Centenary University has a room full of state of the art technology which can create a virtual reality space: you put a helmet on are transported to another reality. You can hear and see what the VR (virtual reality) shows you. The STEM lab on the second floor of the Lackland Building has many other pieces of technology

Some of the professor who helped turn this STEM Lab dream into a reality are Prof. Kathleen Naasz, Dr. Timothy Frederiks, who essentially runs the lab with the help of Dr. Kris Gunawan and Prof. Timothy Guella, director of Social Media. Guella handles the drones and technology, and Frederiks also works on publicity for the lab, encouraging people and students from other schools to come and use the equipment.

"The STEM lab at Centenary is the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics lab in which students can try their hand with the technology inside. Within the lab there are two 3-D printers, a virtual reality space, augmented reality, a Jamboard, (not unlike a huge iPad) LEGO robots, drones, a Surface Pro computer, and cognitive dinosaur toys to master.

Currently the lab is used mainly by students in the Education department, and other select students invited by their professors to be the first ones to master the technology, in the hopes of being able to teach it to others. Personally, I have mastered the 3-D printer, which is what I mainly work with, but I also know how to use the LEGO robots, augmented reality, Surface Pro computer, Jamboard, and cognitive dinosaur toys. The STEM lab is a learning experience unlike any other I've had at Centenary so far. It will soon able to be reserved by students, but for now only professors can reserve it," said Nick Sweeney, a student with the unofficial title of Stem Ambassador for virtual reality, robots and graphic arts.

# Campus

## Anyone can be bullied

By Jada Cooper

I remember the time I was in my school's cafeteria sitting with some friends and eating lunch, and a lady came up to me. At this time, I had braids in my hair and she started to ask me a lot of questions about my hair, like: "Is that your real hair? How do you do it? Can you wash it?" I did not know how to answer the questions because I felt as though she was trying to be funny. I also felt as though she was trying to judge me because I had weave in my hair. I felt bullied.

The act of bullying not only happens in high school, but it can also happen in college. Bullying is the use of superiority or influence to intimidate (someone), typically to force him or her to do what one wants. Bullying is a serious problem throughout the United States. Bullying can cause some to harm themselves. Bullying can be physical or verbal violence. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose. Not only does bullying impact kids and adolescents, but it can also impact adults. Victims of bullying and bystanders should report this issue right away. According to <https://www.findapsychologist.org/category/healthcare-topics-issues/bullying/> over 70 percent of students' report that bullying is a problem at their school.

Bullying can contribute to many issues. These issues can include students feeling socially isolated, worthless or depressed. These effects can last well into adulthood. It can also increase a person's chance of experiencing things like anxiety disorders. Helping a child through a bullying situation can be complicated and often requires collaboration between parents, kids, teachers, and school counselors. For anyone trying to overcome their bullying situation, he/she should contact a psychologist. By contacting their psychologist, he/she and the psychologist will be able to identify healthy strategies to improve the overall quality of the child's functioning at school.

There are three different types of bullying. These three types of bullying include verbal bullying, social bullying, and physical bullying. Verbal bullying is saying or writing mean things. Verbal bullying includes teasing, name-calling, inappropriate sexual comments, taunting and threatening to cause harm. Social bullying is sometimes referred to as relational bullying, involves hurting someone's reputation or relationships. Social bullying includes leaving someone out on purpose, telling other children not to be friends with someone, spreading rumors about someone and embarrassing someone in public. Physical bullying involves hurting a person's body or possessions. Physical bullying includes hitting/kitting/ punching, spitting, tripping/pushing, taking or breaking someone's things and making mean or rude hand gestures.

Bullying also includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose.

You might be wondering when and where can bullying happen. Well, bullying can occur during or after school hours. Most issues that are reported happen in the school building. A significant percentage also happens in places like the playground or on the bus. Bullying can also happen travelling to or from school, in the youth's neighborhood, or on the internet. Bullying can be characterized by three minimum criteria. These criteria include hostile intent, imbalance of power and repetition over a period of time.

There is a lot of evidence that bullying increases the risk of suicide. But bullying alone doesn't cause suicide. Depression is a huge cause of why kids who are bullied die by suicide. According to a self-report study completed in New York, victims of bullying have been reporting more depressive symptoms and psychological distress than those who did not experience bullying. Also, it has been estimated that between 15 and 25 children die by suicide every year alone because they are bullied.

Another form of bullying is cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is using technology---- internet, email, cell phones, social media, pictures to hurt or harm someone else. This includes sending mean text messages, posting statements online that are unkind or not true, sending or posting pictures that are not yours to share. This also includes making negative comments online about someone or agreeing with someone who posts something hurtful. Bullying is never okay, cool, or acceptable. No one ever deserves to be bullied.

This topic relates to my life very well. I have gotten bullied before and it was not a pretty thing. I got bullied over social media like Facebook and Instagram and in person. On social media, people used to compare me to animals from the Ice Age and a giraffe. They said I had a long neck. This bullying made me feel sad, hurt and I felt like I was not wanted in this world. It also made me feel like no one loved me or cared about me. It also made me feel like I was ugly. But after a while I learned to get over it. I learned that people are going to talk about you until the day you die. You really can't stop anyone from saying things because people are always going to talk, that's just the type of cruel world we live in today. Anyone who decides to bully others should have to face severe consequences. As you can tell from reading this, bullying is very serious and it's been a serious issue throughout the United States. Anyone including adults can get bullied and it can happen anywhere. Bullying is an issue that needs to be stopped, and when it happens it needs to be reported. If bullying is not reported, it will continue to happen. Bullying can put other's lives in danger. Bullying is a huge problem and is something that can get out of control in no time.

## Centenary Stage Company and Centenary University present a Gates-Ferry Series: *What is Truth?*



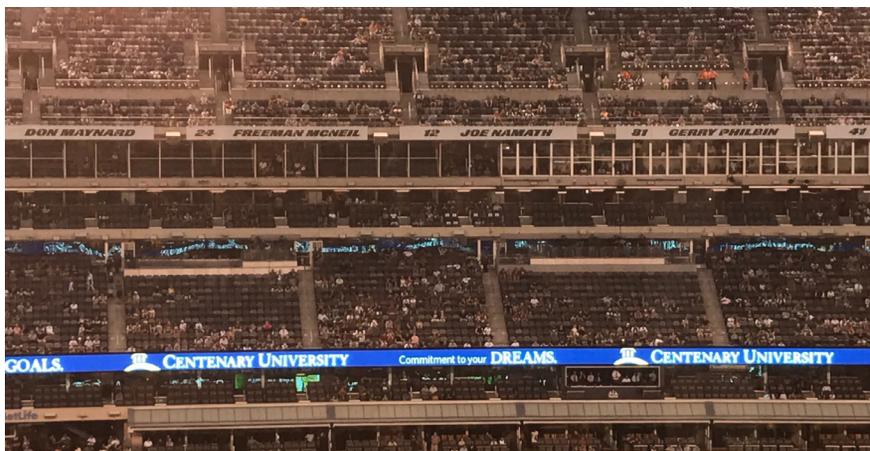
Anne Occhiogrosso and Randall Duk Kim

This year's Gates-Ferry series, *What is Truth?* a collaborative effort by the CSC and the university challenges its audiences in a blend of classroom discussions and dramatic performances. Led by guest artists Randall Duk Kim and Anne Occhiogrosso, it will feature two readings, one production, classes and workshops built around classical texts. In this time of "Fake News" and "Alternative Truths" and convenient omission of the facts, one is forced to ask "What is Truth? And does it really matter?" Both these questions have served as the core inquiry of our greatest playwrights over the last two thousand years. We can see how they encounter it, try to escape it, hide from it, expose it and deny it, how it affects their lives and the consequences endured through its encounter.

The program offers two staged readings in the Sitnik Theatre including *Oedipus Rex* ("truth un-avoided") performed in September and *King Lear* ("truth banished") on Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 7:00 p.m. Finally, as a culmination of the program, a full scale production of *An Enemy of the People* will be presented Feb. 15 through March 3. In addition to the reading events and production, classes and workshops led by Randall Duk Kim and Anne Occhiogrosso will be offered throughout the season.

# Campus

## Centenary partners with The New York Jets



Stadium-goers learn about Centenary.

Photo: Zack Martino

By Katie Peters

Prof. Kathleen Naasz of the Social Media Marketing Department is very excited about the University's innovative partnership with The New York Jets, and is already implementing the partnership into her classes.

Not only is the partnership beneficial to Centenary, but Centenary's students are able to get hands-on experience with it, as well.

"The Jets chose Social Media Marketing as a key program to work with because it's new and a growing area, so they wanted us to work with their social media manager and staff for a joint project," Naasz said.

In her Social Media Marketing class, Naasz adds, "We're doing an audit of all their platforms and comparing it to what other NFL teams do, to give them recommendations."

Naasz said the students learned how to run a virtual meeting on their own and have already had one meeting with the management staff of The Jets via Skype.

By Halifa Bradford

Next semester, Centenary will begin a new program with the New York Jets that will create a new course. The program will be made into a Jets themed course that will cover topics such as sales, social media, and data, regarding the way in which the professional run a sports business.

Internships will also be offered to sports management students seeking to get into the sports industry. These internships will allow students to be mentored by professionals on the Jets' staff: the ability to do fast-paced tasks and learn skills while mentored by Jets staff.

Pres. David Haney said he felt optimistic about this partnership and the fact that media have shared this news, good exposure for Centenary and the Jets.

Students will get to understand the step-by-step process of such internships as an entree into the business of sports.

Pres. Haney and the Jets' executives have expressed their excitement about the partnership and the benefits this will give students. The partnership is sure to excite Jets fans on campus.

## Getting to know you, the U.S., the campus, and myself

By Tiffany Zhang

This semester, the International Office has been working with a program through a local church called Right@Home. Right@Home connects international students with American families and provides events and activities for students to get to know American culture. They have a lot of local activities every weekend.

In addition, a warm and unforgettable meet-and-greet was hosted by the International Office recently in the form of a welcome back lunch for international students in the Seay Building.

Lesce Lauren and Hong Rong Tang are international students' admissions counselors who are also responsible for the international office. Erolly Duverge and Kayla Thau, the First Year Leaders, and Yang (Alvin) Gao as a Graduate Student Assistant in the International Office, organized the meeting together. They provided delicious pizza and drinks for students. It was a great opportunity to meet new international students and catch up with friends. They have planned activities for the international students and help students get to know Centenary University.

Guessing puzzles and imitation shows were very interesting ways of interaction among students. Most international students get homesick, so these programs are intended to help students feel more comfortable in their daily lives, especially after leaders shared their own experiences on campus.

*"This could be the beginning of a beautiful friendship..."*

By Shuxian Zhang

Students interested in film, TV and video production are busy trying out their skills in a new production club which meets on the second floor of Lackland.

The room is filled with props and other equipment.

Prof. Boris Gavrilovic, advising the club, said it focuses on cultivating students' skills and interests, giving them the courage to try, develop independence, innovation etc.

Students can share their creative ideas, most

often with students will using campus stories as a theme, so that people can understand the thinking and life of contemporary students. In addition, on special holidays, such as Halloween, students will try to create horror clips to increase the atmosphere and celebrate the festival.

At the same time, any completed production can be shared on the school's official YouTube channel for other students in various majors. Students can also share their comments on YouTube Channel: Centenary University Film

# Campus

## English lit students to present papers

By Brendan McDonnell

Centenary University students who have written papers in either British Literature I, Shakespeare, or Medieval/early modern class focusing on the 1660's are being given the opportunity to present their papers, whether they be research-based or not, on a themed panel with other students from other colleges in the same field of study.

Prof. Joey McMullen will be accompanying the students to the conference as well as helping interested students put together their presentations.

An estimated 30 colleges will be in attendance and about 80 to 90 papers will be presented at the conference at Moravian College in December.

Prof. McMullen is hoping to bring three to five students with him to the conference, Two Centenary

students that will be presenting papers are, Sachel Bise and Sam Maltby. Bise will be presenting her paper on Shakespeare's "A mid-summer Night's Dream," and her main focus is on the character Titania.

Maltby will be presenting a paper on "The Concept of Time in Early medieval Elegies".

The students will benefit from this experience for a multitude of reasons, mainly professional development, as well as gaining valuable feedback on their papers from other people attending the conference whether they are professors or students.

Other cosmetic benefits they will gain are experiences students can add to their resumes, practice in public speaking, and finally meeting other students who are interested in the same field of study as theirs.

## Tillie: A #Me,Too precursor?

(Continued from p. 1)

"But here was yet more evidence that her violent death had become almost a mockery. As I peeked in at the people sipping their drinks, reading or chatting, I wanted to go inside and yell at them. It seemed sacrilegious. What had happened to Tillie had become little more than local legend and entertainment, with hardly a thought to what she had suffered," she wrote. Tillie Smith was raped and strangled. Titus' jury conviction was based on circumstantial evidence and conjecture. Those lines were the wake-up call for Haney and other Centenary administrators and Student Life staff.

McFadden, who has lived in Hackettstown since 1964, has been fascinated with Tillie since she saw the

monument at her grave site when she was young. It took her five years to write the book.

"I had this burden to create Tillie as accurately as possible. My original title was *Finding Tillie*. She had become a footnote in this sensational story," she said. McFadden is a former reporter for the Hackettstown Gazette and taught writing and other communications courses at Centenary in the 1980s. Besides the café named for the dead woman, McFadden was annoyed at the idea of Tillie Bucks, a form of on-campus currency in place of money, and the Halloween Tillie Walks through town.

Centenary theater students used to put on a dramatic play about Tillie from a

script written by a former student. Those activities are now gone for good or soon will be, according to Haney. The organizers of those light-hearted features, she said, "don't know the truth, that she led a very difficult existence. Her name was forever tarnished by James Titus' confession to save his neck," and the yellow journalists who fueled the story that she was supposedly having an affair with the married father, Titus, and was pregnant. "People in town over the decades referred to her as a prostitute and a whore." Others found the story so shameful they refused to talk about it.

The "blame the victim" stance is still true in 2018.

"I think Tillie's story

is so timely today because while so much has changed, so much hasn't. I don't know if it's ever going to change," McFadden said.

As part of her factual research for the novel, McFadden relied in part on a nonfiction book by local historian Denis Sullivan, *In Defence of Her Honor*, the slogan on her cemetery monument. She also relied on the historical research underlying Sullivan's book, including the actual transcript of the trial, which Sullivan discovered in storage in Trenton.

As a result of her novel, many women have been sharing their stories of sexual abuse and harassment with McFadden.

"The story has resonated with readers," she said, noting, "I think it's wonder-

ful that women are stepping forward."

As far as the big picture goes, McFadden says of Tillie: "I wanted her story known. Her death defined her. Now, I'd like her life to do the same thing. It's never too late. Tillie never had a chance to tell her story."

Tillie Smith's real life story will be integrated as part of the Student Life activities in the spring, thanks in part to a \$300,000 federal grant Centenary received to continue and to expand its initiatives about awareness about consent, date rape, harassment, and assault. That includes Take Back the Night events.

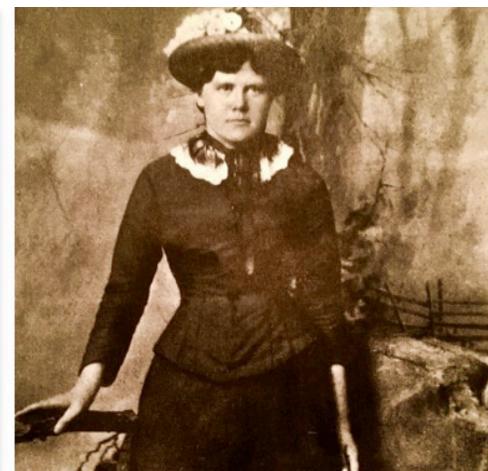
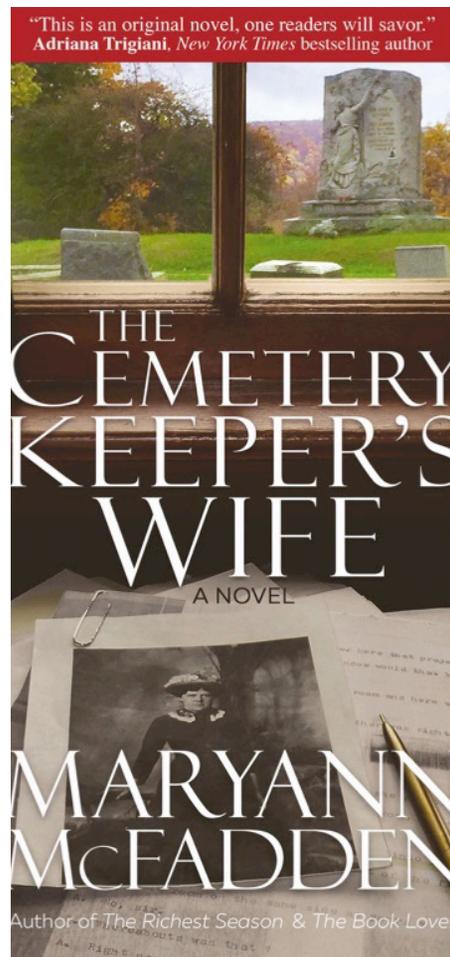


Photo and illustration courtesy of Maryann McFadden: her book cover, vintage photo of Tillie Smith, and the monument at Tillie's grave.

# Campus

## *Wellness Center: a Victorian building housing modern approaches to keeping students healthy*

By Kathleen Bird

Whether it a case of stress or strep throat, Centenary University students seek help at the yellow Victorian house that is home to the Wellness Center for Counseling and Health.

The busy three-story center at 605 Grand Ave. offers a range of services to improve the physical and mental health of students.

Theresa Lord-Stout, a certified nurse practitioner, serves as director of health services, while Lorna Farmer, a longtime licensed clinical social worker, is director of counseling. They are assisted in handling cases by their teams that includes a medical doctor, a psychiatrist, a nurse, therapists, clerical staff and others.

The number of students looking for assistance continues to grow every year but is no different from that of most colleges nationally, Farmer said. Those seeking mental health counseling or other wellness services make up just under 9 percent of all Centenary students, and that includes full-time, part-time, undergraduate and graduate ones.

“At Centenary, as with every college and university in the United States, we are seeing an increasing number of students with anxiety,” she said. The experience at Centenary matches reports and studies about other schools. The most-common reason for students’ seeking counseling used to be depression but over the years, anxiety has surpassed it.

Now, depression is the No. 2 reason and the No. 3 reason involves relationships of all kinds, including roommates, love interests, and more

Farmer cites a host of reasons for anxiety, including the current culture of multi-tasking, students spending too much time on electronic devices like smart phones, students’ wanting things to be done quickly, and a culture prone to people comparing themselves to others on social media platforms.

“I honestly believe, but I have no proof, that the way we eat and the food we eat affects their mood state,” she added.

Ongoing national and world events also are a source of stress and anxiety, including national politics and traumatic events including mass murders, school shootings, floods, wildfires, hurricanes and other disasters. Sexual harassment and sexual assault cases in the news create a steady diet that can induce stress.

“I think we’re at a tipping point,” Farmer said, referring to the “Me, Too” movement and the spotlight on sexual harassment, sexual abuse, gaslighting and misogyny. Gaslighting is manipulating someone psychologically in order for them to question their own sanity. An example of that is telling someone that something they saw or heard never happened.

Repetition of stress-causing news has an impact. “We saw that in 2001,” she said, recalling the repeated broadcasting of the images of the World Trade Center being hit with airplanes, people jumping to the deaths, and the two towers finally collapsing. “This is not healthy.”

Students today are more inclined to seek counseling than they did in the past partly because of efforts to remove the stigma and partly because of greater availability of insurance coverage for mental-health matters.

“(Enough) sleep is a huge component in mental health,” said Farmer, who has been the counseling director at Centenary for 14 years. There are increases in students seeking help at certain times and milestones in the academic year. October is the heaviest month for students seeking counseling because of fall mid-term exams and projects usually more demanding and more difficult than those in the spring, she said.

Changes in less sunlight in the winter, before Thanksgiving, and before Christmas break, all create higher demand. Freshman students away from home for the first time often seek help in the fall and spring brings in a lot of seniors who are about to graduate and are anxious about their futures and job prospects, she said.

“Finances are a huge part of it,” Farmer said of the stress that students experience. Fear of defaulting on student loans plays a factor. The category of students who seek the most help are full-time ones living on campus. The Wellness Center is just a short walk from dormitories.

On the menu of services provided are individual counseling, couples counseling, psychiatric evaluations, psychiatric medical management, drug/alcohol assessments, and many other services. Centenary offers a variety of wellness workshops.

Mental-health crisis services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

On the physical health side, Theresa Lord-Stout sees students for both sick visits and well visits such as routine physicals and injuries. However, she noted, some medical services need to be farmed out to other medical providers. “We are not an emergency room,” she said.

Full-time traditional students who pay a new \$150 per semester wellness fee may get PAP smears, gynecological services and vaccinations. Lord-Stout maintains a small in-house pharmacy of commonly prescribed medications such as some birth-control pills and some antibiotics. Since she is a licensed nurse practitioner, she is able to write prescriptions.

Students who have other insurance can choose to opt out of the Centenary insurance plan. But if they do not opt out, they must pay more than \$2,000 per year, plus \$250 per year for the services of the Wellness Center for Counseling and Health, for a total of about \$2,400 per year, according to Denton Stargel, vice-president of Finance. Last year, that cost was about \$800.

Pregnancy tests and routine dip-sticks for urinary tract infections are also done. Rapid testing for HIV is now also available, thanks to a state grant. Students may also get tested for sexually transmitted infections.

Maintaining immunization records and administering vaccinations against certain diseases are among the biggest categories of her job but is also “unsung.” Hepatitis B vaccinations must be given, she said, “to ensure the health and safety of the Centenary community. Infectious diseases can spread like wild-fire” on a college campus. Flu shots are also administered.

Last year, Centenary participated in a challenge by the New Jersey Department of Health that was designed to increase flu awareness and vaccination rates. Centenary placed second after Seton Hall University, and is hoping to win this academic year.

Centenary’s health services have expanded and become much more visible on the campus since Lord-Stout started as director in September 2014, taking over from longtime nurse Jean Roberts, who retired.

# Campus

## Wellness



Theresa Lord-Stout, nurse practitioner in her office in the Wellness Center. Photo: Kathleen Bird

(Continued from p. 8.)

A month later, the health and wellness center moved from outdated, inadequate space on the third floor of the Seay Administration Building to the renovated yellow house on Grand Avenue. It had been used for Student Life staff housing. (Continued on next page.)

Students, regardless of whether they were ill or well, were required to trudge up the many flights of stairs to reach the offices, which were not handicapped accessible.

“If you weren’t sick, you were at the top of the

steps,” said the nurse, who has 38 years of professional nursing experience. A life-long Hackettstown resident, she began doctoral studies but dropped out to start a family.

In the 2017-18 academic year, the health services staff handled 964 visits by students and that number has increased every year since Lord-Stout began her job.

Students may call the Wellness Center for Counseling and Health to make an appointment or find out walk-in hours.

## Centenary president talks on WNTI about new ventures



Pres. Haney and Katie Peters on WNTI. Photo: John Del Re

By Katie Peters

President Haney recently made another on-air appearance in the WNTI studio in October. Dr. Haney was interviewed by Programming Director Katie Peters about various topics including Family & Alumni Weekend, Centenary’s new partnership with The New York Jets, groundbreaking on the new baseball field, and more.

“We’re making a number of efforts to reach out, especially to younger alumni, as well as others to get them involved with students,” President Haney said, adding that the University is reaching out to the families and parents of current students more than in past years.

Another topic discussed was the new partnership between Centenary and The New York Jets, a new educational program that will provide hands-on experience for students and will teach them about the business operations of an NFL franchise.

“This really is multi-faceted because what this partnership will do is give our students the opportunity, especially our Business majors, to work directly with The Jets’ management team,” Haney said.

The groundbreaking of Centenary’s “Diamond of Dreams” baseball field will take place later this month, and President Haney added that it was a very long road to get to this point.

“It will be artificial turf as our lacrosse /soccer field is, which is great, especially for baseball because the season starts in late February, and a turf field will be much easier compared to the real challenge that a grass field is in the winter,” President Haney added. Haney also said that donations began coming in during Fall of 2016. One donation that the University received was from former Centenary President Stephanie Bennett Smith.

“We’re using roughly \$2.8 million of totally donated funds, strictly dedicated to this baseball field,” Haney said

The full interview can be viewed on WNTI’s Facebook page.

## Pay attention to your health

By Tiffany Zhang

Theresa A. Lord-Stout, director of the campus health services urges students to pay more attention to preventive measures regarding the flu and colds in the fall semester.

First, students ought to know the difference between getting the flu and having a cold. Sore throat and persistent runny nose are symptoms of the common cold, but severe cough and high fever are signs of getting the flu.

So, in order to prevent getting the flu, Lord-Stout advises students to have a flu vaccine, free for every Centenary student. The other vaccine she suggests is meningitis B vaccine, for students who are not immune enough; vaccination against meningitis can help prevent the disease and protect their general health. When the flu season is coming, there will be professional health care doctors who vaccinate students in the cafeteria.

Furthermore, she reminds students about something small to keep away disease in daily life. Get plenty of sleep and rest, eat properly, do exercise, wash your hands frequently, don’t smoke, and cover your mouth when you sneeze .

She said she knows that many students are under great pressure, so students should explore ways to deal with it. If students need psychological counseling, they can go to the Wellness Center or call at 908-852 1400, ext. 2206.

# The Arts

Colleen Smith

Wallnau, right, in *Apples in Winter*, award-winning play with surprising, dark overtones. Performances, presented by Centenary Stage Company, Nov. 8-18. For tickets, contact the box office at 908-979-0900.

The National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere of Jennifer Fawcett's award winning *Apples in Winter* is the winner of Centenary Stage Company's 2017 Susan Glaspell award and recipient of the prestigious National New Play Network (NNPN) Smith Prize of 2015-16,

## Theatre major ass't director off-Broadway

By Kira Schwartz

A senior at Centenary University recently had the experience of a lifetime and filled the role of assistant director for an off-Broadway show.

Sonya Thiel, 21, accepted the role as an assistant director for Sarah Norris and her production of *Hitler's Tasters*. The play opened Oct. 5 and ran through Oct. 27 at the IRT Theater in the West Village in New York City on Christopher Street.

Thiel is a Theatre major with a double concentration in production management and technical theater.

She first worked with Norris in Centenary Stage Company's production of *Hitler's Tasters* in the spring 2018. She wanted to assist direct because she "wanted to do something a bit different and get new experience."

Thiel said, "I fell in love with the way she works and the product she put out as a female director. The way she works is just so unique and creative and unlike any other director I've ever seen. We worked really well together, and she respected me as an assistant, and I respected her as a director."

The play was set to go to New York City in the fall, so Norris asked Thiel if she would be around to help with the show. Around May, Thiel was contacted to see if she would like to be the assistant director.

As soon as Thiel learned her class schedule,

she told Norris when she could come to the city. Norris worked with Thiel's class schedule, and Thiel went into the city about three times a week. She was able to be present for all of tech week and help fine-tune the product of the show.

Thiel said the best thing about the production was the full-female team: all the actors, designers, director, and stage management were female - even the playwright. She said the show was the easiest tech experience she has ever had and will probably ever have because of how smoothly everything went and how everyone worked together.

*Hitler's Tasters* is a play written by Michelle Kholos Brooks, Mel Brooks' daughter-in-law. It's about a girl during World War II who were picked to taste Hitler's food before he ate it to make sure he was not poisoned.

Thiel said there was a hint of modernism in the show and that "what happened once can happen again." She said the girls are "just being girls, talking about boys and movies." The show puts the story in today's world, not just 1940 when the war was going on. You see how the girls respond when they could die at any moment.

Thiel plans to graduate this semester and is working avidly in the theater, finishing up *Dracula* and beginning *Annie* which is set to play in November.



## A sensory take on the recent CSC production of Dracula

By Kira Schwartz

Centenary Stage Company presented *Dracula* Oct. 12-28 at the Stinik Theater. The play's book was written by Bram Stoker and was adapted and directed by Charles Morey.

Here's what you missed:

*Dracula* takes place in nineteenth century Europe and is a story of a vampire who wreaks havoc on residents of Transylvania and London, England. Jonathan Harker is a young man who visits Castle Dracula and is petrified by the experience. His wife, Mina, is left back in London, where her friend Lucy Westenra is taken in by Count Dracula's grasp and turned into a vampiress. Her fiance, Arthur Holmwood, along with Dr. John Seward and Abraham Van Helsing, set out to defeat Dracula and restore peace in Europe. The play takes place over the timespan of May through November, 1892.

There were many elements of the production that captivated the audience. The acting, set and sound, and costumes and make-up all stood out in *Dracula*.

The acting in *Dracula* was distinguished by the accents, emphasis on emotions, and the language of the era. The accents matched the location of the play, which added a dimension of reality to the performance. When terror strikes in a scene, the emotion was evident through tone used in the dialogue as well as screams and gasps. The language of the era was displayed through the word choices of old English. Also, at the beginning of the show, the ensemble spoke in the language of Transylvanians back in the nineteenth century, which added flair.

The set displayed an old castle with high stone walls. Two large curtains on either side represented multiple dimensions of the scenery. There was a second floor to show Dracula's power over others as he stood on the platform. The lighting distinguished what time of day it was and when Dracula was approaching. Fog covered the stage whenever Dracula made his appearances. Sounds of wolves and gunshots filled the theater to warn of Dracula's coming as well as fight scenes.

Costumes and make-up embellished the show in nineteenth century style. The costumes resembled the style of the century with long dresses, petticoats, and suits. The colors of the female characters' costumes were bright blues and yellows. The male characters wore dark colors such as black and brown. Dracula wore a black cape: a stereotypical Dracula staple. Dracula's make-up stood out; it was dark, and his cheekbones were sunken. His hair started out white and long, except when he took form as a younger man with dark, short hair.

# The Arts

## Centenary student sits at *Reporter's Roundtable*



Jack Reinhard, center, on set of Reporter's Roundtable. Photo courtesy of Jack Reinhard and PBS 39.

By Christopher Snow

Jack Reinhard, a senior Communication major at Centenary University, has just recently been named a panel member of PBS 39's television news program called *Reporter's Roundtable*, a weekly show that gathers a panel of students from local universities to discuss real issues of local, regional and national concern. The panel consist of five college students as well as a host and producer of the show.

The other students on the panel are Mohab Abou-Elalla from Temple University, Chantale Belefanti from Drexel University, Sara Boyd from Lehigh University, and Natasha Filipov from Drexel University. The host and producer of the PBS 39's program is Tracy Yatsko.

"I am very grateful and fortunate to have the opportunity to work with Tracy Yatsko and four other awesome panelists from three different schools including Drexel University, Lehigh University and Temple University," Reinhard said. "We have a great group of panelists from a variety of majors including communications, journalism, media studies, political science, economics, and marketing."

This is *Reporter's Roundtable's* second season. Weekly episodes air every Friday night at 7:00 p.m. as well as on Sundays at 5:30 p.m.

Reinhard made his debut on the PBS 39 program in September, on the first episode of season two. He will finish his work with the program on December 7, when the season concludes.

Every Friday morning, Reinhard travels to the set of PBS 39's Reporter's Roundtable, to shoot a weekly episode. The set of the show is located on Sesame Street in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Although the shooting of each episode takes place on Friday, planning for each episode starts earlier in the week.

"We submit trending news topics in a shared document for potential discussion on the show and on Thursday morning, we agree on what topics we want to discuss for Friday's show," said Reinhard. Friday preparations are important to the success of the each weekly show.

"Shortly after 10:00, when everyone else arrives, we have a meeting with all of the panelists, our host, Tracy Yatsko, and our producers, to go over everything for the show one last time," Reinhard said. "Around 10:45 or 11:00 we head across the hallway to our set where our crew gets us mic'd up, tests audio levels, and adjusts camera angles."

After Recording each weekly show, the cast and crew also have other tasks to fulfill before that day is done.

"Eventually, we wrap up our show and then record a quick commercial to air before the show, on PBS 39 News Tonight," said Reinhard. "Once we are done with that, we do a few promotional pieces for our social media and then call it a day around 1:00."

The day doesn't end for Reinhard when he leaves the studio. "When I return home, I go onto my social media accounts and help promote that evening's show by sharing and making posts about it," Reinhard said.

Reinhard connected with PBS 39 over the summer by a lucky coincidence. That coincidence ended up presenting him with an opportunity to be a part of PBS 39's program. "Over the summer, I was covering a story for the Warren County-based news website, Inside Warren, which I do reporting for and there happened to be a reporter there from PBS 39, too," said Reinhard. "Later that evening, I went to PBS 39's YouTube channel to view her story and I noticed there was a video posted that day about auditions for *Reporters Roundtable*, so I immediately jumped at the opportunity and completed an application."

Reinhard was invited for an interview a week after he submitted his application. A few weeks later, Reinhard was selected to be one of the five student panelists on PBS 39's *Reporter's Roundtable*.

Reinhard accepted the position because he believes that the position will offer good hands-on training. "I chose this opportunity because I knew it would be a great way to get first-hand experience in the television industry," Reinhard said. "I am pursuing a career as a multimedia journalist in television news reporting. "This experience allows me to gain more time in front of the camera and being on television, which will make me more valuable to employers when I'm job seeking."

# The Arts

## Venom: a not- so-tasty film

By Andrew Seidenberg

The movie "Venom" stars Tom Hardy, Michelle Williams and Riz Ahmed and is about a San Francisco news reporter named Eddie Brock whose life changed when an alien named Venom uses him as a host.

Together they become an unstoppable "anti hero."

An anti hero is a central character in a story and movie who lacks conventional heroic attributes.

Unfortunately, though, the movie did not pay off with the potential of a compelling character like Venom.

First, Tom Hardy's character, Eddie, and Michelle Williams's Anne Weying had no chemistry as a couple. It was unclear if they were going to be together or not, throughout the entire two hours.

Riz Ahmed played the villain, Carlton Drake. He seemed to have potential to be a pretty interesting villain but then lost it in the second half of the film when he became too generic. The biggest issue of the movie was it rushed making some scenes confusing. That is lazy writing because it makes the story unclear. The only positive of the film was Tom Hardy who nailed it as Eddie and Venom, making their connection funny at times. Other than that, "Venom" was big swing and a miss!

## Life-changing Study Away program affords exciting opportunities in Semester in Washington

Halifa Bradford

Ever thought about going to class in Washington, D.C and getting a internship on Capitol Hill? You can do both: Patricia Mahaffey, coordinator of the Study Away program can give you information regarding a chance to go to American University in Washington, D.C. and experience life in our nation's capital and get a internship working in or with museums, Congress, senators, non-profits organizations, broadcasting networks and more. To apply for this program students must be a junior with a GPA of 3.3, and write a essay which will be followed with a interview. The program is very competitive and very worth it.

Beyond being a potential life-changing experience, the credits students earn in a Washington semester will automatically transfer to Centenary, including grades received in internships and American University courses student may take.. Mahaffey talks about students who come back from the program in D.C. who gain confidence and a new perspective on life, changes that can help them solve problems because of the experiences they've had in the program.

One student, Aysha Hackact, who was interning in the judicial branch of government in Washington, visited Mahaffey during a open house here on campus. Mahaffey had said "she came back very ecstatic and learned a lot while in Washington." Students who are majoring in the social sciences are good candidates, but Mahaffey strongly recommends that students of any major apply so that they, too, can broaden their outlook.

Even if students are not eager to get involved in politics, there are tons of options to choose from in an internship manual for the program with 3,000 choices, most of which are in capitol hill. Learning in American University while living there and interning there for three days a week is certainly a change of pace, and can be a very welcome one to a go-getter.

To learn more about this program contact Mahaffey at [Patricia.mahaffey@centenaryuniversity.edu](mailto:Patricia.mahaffey@centenaryuniversity.edu) to learn how to apply and the requirement.. This is literally a once in a lifetime opportunity for Centenary students to enjoy a semester away, knowing you're still in the United States.

## Spirit Squad: a new face on campus looking to rev up excitement

By Ann.Otes

There are many new groups being introduced on campus this year, and The Spirit Squad is one of them. a positive thing for Centenary.

You probably have felt that pep or spirit has been missing, and that's why the spirit squad is working to bring that energy onto the campus and make a more positive environment.

"Our goal is simple," said Michelle Harrison, one of the founders of the squad, "We want more headcount at games. We want to promote school spirit; you can ask anyone around, and they'll tell you that the one thing the school lacks is school spirit. Even at basketball games or any games - - There's nobody who's really like 'Go Cyclones!' So we want to get a group of people willing to help us bring that school spirit on campus."

A lot of freshmen or incoming transfers may feel it to be very hard to get involved in activities, and the spirit squad is working on trying to recruit more new students who want to be a part of something fun and positive. They currently have 28 members, both girls and guys, and have many new events planned that will be announced when basketball season starts. They held a small introductory event during the Alumni Weekend and had many people intrigued and talking about it.

"Some people will try to compare us to the dance team, but the dance team is solely about dance. We're different. We want to create chants that will get the crowds hyped up, or maybe a T-shirt Toss - - things that will get the crowd more involved in the game." Michelle explained. "We also want to have fundraisers so that we'll be able to do more for our school."

There were previously two different teams who tried to have a spirit squad on campus but for some reason, it did not work out. Wakes her think that her version of the spirit squad will work out? She scoffed and said, " Because we have a plan, and we want it bad enough. Right now it's just Maddy McCrones and me as the officers working towards our goal but we want to expand and have everyone else involved in something; we want to have someone doing social media for example, so it's really exciting!"

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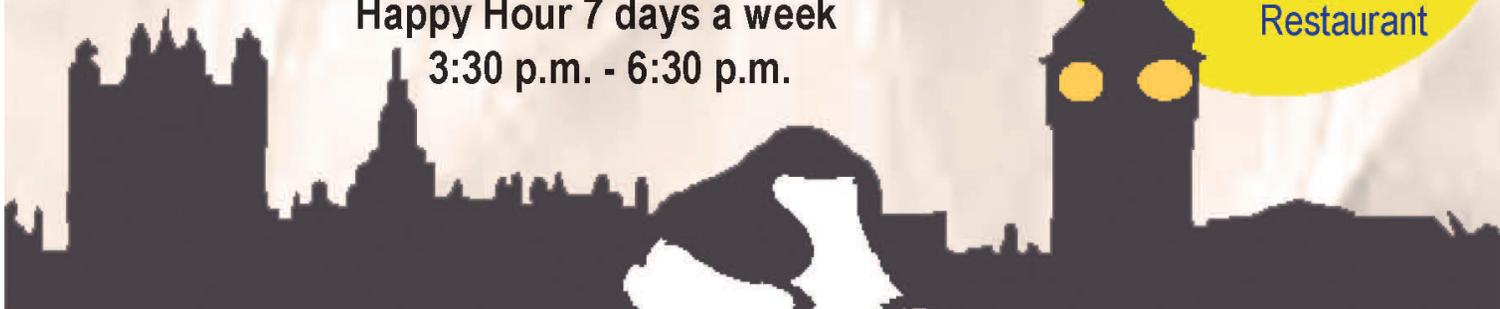
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# Sports

## Back from injury, cross-country runner nabs CSAC honors

By Zack Martino

Junior Cassidy Haller's sports career in high school and college has been nothing short of a rollercoaster ride.

After tearing her ACL during her junior year of high school, she came back strong for her senior year and was ultimately recruited by Centenary University for basketball.

However, this wouldn't be her last time dealing with an ACL injury.

"Unfortunately, when I got to Centenary, I tore my ACL a second time playing soccer in my freshman year, and a third time, playing basketball during sophomore year," she said.

ACL injuries take significant time to come back from, something Haller knows all too well.

"Anyone who tears their ACL knows the rehab is a six to nine month process," she said. "In the first few months you learn to walk again and bend your knee. Then you start strengthening the muscles around your knee. In the first six weeks after surgery, you're very limited because you have to let the ACL graft heal. I knew I wanted to return to sports, so after six months of protocol rehab, I began working with a strength and agility trainer that specializes in athletics."

Haller, however, didn't want to give up on sports and refused to let the

injuries beat her.

"Over the summer, I realized I wanted to do a sport without much cutting or pivoting, and cross country came to mind," she said. "I am really proud of myself for not giving up. It feels so good to come back and perform at a high level, and I know with more training I could be even better."

Half a year of rehabbing later, Haller returned to collegiate athletics, making an impact. On Oct. 8, she was named the CSAC Runner of the Week, the first for Centenary since 2016.

"Being named CSAC Runner of the Week felt like everything I worked so hard for finally paid off," she said. "It has given me confidence for the CSAC Championships coming up in a few weeks. I'm thankful to my teammates who have pushed me to work hard throughout the season as they continue to improve their own times on a weekly basis."

Since being named Runner of the Week, Haller's goals from the beginning of the season have changed.

"Being only six months post-surgery, my initial goal was to run as hard as I could every race," she said. "I went into the preseason unsure of how I was going to do and if I was in good enough shape. Now that I know I have the ability to compete at a higher level, I am looking to run my best race at the CSAC Finals."

## Cyclones coach gives insights: Men's B-Ball second season with him at helm

By Zack Martino

As the weather becomes cooler and the days get shorter, it becomes more and more apparent that winter will soon be here. With winter comes the winter sports season at Centenary University.

This season will mark the second for men's basketball coach Damien Pitts, who is looking to build on last year's campaign.

"For the most part, it was pretty much what I expected," he said. "The CSAC is a very competitive league and with a young team, I expected that we might take some lumps. However, I was really happy how the team finished out the year. I felt it gave us a great deal of momentum moving into this season."

While this will mark a new season for the Cyclones, the team's goals under Pitts haven't changed.

"The goal that I have for our team this year is no different than it was last year; get better every day, maximize our potential and play hard every second that we are on the court," Pitts

said. "If we do these things, everything else should take care of itself."

For Pitts, there was a particular moment from 2017-2018 that not only represented their whole season, but also provided a lesson the team can learn and apply to the 2018-2019 season.

"Our last home game of the season was against Neumann University, and it was a microcosm of our season," he said. "We started poorly but finished strong and wound up beating a 20-plus win team. It showed the guys that they can play with anyone if they come with the right mindset."

The Cyclones will have several key players returning this season that Pitts will expect big things from.

"Chris LaBelle and Larry Joseph were our top two scorers as true freshmen last year," he said. "It is our expectation that they will take the next step in their development this year."

"Tom Weiler broke his leg the second game of the season last year and was forced to watch his team-

mates from the sidelines. He is back this year and is in a great frame of mind. We expect big things out of him this year. Mike Young, Greg Robinson, Mike Strazza, and Stewart Lester all improved a tremendous amount over the course of last season, and we are looking forward to seeing their development as well."

The team will also be adding 12 new members to its roster this season.

"Each one of them has the opportunity and potential to help our team take steps to get to the next level," Pitts said. "I look forward to the first several weeks of practice to see how this new group meshes with the returners. The greatest indicator of how good a season we could have will be determined by the speed at which we gain team chemistry. It should be an exciting year and my staff and I look forward to getting things started."

The Cyclones' first game will be Nov. 10 when they host the Gwynedd Mercy University Griffins.

# Sports



Gladiators in the war room. Photo: Christopher Snow

## Prominence in the war (room)

“Giving back and teaching my guys the importance of helping others has been the biggest change for our program,” says wrestling coach

By Christopher Snow

Centenary’s wrestling team was built on a history of proud tradition that has led to many triumphs.

John Garriques is entering his 13th season as head coach of the Centenary University wrestling program. Through his 13 years there have been many changes and additions to the culture of the program.

Garriques entered his Centenary coaching conquest in the fall of 2006, coming to a battered program that had problems with the facilities they had to use, lack of wrestlers in the program, and outside incidents with team members.

“I found out very quickly that the wrestling team did not feel a part of the athletic department, due to having to practice in a 10 by 10 locker room that was in the basement of the athletic facility,” Garriques said. “The team I inherited was much like the movie *Bad News Bears* because we could not fill a line up, and kids were being removed from the team on a frequent basis, due to incidents outside of athletics.”

Garriques knew that the program needed a change in every single aspect. To solve the first and most important issue of outside incidents, Garriques instilled a pride and tradition into his first group as a foundation for the program.

“I attribute our program’s success to the core group that started our foundation back in 2006 to 2007,” said Garriques. “Getting kids to have pride in where they are and trusting the tradition of outworking opponents are the ingredients to make success much easier.”

Next on Garriques list was filling a full lineup for the team with crucial recruitment from high school students with high potential physically and mentally.

“I treat all recruits the same way, because to me it doesn’t matter if they won a state championship or if they didn’t get out of districts,” Garriques said. “I look for that heart, and it’s my job to get that out of my guys.”

Last but certainly not the least on the list of changes was the sub-par wrestling facilities that needed to be tended to. In order for Garriques to continue building the program he needed to have a new wrestling room.

“I decided if I was going to stay, we needed a wrestling facility, a place the wrestling team could truly call home,” said Garriques. “We had a very generous donor come in and donate \$1.2 million to our program to build a state of the art wrestling facility.”

After the proper corrections were put in place, it was time for the wrestling team to take advantage of their new “war room” and put in the work in order to become the successful program that it is today.

“The success of the program stems from tradition and pride,” Garriques said. “My job as a coach is to get my guys believing they are a part of something bigger than us all and once you have the buy-in factor, the rest is easy.”

A crucial part of Garriques’ success is a basic system he follows: variety is the spice of life. He trains each individual in a specific way to properly prepare them for both the match on the mat and the game of life.

“I have to treat each kid like an individual, know their weaknesses, and their strengths, which forces me to coach each kid a little different,” said Garriques. “My job isn’t to re-invent the wheel; it’s to polish up my guys and prepare them for life.”

Another distinctive part of the programs’ success relies on the athletes themselves and the choices they make during their time at Centenary. Garriques is a firm believer that the variables out of his control affect the program the most.

“I tell my guys all the time, I don’t worry about you getting better on the mats because you will get better just by being in our room,” Garriques said. “I worry about you going to class, staying out of trouble, and learning how to live the good life.”

“In the early stages of my coaching career I thought winning, being nationally ranked, and winning conference championships were good enough along with academic accolades,” said Garriques. It wasn’t until we started our motto, ‘live the good life’ that things really started to come together.”

Garriques is also a firm believer in building strong character through various events in the community.

“Giving back and teaching my guys the importance of helping others has been the biggest change for our program,” Garriques said. “It’s contagious, because one act of kindness spreads to many, paying it forward.”

Garriques’ big reason as to why he has continued to stay with Centenary’s wrestling program is the late professor Robert Quade.

“Professor Robert Quade lived and breathed Centenary wrestling, and I caught the bug,” said Garriques.

Quade founded the first Centenary wrestling program after the school adopted the co-ed system and was the biggest supporter of the team during his lifetime.

Garriques along with Quade are the main reasons for the Cyclones’ ascent to prominence.

Garriques has high hopes for the future of the program and the wrestlers that come and go.

“My mission coming here was to ensure the longevity of the wrestling program for years after I leave,” Garriques said. “Our Goal is to crown Centenary’s first NCAA National Champion, and to bring home the NCAA team National title.”

# Sports

## Dream of a home baseball field to become reality



“Dignitaries gather to break ground for Centenary University’s new turf baseball field. From left to right, Somerset Patriots mascot Sparkee, Centenary University Baseball coach Scott Kushner, Somerset Patriots owner Steve Kalafer, Centenary University President Dr. David Haney, Centenary Trustee and Hackettstown resident Steve Somers, and Centenary University Mascot Cyclone.” Photo: John Del Re

By Kira Schwartz

With Centenary University planning to build a baseball field at the corner of Fifth and Reese streets, a groundbreaking ceremony was held on a recent mid-October afternoon. The field is estimated to cost \$2.8 million to build, and will be financed through funds from donors.

The new field will eliminate the current need for the baseball team to travel 45 minutes to get to “home” games.

According to Dr. David Haney, president of the university, the field is “a whole lot bigger” than what the team had used previously. The idea for a new baseball field arose when Steve Somers, a member of the Board of Trustees donated a significant amount of money, thus becoming the lead donor. The first donation was made in November of 2016.

To get the project running, Centenary needed town approvals regarding how far back from the street the field would sit, as well as a technique for filling in sinkholes.

Throughout the planning process, the neighbors of the property helped plan the field at several meetings. The planned landscaping was designed to add an aesthetic look to the neighborhood, and there will be netting to keep foul balls out of yards.

The new baseball field is planned as the hometown field to be shared by Centenary and Hackettstown High School. “Their seasons don’t overlap too much,” Haney said of this community partnership between the university and the Hackettstown school district.

Centenary University has many friends who are donors of the project. John Johnson of Johnson Dodge donated generously, and Steve Kalafer of the Somerset Patriots and Flemington Car and Truck is a valued donor, and also brought the Somerset Patriots mascot to the groundbreaking ceremony. Stephanie Bennett-Smith, a former president of Centenary, helped is also a donor. Vendors and insurance companies have donated, as have parents of students and the baseball team. The Reeves Foundation, run by Ed Reeves of Summit, NJ, contributed a \$250,000 grant.