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THE TOWER

THE INDEPENDENT VOICE OF KEAN UNIVERSITY

DISASTER AVERTED: Kean keeps accreditation

By Brian Konchalski

After 18 months filled with a protest, uncertainty and doubt, Kean University announced on Nov. 16 that its accreditation has been reaffirmed by The Middle States Commission on Higher Education during a meeting of the Commission on Nov. 15.

This decision was not a surprise, because a Visiting Team in September delivered in a closed door meeting good news for the Kean community. They found that the university was now in compliance with all 14 of Middle States' accreditation standards. The Commission voted unanimously for reaffirming Kean's accreditation. "This is welcome and wonderful news for our students...

alumni, benefactors, faculty, and staff," said the President of Kean, Dr. Dawood Farahi. "This has been a long and thorough process. Kean University has emerged from it as a stronger

"Accreditation is important for any institution of higher education because it gives the degrees the institution hands out to graduates validity."

institution, more determined than ever to deliver a world-class education to our students."

The ruling also means that the university is no longer on probation with the Commis-

sion. Kean will have to submit a Periodic Review Report in 2017. The university will conduct its next self-study in 2022.

The Periodic Review Report, which is a lesser study on the

following the review of a self-study, and includes reaffirming, warning or on probation.

"The University's accreditation was reaffirmed for a period of five years, not ten,"

stated Richard Pokrass, the Director of Public Relations for the Commission. "I don't fault anyone at Kean for thinking of their reaffirmation as a ten-year accreditation, because that is a com- *continued on page 4*

The Tower goes live with new website

Out with the old and in with the new. The Tower has officially gone live with its new website at KUTower.com.

Part of a multi-faceted redesign effort, the new website boasts a cleaner interface and easy-to-navigate menus. The redesign has been a long time coming and everyone in the Kean community can now log on to get the hottest campus news while on the go with our new, mobile interface.

Enjoy fresh content from your smartphones while studying in Starbucks and stay alert with email updates.



Screenshot of the new Tower website, KUTower.com.

Hurricane Sandy hits; Kean University strikes back

By Alexandria Addesso

From a brief loss of power or cable TV to losing everything, Hurricane Sandy affected every member of the Kean University community.

"I felt like I was going insane without power," said Mathew Siegel, a business sophomore.

Hurricane Sandy made landfall in New Jersey on Monday Oct. 29 and began affecting the lives of Kean students and faculty before it even hit. "I lost power before the storm ever really started and it stayed off for five days," said Junior Julianne Wildrick, an early education major.

The story of no power was a common theme among students. Some lost power for just a few hours, while others are still without power.



Roofing thrown off of Watchung Hills Regional High school. Photo by: Eric Hatfel

community reside (see story on page 4).

"It destroyed my home," said Kelli Higgins, a sophomore athletic training major that lives

to the point where fights were breaking out everywhere," said Joanne Segreto, an education major. "Food stores, gas stations and all those places were out of control. I had no idea what to do."

Not only were people's gas tanks running on empty, but so were their stomachs. The New York Times coined a new phrase the "Sandy Five". Like the term many college students are familiar with, the "Freshmen Fifteen", which insinuates a gain of 15 pounds when entering college, the "Sandy Five" refers to the five pounds gained by those who lost power during the storm and had to either eat out or only eat non-perishables because their refrigerators were vacant.

Kean University's physical campuses were also affected by Sandy. School was cancelled for eight days due to power outages. Resident students were evacuated from their rooms

but some were not able to leave the campus due to having nowhere to go. A hundred students, most of whom were foreign exchange students, remained in the residence halls and had to relocate to the hallways. "At least I don't need to worry about my safety in the storm," said Tanning Hua, a senior management major and a resident student that stayed on campus during the storm.

Kean University also joined the relief efforts to help those affected by Sandy. From the first day classes resumed, hurricane relief donation boxes sprung up in various places through the University Center and cafeterias. There was also a table set up in front of the computer lab in the University Center where food and clothing donations could be made.

President Farahi and the official website released statements that explained ways people could help, emphasizing the need to give blood since many blood drives were missed during the storm.

Student Government also held its annual food bank luncheon in which all proceeds went to Sandy relief efforts. The all-you-can-eat luncheon cost only five dollars for students and 10 for faculty and was from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Cougar's Den on Nov. 14. The luncheon had an ample turn-out as well as additional donations of money, food, clothing and toiletries. "A lot of people donated," said Gerard Smithwick, one of the student organizers. "We had two live performers, a pianist *continued on page 4*

"Maybe I'll get power back next semester."

"We aren't getting any information on what's happening with our town. I haven't heard anything about when we are supposed to get power back or have hot water again," said Christine McDonald, a communication studies senior. "Maybe I'll get power back next semester."

Although living without basic amenities can be difficult, some had far worse issues to deal with. The areas hit hardest were the Jersey Shore and Long Island, which are regions where some members of the Kean

in Barnegat, NJ. "I'm going to miss how the beach used to be and how big the dunes were because now there is nothing. I'm also going to miss the places I used to go to that are gone or have damage."

Aside from many problems that emerged directly from the storm, gas rations began in New Jersey and New York City on Nov. 3 and 9 respectively, in order to combat the long lines at gas stations that led to many confrontations among motorists.

"Everyone was going crazy,

Valedictorian's \$25,000 scholarship revoked after contract breach

By Christy Petillo

Robin K. Bagley accepted a full scholarship for the accelerated five-year program to Kean's New Jersey Center for Science, Technology, and Mathematics.

When she accepted the scholarship, Bagley also accepted the agreement terms in a contract that stated she had to maintain high grades and get a job teaching at a New Jersey public high school within five months of graduation for at least three years. Breaching these terms would result in the scholarship becoming a loan, according to an article on *myCentralJersey.com*.

Bagley graduated from Kean University in 2010 as the Valedictorian of her class and was also a top graduate of the master's degree program in 2011.

"... it is essential that students honor the terms of their contract and fulfill the teaching requirement upon graduation..."

Bagley consistently maintained a 4.0 grade-point average throughout her college career.

But, Bagley breached the contract with Kean when she accepted an offer from the University of Kentucky to enroll in

its doctoral program.

"Indeed, in order for the program to be successful, it is essential that students honor the terms of their contract and

fulfill the teaching requirement upon graduation," said Matthew Caruso, Director of University Relations, in a statement. "In Robin's case, she has chosen to break the terms of the contract that covered the

cost of a majority of her education here at Kean University. We commend Robin for her acceptance into a Ph.D. program, and we know she will

be extremely successful in all her endeavors. However, like all students in STEM teaching program, Robin must uphold her end of the contract."

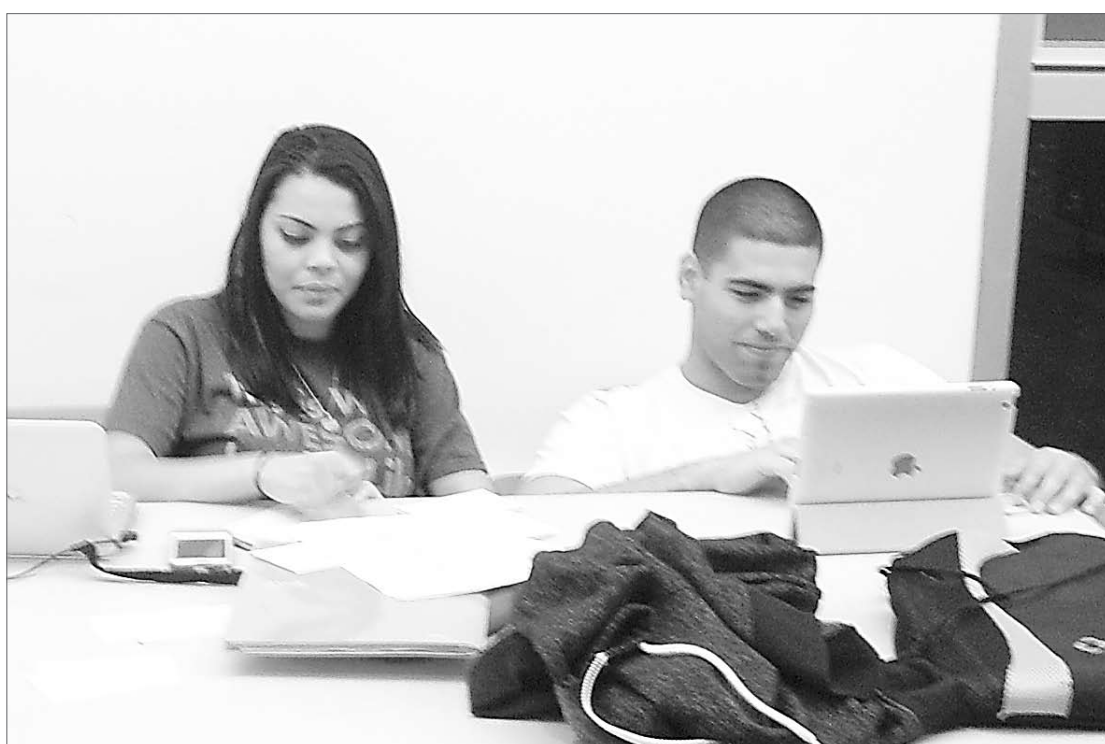
Kean's research center revoked Bagley's scholarship and

Bagley received a tuition bill in September for nine semester's worth of classes; A balance which totaled to about \$25,000 due immediately, according to the article.

"She (Robin) was their valedictorian, and she had done so much for the university and for the community and they didn't work with her in any way, shape or form, or look at other opportunities," said Bagley's mother, Jill Bagley, to *myCentralJersey.com*. "It's so much a slap in the face."

However, the family will not be fighting the bill. Bagley's mother has already taken out a personal loan to pay the \$25,000.

Fighting finals: how to come out on top this semester



Students during the "final" crunch.

Photo by: Xirena Wormley

By Xirena Wormley

Tis' the season for finals and for many college students that means stress, late night studying and cramming. The increased work load from finals and the heavy impact on grades can cause feelings of anxiety and depression among students.

Though joyous times of the holidays are around the corner, students must first get past the tedious times of final papers and exams. For the holidays many students could receive the best present of all: a good grade on their finals if they follow the advice of professors, faculty and fellow students to help them prepare.

For many students preparation involves spending countless hours in a secluded area alone with their textbook. The library is often packed with students who are buried in textbooks and scattered class notes. Some students like Meghan Sullivan, who is a sophomore studying biology, views studying as a serious independent

contrast to the cheerful feeling that typically surrounds this time of year. He states that he has seen many students walk in visibly stressed about their impending final deadline.

The advice that Mutazz offers for the anxious student final exam population is one word: study. According to Mutazz, in order for students to attain a desirable grade on their finals they must be clear about the expectations of their professor. After they are aware of the professor's standards they must follow through in preparation. "The key is to do both in unison," Mutazz said. "Many times I see students read the entire book but they don't know what their professor's expectations are." According to Mutazz preparation without understanding is often a combination of disaster. He recommends speaking with the professor ahead of time to learn exactly what the exam or paper should entail.

For those who prefer less traditional study methods there are other ways to prepare for finals.

for an exam," said Price. Instead she gets into study mode by popping some popcorn turning on some music and inviting her friends over for a study party. How ever students decide to get ready for their dreaded finals Price says the best advice she can give her fellow students is to do what comes natural to them.

Many students are familiar with the concept of last minute studying; otherwise known as cramming. Around the time of finals late at night one can find Andre Stokes, who is a criminal justice major in his junior year, vigorously flipping through pages in his textbook. Stokes admitted that he usually isn't as studious. However, with finals looming around the corner it is time to make it or break it.

Stokes' suggestion for students who are on the verge of academic oblivion is to get caffeine or an energy drink and hit the books. "I usually give myself a few days to catch up on my work and study for my exams," Stokes said. Though many people argue that last

"... the worst mistake students can make is using study techniques that do not fit their particular learning style."

endeavor. "I need absolute peace and quiet," Sullivan said. Sullivan is in the library at least two hours four times a week. She believes that more students should be as dedicated to their work on a regular basis. If they were, Sullivan said, they would be less worried about major exams because they would already be prepared.

Many students are not as relaxed and confident about finals as Sullivan. Research Librarian Marquon Mutazz describes the atmosphere in the library as somber and intense during the finals season. The mood in the library is a stark

"I don't study a lot for finals. I just pay attention during class and do my assignments," Simone Price said. "I figure I don't know it by now I never will."

Though this tactic may work for some students it is not recommend for everyone. According to Price each individual should develop their own study methods and know what is best for them in order to succeed.

She said that the worst mistake students can make is using study techniques that do not fit their particular learning style. "For me studying in the library or in extremely quiet places isn't an effective way to prepare

minute studying is a bad idea Stokes said he works best under pressure even when he has to pull a few all nighters.

No matter how students study or don't study during finals many will breathe a sigh of relief when they receive a passing grade. Each individual has their own study habits but knowing what works best for themselves and being prepared makes all the difference. While enjoying holiday festivities this year students could be thankful for an exceptional grade if they follow this advice in order complete a successful semester.

"The less you know, the more you believe." —Bono

Kean campus security says liquor violations, burglaries on the rise

By Christy Petillo

Every year Kean University provides the campus community, employees and prospective students with campus crime data and statistical information regarding campus security through a publication known as The Guide.

Statistically, liquor law violations are the leading offense for arrests on the Kean campus.

From 2010 to 2011, arrests based on liquor law violations have increased. There were 28 arrests for liquor violations in 2010, in comparison to 86 the following year; 74 of which were made in a residence hall. Drug-related arrests have stayed about the same. Twenty arrests were made in 2010 and 18 ar-

As noted in The Guide, suspicious odors which can be associated with drugs/narcotics as determined by campus police may also be subject to disciplinary action.

According to The Guide, all campus disciplinary statistics are gathered from the office of the Vice President for student affairs.

Since 2010, burglary and violent/theft related offenses at Kean have increased. There were a reported 21 burglaries on campus in 2010. In 2011, burglary rose with a reported 33 burglaries on campus, 14 of which took place in a residence hall. Burglary, as defined in The Guide, is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.

"Since 2010, burglary in Kean University has increased."

rests were made in 2011, 14 of which were in a residence hall. 2010 to 2011 saw a decrease in weapons possession charges, with four arrests for weapons possession being made in 2010 and two in 2011.

According to The Guide, all arrest statistics are gathered from Kean University Public Safety and the Police Department.

The following information is based on the number of persons in 2011 who were referred to the university for campus disciplinary action. There were 86 reported liquor violation referrals on campus, 84 of which occurred in a residence hall. There were over 24 reported drug violation referrals, over 22 of which occurred in a residence hall. Only one weapons possession referral was reported, which also occurred in a residence hall.

In comparison to the statistics available from 2010, liquor and weapons referrals have increased on campus. Drug-related referrals have decreased. There were only 33 reported liquor referrals in 2010 and there were no weapons possession referrals. Drug-related referrals exceeded 25 offenses in 2010.

There were also a reported five offenses of arson on campus. Arson, as defined by

The Guide, is any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn a house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, or personal property. This offense has also increased since 2010, which had no reports of arson.

Six offenses have decreased. There were no reported sex offenses in 2011. As opposed to 2010, in which there were three sex offenses reported. In addition, there were no reports of hate crime in both 2010 and 2011.

In comparing the crime statistics of Kean University to Montclair State University, Montclair has more reported burglaries and arrests based on drug abuse violations than Kean. In 2011, Montclair reported 78 burglaries on campus, 47 of which occurred in a residence hall. Montclair also supersedes Kean with 81 arrests based on drug abuse violations, 61 of which occurred in residence halls.

To view the full publication of The Guide, visit www.kean.edu/publications/TheGuide.pdf.

International Education Week looks to entice more students



Students Studying Abroad.

Photo by: Trevor Conlow

By Trevor Conlow

International Education Week is ongoing at Kean University, yet with over 13,000 students in attendance at Kean, fewer than 150 students participate in international study abroad programs yearly.

The answer to this dilemma is often times the same amongst students; the perception of financial hardship takes

tips for students who want to enjoy the benefits of studying abroad but believe they have no way to pay for it.

"I think that the financial barrier is a myth," Ferst said. "What students often miss out on is that the financial differential is rather small. For example, for a student living on campus who wants to study abroad the financial costs are usually around 10 percent to

that we work with offer direct scholarships, and additional ones are available through financial aid," Ferst said. "A number of our students who receive the Federal Pell Grant are eligible to apply for additional scholarships that can allow them to study just about anywhere in the world."

As a fellow traveler himself (Ferst studied in Israel for six months during his undergraduate years), Ferst wants to encourage more students to reach out to the international studies department and learn how beneficial studying abroad can be for students. So, he has been proactively working to promote International Education Week to students at Kean in order to try and raise awareness.

International Education Week (Or IEW) offers week-long celebrations and awareness campaigns that stress the importance of international education and the future of students in undergraduate and graduate studies around the world.

Those interested in studying abroad can learn more by stopping in at the Center for International Studies in Kean Hall room 225 on the second floor.

"A lot of the organizations that we work with offer direct scholarships..."

the dream of studying abroad far from what they believe is possible.

But there is a lot of information that many students overlook when considering if a study abroad education is a feasible venture that is worth the challenges involved in applying and coordinating. All one has to do to learn more is make their way to the center for international studies in Kean Hall.

Stephen Ferst, the director at the Center for International Studies, had several insightful

15 percent more than what one would be paying here (Kean), and in some cases it can actually be cheaper than the cost of attendance."

Scholarships and financial aid are readily available. A number of students who receive the Federal Pell Grant to study at Kean often qualify for additional aid that most students don't even know about, which can be applied in addition to the aid they already receive towards their study abroad expenses.

"A lot of the organizations

Cluck-U looks to partner with Kean to accept Cougar Dollars

By Sonia Aquije

Local business Cluck-U Chicken wants Kean students to enjoy the perks of using their Cougar Dollars at their location on Morris Ave.

Cougar dollars are a form of money that are deposited onto student I.D.'s, which can be used freely around campus. Currently, Kean students receive a 10 percent discount at Cluck U.

Other universities like William Paterson University follow the same concept of using university dollars in the form of Pioneer Points. Their students use Pioneer Points at local establishments inside and outside of campus at places like the local CVS Pharmacy.

Jeff Parella, one of the owners of the local Cluck-U said he contacted the university about using Cougar Dollars to buy food, but that he did not get results.

"I did contact the university; I don't recall who I spoke to," Parella said. "I did reach out a couple of times and I did call back to pursue it but they told me the community program isn't available. I was shut down."

Parella also said one of his ideas is to sponsor two scholarships, one academic and one sport, in order to entice Kean University.

Matthew Caruso, a spokesman for Kean, is unaware of any proposal submitted by



A visit to Cluck-U.

Photo by: Sonia Aquije

Cluck-U. "For something like this to even be considered by the university, Cluck U would need to present a detailed proposal to (Vice President of Operations) Philip Connelly," said Caruso.

They offer desserts like Cinnabees and appetizers such as onion rings and mozzarella sticks. They also offer value packs and family packs.

Cluck U draws in a huge Kean student crowd because

open until 3 a.m..

Both Cluck U owners Parella and Michael Dinard want to work with Kean University to turn their ideas into a reality and build a relationship with the students.

gency. "During Hurricane Sandy, Cluck U delivered food to the few people left on campus, knowing that the school and its cafeterias were closed," said Parella.

Gary Ramos, a freshman and physical therapy major, wants to use Cougar Dollars at Cluck U. "Cluck U is banging!" he said. "I've been to Cluck U so many times. The food just tastes so yummy. They are to die for!"

Other students agreed. Melenny Perez, a sophomore majoring in special education, said "Kean students would definitely go there to try something different from the campus food. The fact that you can use your Cougar Dollars to pay is really convenient, especially when you don't have cash. Another plus is its close proximity to campus, especially compared to some other off campus food places."

Parella believes it's a win-win if both Kean and Cluck U work together.

"It's really up to the stu-

"Kean students would definitely go there to try something different from the campus food."

Cluck U has been around since 1985, catering to people with an array of food choices like Cluckwiches, burgers, fried chicken, wraps, salads, Buffalo Wingers, boneless buffalo wings and chicken tenders.

of the 10 percent off discount on their meal when they show their Kean ID. They also offer delivery options and are open late into the night, which makes the establishment popular among students. They are

"Students like our establishment, the food, and you know our hours. We do deliver down to their campus," said Parella.

Cluck U offered its services to Kean students during the Hurricane Sandy state of emer-

gents to speak out, it's

something we'd like to do, Parella said. "They (the students) really want it, but you know at the end it's the administration."

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Kean student's blog informs the country



The aftermath of Hurricane Sandy in Keansburg.

Photo by: Ryan Gaydos

By Mike Jago

Hurricane Sandy left a path of destruction on the Jersey Shore that none who live there will ever forget. The storm itself became a national story, and one Kean student was there to inform.

Ryan Gaydos, sports editor for The Tower, started a blog dedicated to Sandy, and the destruction it brought. A citizen of Keansburg, Gaydos wanted others to see the damage his town received, especially be-

cause he felt the national media was ignoring his little hamlet on the shore.

"I started the blog the Thursday before the storm because I had a feeling this was something big that needed to be covered and I knew that none of the big media outlets would be around my town," he said.

The blog became a major hit in the aftermath of the storm, gaining over 114,000 views since the start. Many have left comments expressing gratitude for showing the uncovered side

of the destruction in Keansburg, and other bloggers, as well as NJ.com and ABC7 news have used his pictures.

While areas like Seaside Heights and Atlantic City got

my page and it was getting 100-plus hits at a time," he said.

Many news outlets around the country covered hurricane Sandy, and it became one of the most popular stories of the year.

"Gaydos wanted to cover those forgotten by the national spotlight."

plenty of exposure, Gaydos wanted to cover those forgotten by the national spotlight.

"I started to cover the hurricane because I knew it was going to affect a lot of people," he said, "so I tried to residents and former residents informed about their town."

The attention the blog received came as a surprise to Gaydos, and he was happy people were using his blog to stay informed.

"I noticed it was getting attention when I kept refreshing

The aftermath of the storm is still being dealt with in places where waters rose to more than 4 feet off the ground.

Gaydos's blog is a perfect example of the phrase "a picture is worth 1000 words." The pictures on his blog have been used all over the Internet and on news stations alike, and many were informed about the areas less covered. The blog can be seen at www.keansburgpress.wordpress.com.

DISASTER AVERTED (Continued from page 1)

mon mistake among our institutions."

In addition, the ruling states that Kean must submit a monitoring report detailing the progress in areas such as academic and institutional evaluation by March 2014.

"Monitoring reports are not unusual," said Pokrass. "They are becoming increasingly common when the Commission reaffirms an institution's accreditation."

Accreditation is important for any institution of higher education because it gives the degrees the institution hands out to graduates validity. It also allows those graduates to be able to go onto higher degrees, such as a Masters degree or a Doctorate.

While most are relieved that the school is out of trouble with Middle States, some are concerned about the Commission's ruling.

"The decision by Middle States to lift 'probation' is good news for Kean University students, faculty and staff in the short run," said James Castiglione, President of the Kean Federation of Teachers, the university's full-time teacher's union. "To pass Standard 6... after it was proven that President Farahi's resumes contained numerous false academic credentials, is a political achievement."

The university's woes initially started after being warned by the Commission that its accreditation could be in jeopardy after the Commission found a lack of evidence, in the university's self-study, that Kean was complying with two of the Commission's 14 standards.

Tensions reached a high point in February, after a controversial Board of Trustees decision to keep Farahi as president of

the university, when it was discovered that there were factual errors found on his resume. The day after the decision, about a hundred students protested the decision.

In April, when an initial Visiting Team, which is a group of peers certified by the Commission from other higher education institutions, came to Kean to collect evidence and data that the university is complying with the two standards, 7, Institutional Assessment, and 14, Assessment of Student Learning, that it had initially failed to meet.

During this visit, instead of finding evidence that the school is meeting the two standards initially in question, the Visiting Team found evidence that Kean was non-compliant with an additional two standards, 6, Integrity, and 12, General Education.

No action was taken by the Commission until June, when the Commission received the exit report by the April Visiting Team. The Commission ruled that Kean was to go on probation.

In August, the Kean Faculty Senate, the governing body of the university, voted no-confidence in Farahi.

While the drama at Kean from the past 18 months has died down, questions are now being raised, by some, as to why the Commission ruled to reaffirm the university's accreditation.

"In the eyes of many in the university community, issues of integrity, governance and institutional leadership have not been satisfactorily addressed," Castiglione said.

SANDY (Continued from page 1)

and guitarist. It was a big turnout of the whole Kean community."

Although Sandy devastated the Kean community and the northeastern coast, it also brought people together to help with relief. President Barack Obama and Governor Chris Christie came together in a bipartisan effort to help the Jersey Shore, changing the views of politicians and many voters just before the election.

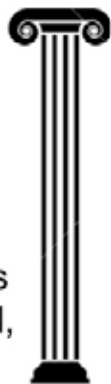
"I gained a liking for Christie," said sophomore English major Graig Blount. "He was very personable for the first time since he was elected. I thought, 'yeah that's my governor!'"

Thomas Antonelle, Brigit Bauma, Liwei Chen, Ryan Gaydos, Mike Jago, Julie Knodt and Rick Salvatore contributed to this story.

GOURMET DINING

University Center Food Court NEW!!! Go Greek

Now featuring a selection of Mediterranean items including Gyros w/all beef halal meat, kabobs, falafel, mezze platter and more.



Cougars Den NEW!!!

We are offering a 25% discount on all appetizers from 10PM-11PM



Starbucks Library NEW!!!



Try our new fall drinks:
Tazo Chai Tea Latte
Salted Caramel Mocha
Pumkin Spice Latte

Residence Dining Hall NEW!!!

Check the calendar for upcoming events and specials each and every month don't forget about Sunday afternoon football with wings and more.

IT'S | GOOD

Universities taking “going digital” to new heights

By Mike Jago

Universities going digital are nothing strange, but the University of South Carolina may be one digital step ahead than the rest.

Students can now take a class entitled “Computer Games and History,” where they can learn about the historical aspects of computer video games like the “Assassin’s Creed” franchise and “Call of Duty.”

Students are given games to play as assignments, and must

be able to discuss how the game portrays history and how video games are becoming a medium to learn about our past.

Whether or not video games

are an effective teaching tool is yet to be seen as video games have received a bad reputation in previous years. Some people have said that violent

video games are the root of violence among teenagers and would never be able to see how video games can teach us about history.

“Students won’t be bored reading the same old text book anymore.”

Ali Giardina, a student at Montclair State University, has a hard time seeing video games being effective. “A video game can be misleading and

can exaggerate the facts,” said Giardina.

Amit Seth, a Kean University student, likes the idea of video games in the classroom. “It’s

good because students won’t be bored reading the same old textbook anymore,” said Seth.

Colleges have been known to try other digital methods,

such as textbooks via iPads and students receiving laptops, but a class using video games is something unheard of.

The design of video games has changed so dramatically, that the realism can be used to accurately describe events in history. Whether it’s ancient Rome or the Civil War, game designers have made it their mission to accurately depict these moments in time, in which gamers and students alike can learn from them.



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Images and photographs used are representations of actual patients.

giving thanks

By Dominique Vinas

Thanksgiving spirit comes to Kean



Top: Nayadira Pacheco's nails, showing her support for Breast Cancer; Bottom: Pacheco with her mother.

"I'm so thankful for my mom, and I'm thankful that Kean recognized how important Breast Cancer Awareness is."

Family, friends and education are all essential to a fun healthy life and the students and professors here at Kean are so thankful to be fortunate enough to have these necessities. October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Center for Leadership and Service at Kean organized events and fundraisers for Kean alumni to donate, while engaging in fun with their peers.

Events such as the "Making Strides against Breast Cancer Walk" bake sales and Cancer awareness programs all proved to be a huge success.

"My mom is a survivor of Breast Cancer, and it's been about three years now that she is healthy," said Nayadira Pacheco, a sophomore. "I'm so thankful for my mom, and I'm thankful that Kean recognized how important Breast Cancer Awareness is not only to me, but many students and faculty members here. Me and all my closest friends painted our nails pink for the entire month of October to make a fashion statement for a good cause."

Many of the students who participated in the Breast Cancer walk on Sunday, October 21, were so proud to have been a part of something so great.

"There was so many people there to support such a great cause and for people to come together united for a good cause was amazing to see and experience," said Audris Torres, a sophomore.

With Kean recently undergoing academic evaluation, many students and faculty members are so thankful to still have either a job or a school that they can call home.

"I'm very thankful that Kean didn't lose their accreditation, not only because it's my last year but because I love the school, it's offered me a lot and helped me grow since my freshman year," said Monica Pineros, a senior.

Lakira McQueen, 21, senior, explains how grateful she is, "I'm thankful that my friends and family support me on my educational endeavors and ultimately I'm thankful for my freedom which allows me to pursue the career that I love, and it's great being able to do that knowing I have people that I love supporting me every step of the way."

Students are not the only ones that are full of thanksgiving cheer. Professors at Kean are very pleased as well as they juggle very stressful lives between teaching, other jobs, family and their social lives.

"I am thankful for my two little nephews," said Valerie Blanchard, Communications professor, and former Kean Alumni. "My daily life is very busy and filled with much stress, but the minute I see their cute little faces my worries vanish in an instant. I am very thankful to have Drew and Liam in my life."

music

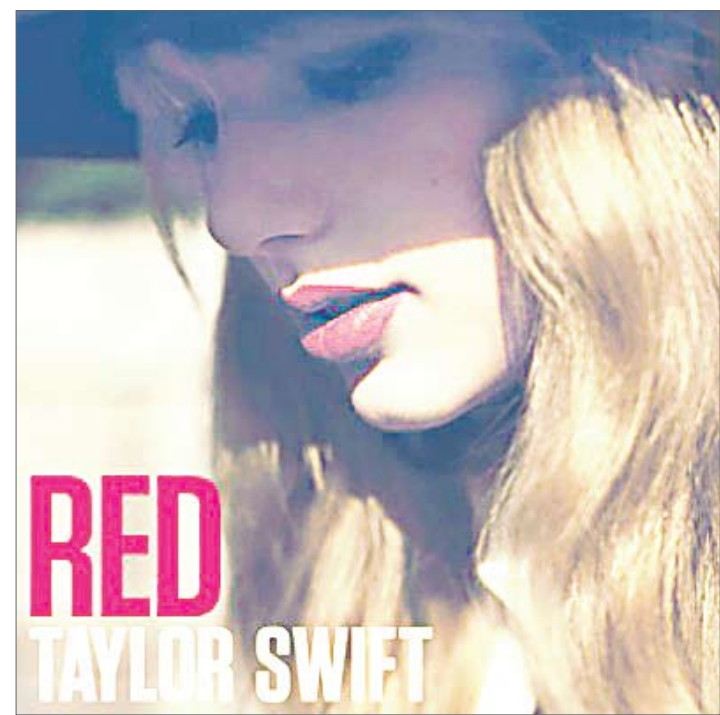
By Darian Maduruh

RED by Taylor Swift

By Darian Maduruh

Now, as a twenty-something African American dude from urban New Jersey, I'm sure I'm not the target demographic for Taylor Swift's music. I mean, let's be honest: the 22-year-old multi-Grammy winner (including an "Album of the Year" win in 2010 for her second album, "Fearless") mainly appeals to teenage girls or women who still act like teenage girls. And let's not forget country fans as well. My history with Taylor Swift is this: I liked that song about her being in the bleachers, but I did in fact believe that Beyoncé had one of the best videos of all time. So, how would I react to "Red," Taylor's fourth and current album release?

It starts off interestingly enough, with "State of Grace," with guitars and rhythm that remind me of a pop song from the '90s. Not trying to put someone in a box, but isn't Taylor country? Anyway, we move on to the second song, the title track, "Red." You know what strikes me about "Red"? How much it reminds me of "State of Grace." It was like the first two songs were actually just one giant track. The fourth track, "I Knew You Were Trouble," bothers me. Why, you obviously ask? Because it's so damn catchy,



arms Adele, Taylor sings about love ("State of Grace" seems to talk of first-time love, with lyrics like "And I never saw you coming/And I'll never be the same") and heartbreak (with a song title like "Sad Beautiful Tragic," I don't need to tell you what that en-

"This song has people all over the world bumping the track in their cars and homes."

part of me liked it and was actually ashamed to like it. After having "I Knew You Were Trouble" stuck in my head, I had to listen to an Animal Collective album to find my views on music credible again. Further research on this album explains the reason for the earworm-heavy track: It was co-written by Max Martin and Shellback, two Swedish pop producer/songwriters who've worked with the likes of Pink and Britney Spears.

The two also helped co-write the single "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," the bouncy, humorous track that is currently all over your radio stations. The album's last track, "Begin Again," feels like an appropriate closer, a nice ballad-y track, one that calls back to Taylor's roots as a country singer.

Now, I haven't talked much about the lyrical content of this album ... because, frankly, most of you expect Taylor to talk about one kind of subject ... and your expectations would be right. It is easy to see why Taylor has lasting appeal. Like her pop-sister-in-

tails). Nowadays, the interest isn't in what Taylor sings about but whom. Guys like Nick Jonas and John Mayer have been turned into songwriting material in past albums. Now, if rumors are to be believed, it's actor Jake Gyllenhaal. Whether or not that's true is up to you or whoever else reads People magazine. Still, if you thought this album was only about relationships, think again. For example, "The Lucky One" paints a narrative about a character in the "Angel City." The track impressed me just for Taylor's ability to play against type.

I imagine that some diehard fans may not enjoy this album due to its more pop content, but I do believe that Taylor's lyrical abilities are her saving grace. You can tell how much Taylor puts into her words, unlike most pop stars. Ultimately that's what makes her successful and relatable among her fans, and it's why a twenty-something African American dude from urban New Jersey can find some merit in an album from a country pop songstress.

By Nick Mojica

Gadget guide: The best of the best for the 2012 holidays

**HTC One X +**

The HTC One X + is the follow up phone to the HTC One X, one of this year's hottest phones. The One X + runs on Android 4.1 Jelly Bean. The design of the phone is the exact same as the original One X. Since the phone runs on Android's Jelly Bean 4.1, nick named "Project Butter", the phone runs very fast. The phone also has a faster processor and better battery life.

**Nexus 7**

The Nexus 7 is Google's foray into the 7 inch tablet market. Released to compete with Amazon's Kindle Fire, the Nexus 7 is the best 7 inch tablet on the market. Made by Asus in partnership with Google, the Nexus 7 boasts a beautiful screen that is capable of handling high end graphics. The Nexus 7 comes as 16GB or 32GB model for \$200 and \$250, respectively.

**Wii U**

The Wii U is Nintendo's new follow up console. The Wii U is Nintendo's first system to have HD graphics and has 2GB of memory on the console. The console also features internal flash storage and comes in two versions. The basic version comes with 8 GB of internal flash storage, while the deluxe version comes 32GB of internal flash storage. The biggest selling point of the Wii U is its new controller. Called, the Wii U GamePad, the controller features a touchscreen that also shows the gameplay. While playing games on a TV, you turn off the TV and continue playing the game on the GamePad.

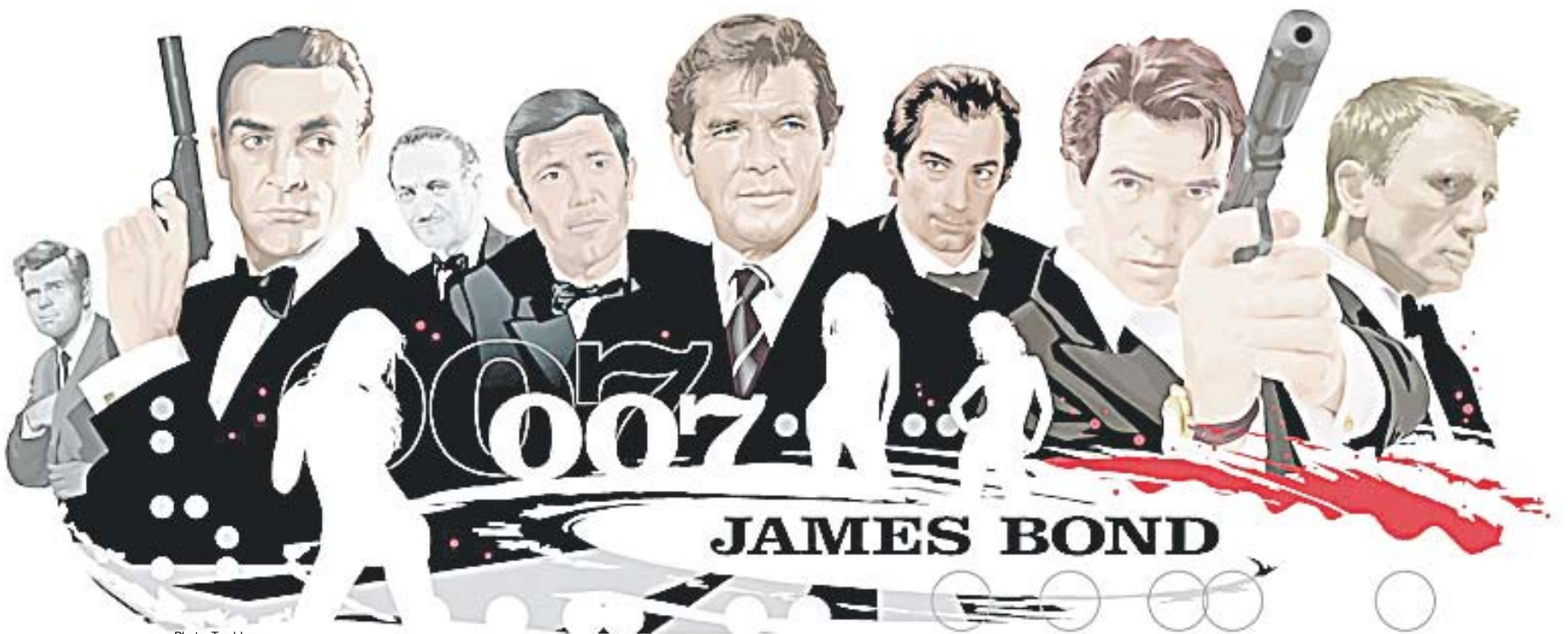
**iPad Mini**

If you have a little more money to spend, the iPad Mini might be your choice for a mini tablet. The iPad Mini is basically the same as its bigger counterpart minus the Retina display and A6x processor. But that doesn't mean the iPad Mini runs slow. The dual core A5 processor still means iOS6 runs smoothly on the mini. The Mini also features a front facing camera as well as a rear camera.

James Bond: A fifty year retrospective

film

By Bryan C. Kuriawa



In early February 1952, former British intelligence officer Ian Fleming, attempting to distract himself from his upcoming wedding, began composing a spy novel, inspired by personal experience and his own imagination. Within two years, the novel, "Casino Royale" had proved to be a bestseller, and CBS had adapted the piece to television with Barry Nelson as secret agent James Bond. By his untimely death in 1964, Fleming had composed 11 further Bond novels, and production had been completed on the feature film adaptation "Goldfinger", with Sean Connery as the famed agent.

Sixty years after its literary inception and 50 since its first film version, "Dr. No", James Bond remains an entertainment giant, rarely surpassed in terms of scope and success. With the 23rd Bond entry, "Skyfall", in theaters, it seems proper that a brief overview may be done for those interested in the series as a whole.

Following Nelson's portrayal on CBS' "Climax!", American producers Albert Broccoli and Harry Saltzman pursued the potential of a cinematic Bond adventure eight years later. After a long search, both producers settled on Sean Connery, an up and coming Scottish actor and former Mr. Universe contestant. Despite protests from various sources, including creator Ian Fleming, Connery won over all critics with his performances in both "Dr. No" and "From Russia with Love". His dark, gritty and occasionally sarcastic take became universally praised, with 1964's "Goldfinger" catapulting him into international stardom. After 1967's "You Only Live Twice", Connery left the role, sighting the production schedules and declining characterization as the reasons for his departure.

With the next Bond entry to be "On Her Majesty's Secret Service", both producers realized they were in desperate need of a new 007. During the same period, British actor David Niven, Fleming's original choice, portrayed the actor in a campy parody, based in part on "Casino Royale", without much critical success. Their answer came in the form of an Australian model living in England named George Lazenby. Although Lazenby had no prior acting experience, both producers were impressed by his physical prowess and signed him on, with series editor turned director Peter Hunt to be his acting coach. In its final form, "On Her Majesty's Secret Service" represents an excellent, yet largely underrated entry, which depicts a serious take on the character. While Lazenby lacked the excitement of Connery, he made

up for such shortcomings with a dark and realistic performance that depicts Bond at his most emotional and dynamic. Unfortunately, prior to completion, Lazenby, with encouragement from his manager, announced he would no longer be Bond, resulting in a modest box office success and critical panning for the actor.

After much negotiation, Sean Connery once more returned to Bond in 1971's "Diamonds are Forever", with a different eye on the role. Following the serious portrayal of Lazenby, Connery's performance foreshadowed successor Roger Moore, with a lighthearted take in contrast to his own cynical nature. Despite its success, Connery left the role, with television actor Moore arriving for 1973's "Live and Let Die". Moore's portrayal of Bond differed radically from both Connery's and Lazenby's, playing the role in a light-hearted, yet sarcastic manner that genuinely benefitted the on-screen character. In a decade when Bond would find himself traveling into outer space, Moore's antics made such narratives seem logical. Occasionally Moore would have a darker moment or two, such as a scene in 1981's "For Your Eyes Only", where Bond kills an assassin by pushing him over a cliff. By 1985, with his age becoming more apparent, Moore resigned from the role.

In 1987, audiences at "The Living Daylights" found themselves a new, darker Bond in Welsh actor Timothy Dalton. Rereading Fleming's original works as much as possible, Dalton in his two performances as the character proved to be excellent, with a gritty and often dead serious demeanor unseen in years. Unfortunately, legal disputes following 1989's "License to Kill" left the series in limbo until the mid '90's, with Dalton leaving in 1994. The following year, Pierce Brosnan of television's "Remington Steele" debuted in "Goldeneye", continuing for three subsequent entries until 2002's "Die Another Day". His take on the character largely varied per film with Brosnan maintaining a firm line between a serious or light-hearted portrayal, with certain entries highlighting either quality.

After a four-year absence, in 2006 Daniel Craig assumed the role of Bond in the series reboot, an adaptation of the first novel, "Casino Royale". His portrayals of the character have been a darker look into the role, often being cold, yet occasionally emotionally developed. Regardless of any factors, including the recent bankruptcy of Metro Goldwyn Mayer, Bond shall live and let live another day.

On leaving Kean: An editor's goodbye

It's time for me to say goodbye.

After four-and-a-half years, numerous major changes and countless questionable collegiate decisions it's time for me to walk away from this campus, this school and this paper.

It's fitting that I'm writing this, my last note, so close to Thanksgiving, because believe it or not, this school has

"I am proud to call myself an alumnus of Kean University."

given me a lot to be thankful for including, but not limited to:

- This school being able to stay afloat long enough for me to graduate (that joke was too easy).
- All the opportunities afforded to me, by Journalism Professor Pat Winters Lauro specifically, and everything I've learned during my time here.
- The friends I made, especially on *The Tower*, who haven't slapped me in the face for all the complaining I do.
- That Kean went through all these controversies when it did because it's the reason I can sit here and tell you what I think and you have to sit there and take it.

I am a strong believer that this school is what you make it. If you don't put yourself out there, and strive to do more, you're going to have a bad time.

I think of this school like any normal family. We bicker, we don't always get

along and some of the food is questionable; but when it comes down to it, we're just that...a family.

And really, for all the flack people give this school, complaining about this and that, this isn't a terrible place to be. Every faculty member I've met, specifically within the Communication Department, has wanted only the best for this school and its students.

I've been fortunate enough to write for *The Jersey Journal* and work with *The Star-Ledger* on Election Night 2012. I had a New York Times copy editor compliment my headline writing ability to a room of more than a 100 college journalists from around the country. I've been on tours of *The New York Times* and CNBC and covered stories most college journalists dream of writing. I owe all of this to the faculty members at Kean University.

They are caring, patient and the best in the business and I couldn't have done any of that if it wasn't for the Communication Department and this school. I am proud to call myself an alumnus of Kean University.

It's also with a heavy heart that I turn over the reigns of this paper. I set out to make *The Tower* my own when I became your Editor-in-Chief and I'm happy with what I got done. Next semester will bring about many more changes and I'm as excited to see them as you are; more than anything though, I owe this paper to all of my reporters and editors. They helped make it what it is now and I will be forever grateful for their help in showing this school what *The Tower* is capable of.

That's all from me though. It's been real Kean.

Daniel Reyes
Editor-in-Chief of *The Tower*

By Daniel Reyes

Sandy stress or depression getting at you? Relax with these tips

Sandy to many is known as the furry chunky cheek squirrel from "Sponge-Bob" or the happy go lucky girl next door from the movie "Grease" but, after this month's hurricane the name Sandy will never be looked at the same.

She tore through homes, knocked out power, left people homeless, even left others hungry and stuck in long lines for gas. But what else did she do that many didn't know she could?

Hurricane Sandy affected more than the Tri-State area with rain and wind that picked up to ninety mph. A lot of Kean students have never experienced anything close to this in their lifetime.

Dealing with the aftermath of the storm is way more than trying to get back on the right schedule, repairing

away on their own with due time but, if they do not feel free to contact your doctor or feel free to go to the schools counseling center for help.

Stress is much like depression, but differs. Sandy made a lot of people stressed out because they were knocked off their normal routines or have so much backed-up assignments to do all at once that it feels overwhelming.

Stress can be caused by bad situations or good situations. In this case Sandy caused for students to go through several different types of stress. Those stresses can be survival stress, internal stress or environmental stress.

Survival stress is what is also known as "flight or fight" stress. This happens when you feel afraid the body sends

"Dealing with the aftermath of the storm is way more than trying to get back on the right schedule."

your homes, or even waiting for the power to restore in your area. Many students have to deal with the stress and depression that also swept through when the hurricane ended.

According to the National Institution of Mental Health thirty percent of college students struggled with some form of depression or stress. That number rises after students go through a crisis situation such as Sandy.

Depression can be defined as having sad or anxious feelings. Some of the symptoms of depression are as followed:

- Loss of interest in activities
- you used to enjoy
- Problems concentrating or remembering information
- Lack of sleep or sleeping too much
- Loss of appetite
- Pains such as head aches or digestive problems

If you have any of these symptoms don't be afraid there is help for you. Plenty of times these feelings will go

chemicals that give off energy. That energy will either make someone want to leave the situation that is making them feel this way or fight back. In the situation of Sandy many people may have had the flight reaction but, had no way of leaving.

Internal stress is when a person worries over things that are out of their control. Environmental stress is caused by outside interference such as noise, crowding, and pressure from people around.

Both internal stress and environmental stress can sometimes work together in the sense of a natural crisis such as Hurricane Sandy.

It is important to realize what is going on with your body so that you can get the help you need. Getting back on track after such devastation can take a while. If you or someone you know are showing any of these symptoms feel free to contact the counseling center located in Downs Hall room 127 or call at (908) 737-4850.

Don't feel embarrassed getting help for yourself is the best thing to do even if

By Dasia Brown

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it's just talking to someone that you are close to getting things that are bothering you off your mind.

Other activities that can help lower stress are exercise, arts and crafts or reading a book that relaxes you. Take time for yourself and the others around to appreciate each other.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything that you would like advice about please send an email to thetower@kean.edu. You'll be advised the best way with truth, remember that it's strictly anonymous!

Got a tip?

Email us at

TheTower@Kean.Edu

By Eric Haftel

In crisis trust your gut, not Kean

Once again Kean has shown that when there is a crisis, school officials are inept at handling the situation appropriately. The first example was during the aftermath of Sandy, and then the administration's silence while snow fell during the Nor'easter on Wednesday Nov. 7, which caused slippery roads, downed trees and telephone poles.

Let's start at the beginning with their first notification of hope after Sandy. The University sent out a notification on Friday, Nov. 2, that stated the following: "The university plans to reopen on Monday, November 5, 2012, with all classes and campus activities to take place as scheduled. Resident students will be allowed to return to residence halls on Sunday, November 4, 2012, at 4 p.m."

That was all well and good up until Sunday at 10 a.m. when they sent out the following notification: "Due to the continued lack of electrical power, please be advised that Kean University has canceled all classes and activities on Monday, November 5. Until power is restored to the residence halls, resident students can not move back onto campus."

Due to Kean's delayed response many students complained they were caught off guard and didn't get the notification at an appropriate time due in large part to the storm causing massive blackouts and poor cell service.

The other problem is that when students received an email on Friday stating we would return to campus on Sunday, we all assumed that the campus had regained power and that this wasn't just a possibility. Based on the email that we received on Sunday that said Kean

"Something needs to change and fast, before somebody gets hurt."

would not be open due to "continued lack of electrical power", it would appear that the administration made a decision when they didn't even have power. During such a hectic time as Sandy was, I don't understand how you can make such a major decision without actually knowing for fact it is possible.

While the snow began at noon it didn't start sticking until around 2 p.m.

While snow fell and many started to wonder what the status of the afternoon and night classes was, Kean stayed silent. When the snow began to pile up, covering cars that sat unattended in the parking lot, Kean stayed silent. When Kean students and professors alike looked at the weather reports of more snow to come through the night, Kean stayed silent.

At no point was there a social media posting, an email or a text message letting the students know what was going on. Throughout the day many were posting on Kean's Facebook asking what was going on, including student Ron Newman.

"Really? I get the fact that the end of the semester is approaching quickly and we missed a week of classes, but to not even give an update on the status of classes tonight on the school



Snow steadily falls on Kean's campus.

Photo by: Eric Haftel

website, twitter or campus text messaging services seems unfair. I think my tuition cost at the minimum affords me a call or web posting," he said.

Another student, Michael Carter said, "Commuters need to know if class will be cancelled as soon as possible. We understand the school is still licking its wounds from Sandy and doesn't want to cancel another day but don't endanger commuter students with too late of a notice or none at all."

None of these posts received a single response.

Even while many other schools including Caldwell College and Bloomfield College decided to close campus at 3 p.m., Kean said and did nothing.

So while Kean stayed silent, many professors took the initiative and sent out emails to their students just letting them know that while class will go on as scheduled, the student should use their best judgment and if they were unable to attend the professor would understand.

Now some may ask, "why didn't the professor just cancel class if they were so concerned?" Great question! The answer according to numerous professors is that a professor can't cancel class unless they are physically unable to attend. The only way to cancel class due to weather is by the school determining that the school will close entirely.

I was one of the many that chose to stay and go to my 4:30 class even while it was snowing outside. I assumed that Kean knew what was going on and decided it was best for the doors to stay open. My professor hurried through class and around 6 p.m. decided that we had

enough for the day and we should just go home before the roads got really bad. The only problem was that the roads already were bad. When we walked out to our cars, we had the pleasure of digging them out and cleaning them off since the lots weren't plowed.

I ended up needing a bit of assistance from campus police and while speaking to the officer learned that he was the only officer out there during this storm. This became quite obvious when in the middle of him helping me he got another call and was forced to leave and return to me later.

If that's not bad enough, my ride home proves that they needed to close early.

So was there a reason to close early? I'll let you decide after you hear what I had to deal with on my way home.

After just 10 minutes of being on the road I saw a telephone pole and numerous tree limbs on the ground. I had to pull over and get out of the car two different times and help push people that were stuck in the snow. I had to take different roads multiple times because they were closed or my car got stuck and couldn't get through the snow. I saw six accidents on top of myself spinning and hydroplaning on numerous occasions, all while on my way home from a class at Kean University.

Now I understand that the university didn't want to close because we had just gotten back after Hurricane Sandy. Being in class is important and is the reason why all of us are there, but our safety is the most important.

I don't believe that Kean should have cancelled just because there was a threat of snow—the university was right to wait and see what was going on.

I do believe that once they saw that the roads were becoming more and more dangerous they should have made the decision that the students safety comes first and the university should have closed early.

Something needs to change and fast, before somebody gets hurt.

By Dr. Josh Palgi

Global health

Global Health has been defined as the area of study, research and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equality in health for all people worldwide.

So, global health is about worldwide improvement of health, reduction of disparities and protection against global threats that disregard national borders. The major international agency for health is the World Health Organization (WHO). Other important agencies on global health activities include UNICEF, World Food Program (WFP), the United Nations University - International Institute for Global Health, and the World Bank.

Global Health is a research field combine medical and social science disciplines, including demography, economics, epidemiology, political economy and sociology. It focuses on determinants and distribution of health in international contexts.

Epidemiological Perspective – identifies global health problems

Medical Perspective – describes the pathology of major diseases, and promotes prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of their diseases

Economic Perspective – emphasizing the cost - effectiveness and the cost - benefit. Individual health analysis from this perspective focuses on the demand and supply of health.

Political Approach – emphasizing political economy, considerations applied to global health, studying production, buying and selling, and their relations with law, custom, and government.

Despite incredible improvements in health since 1950, there are still a number of challenges, which should have been easy to solve.

Think about it

One billion people lack access to the health care system

36 million deaths each year are caused by no communicable disease, such as cardiovascular disease (about 17 million deaths), cancer (about 7.6 million deaths), diabetes (about 1.3 million deaths) and chronic lung disease (about 4.2 million deaths)

Over 7.5 million children under the age of 5 die from malnutrition and mostly preventable diseases each year

Close to 6.7 million people die of infectious diseases

33.4 million living with HIV
Tuberculosis kills 1.7 million people each year, with 9.4 million new cases a year

1.6 million people will die from pneumococcal disease every year – making it the number one vaccine preventable cause of death worldwide (more than half of the victims are children)

Malaria causes 225 million active illnesses and over 780,000 deaths annually
164,000 people mostly children under 5 have died from measles

Who repeatedly point out that many of these diseases are "diseases of poverty" even though

the world has enough wealth to help address most of the problem and alleviate more of the suffering.

To address these health issues, three principles of action have been suggested:

Improve the condition of daily life, the circumstances in which people are born, grow, live, work and age

"Despite incredible improvements in health since 1950, there are still a number of challenges, which should have been easy to solve."

Tackle the inequitable distribution of power, money and resources, the drivers of these conditions of daily life – globally, nationally and locally

Measure the problem, evaluate action, expand the knowledge base, and raise public awareness about the social determinants of health

The field of global health is undergoing a technological revolution. Mobile health and telemedicine are poised to define the future of health care delivery. Challenges to health are challenges to society. As the world becomes more urban and interconnected, diverse perspectives must merge in order to prudently shape the future of Global Health.

Dr. Palgi is a professor in Kean's Physical Education, Health and Recreation Department.

Kean Cougars lose NJAC Title at home



WR Deandre Fowlkes.

By Dan Canova

The 2011 Kean Cougars football team were New Jersey Athletic Conference champions.

The 2012 Kean Cougars football team, "just fell short."

At one point in the very important NJAC conference game, Kean led the Cortland State Red Dragons 17-3. Before long, the Red Dragons scored 23 points to blow past the defending NJAC Champion, Kean Cougars, with a 31-17 victory.

"Our players and coaches put a lot of time, effort and energy to try and be the absolute

winning the NJAC title on your homefield."

The Cougars suffered key injuries early on in the game to two of its best offensive linemen, Matt Kiefer and Bobby Swercheck.

Darius Kinney was held in check throughout the ball game, which led to multiple Kean turnovers, ultimately making it harder for them to move the ball consistently down the field.

Another key point in this game were the referees, with questionable penalties called against Kean throughout the

five plays in a row, there was a flag thrown on us. I never in all my years have seen anything quite like the officiating in that game. It was awful."

Because of Hurricane Sandy's impact throughout the tri-state area, Kean's next football game against Rowan University was cancelled.

The following week after the devastating storm, Kean fell just short against archrival Montclair State University, 10-7 at Kean Alumni Stadium. A revenge game of sorts for Montclair State after the Cougars defeated them for the NJAC championship last season at their campus.

Kean finishes the season with an overall record of 5-4 and a 5-2 record in conference play.

The Red Hawks held Darius Kinney to 66 rushing yards, his lowest total of the season. Montclair also intercepted quarterback, Christian Bailoni, twice on the day and forced a fumble late in the 4th quarter. This unfortunately led to a field goal with very little time left for the Cougars to answer back.

"Words cannot express the feelings both the players and coaches were experiencing, it was gut-wrenching."

best we can be each and every week", said head coach Dan Garrett. "After starting 0-2, this team showed tremendous resiliency and resolve. We were as ready as we could have been to defend our title and you never want to experience that feeling of losing at home and have someone else celebrate

game, including an inadvertent whistle call during a huge Kean punt-return.

"I am one to never point at those officiating in any football game, but this game got ridiculous," Garrett said. "The refs wanted to let everyone know that they were there. There was one stretch where we had

Kean Men's Basketball team looks to start strong

By Raymond Gurbisz

After a disappointing 2011-2012 season, the Kean University men's basketball team looks to start the new season on the right foot.

Finishing last season with a 7-20 record, the Cougars will try to get things rolling early on, to bring the team back to a winning record. Last season was a real struggle for the Cougar team, which sported a 5-6 record at home while going just 2-10 on the road. They were also 0-4 at neutral locations.

Playing on the road looks to be the Cougars' biggest obstacle early this season, as it will surely have to improve if

the team wants to have a comeback season.

Under head coach Rob Kurzinsky for the sixth season, the Cougars will need to tighten up their game if they want to return to a more accomplished

points with similar success. The Cougars will look for Burton and Latorre especially to help them put more points on the scoreboard.

Good defense will also be a key factor for the team if the

team had an early opportunity to try to fix the consistent problem from last year of losing their match ups away from their home court. Unfortunately while successful as a team, with various points scored by

"Playing on the road looks to be the Cougar's biggest obstacle."

record, like the 18-8 score they held in the 2010-2011 season.

Fortunately, the Cougars have juniors Michael Burton and Kyle Latorre returning in the lineup. Burton scored 320 points last season, leading the team, while Latorre scored 244

Cougars want to come out on top. Last season, the Cougars averaged 55.8 points per game while opponents put up an average of 62.1 against them.

The Cougars' season opener came on the road against Juniata College on Nov. 16, where

both Burton and Latorre, the Cougars were defeated 53-49 at the end of the game. Yet from the ashes of such a defeat, victory can be only a short sight away.



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“A free press can be good or bad, but, most certainly, without freedom a press will never be anything but bad.” —*Albert Camus*

Women’s Basketball ready for new season despite obstacles

By Ryan Gaydos

The 2012-13 Kean Cougars women’s basketball team will be filled with different expectations than the team is usually used to by this time of year. Instead of being ranked as one of the top teams in the New Jersey Athletic Conference and in the nation, the team will be under the radar for a different reason. This will be how they can cope with the penalties that the NCAA handed down to the program this past April.

The NCAA cited the Kean women’s program for a lack of institutional control and hit the program with numerous violations. It was learned that former head coach Michele Sharp gave a student-athlete an improper benefit, in the form of a grade change, which made the student eligible to play after she was going to be ineligible.

This summer, the Cougars hired Mandy King to become the new head coach



New head coach Mandy King.

King previously spent the last five seasons at Washington and Lee University. She was extremely successful in her tenure at that school, becoming the all-time leader in wins for a coach with 123 in total and guiding the team to an NCAA Division III tournament berth in 2010.

“We are creating a culture of high expectations and values of team first attitude, hard work, trust, respect, toughness, and discipline.”

What makes King a better hire for this team is her familiarity with the NJAC. King started her coaching career as a graduate assistant for The College of New Jersey and was with the Lions for five seasons.

With aspirations low for the Cougars heading into the season, King is trying to change the way people look at the program.

“We are creating a culture of high ex-

pectations and values of team first attitude, hard work, trust, respect, toughness, and discipline,” she said. “We understand that everything we’ll do this year will provide a foundation for future teams.”

The Cougars will not be allowed to participate in any postseason play in

2013 as part of the restrictions handed down by the NCAA. However, according to King, that is not the biggest challenge facing the team.

“The biggest challenge facing our team this year is helping our players to not put too much pressure on themselves,” she said. “They are committed to rebuilding the image and character of Kean Basketball and are striving each day to show who we are, what we believe in, and who we want to become as students, players, and people.”

The Cougars season begins at the Wingate Invitational in Grantham, P.A. The Cougars do not play a home game until Dec. 1 when the team takes on The College of New Jersey.

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Men's Volleyball looks to build on success



The 2012-13 Men's Volleyball Team.

Photo: Kean Athletics

By Mike Jago

The Kean University men's volleyball team is looking to build on their successful 2011-2012 campaign, as they get ready to open up their season in January.

Third-year head coach Don Perkins, who led the team to a 25-11 record in the 2011-2012 season, is looking to expand on their previous successes, which include a Skyline Conference regular season co-championship, as well as a Skyline Conference tournament championship, all coming in the team's second year as a program. Additionally, the team qualified for its first ever NCAA Division III championship tournament.

The team was ranked nationally at No. 14 and is looking to once again be labeled as one of the top teams in the country. The roster only lost two players due to graduation and will be returning their entire starting lineup, minus one player.

Steve Vahalla, a second-team All-American, is excited for the upcoming season, and the new

players that it brings. "We have some new freshman that will help us," he said.

The team boasts an impressive roster of 13 players, including Vahalla, four juniors, six sophomores and two fresh-

"The team...is looking to once again be labeled as one of the top teams in the country."

men. Vahalla said he believes the core of players returning is a good thing.

"The chemistry from last year's players will carry over and help us reach our goals," he said.

Vahalla will be the team's senior leader. At 6-foot-6, he is a force to be reckoned with on the court. Last year, Vahalla led the team in kills (spike points), was third on the team in digs (defensive contact), and second on the team in aces (serves

directly resulting in a point). He was also named Skyline Conference Player of the Week. This season also brings back All-Skyline First Team player Tom Kemmerle, and All-Skyline second-teamer Kyle Farley.

been with the team since its inception, led the team in sets played and was second on the team in kills. At the same time, Sam Haimann, who was the team's most versatile player. Haimann finished last season with 165 digs, 79 kills and 18 aces.

The team is one of the more successful on the Kean campus, which works well for a team in its third year of existence. After a mild inaugural season, finishing with a win-loss record of 11-23, the team broke through and had an incredible sophomore year. Now with a winning season under their belts, the Cougars are looking to take the national ranks and opposing teams by storm. Skyline Conference Coach of the Year Don Perkins looks to duplicate the successes of the 2011-2012 campaign, as well as bring more victories back to the Kean community.

The team will be looking to start the 2012 season on a good note as it takes on Rutgers-Newark on Jan. 25 at 7:30 pm.

Sports Schedule

December

- 01:** Men's Basketball vs. TCNJ
Women's Basketball vs. TCNJ
05: Women's Basketball vs. Rowan
Men's Basketball vs. Rowan
08: Women's Basketball @
New Jersey City University
Men's Basketball @
New Jersey City University
12: Women's Basketball @
William Patterson
Men's Basketball @
William Patterson
15: Men's Basketball @
Delaware Valley College
Women's Basketball @
Scranton (PA)

January

- 02:** Men's Basketball @ Moravian
(Greyhounds Starters Classic)
03: Men's Basketball @ TBA
(Greyhounds Starters Classic)
Women's Basketball @
Centenary College
05: Men's Basketball vs.
Rutgers-Camden
Women's Basketball vs.
Rutgers-Camden
07: Men's Basketball vs. Steven's
09: Women's Basketball vs.
Rutgers-Newark
Men's Basketball vs.
Rutgers-Newark
12: Men's Basketball @ Montclair State
Women's Basketball @
Montclair State
14: Women's Basketball vs. Amherst
16: Women's Basketball vs.
Richard Stockton
Men's Basketball vs.
Richard Stockton
19: Women's Basketball @ TCNJ
Men's Basketball @ TCNJ
21: Men's Basketball vs.
College of Staten Island
23: Women's Basketball vs. Ramapo
Men's Basketball vs. Ramapo
25: Men's Volleyball @ Rutgers-Newark
(Golden Dome Classic)
26: Men's Volleyball vs. Springfield
College (Golden Dome Classic)
Men's Volleyball vs. Cairn
(Golden Dome Classic)
Women's Basketball vs.
New Jersey City University
Men's Basketball vs.
New Jersey City University
30: Women's Basketball @ Rowan
Men's Basketball @
Men's Volleyball vs. NJIT

Who's hot & who's not in Kean athletics

Thomas Antonelle

WOMEN'S SOCCER

A team that was coasting through most of September has taken an unfortunate step back in their late October play. The Cougars, who were 10-2-2 just a short time ago, now sit at 10-5-3 overall.

After a hard-fought battle against TCNJ, the team got the bounces they needed when the game went to penalty kicks. Converting on all three attempts was senior Julianna Natale, junior Amanda Repko and freshman Angie Lopez.

KC Nunez had another outstanding game between the goal posts, as she saved two of the penalty kicks and watched another go wide of the goal. The team will advance to the semifinals of the NJAC Tournament.

The ECAC was a success as they won both games by a score of 2-1.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

The women's volleyball team is still looking sharp after a solid play throughout September and October. With a 12-4 record during October and currently sitting 26-9 this season, the Cougars are looking to advance in the NJAC Tournament when they host Montclair State University.

Another piece of great news

for the Cougars is the development of freshman Nicolette Poveromo, who has had an outstanding season. Senior Katie Schuh and junior Kaitlyn Hansen both continued their stellar plays as they helped their team break a university record.

Kean hasn't recorded 26 wins since they won 35 games back in 1995.

With one win and one loss in both the NJAC Tournament

WOMEN'S TENNIS

After what was a very promising September, the women's tennis team lost its groove completely in October. The team went 6-2 in September and couldn't find one victory in their final five matches.

Sporting a 1-5 record in conference play, the team needs to make some adjustments as they head into next season.

their NJAC Tournament game. This season is behind the Cougars, who can focus on their game plan for next year.

FOOTBALL

The men's football team has made a huge turn-around this season. After losing the first two games, the Cougars went on a five-game winning streak.

The team's recent success

"The women's volleyball team is still looking sharp after solid play throughout September and October."

and ECAC Tournament, the team has a lot to be proud of at this time.

FIELD HOCKEY

This season has proved to be a tough one for the women's field hockey team. With an 8-11 record overall and a 2-4 record in conference play, there were little opportunities to celebrate.

One positive is the great play of an NJAC Player of the Week, junior Stephanie Soares. Her impressive week, which consisted of tallying 10 points, gives the team some security, knowing that she will return for a final season.

Junior Debra Dress was named NJAC Player of the Week. She finished off her junior season with 9-4 records in both singles and doubles play.

MEN'S SOCCER

After what was looking to be a solid season for the men's soccer team, the Cougars ended with disappointment in the month of October. Finishing with a 9-11 record overall and 4-5 in conference play, the Cougars will have to figure out how to play a more consistent game next season.

It will be easier said than done, coming off a heavy loss to Rutgers-Newark in overtime of

GO COUGARS!