MONROE COLLEGE

# Weekly Observer

"What you need to know…at Monroe"

February 23, 2009

## Calendar of Events

For club meeting schedules visit:
www.monroecollege.edu/campuslife/monroeclubs

### Monday, February 23

**Bronx Registration**

**Midterm Progress Reports**

Noon-6pm Student Immunizations—Student Services/BX

2:00pm Grammatically Essential Mini Sessions—201 King Hall/BX

2:30pm Deans' Council—TBA/BX

5:00pm Faculty Professional Development—ANGEL CMS and Grade Books—501 Jerome Hall/BX

### Tuesday, February 24

**Bronx Registration**

**Midterm Progress Reports**

**TBA Women's Basketball—Region XV Playoff—TBA [NEW]**

**TBA Men's Basketball—Regional Playoff—TBA [NEW]**

Noon-7pm Josten's Ring Sales—King Hall Lobby/BX

2:30pm Research Paper Workshop—3:00 Weight Watchers—110 Milavec Hall/NR

4:00pm Academic Management Meeting—Main Hall/NR

5:45pm High School Graduate New Student Orientation—207 King Hall/BX

### Wednesday, February 25

**New Rochelle Registration**

**Midterm Progress Reports**

Noon-7pm Josten's Ring Sales—King Hall Lobby/BX

6:15pm Bachelor's Program Refreshment Night—Bachelor's Program Office, Jerome Hall/BX

### Thursday, February 26

**New Rochelle Registration**

**Midterm Progress Reports**

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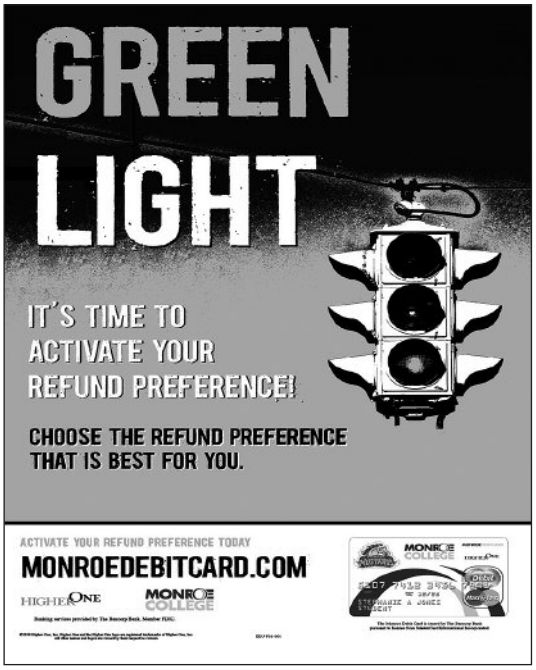
# Higher One to Take You Higher!




Monroe College has launched a partnership with Higher One to distribute refunds electronically to students. As a result, the refund process is now simpler and more efficient.

"Monroe was looking for a new way to process refunds to help move students even faster through the bursar's office," explained **Daniel Sharon**, Director of Business Services at Monroe College. "It's a simple process that begins with a specially-designed debit card."

Students will have a choice of how they want to receive refunds from the College, including two electronic options: direct deposit to the OneAccount, a no minimum balance, no monthly fee, FDIC-Insured checking account provided by Higher One, or an ACH transfer to a bank account of the student's choice.

We expect a large majority of students to sign up to have their refunds deposited directly into the OneAccount," said Mr. Sharon. "That way students will have access to their money quicker, and the more efficient system in the Bursar's Office will give us a chance to spend more time with individual students."

When students receive their Higher One debit card in the mail, they should save it because it's the key to accessing any of the refund options. For more information, visit the Bursar's office in the Bronx and New Rochelle or www.monroedebitcard.com. ■

**PRESERVE TAP FUNDING, see Page 3**

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

■ The New Rochelle Pre-Law Club recently took a trip to Pace Law School. The students were given a tour of the school and sat in a Contracts class. There are approximately 20 students from Criminal Justice, Business, and the King Graduate School enrolled in the club which is advised by Prof. **Anthony Papa**, Esq. CJ major, **Katharine Kilpatrick** is the president of the club.

■ On Feb. 27, Kaplan will be coming to the N.R campus to administer a practice LSAT exam which will be evaluated by Kaplan for our students free of charge.

Anyone interested in joining the club or sitting in on the practice exam can email Prof. Papa at apapa@monroecollege.edu.

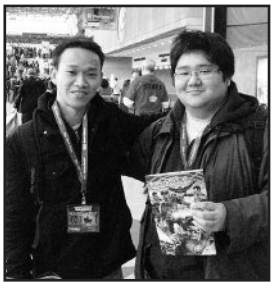
■ This semester the CJ Club is joining forces with the Correctional Association of New York on a legislative initiative to repeal the Rockefeller Drug Laws. On January 29th, one hundred students attended a lecture hosted by the CJ Club at the Monroe College Annex Building to raise awareness about the Rockefeller Drug Laws. The guest speaker, **Caitlin Dunklee**, from the Correctional Association explained the 36 year history of the laws which dictate mandatory, long criminal sentences for drug convictions and does not allow any judicial discretion.

In support of this legislative initiative members of the CJ Club will hold a petition drive and on March 10th will visit our state legislators in Albany to ask for their support. To add your voice to the cause, stop by the CJ Office in Jerome Hall to sign a petition or register to join us in Albany. ■

## STUDENT LIFE

On February 5, Student Life held its Black History Month opening celebration at the Union Baptist Church Theater.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



A groaning wookie from Star Wars? Check. The four Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles? Check. Cinderella and Prince Charming? Check. There was truly something for everyone at New York ComicCon 2009, a major pop-culture convention held at the Jacob K. Javits Center in Manhattan. Several Monroe students, accompanied by **Angelyn Forbes-Freeze** and **Alexandra Chow**, advisors for the college's Multicultural Student Association and Asian Student Club took part in the action on the first day of the three-day festival.

Thousands of exhibitors gathered to show off the latest in video games, comic books and artwork as well as vintage materials. The evening ended with Monroe students settling into a sea of bean bag chairs to watch a group of performers demonstrating a form of stage fighting using light sabers in ComicCon's *Saber Academy.*

Students interested in joining the Multicultural Students Association or the Asian Student Club should contact International Student Services in Main Hall on the New Rochelle campus. ■

## OCA

On February 5, the Bronx Community Health Network recruited allied health majors for their Patient Navigator positions. Eighteen students eagerly waited to be interviewed by the organization's two recruiters. The representatives commented on how impressed they were with the quality of our students and will definitely be bringing back candidates for additional interviews.

For more information about these opportunities as well as others, visit the Office of Career Advancement in West Hall. ■

## SPECIAL HONOR

City Council Member **James Vacca**, the Council, and the Albanian American Society Foundation, hosted a celebration at City Hall on February 17, to mark the first anniversary of the Republic of Kosovo's historic declaration of independence.

One of the honorees was Monroe technician and Professor **Haxhi Berisha** who was acknowledged for not only his work at Monroe College, but for his leadership as Kosovar activist and executive vice president of the Foundation ■

## MATH

On January 14, the Math Lab in South Hall held a vibrant Open House. The day's activities included visits by various math classes and students to the Math Lab. Math Lab coordinator, Prof. **Sewodo Komlanvi** and the staff of tutors presented lively sessions that included an overview of the Math Lab offerings, information about workshop and tutoring opportunities, introductions to the tutoring and Mathematics department staff, and information about study aids and instructional Math websites.

One student commented, "This is a great way to meet the tutors." Math department faculty members were excited to meet with students early in the semester and help them become familiar with the many academic support resources that are available. ■

# Tap The Power

New York Governor **David Paterson** has proposed requiring college students to enroll for 15 credits per semester in order to qualify for a full TAP award. This could impact thousands of students.

Every Monroe student knows the importance of maintaining all available financial aid options. As a result, it's important that once again every member of the Monroe community send e-mails to legislators urging preservation of the current levels of TAP funding.

Logon to the following link: http://ga1.org/campaign/tapthepotential09 Enter your name, address, and college. Click "send." The system will automatically send e-mails to your assembly and senate reps well as the leadership of both houses, administration officials, and the governor. This is an easy and effective way to make known opposition to the proposal to change TAP funding. ■

# Monroe Student Meets the President!

Neither Monroe CJ student **Terene Collymore** nor her daughter will be washing their hands anytime soon. That's because on the night before the inauguration, at the 19th Street Baptist Church in Washington, DC, they shook the hand of President **Barack Obama**.

Seated in the front section across from the President, Terene decided she had to at least try to say hello. Incredibly, she talked her way past Secret Service agents and approached the nation's first black president.

"He's tall and lean with a clear, wrinkle-free face, like a 15 year-old," she said. "He's vibrant, electric."

So what did she say when she greeted him? "Hello, Mr. President. I'm a single parent from New York who attends Monroe College."

"It's a great pleasure meeting you," the President answered.

If you want to ask Terene yourself about meeting the President, look for a grinning Monroe student who is walking on air with a right hand that has not been washed in weeks! ■

## HONORS

Monroe's Joint Honors Project Team spent the last weekend in January at Stockton College in southern New Jersey studying Beach Erosion and Beach Replenishment issues as part of a collaborative effort with Stockton.

In turn, Monroe will be hosting Stockton the last weekend of February and will then present their findings at the Northeast Regional Honors Council (NRHC) Conference in Annapolis, MD in March. ■

## ATHLETICS

■ During the last week of home games of the basketball season both Monroe teams held "Senior Nights" to honor the players who will be graduating after this season. In accordance with Monroe tradition, each player received a large, framed portrait.

Congratulations to:

**Shakeena Halsey, Aminah Davis, Ashley Georges, Regina Washington, Talaya Robinson, Octavia Jordan, Markita Quarles, Alyscia Jordan, Jamell Cromartie, Kyle Wright, Tyvon Williams, Charles Funches, Westly Perryman, Maurese Jackson**, and **Freddy Obame.**

■ **Monroe Basketball—Undefeated!**

There can be no question now: Monroe has had the best basketball teams in Region XV. During the regular season, the Mustangs finished with a perfect 8–0 conference record and the Lady Mustangs finished their conference season at 17–0. As a result both teams will hold the #1 seeds in the upcoming Region XV tournament.

## Calendar of Events

*continued from page 1*

**Monroe Honors Program host students from Richard Stockton College**

Noon-7pm Josten's Ring Sales—King Hall Lobby/BX

Noon OCA Resume Seminar—919 West Hall/BX

Noon Bachelor's Program Coffee and Poetry Hour—Bachelor's Program Office, Jerome Hall/BX

12:10pm MS Office 2007 Training (PowerPoint)—420 King Hall/BX

12:15pm SGS Team Meeting—301 King Hall/BX

12:15pm High School Graduate New Student Orientation—301 King Hall/BX

2:00pm International Coffee Hour—International Office—Main Hall/NR

Noon Ntozake Shange Guest Speaker—King Hall Gym/BX

### Friday, February 27

**Midterm Progress Reports**

**Monroe Honors Program host students from Richard Stockton College**

9:00am On-line Proctored Midterms—810 Monroe Hall/BX

9:00am On-line Proctored Midterms—Computer Lab/St. Lucia

Noon Guests from DC-37 Visit Bronx Campus/BX

### Saturday, February 28

**Midterm Progress Reports**

**On-line Proctored Midterms—Learning Resource Center—Allison Hall/NR**

**Monroe Honors Program host students from Richard Stockton College**

**TBA Women's Basketball—Region XV Tournament—Sullivan Community College**

**TBA Men's Basketball—Regional Tournament—TBA**

10:00am Faculty Professional Development—ANGEL CMS and Grade Books—104 Milavec Hall/NR

11:00am On-line Proctored Midterms—810 Monroe Hall/BX

### Sunday, March 1

**Monroe Honors Program host students from Richard Stockton College**

**TBA Women's Basketball—Region XV Tournament—Sullivan Community College**

**TBA Men's Basketball—Regional Tournament—TBA**

9:00am On-line Proctored Midterms—Computer Lab—St. Lucia

### Monday, March 2

Midterm Progress Reports

Bronx Registration

12:10pm MS Office 2007 Training (Excel)—420 King Hall/BX

2:00pm Grammatically Essential Mini Sessions—201 King Hall/BX

2:30pm Deans' Council—501 Jerome Hall/BX

5:00pm Professional Development Workshop—ANGEL CMS and Grade Books—501 Jerome Hall/BX

5:00pm MS Office 2007 Training (Excel)—420 King Hall/BX

### Tuesday, March 3

Midterm Progress Reports

Bronx Registration

Noon Faculty Meeting/NR

3:00pm Weight Watchers—110 Milavec Hall/NR

5:45pm High School Graduate New Student Orientation—207 King Hall/BX

6:00pm Faculty Meetings—BX & NR

6:00pm SGS Team Meeting—TBA West Hall/BX

### Wednesday, March 4

**Midterm Progress Reports**

**New Rochelle Registration**

2:00pm Grammatically Essential Mini Sessions – 201 King Hall – BX

2:00pm Faculty Meeting—312 West Hall/BX

6:00pm SGS Team Meeting—TBA West Hall/BX

6:00pm Faculty Meetings/BX & NR

6:15pm Bachelor's Program Refreshment Night—Bachelor's Program Office, Jerome Hall/BX

6:30pm On-line Workshop—Exploring E-Library Services

6:30pm President's and Dean's Reception—Greentree Country Club/NR

### Thursday, March 5

**Midterm Progress Reports**

**New Rochelle Registration**

Noon Bachelor's Program Coffee and Poetry Hour—Bachelor's Program Office, Jerome Hall/BX

12:10pm MS Office 2007 Training (PowerPoint)—420 King Hall—BX

12:15pm High School Graduate New Student Orientation—301 King Hall/BX

2:00pm International Coffee Hour—International Office—Main Hall/NR

2:30pm Grammatically Essential Mini Sessions—201 King Hall/BX

5:00pm MS Office 2007 Training (PowerPoint)—420 King Hall/BX

### Friday, March 6

**Midterm Progress Reports**

9:00am MS Office 2007 Training (PowerPoint)—408 King Hall/BX

### Saturday, March 7

**Midterm Progress Reports**

**TBA Men's Basketball—District Playoff—TBA**

### Sunday, March 8

**Midterm Progress Reports**

**TBA Men's Basketball—District Championship—TBA**