MONROE COLLEGE

Weekly Observer

"What you need to know…at Monroe"

May 3, 2010

Calendar of Events

For club meetings and athletics schedules visit the Monroe college web site.

Monday, May 3
8:30am to 7:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR
6:00pm SGS New Student Orientation – TBA/BX

Tuesday, May 4
8:30am to 7:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR
Noon Faculty Professional Development Presentation – ANGEL Grade Book – 711 Jerome Hall/BX

Wednesday, May 5
8:30am to 7:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR
2:30pm Academic Management Group – TBA/BX
3:00pm Weight Watchers – 105 Milavec Hall/NR

Thursday, May 6
8:30am to 7:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR
Noon Faculty Professional Development Presentation – ANGEL Grade Book – 104 Milavec Hall/NR
1:00pm Camp Vacamas Representative on Campus–King Hall Conference Room/ BX

Friday, May 7
9:00am to 1:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR

Saturday, May 8
No Events Scheduled

Sunday, May 9
No Events Scheduled

Monday, May 10
9:00am to 7:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR

Tuesday, May 11
9:00am to 7:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR

Wednesday, May 12
9:00am to 7:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR

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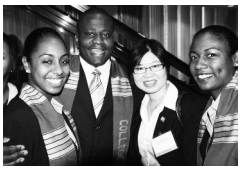
A String of Successes Signal the Spring Semester!

Even for a college that places achievement and success at the center of its fundamental mission, the weeks leading into Monroe's Spring, 2010 semester were nothing short of astounding. Monroe academic clubs came up winners, students were recognized for achievement, and high school students won impressive awards in our Culinary Arts Center.

SIFE



While their consistency could make their seventh consecutive victory in the regional competition seem routine, there's no mistaking that this year's Monroe SIFE team accomplished something special. Still to come is the national competition. *(See page 2)*

NBMBAA

In the National Black MBA Association' s Second Annual Student Business Case Competition, Monroe's graduate team took first place and our undergraduate teams took second and third place. *(See page 2)*

In addition, Monroe built on its great relationship with the NBMBAA as **Jacinth Freckleton** became the recipient of the 2009 Westchester/Greater Connecticut Chapter's Fall MBA Scholarship for her outstanding scholastic performance and her community involvement and leadership.

NABA

On Saturday, April 24th, the Monroe College NABA team came in first place and won the Third Annual Deloitte Case Study Competition. *(see page 4)*

NURSING

On April 14, eight nursing students were honored at a pinning ceremony. (see page 3)

CULINARY

On Saturday, April 17, Monroe hosted the second annual American's Best HS Chef Competition and named a senior from Food & Finance High School in Manhattan as the winner while a senior at West Warwick High School (Warwick, RI) was named "America's Best High School Pastry Chef." Also, Dean Chef **Frank Costantino**, won a Gold medal in the ACF Culinary Classic. *(see page 4)*

LEADERSHIP

Monroe students receive awards for leadership. *(see page 2)* ■

Monroe Empowers Young Men! See page 3

SIFE

On Friday, March 26 the Monroe College SIFE Team won its seventh consecutive Regional Competition in the face of some of its most daunting challenges. As a result they will advance to the SIFE USA National Exposition on May 11–13 in Minneapolis, MN.

SIFE, which stands for Students in Free Enterprise, is an international organization that encourages students to apply what is learned in the classroom toward making communities better. Unlike previous Monroe SIFE teams that had been the model of consistency, this year's team was comprised of almost all new personnel – and they performed expertly at the Regionals.

"This might be the most impressive of our SIFE achievements over the years," said Faculty Advisor **Stacy Crawford,** "Our team members overcame their lack of experience with a great desire to achieve. They were also helped by Monroe SIFE alumni, who served as role models and continually stressed high standards that they themselves established with Monroe SIFE."

The SIFE team also won three Individual Topic awards for excellence in Business Ethics, Market Economics, and Financial Literacy and they finished first in Campbell Soup's *Let's Can Hunger* Regional Competition for collecting canned goods/ non-perishable food items. ■

KING GRADUATE SCHOOL

■ On April 17, four Monroe College MBA students **Ana Dorogan, Natalia Cerches, Paula Lyn,** and **Joseph Jeyanth** captured first place in the NBMBAA Second Annual Student Business Case Competition. In the undergraduate category **Shavanna Ramcharan, Kwesi Edwards, Terri Goggins, Kevin Davis** and **Lateefah Carty** took second place. **Dzidzoli Quist, George Ewang** and **Tamika Ward** took third place.

The case assignment for all the participants was to compare and contrast the retail formats of Wal-Mart vs. Tesco (as they expand throughout the US, Asia and Europe). The students examine current strategies, successes and failures as well as suggest an innovative concept and to provide a three year financial projection.

■ On March 25th, the King Graduate School MBA Program and the NAWMBA, the National Association of Women MBAs, presented a forum on mentorship. A three-person panel which included **Marina Dadashev** of the OCA, talked about mentorship as a means to achieving important professional objectives. The King school has a student chapter of NAWMBA, a national organization focusing on education, professional development, networking and collaboration.

For information on participating in any of these academic endeavors, visit the King Graduate School in Ustin Hall or Constable Hall in New Rochelle. ■

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Three members of the Monroe College Student Leadership Club (L-R in the photo) **Raven Herbert, Damaris Ortega,** and **Shanette Smith** earned certified Student Leader credentials during the April 8–11 National Conference on Student Leadership in Atlanta, Georgia. They earned the award by scoring high on an examination of skills necessary for the effective leadership of student organizations, including running effective meetings, resolving conflicts, creating an inclusive and diverse environment, and launching successful publicity and promotional campaigns.

The conference had over 500 students in attendance with schools from all over the country.

Since 1978, the National Conference on Student Leadership (NCSL) has helped student leaders enhance their leadership and organizational management skills so they can have a positive impact on their campuses. ■

Calendar of Events

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2:30pm Academic Technology Meeting – 501 Jerome Hall/BX
3:00 Weight Watchers – 105 Milavec Hall – NR

Thursday, May 13

9:00am to 7:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR

Friday, May 14

9:00am to 1:00pm Bookstore Sales – No Appointment – Bookstore/BX & NR
10:00am Faculty Professional Development Presentation – ANGEL 7.4 – 711 Jerome Hall/BX

Saturday, May 15

10:00am Faculty Professional Development Presentation – ANGEL 7.4 – 524 Main Hall/NR

Sunday, May 16

No Events Scheduled

ALLIED HEALTH

■ On April 14, the Monroe College School of Allied Health Professions held its nursing Pinning Ceremony for the Winter, 2010 semester. Eight students were recognized for successful completion of the program and received their LPN certificates.

"We're so proud of these students because of their dedication and achievement," said Nursing Department Chair **Jennifer Ort**. "We have every confidence that they'll be shining representatives of Monroe College as they progress in their careers."

Monroe's nursing program has a strong record when it comes to the NCLEX exams that these students will now take. Since the program was established in 2007, 94% of Monroe nursing graduates have passed the exam.

The pinning ceremony is a long-standing ritual in the profession of nursing. In fact, **Florence Nightingale** was known as the "Lady with the Lamp," signifying the caring and devotion a nurse administers on a daily basis. As a result, the emotional Monroe ceremony featured the students lighting lamps and receiving nursing pins bestowed upon them by Monroe staff and faculty.

■ Along with many other nursing organizations, the Department of Nursing will be celebrating National Nurses Week from May 6–12 to raise awareness of the value of the nursing profession and to help educate the public about the vital roles nurses play.

So during this week, please pay tribute to the nurses (over 3 million) who provide skilled, safe, quality care in a variety of settings, and who encounter increased challenges to their professional and ethical commitment. Also, please help recognize Monroe nursing students who are embarking upon a rewarding career. Remember, nurses make the difference. Make sure you remember to thank a nurse!

■ **Dr. Marlene Hollick** has had her book proposal accepted for publication by the F.A. Davis Co. The book's working title is "Writing for the Health Professions," and is scheduled to be published in 2012. Dr. Hollick teaches in the School of Allied Health Professions and the King Graduate School. The F.A. Davis Co. is a leading publisher of medical textbooks and reference materials. ■

BACHELOR'S PROGRAM

New Student Orientation Dinner
April 21, 2010

Monroe Empowers Young Men!

On Wednesday, April 14, Monroe College held a male empowerment event for high school students featuring "The Apprentice" star **Kwame Jackson**. More than 400 teen boys from a variety of high schools came to the King Hall gym to hear Mr. Jackson talk about how he went from "You're fired!" to "Inspired!"

"Too many urban young men are being distracted from paths to success," said Associate Director of Admissions **Cecil Wright**. "This was our way of illustrating to them how higher education is very much accessible and that people who once were just like them can become role models."

Mr. Jackson, who holds a Master's degree from the Harvard Business School, founded Legacy Holdings LLC, an emerging private investment firm focused on real estate, and has developed his own line of executive neckwear. The high school teens took to him immediately and afterwards besieged him for autographs and advice.

"This event made it clear that young men are eager to see what opportunities are there for them. It just has to presented in a way that captivates them," said Mr. Wright. ■

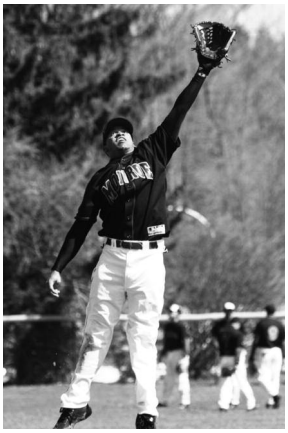
BOOKSTORE

On April 7th, Monroe College students took advantage of the warm summer-like weather and the chance to get cash back for gently-used textbooks from the new Monroe College bookstore operated by the Barnes & Noble college textbook division.

In New Rochelle, Store Manager **Cynthia Cameron** had 100 customers within three hours of opening day and the Bronx bookstore was bustling as well. ■

ATHLETICS

The Post Season Awaits!



The spring sports season is moving to a rapid conclusion and the Monroe baseball, softball, and outdoor track teams are gearing up for their post seasons.

At press time, the Mustangs baseball team is 18–14. Coach Lou Melendez is preparing for the Region Tournament which will be played over the weekend of Friday, May 7–Sunday May 9 at Dutchess Stadium. Monroe will play ASA. The winner of that tournament will then move on to the Regionals in Hagerstown, Maryland the weekend of May 14. The winners there would qualify for the district tournament in the Carolinas the weekend of May 22. The Nationals are in Junction, CO beginning May 29.

The Lady Mustangs softball team, 10–14 overall and 10–9 in Region XV, will be the #3 seed in the Region tournament. Their post season starts Tuesday afternoon, May 4 and (provided they win) continues with the Region Tournament on Saturday, May 8. Their National Tournament would begin on May 14 in Rochester, MN.

Ten Monroe track athletes will be participating in the national track meet in Howard, MD from May 6–8.

For more information visit **www.monroecollege.edu/athletics** or become a Facebook fan of ***Monroe College Athletics***. ■

ACCOUNTING

■ On Saturday, April 24th the Monroe College NABA Chapter won the Deloitte Accounting Case Study Contest at the Deloitte Financial Center in Manhattan, finishing ahead of a number of prestigious colleges and universities. The partners, managers and associates of the Deloitte firm were very impressed with our students' performances. **Joudline Bruna**, one of the presenters, will be working as an intern for Deloitte starting in the spring semester.

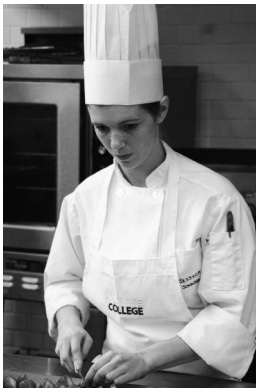
■ **Niquava Ricketts** became the first Monroe student to be hired by Ernst and Young (she'll start in September). As a result, all of the so-called "Big Four" CPA firms have now hired at least one Monroe student. ■

CULINARY

Gabriela Grande

■ On Saturday, April 17, the Monroe College School of Hospitality Management and the Culinary Arts selected the winners of its second annual America's Best High School Chef scholarship contest, held in the Culinary Arts Center on the New Rochelle campus.

Of the twelve pre-qualified high school students from around the country, **Gabriela Grande**, a senior at Food & Finance High School in Manhattan was named "America's Best High School Chef" and **Jessica Johnson,** a senior at West Warwick High School, won the designation of "America's Best High School Pastry Chef". Both will receive full scholarships to Monroe's culinary program.



Jessica Johnson

"Competition fosters the skills that are most sought in the industry: efficiency, cleanliness and great cooking skills, all of which result in delicious food," said Dean **Frank Costantino**. "By competing in programs such as these, culinary arts students develop phenomenal skills that make them all the more marketable for Monroe's very aggressive internship program and eventually, the marketplace."

■ On April 18, Dean Costantino put on his chef's hat and competed in the ACF Culinary Classic in Schenectady NY. Of the 70 competitors, Chef Costantino won a gold medal for first place in the two-day competition.

According to Chef Costantino, he entered the competition because several students wanted to see him compete and, "I missed the excitement of competing." "It was a fun experience to show the students that what we teach them works, " Chef Costantino said. "I'm usually focused and in a zone when I compete, but having students there gave me butterflies...I didn't want to let them down!"

Note: Dean Costantino provided this information grudgingly because he insisted that the focus be kept on his students. ■