



The Globe

A Student Life newspaper

Montgomery College - Germantown Campus

MC TO BE DRESSED IN PURPLE, BLACK, SILVER, AND WHITE

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 3, 6, 17, 20, 21	Germantown Baseball Home Game
March 21	The Future of Art: Re-Enchantment in Contemporary Art
Ongoing Until March 22	Steve Wlaker: Silkscreen Prints
March 27	Health & Wellness Fair, Blood Drive
March 12-16	Spring Break No Classes

by Hilary Sacks

After a college-wide vote, MC President Dr. DeRionne Pollard announced on March 1 that the school's new colors will be purple, black, silver, and white.

More than 2,200 students, faculty, staff, and alumni participated in the voting process, with the winning colors receiving nearly 45 percent of the vote.

A representative committee of students, faculty, and staff collaborated to identify the best colors and mascot ideas to bring to the college community.

A new mascot is coming to the college as well. However, the vote was too close to call. There will be a sec-

ond chance to cast a vote on the mascot concept and identify a clear winner.

[Online ballots](#) will be open until Wed., March 7 at midnight to select the mascot.

Guardians and Raptors are the two concept options. The Raptor concept refers to birds of prey known for their outstanding vision and crushing talons. The Guardian concept refers to figures who will support, defend, and protect the College. In the Spring, there will also be a contest for the best drawing of whichever mascot is selected.

Montgomery College is now the only college in Maryland to have purple, black, silver, and white as its colors.

The changes in Montgomery College's multi-campus, multi-colors, and multi-mascots approach have been driven by The National Junior College Athletic Association, which no longer allows one college to have multiple athletic teams at different campuses, and by the Administration's decision to adopt a one college approach that stresses unity and equality in all campuses.

Changes in College publications, the website, advertisements, signage, clothing, and facilities will be phased in over the next year.

To view Dr Pollard's video blog sharing the new college-wide colors, visit [\(Here\)](#)

DONATE A DRESS

By Meghan Hugues

Help a needy teen get her dream prom outfit by donating gently used formal wear. Take donations of dresses, shoes, and accessories to the Student Life Office (SA 186) before March 8. Donations also may be made on the other campuses as well.

Girls chosen by their high school counselors based on need and merit will be invited to Montgomery College to attend "Once Upon a Prom" on March 30. Participants will be given the chance to pick out a memorable ensemble completely free of charge, while enjoying a celebration with food, music, and games.

As of now, MC has the opportunity to assist 75 local girls in creating an unforgettable night.



By Michael Szachnitowski

Dr Pollard officially announces MC's new colors.

IS SEXUAL ORIENTATION FIXED OR FLUID?

by Michael Szachnitowski and Hilary Sacks

To explore the controversial subject, "Is Sexual Orientation Fixed or Fluid," join a Jefferson Café discussion on March 7 from 10:00 am to 11:30 am in Goldenrod (GB) 106.

Discussions are limited to 15 people to encourage all members to speak up in the informal setting. The forum stimulates debate and inquiry, rather than creating concrete answers.

The Jefferson Café is sponsored by the Paul Peck Institute for

American Culture and Civic Engagement at Montgomery College. The forum was named after President Thomas Jefferson, known for his delight of stimulating conversation around the dinner table.

Since the beginning of the café in May of 2004, discussions have spread to sites beyond the college and even received national level recognition as a model for citizen participation in the political process.

Jefferson Café discussions are

held monthly at all three MC campuses. Past topics have covered a range of social, environmental, and political issues. The discussions are based on pre-café readings, available to those whose register. Please contact either of the two discussion facilitators to register and receive the reading. Contact Dr. Aalai

(Azadeh.Aalai@montgomerycollege.edu) or Professor Bagshaw (Joanne.Bagshaw@montgomerycollege.edu).

GET A LIFE— JOIN A CLUB

Are you one of those students who come to campus for classes and then head home? A surefire way to shake up your routine is to join one of the many campus clubs that can help you develop your interests, build your skills, or just have a lot of fun for little money. Beginning below is the first in a series about some of the clubs on the Germantown campus.

by Mehreen Khan

Always wanted to learn photography? The Photography Club offers lessons in photography and Photoshop software. The club holds contests which are open to members. Student work is often displayed on campus.

The club meets every other Wednesday in HT200. No prior experience is needed to join, and any kind of camera is acceptable. In fact, a camera isn't required. Some members have experience and are willing to share what they know.

The club studies various styles of photography ranging from portrait, studio, nature, macro, conceptual, and more.

For more information, contact the club's founder. ([Here](#))



One of MC's budding photographers

It's not too late to sample a new cuisine. Ultimate Street Foods showcases Indian food next week in the Cafeteria.

THREE EVENTS FOCUS ON WORLD HUNGER

by Hilary Sacks

MC plans to host three events in April designed to focus attention on world hunger.

The Oxfam America Banquet invites participants to share a meal with a hidden twist. Fifteen percent of participants will leave with a full stomach after a lavish dinner. These lucky 15 percent dine with luxuries such as candles, silverware, and tablecloths. Half of the guests will sit on the floor with a few grains of rice and some water. Others will get something in between. The type of meal one receives will be based on a random drawing held at the door.

Oxfam America Hunger Banquets began in 1974, illustrating global hunger using theatrics, discussions, and growling stomachs. MC is working to hold Oxfam Banquets simultaneously on all three campuses. Proceeds will help fund programs for the poorest families in India (for information on those programs, visit ([Here](#))). To learn more about Oxfam America Hunger Banquets, visit: ([Here](#))

ONE STUDENT'S EXPERIENCE:

AN EYE ON INDIA

by Meghan Hughes

Montgomery College offered students and faculty an opportunity over winter break to travel for 12 days in India. Thirty of us accepted this challenge to dive into the unknown. I had not travelled even as far as Canada, making this an inspiring first trip, but not without challenges.

For three months prior to the trip, my fellow travelers and I prepared for the splendor and poverty of India. In monthly meetings, we learned about the many facets of travel in India, hoping to make us better travelers. Germantown Professors Ronald Nunn and Kelly Rudin spoke of the caste system, the history, and the multicultural fusion and diffusion of India.

Favorite Moments

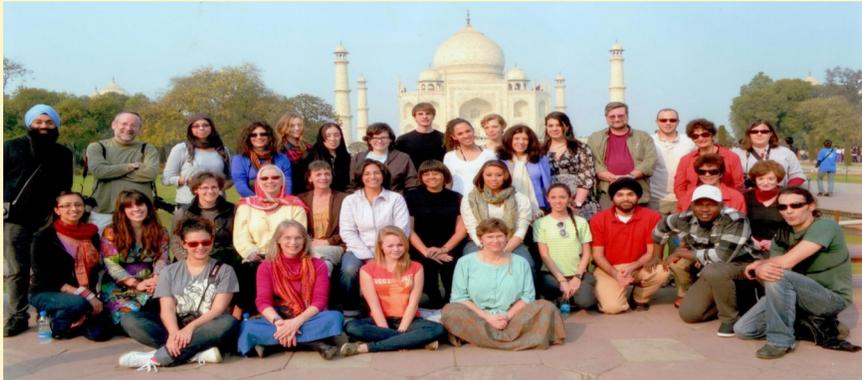
It would be bewildering to attempt to reason the most memorable or fantastic part of the trip. It seemed to take on a dream-like quality that couldn't possibly belong to reality. My favorite moments were waking up with the Ganges River covered in a smooth fog right outside my door, and teaching children at a school in Hyderabad the game of Horse while on a walk with a few members of the group.

Another high point was staying in Kodaikanal, which is a city in the hills of Tamil Nadu, where we were privileged to play and share a meal with little children at local schools. The sunrises over the tiered mountains alone are worth traveling to India.

A Constant March

By the end of the twelve days it felt as if we had been on a constant march, always moving and taking in as much of India as possible. We have all sat in traffic, but 270 South at 8am does not even come close to traffic in India. Three things will always stick out in my memory: the people, the dogs, and the cows that crowded the roads and side streets.

I don't believe I will ever see



MC students and faculty visit the Taj Mahal.

again so many half-starved dogs. They were hardly comparable to the fluffy American pups we know and adore.

The Taj Mahal is truly as beautiful as one could imagine. The white marble shone in the afternoon sun. The scene was timeless. In great contrast, however, strewn all along the grounds were dozens of seemingly dead dogs. Others were still scampering around, though it seemed for not much longer. In the advertisement the school posted, there had been a picture of the Taj Mahal, but, as it turned out, an incomplete one. No dogs were in that picture.

You're in India When...

Towards the middle of the trip, we were all finding ways to welcome the new experiences. It almost became a game called 'You know you're in India when...' Sometimes this was finished with "when you brush your teeth with bottled water in the morning," or "when you see nine men file out of a vehicle not much larger than a Smart Car to relieve themselves on the side of a mountain." Never for a moment could we forget we were not in the United States.

This trip offered the chance for one to redefine 'luxury.' For instance, Hyderabad was a paradise with incredible spa treatments, restaurants, and lounges. But at

this point in the trip, I am certain that every member of the group was most excited by the idea of getting a warm shower.

Perhaps some truths are best experienced for one's self. We were fortunate to see many different ways of life on this trip, and the difficulties we witnessed made the beauty all the more remarkable.

The 30 of us had a wonderful opportunity to learn about a different culture and about who we are and who we want to be. This was debatably the most inspiring aspect of the trip. By the end of the trip, it was a common opinion that it felt as if we had been gone for months. We gained so much in such a short amount of time. India is one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen, and I would not take back my choice to go there, but I feel it is not for everyone.

Not "Eat Pray Love"

No matter how many times you watch "Eat Pray Love," you should not be naïve in choosing to travel to this country. You won't feel as if you are anywhere in the United States. Our wonderfully diverse group, with people of all ages and backgrounds, showed clearly that there is not one type of person, but many types well suited to travel to India. What was most inspiring to me were the personal connections we formed with each other.

The Globe

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Montgomery College Germantown

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES SEEKS STUDENT REP

The nominating committee of the MC Board of Trustees is accepting applications through March 9 from students interested in serving a one-year term on the Board of Trustees beginning July 1.

The Board of Trustees is MC's governing body, and the student trustee position requires an extensive time commitment.

Students who wish to be considered for the position must have completed at least 18 credit hours at MC and be currently enrolled in at least six credit hours. They must possess a cumulative grade point average and current semester GPA of at least 2.0. They must be Montgomery County residents.

To apply, email a letter of intent and resume along with supporting references to Mr. Fred S. Evans, chairman of the nominating committee, at fredevans1970@gmail.com.

MAKE SPRING BREAK COUNT

- ▶ Offer to read a book aloud to children at a daycare center or Head Start program.
- ▶ Go with a friend to a park and pick up trash. Make a day of it and take along a picnic lunch.
- ▶ Ring an elderly neighbor's doorbell and ask if they'd like their car washed.
- ▶ Volunteer at an animal shelter to play with their cats or walk their dogs.

Go [\(Here\)](#) for other ideas that appeal to you.

TRAVEL PUTS IT ALL IN PERSPECTIVE

by *Katy Wheaton*

Reading the article by Meghan Hughes (page 3) on her incredible opportunity to travel to India over Winter Break reminded me of the importance of having perspective. Travel is the best way I know to get that. See how other people live and what makes them happy. Americans often think the rest of the world wants to be just like us and yearns for what we have. Some of us pity other countries' citizens, or worse, are horrified by the way they live.

The lesson we need to take home is of appreciation for what we have and how we live. We need to accept and understand that there are other perfectly legitimate ways to live, just as we accept belief systems different from our own.

Travel is about expanding our minds and perspectives, not judging. Let us be grateful for the opportunities we are given to learn and understand. We are truly fortunate if allowed the chance to participate and engage with local people.

When my two oldest boys were

traveling together through Europe several years ago, I wished one thing for them: that they one night find themselves with nowhere to sleep. And, sure enough, one night in Bordeaux, France, there was a festival going on. All the hostels were full. They spent the night on a park bench. And, guess what? They didn't die. They got perspective.

Whenever I hear someone complaining about bad traffic, the price of gas, or not being able to shed a few pounds, I want to say to that person, "May this be the worst thing that happens to you today!" Seriously, folks, remind your selves as to what matters. Are you healthy? Are your loved ones healthy? Do you have enough to eat? Do you have a place to lay your head? Are you clothed and shod? Good, then, you have enough.

With age, comes wisdom. Part of wisdom is having perspective. It helps us through our days and all the frustrations, disappointments and roadblocks we each face each day.

CELEBRATE WOMEN ON MARCH 8

by *Katy Wheaton*

MC will celebrate International Women's Day on March 8. The theme of this year's service project is "Connecting Girls, Inspiring Futures."

One project involves making dresses for needy young girls in Africa out of pillow cases. To participate, students may go to the Student Life Office and use sewing machines or decorate the sewn dresses with trim. For some of these girls living in poverty, a pillow case dress may be the first new dress they have ever owned.

The women's studies coordinator also plans to show a documentary called "Pray the Devil Back to Hell," followed by discussion. More information about the movie is available [\(Here\)](#)

International Women's Day traces its origins back to protests in US and Europe to honor and fight for the political rights for working women.

REACTIONS FROM OUR READERS

ARE WE REALLY ONE COLLEGE?

The administration of Montgomery College has tried repeatedly to remind faculty, staff, and students that MC is *one* college. This message has been played non-stop through interviews, newsletters, and many different methods of friendly reassurance. This year, the one college campaign took it a step further by deciding to throw out the three different mascots, athletic teams, and school colors of the three different campuses in order to create one mascot, one set of athletics, and one set of school colors.

Let's not forget what this whole getting rid of the mascots and school colors thing is really doing. For years Montgomery College has been thought of as three separate campuses by its students. Yes, we may all be one piece of MC, but each campus is an individual piece, not a carbon copy of one another. There are unique aspects of all three campuses that create the diversity that Montgomery College always seems to brag about.

For instance, at the Germantown campus you can take some amazing courses in the scientific / medical field that you wouldn't be able to take at the Rockville campuses. Likewise, you can take some really fun studio art classes at the Rockville campus that are not offered here at the German-town campus. Also, there are health service classes at Takoma Park that you can't take anywhere else.

Instead of celebrating Montgomery College by assimilating the three different campuses, we should be celebrating Montgomery College by being proud of the differences. We may be one college, but we will always be three different campuses, thousands of unique students, and the long list of endless possibilities they create. Our mascot and school colors should respect that.

— Mercedes Hill

RECONSIDERING E-TEXTBOOKS

Price was the main argument against e-readers in last issue's article. While costly, these devices are an investment. Many e-books are priced lower than physical books, saving money in the long run (like hybrid cars, for instance). Also, not only is losing a device carrying multiple textbooks unlikely, but deleting text from a website would be easier than from an e-textbook.

Students commuting via bus, bike, or foot consider convenience when purchasing books. One reason e-readers have grown popular is their light weight. Textbooks are heavy. A one-pound device is easier to carry than multiple textbooks.

For working students, iPads and tablets can organize your information from the office and school in one portable device. With free applications for books (which add textbooks to their queue as publishers allow) and note-taking, note-pads/paper are no longer needed.

Environmental impact is also something to consider. Electronic devices save trees. Certain websites, like www.chegg.com, call attention to this environmental aspect, planting trees for purchases. This site allows users to highlight, take notes, and search for specific pages. *Chegg* advertises availability on tablets, Macs (Apple Inc.), and PCs. *Chegg* is one of many sites with computer compatibility for textbooks, eliminating the need to purchase a device. Many free websites offer cheaper online rentals and purchases.

So ask again: Is there a future for e-textbooks? Look around; you may be surprised how many people prefer e-textbooks as time progresses.

— Hilary Sacks

LOOKING TO LOSE THAT FRESHMAN FAT?

by *Mehreen Khan*

College students gain an average of three to ten pounds during their first two years of college, according to *Teens' Health*.

College offers many temptations, and classes leave one with little time. All the greasy burgers, pizza, and fries are appealing and easy to grab when on one's own. College brings many new demands; stress can play a big role in eating, and students may not

be getting as much exercise.

The answers to dropping a few pounds aren't easy. Evaluate eating and exercise habits. Cut back on soda and midnight snacks. Don't skip meals, eat slowly, watch portion size, and eat healthy snacks.

Eating healthy doesn't have to be boring. Make a smoothie with one's favorite fruits and add greens like spinach, avocado, or

romaine lettuce to the mixture.

The blend of fruits will mask the taste of the greens. Frozen fruits don't spoil as quickly as fresh ones, and they are better for blending a cold drink. For a quick meal or a snack while studying, make a simple parfait. In a cup, layer fat free yogurt, berries, and sugar free granola. It's healthy, tasty, and will give one the energy to get through the day.