



ESTABLISHED 1969

A STUDENT PRESS SERVING

MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

AND ITS NEIGHBORING AREAS

February 22, 2010
Volume 41, Issue 5

FIRST THREE ISSUES FREE,
ALL OTHERS
\$1.50

STUDENT LIFE

PRINCETON HOLDS ANTI-VALENTINE'S EVENT
| Page 2
Mercer clubs celebrate African American Heritage month.
| Page 2

Student Spotlight: Francesca Scirocco leads the LGBTF
| Page 3

DINING

THE PERFECT PRINCETON PUB CRAWL
| Page 4

MALAGA SERVES SENSUOUS SPANISH CUISINE
| Page 4

FEATURES

PHOTO FEATURE: POLICE ACADEMY - THE STRESS TEST PART 5 OF THE PHOTO DOCUMENTARY
| Page 5

VIEWPOINTS

SARINA PRIOR TELLS IT THE WAY IT IS: NJ BLEW IT ON GAY MARRIAGE
| Page 10

THE EDITORS GO HEAD TO HEAD ON: WHO HAS IT HARDER IN RELATIONSHIPS, MEN OR WOMEN?
| Page 11

JUST 4 FUN

2x Dilbert + Get Fuzzy
| Page 1

More time to drop courses and get refund

Students get 3 days instead of 1 to withdraw from 15-week classes and get a full refund

By Dmitry Gurvits
The College Voice

Effective this spring, Mercer's new refund policy extends most of the deadlines by which students may withdraw from classes and still get a full refund.

Students taking 15-week classes now have 72 hours after the first class meeting to withdraw and have their full course fee refunded. Ten-week classes now have a 48 hour window, while seven- and five-week classes remain unchanged with just 24 hours to withdraw for a full refund. Under the old policy students had only 24 hours after the first class meeting to withdraw from any class, regardless of the length of the term, if they wanted a full refund.

The new policy comes after nearly a year of conversation by Mercer's executive team. "Everything we do is quite cyclical. So, at the beginning



Theresa Caruso, a Biology major, withdrew from a 15-week Ethics class a day and a half after the class's first meeting and received a full refund under Mercer's new policy.

of the registration period [last spring] it would come up, and we finally decided to just make the change," said Vice President of Student and Academic Affairs Dr. Guy Generals.

"We felt it was a bit extreme. We wanted to do something more student-friendly," said

Dr. Generals. Generals added, "even though students needed to know that the costs that they incur includes the run up to the first day of class... And if they weren't going to stay in the class we had the possibility of filling that seat with a student who wanted to stay. There

needed to be some remuneration for them holding that seat and deciding not to come. We just felt that going from the one day to the three day was more student friendly and enabled students to make a clearer decision about what they wanted to do."

The decision was

also influenced by concerns raised by students and their parents. Students with extenuating circumstances, illnesses or otherwise compelling reasons, were consistently having to contact Dr. Generals or the Executive Dean of Students, Dr. Diane Campbell, to obtain refunds after the 24 hour deadline.

"We're listening to students and parents all the time," says Dr. Campbell. "We have to begin to justify, well, why is that happening? If I hear a reason, that I believe is significant then on my side I'm going to try to get the support for students," she said. Dr. Campbell continued, "to that then [the other members of the Executive Cabinet] said, 'well maybe, you know, it is a little bit too rigid, let's think about how we can lengthen it a little bit' but that was the consensus of the executive team."

See REFUND page 2

Law and disorder: Sheriff interrupts class

Confrontation erupts between sheriff and professor during class

By Dmitry Gurvits
The College Voice

Mercer County Sheriff Kevin C. Larkin and what appeared to be a female aide interrupted a State and Local Politics Class (POL 102) held in MS 205, at Mercer's West Windsor Campus on February 1.

Associate Professor Michael Glass was conducting a discussion of what changes students would propose to the state budget to avoid the expected \$2 billion shortfall. Some students suggested cutting the salaries of what they felt were overpaid state administrators.

The issue of state employees who "double dip" into state pension plans was raised during the class. Students asked Prof. Glass for a local example. At that point, Prof. Glass provided examples of several law enforce-

ment officers, including Sheriff Larkin, who collects a Police and Fire Retirement System Pension as well as a government salary.

Information about Larkin's pension was widely publicized in the *Times of Trenton* May 23, 2009 article entitled "Pension eligibility spurs controversy" by Anthony Coleman. The article described how "Larkin was cashing in on a move allowed under the state's pension system: he can legally continue working as sheriff (at a \$129,634 annual salary) while collecting a pension based on his 'retirement' from that very job."

As reported by Coleman, Larkin has been collecting an \$85,000 annual pension since January 1, 2009 after retiring from the Sheriff's Office at the rank of Chief Sher-

"It's antithetical to free speech, free academia, and...America. The idea of having a police presence challenging a professor and taking him out of class is something seen in a police state. It's outrageous."

--Robin Schore, Dean of Liberal Arts

iff's Officer, while concurrently earning a \$129,634 salary as County Sheriff.

When a student commented that they would not know what to do with the roughly \$210,000 Sheriff Larkin makes in annual compensation, Glass said, "In the case of the Sheriff, it's not that much. He has [to pay] child support and alimonies."

The comments were made at roughly 7:30PM, when Brooke Seidl, 26, a student and County Clerk, apparently informed Sheriff Larkin of Glass's comments, via text message.

Russell Buckley, 19, who sat near Seidl that night, reports hearing her say she was contacting Larkin "right now," directly after Glass made the comments about Larkin. Buckley also reports hearing Seidl texting on her cell phone.

At 8:18PM, Mercer security logs indicate that Sheriff Larkin called the FA-107 Dispatcher "needing to reach Prof. Michael Glass." An index card requesting Prof. Glass contact Larkin was delivered to MS-205 at 8:26 PM, during the class break, according to the logs.

Glass indicated that he believed the note to be a prank from one of the students. "I thought it was a joke," said Glass. After the break Glass dismissed the supposed prank and proceeded with his lecture.

At around 9:20, a half hour before the class's scheduled 9:50 end time, Sheriff Kevin C. Larkin, dressed in a trenchcoat, opened the door to Prof. Glass's classroom. According to one student attending the class that night, Max Grindlinger, "[Larkin] said, 'Michael, can I see you for a minute?'"

According to Buckley, Grindlinger and another student, Diane Walker, Sheriff Larkin and Prof. Glass had a roughly three-minute conversation outside of MS 205. No one overheard the

See SHERIFF page 3

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATED

By Anthony Willis
Reporter

The month of February is African American Heritage month and many different groups at Mercer are working to pack a year's worth of events into just one month. The different groups organizing events include the African American Student Organization (AASO), the Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF) and the Student Government Association (SGA). The theme of the celebratory events this year is "Transforming the Future through the Power of Education."

Lucia Brown is the college Bursar and coordinator of African American Heritage Month activities along with Mercer students. "We want to teach [the community] about the many known and unsung heroes who have made countless sacrifices to enhance the quality of education for the betterment of future generations," says Brown. She continues, "it's an opportunity for the younger generation to learn about their heritage and that there are people still among us that are making an impact."

The festivities are taking place on the West Windsor as well as the James Kearney Campus. JKC kicked off its celebration with Trenton community activist Rev. Kathleen Smallwood-Johnson who addressed this year's theme, as well as a performance by Trenton Central High's marching band on February 1.

The opening ceremonies, which also included a speech by Mercer's Vice President for Student and Academic Affairs Dr. Guy Generals regarding education and the impact it makes on students' economic futures, were well attended. "It was a full house and we had to make sure we had music to keep everyone there," said Brown.

The events will conclude on February 25 with an African American Heritage Luncheon on the West Windsor Campus which will feature food prepared by Mercer's Culinary Arts students. East Windsor Township Council member Walter Daniels and Dr. Generals will be in attendance. The event is open to the public and tickets are available through the Student Activities office on the first floor of the Student Center.

Regarding the goals of this month's festivities Brown says she wishes to create "increased awareness of all students of accomplishments of blacks. Also to show them that hard work and dedication has great rewards."

A perfect anti-Valentine's Day fiesta Princeton Art Museum-sponsored "Failed Loved"

By Kelly Smith
Reporter

The "Failed Love" exhibit held at Princeton Art Museum celebrated unsuccessful courtship with music performances, art and chocolate on February 11, 2011, just in time for Valentine's Day.

The exhibit was held on one of Princeton Art Museum's popular Late Night Thursdays, in which special exhibits are available to the public free of charge, starting at 7PM. The exhibit was different from the previous exhibits held on Thursdays because the anti-Valentine's Day theme was presented by the Student Advisory Board.

Natalie Guo, a member of the board, said, "we wanted to create a theme that was interesting to the students and the community." Members of the board who knew local artists asked them to perform at the event.

One such artist, Sarah Donner, explained that much of her inspiration in writing her songs comes from "actual people and hearing their stories."

Another artist, "Big Al" Williams, said, "music is like a math equation, you have all these different equations and variables and you're trying to fit them together to make it work." Both artists are consistent performers at Princeton University and said they were excited to participate in the "Failed Love" event.

Along with the live performanc-



PHOTO | KELLY JONES

es there was a scavenger hunt in which participants were given a poem and had to match it with one of the paintings in the upper galleries. Each poem and painting pair related to the theme of failed love.

Even the food perpetuated the anti-Valentine's Day theme by including bags of M&M's imprinted with sayings such as "Heart Broken" and "Love Stinks." The buffet spread included chocolate-covered strawberries, chocolate-covered pretzels and hot chocolate - just the right fare for anyone recovering from a broken heart. "Failed Love" was attended by many couples, Princ-



PHOTO | KELLY JONES

Above: DeAna Smith and Dann Taylor of Lawrence High School look at art at Princeton's "Failed Love" anti-Valentine's Day exhibit.

Left: Princeton University student, Sarah Donner, performs at "Failed Love."

eton University students and members of the community.

The Student Advisory Board will be putting on another special exhibit in the spring of 2010 featuring a Versailles

theme honoring the unification of two famous paintings that have not been exhibited together in 20 years. Details will be available closer to the event.

Refund policy gets updated

By Dmitry Gurvits
The College Voice

Cont. from pg. 1

Theresa Caruso, a Biology major, withdrew from an Ethics class a day and a half after the class's first meeting. She chose to withdraw because it "didn't fit into [her] schedule." When asked if she'd have been able to make that decision in 24 hours, Ms. Caruso said, "No! Thank god they changed the policy. I needed the extra time to figure out if I really wanted to take the class. Under the old policy I'd be stuck taking or paying for the class."

The Bursar's Office repays students by mail, sending a check to their homes. This process takes roughly three weeks, with Ms. Caruso reporting receipt of her refund check on February 13, adding that her online transcript did not reflect her short enrollment in PHI-204.

The revenue retained by the school for students that have dropped classes after

"Thank god they changed the policy. I needed the extra time to figure out if I really wanted to take the class. Under the old policy I'd be stuck taking or paying for the class."

-Theresa Caruso

the refund date becomes part of Mercer's tuition revenue stream. Vice President of Administration and Chief Business Officer Jacob Eapen says, "[the money] is part of the revenue to run the college."

Mr. Eapen echoed Dr. Generals' statements about the reason for a refund policy, adding that when a student enrolls in a class and drops it, a financial burden is placed on Mercer. "There is a commitment on the part of [that] student to take that seat...then maybe students

who were ready to enroll in that class, that seat is unavailable to them."

For some students, however, three days is still simply not enough time. Melissa Wingo, a Liberal Arts major, reports having trouble with her schedule and not being able to resolve the issue until the fourth day. "I had to go to an advisor to work everything out. They were so booked up...that by the time I got in and sorted everything out, it had been four days, so I couldn't drop the class," she says. The one class that Ms. Wingo had to drop a day late cost her \$367.00.

In the November 2009 issue of the *College Voice*, staffer Peter Cosma wrote an opinion article titled "Mercer's refund policy is broken, but could be fixed." In that article Cosma advocated for a longer refund period similar to the one now being instated. However, no Mercer administrator involved in the newly updated refund policy cited Cosma's opinion as having influenced or informed their decision. ■

GREEN TIPS

Recycle your hazardous and chemical waste such as batteries and old computers!

Household Chemical Waste Disposal Days to be held at the John T. Dempster Fire Training School, Bakers Basin/Lawrence Stations Rds., Lawrence Twp from 8:00AM-2:00PM, rain or shine on the following days:

Saturday, March 20, 2010
Saturday, June 26, 2010
Saturday, October 9, 2010

Electronic Waste Disposal Days to be held at the Sun Center, 81 Hamilton Ave., Lot 1, Trenton from 9:00AM-2:00PM, rain or shine on the following day:

Saturday, May 8, 2010

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Francesca Scirocco leads Mercer's active LGBTF



COLLEGE VOICE | FILE PHOTO

Francesca Scirocco leads LGBTF meetings every Thursday at noon in the LGBT office on the first floor of the Student Center.

By Matt White
Senior Reporter

"What a waste of two pretty girls," said a stranger to two women holding hands and walking outside of Macy's in New York City. One of these women, Mercer student Francesca Scirocco, refusing to take such disrespect, immediately turned around and said "Excuse me?"

Francesca Scirocco is a second-year Liberal Arts major and president of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Friends (LGBTF) group at Mercer. She has been actively fighting for equal LGBT rights since she was in high school.

"Throughout high school, I wasn't actually out. I was actually beaten up verbally for just casually holding another girl's hand. My school was not very accepting," Scirocco says.

Not wanting others to endure this discrimination, Scirocco joined her high school's LGBT group. However, it was extremely small and she didn't feel as though it was very productive.

Scirocco describes her role as president of Mercer's LGBTF as a "24 hour job" which entails, among other things, keeping the club together and organized and event planning.

"I wouldn't call it stressful because my committee members are amazing! I wouldn't be able to do anything without them. And while I wouldn't call it stressful, I would say that it can be a lot of work to do in a little bit of time," Scirocco says.

Some events that Scirocco and the LGBTF have organized over the last year include a screening of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, an "International Taste of Gay," and the forthcoming "My Bloody Valentine," a murder mystery

dinner.

Scirocco came out as bisexual two years ago at the age of 18. "I wrote my parents a nine-page letter and gave it to my mom to read aloud when I left for school. We had dinner together that night and both [my parents] - while informing me that they weren't completely happy with [my sexual orientation] - said they loved and supported me. I honestly thought my dad would have reacted irrationally but he was calm and said he already had a feeling. Both support and love me no matter what," Scirocco says.

Not all of Scirocco's friends took the news as well as her parents did. As Francesca explained, "A lot of them stopped talking to me. That's when I grew up and realized I needed to stop worrying about what everyone else thought and just be Francesca."

Scirocco describes her current relationship with her partner, Sarah, as being the healthiest she has ever been in. Sarah and Francesca differ in many regards. "She's the total opposite of me. She loves sports! Sarah is very big on fitness," says Scirocco. But they share a common love of art, traveling, and of course, each other.

After getting a Liberal Arts degree from Mercer with a concentration in Social Science, she hopes to attend Montclair State University for a minor in Gender Psychology and then another school for a major in Forensic Psychiatry.

Mercer has played a large role in her academic, social and extracurricular experiences and she says that the school has helped to introduce her to many friends and supporters. She also says, "It gave me the opportunity of being the LGBTF President and to help make the club more active. I, personally, have become more of an activist. For that, I am thankful."

Sheriff confronts professor in class

By Dmitry Gurvits
The College Voice

Cont. from pg. 1

conversation. The two then reentered the classroom, Prof. Glass introduced Sheriff Larkin and apologized for "making disparaging comments" about the Sheriff.

"[He] gives an apology while Sheriff Larkin is standing no less than six inches from him," said Grindlinger.

Both Buckley and Grindlinger report Sheriff Larkin as saying, "This isn't over," on his way out of the classroom. According to Buckley, Larkin's aide, who was waiting outside the classroom, said as the classroom door was closing, "You're a terrible teacher, you should get your facts from a book."

"I was surprised to see him show up at the classroom, and...I was wondering if it was appropriate for him, one, to be there, and two, to want to be in the class," said Glass. He added, "I didn't feel it was the time or place to discuss it, but since he was physically there, I reacted in the way that I did."

Glass also said, "I would say [Larkin and I have] had a friendly relationship over the last 30 years. He, in fact, worked at the college, at one time, early on in his career...back before he was even a County Sheriff's officer," Glass said, adding that there has not been any contention between the two in their long relationship when their "paths would cross at a number of Irish American fundraisers."

Asked if he felt intimidated, Prof. Glass said, "Yes...I thought...he'd have a clear understanding of what any given professor, whether it's me or anybody else, can or can't say in a classroom."

Prof. Glass says he does "not recall" the exact contents of his conversation with Larkin in the MS building hallway.

Glass says he used the example purely to illustrate the "dollars and cents" of law enforcement jobs. He said "at least a third to a half of [the students in the class] are Criminal Justice majors, they're all aspiring to work in law enforcement and I wanted to make them realize that currently, law enforcement has some of the most lucrative public salaries in the state of New Jersey, and hence, in the Country...it was a whole financial discussion...as opposed to trying to denigrate any particular personality."

Tiajuana Paige, 21, a student in Glass's class said the professor's comments about Larkin improved her understanding of the course material, adding, "yes...well the class is political science, so we talk about politics."

Students in the class reacted strongly to the event.

"I was shocked more than anything. I was laughing

"Does [Larkin] not have anything better to do with his time as an elected official?...It's an overall waste of time, I think, for someone in that stature to really complain...I wouldn't vote for him."

--Max Grindlinger, Student

because I was so surprised," said Buckley, adding "that's exactly what you don't want from a publically-elected official."

Walker said, "[Larkin and his aide] were very classless, and they called [Glass] by his first name no less."

Student Vanessa Holguin, 25, said she felt that the event "jeopardizes the extent of [her] education," adding that she felt Glass would "walk on egg shells," following the incident.

Grindlinger echoed Holguin's statement, saying "I feel like [Glass] will be more careful with the things he tries to teach about state and local government so it would not come back to him in such a rash way."

Grindlinger also said, "Does [Larkin] not have anything better to do with his time as an elected official?...It's an overall waste of time, I think, for someone in that stature to really complain...I wouldn't vote for him."

When reached by telephone and asked about her role in the events, clerk Brooke Seidl said "no comment."

At this time, Mercer is conducting an investigation into the events.

Mercer's President Dr. Patricia Donohue said in an interview that Sheriff Larkin did call her. She says, "[Larkin] was unhappy about the comments he had heard about. That was the first, and frankly the only person who called and told me anything about [the event]." Donohue continued, saying "Based on that discussion...I told Mr. Fernandez, who is the college compliance officer, that he needed to get more details and facts for me about what actually happened in the classroom."

Citing the school closing due to snow and Mr. Fernandez's vacation days, President Donohue declined to make an official comment about the event, saying "we are looking into that matter, making sure we have the right facts."

Jose Fernandez, Mercer's Executive Director of Compliance and Human Resources, also received a phone call from Sheriff Larkin, in which Larkin made allegations about Prof. Glass's conduct. That phone call, received on February 2, launched the school's investigation, says Fernandez.

Asked about a general time frame for the resolution of such investigations, Mr. Fernandez said, "it could be a few days or a few weeks, depending on how many people you need to speak with." Fernandez indicated that the range of potential responses to such a complaint could be "nothing to firing" of the employee involved.

In regards to the role that Mercer's security played in the incident, Director of College Safety Bryon Marshall says "the only thing [Security did was] handle [Larkin's] note. There was no information beyond handing Professor Glass the note." Having completed an internal security investigation, Marshall says that Security was not aware that Larkin appeared, or planned to appear, in the classroom that evening.

When asked how Security would have acted had they been able to anticipate the incident, Marshall said, "Across the board, regardless of who it is, you cannot just completely interrupt the class. It's unfair to the students, it's unprofessional, and it's just, for many reasons, not something we would stand idly by. We would have them removed. We would sanction them internally. If they got into an altercation or got into conduct that was inappropriate we would call West Windsor [Police] to come and remedy the situation."

In reaction to the incident, Elizabeth Bondurant, Professor of Criminal Justice and Retired Plainsboro Police Chief, said "As chief, you have to have very thick skin, you're criticized and second-guessed. You've got to stand by your decisions." She added that in her class controversial topics are "covered, absolutely, they're more on topics though, not individuals."

Despite repeated phone and in-person attempts to contact him, neither Sheriff Larkin nor the Sheriff's Office were available for comment.

In terms of what kind of impact such an incident has on academics, Dr. Robin Schore, Dean of the Liberal Arts Division said the event "has a chilling effect on free speech." Schore added, "It's antithetical to free speech, free academia, and...America. The idea of having a police presence challenging a professor and taking him out of class is something seen in a police state. It's outrageous."

WHAT'S AHEAD? STORIES TO LOOK FOR IN MARCH:

- Brace for more tuition hikes ahead
- Sexual predators living near you? How to find out and protect yourself.
- Student Press Law Center celebrates 35 years protecting student journalists

The perfect Princeton pub crawl

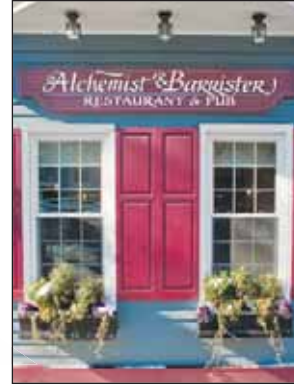


PHOTOS | CJ HARKER



PHOTO | DANIELA ROCHA

The beer sampler at Triumph offers seven beers in five ounce glasses for only eight dollars.



By Daniela Rocha
Reporter

Out of the many bars in downtown Princeton, a few stand out because of their great selection of beer on tap, happy hour specials, live music, youthful crowds and great prices. With the economy not getting any better, any way to save is a good way, especially where entertainment is concerned.

Bars such as the Yankee Doodle Tap Room, J. B. Winberies, the Witherspoon Grill, Triumph Brewery and the Ivy Inn are conveniently located in the heart of Palmer Square and within walking distance of each other. There is also a long line of cabs on Nassau Street, something which should make your usual designated driver very happy. However, if you choose to drive, be aware that there is also a line of cops sitting around

the corner. Sometimes it is longer than the line of cabs.

The Triumph Brewery Company on Nassau Street is a perfect place for a fun date or a night out with friends. On Thursday nights there is live music and the establishment is packed with young people being served by attentive and friendly bartenders. Friday and Saturday nights, Triumph hosts local bands or DJs.

If for no other reason, go to Triumph for their locally-brewed beer. There are seven beers on tap, most of which are seasonal. In the fall, for example, Triumph offers a pumpkin ale which is light with a wonderful pumpkin aftertaste. To get the most bang for your buck, order their beer sampler, an assortment of seven beers served in five-ounce sample glasses for only eight dollars. Triumph is a great place if you're looking

to expand your beer repertoire; you can always go to other bars to get old favorites.

"I come to the Triumph every once in awhile to try their new beers," said Larry Baez, a Business student at Mercer.

"Every hour is a happy hour," said Eric Vachon, a bartender at the Ivy Inn on Nassau Street. The Ivy Inn offers six beers on tap, beer pitchers, a Jägermeister machine which serves the coldest Jäger in town and a great selection of imported and domestic beers, all at student-friendly prices. If you're looking to sit back and enjoy a beer in your house but realize after the liquor stores close that you're out, stop by the Ivy for takeout beer! Another plus of going to the Ivy: having the opportunity to be served by bartender and rising star actor from "One Life to Live," Justin

Kahn.

Wednesday nights are karaoke nights, so if you're feeling drunk enough, try out your singing voice in front of the Ivy crowd. After you've worked up an appetite from singing karaoke, have the bartender call you a cab and grab a bite to eat next door at Hoagie Haven while you wait.

Michelle Obama and Brooke Shields have visited the Yankee Doodle Tap Room. Apart from that, it is clearly one of the least popular Princeton bars. On a typical Thursday night no one was there save a small group of geeky grad students. Not only was there no music playing but the bartender wasn't particularly sociable.

Alchemist and Barrister on Witherspoon Street offers both quiet as well as party environments. There is a covered

patio near the entrance which is dimly lit and usually quiet except for the music playing. They use heaters to keep the patio comfortable even in the winter and it is a great option for smokers as they can walk a few feet, with drink in hand, to grab a smoke. Inside A&B is dimly lit and slightly crowded. Oftentimes they host local bands which set up in a tiny corner of the room, but even if there isn't a band, this room has music playing and usually a rather loud crowd.

Unfortunately A&B's prices are less than student-friendly. The A&B can be fun if you go to see a good band play or have some extra money burning a hole in your pocket.

For the perfect Princeton pub crawl start at Triumph and see where you go from there!

Malaga serves up smoking hot Spanish cuisine

By Sara Gatling
The College Voice

Malaga Restaurant on Lalor Street in Trenton offers authentic Spanish cuisine, ambience and entertainment without the \$800 price tag of a round trip ticket to Madrid.

As far as ambience, Malaga offers a balanced combination between an upscale restaurant and a homey hole-in-the-wall. The décor is subtle yet effective: brick red walls, simple wooden chairs and tables and white tablecloths; it is this simplicity that lends itself so wonderfully to the atmosphere. A genuinely charming maître d' escorts patrons to their table where they are promptly waited upon by any one of a number of extremely graceful waiters.

If you happen to go to Malaga for your birthday, upon request a group of waiters, including a guitar player, will sing, not some corny, loud, obnoxious birthday song like those sung at Chili's or T.G.I. Fridays, but the traditional Hispanic (although originally Mexican) equivalent to "Happy Birthday," "Las Mananitas," in perfect harmony.

The best times to go are the first and third Wednesday evening of every month when Malaga features an hour-long Flamenco performance, but be



PHOTO | CJ HARKER

Monica Herrera and Teresa D'Aprile provide traditional Flamenco entertainment at Malaga Restaurant.

sure to make reservations as these nights fill up very quickly. At around eight o'clock, the lights in the left parlor of the restaurant get lowered and a bright spotlight shines on a miniscule stage. The stage is just large enough to hold five chairs along

the wall and one to two dancers.

The main guitarist, Carlos Rubio, is skilled at Spanish finger-picking; he glides his fingers along the strings of the guitar, producing a beautiful and seemingly improvised melody. The singer, Julia Lopez

from Madrid, who also dances and says she has done so "all [her] life," sits next to Sr. Rubio clapping and singing in traditional Gypsy-Flamenco style (think Gypsy Kings).

The dancers are clearly experienced as can be seen through their skilled footing and castanet playing. The two young dancers, Teresa D'Aprile and Monica Herrera, move gracefully around the small stage, performing sets both alone and together, making the art appear effortless.

At the end of each half-hour set, the dancers walk among the patrons and invite them to come up on stage and dance. The group on stage laughed and clapped as the dancers attempted to teach the bravest of the patrons some basics of Flamenco.

As far as the dishes, to start, the champiñones rellenos (stuffed mushrooms) are exquisite. Small button mushrooms are filled with a crab-meat stuffing, topped with bread crumbs and baked just long enough, not so long that the mushrooms lose their tenderness.

The Paella Marinera, a Spanish trademark, was delicious. Oftentimes, paella tends to be overly salty, but Malaga's paella was as close as you can get to the real thing outside of Spain. It was perfectly seasoned

with the right amount of saffron - which is the star spice of the dish - and not too much salt. The bright yellowy-orange rice casserole is served in a cast-iron skillet and topped with half of a small lobster, which is surrounded by a ring of mussels, clams, scallops and shrimp. The presentation further adds to the balance of the sophisticated yet homey feel of the establishment. All of the entrée portion sizes can easily feed two and many (including the paella) for as little as \$20.

The Crema Catalana, a Spanish version of crème brûlée, was delicious, but not executed on the same level as the paella or champiñones. The custard was the right texture - not too fluffy or gelatinous - but the sugar crust on top was not close to thick enough. This is just a minor detail, however, and in no way takes away from the outstanding taste and execution of the rest of the food, service and presentation.

If you have not been to Malaga, you are seriously missing out. The nature of Spanish food is such that even the pickiest eaters will find something to enjoy and the entertainment and service are without comparison. Put simply in the words of a fellow patron, Judy Marshall, "You just don't find places like this anymore."

POLICE ACADEMY

BY CHRIS SZAKOLCZAI

PART 5: UNDER PRESSURE – We continue the VOICE photo feature, an on-going photo journalism project by senior Staff Photographer Chris Szakolczai, documenting the activities of the Mercer County Police Academy, which is housed on MCCC’s West Windsor campus.



Recruit White assembles his Sig P229 during the stress test while receiving motivation from Instructors Smith (left) and Demko (right)



Firearms training continues for the recruits of Mercer County Police Academy class of 04-09, better known as “No Joke.”

THE STRESS TEST

Staying calm under fire



Following countless hours of training with practice firearms, the recruits of class 04-09 return to the range for the second time. Now they must master the proper way to quickly draw their weapon from a holster and be able to assemble their weapon even under stressful conditions.

Stress shooting is a drill in which recruits must sprint 100 yards, complete 25 pushups, then assemble their weapon while being deliberately distracted by screaming and other loud noises created by two instructors. When their weapon is assembled properly, the recruits are told to fire at a target in certain areas while the loud noises continue. Under such stressful conditions recruits learn to function effectively under fire.

Firearms training continues for the recruits as they practice room clearing at a local school. They must move together in teams of four to accomplish a successful building

clear. Scenarios such as “officer down” and “shots fired” test the recruits’ knowledge of proper procedure. The recruits must move down the hallway covering every angle while swiftly reaching their objective. In both situations, recruits must react immediately to the location of either the shots or the downed officer. In order to mimic real-life conditions instructors hide in the rooms posing as either the shooter or the downed officer to be found. To keep the recruits off guard, the instructors hide in the smallest of areas and the oddest places imaginable.

By now, the class of 04-09 is only a few weeks away from graduation. With the end in sight, some recruits experience a surge in energy even as fatigue threatens to over-take them.



Above: the various handguns used by the recruits included a mixture of Glock’s and Sig Sauer’s depending on what their specific department used.



Recruits Paglione (far right) Bascik (middle) Rutherford (left) and Latham (rear) react to an “Officer Down” call.



Dwayne Derry

"She tried to kiss me and her breath stank. Hell no!"

"4am. Drunk. We pecked. We felt like we were in love, like we were made for each other... Then we sobered up"



Eddie Marin

SHOUT OUT: What was your worst kissing experience?

"Ninth grade, Spring Break, sloppiest, nastiest, most disgusting, dog-beer kiss. Really. It was like kissing a dog."



Alex Sutherland



Nick Bella

"The worst ones are the ones you don't remember."



EROTIC ART:
A day at the museum viewing the work of artists such as Gustav Klimt (left: "The Kiss") can be a potent aphrodisiac and one that is more subtle than inviting your special someone to watch naughty movies with you (you may want to save that idea for AFTER you've gotten comfortable in the kissing phase). Sophisticated pleasure can often be the winning prelude to a good kiss especially if your kisser-to-be is into fine art.



A KISS TO AVOID:
If the person you want to kiss seems to have green skin and a killer appetite for kissing, we suggest you make excuses and avoid her advances. Poison Ivy of DC comics fame was known as a particularly lethal lover whose botanical infusions spelled trouble for Batman in particular. On the other hand, flowers, fruits, vegetables and herbs have numerous sensual properties. Recent studies of foods have named avocado, mint, artichoke, and asparagus among those with potential to inspire lustful urges.



LOCATION LOCATION:
Some people like Paris in the springtime, some people go to Ireland to kiss the blarney stone, but perhaps the perfect place to go for the perfect kiss is Kissimmee, Florida --home of Disney Wide World of Sports-- or one of the many other towns and cities with kissy names. Fortunately for Mercer students, one of the smooching capitals of the world, New York, NY is just a short train ride away. Think of the iconic 1945 Eisenstaedt photo of a sailor kissing a young woman in Times Square.

How to give the perfect kiss

Finally something that feels good AND is good for your health! Turns out kissing has a variety of health benefits including reducing stress by releasing oxytocin, burning calories (not as many as jogging, but more than just sitting around), and the extra saliva even helps wash bacteria from your teeth, according to Matthew Messina a dentist and former advisor to the American Dental Association. So how do you give the perfect kiss? We've rounded up advice from the experts.

- STEP 1** - Prepare by brushing your teeth first.
- STEP 2** - Sit close to the person you want to kiss, make eye contact that is slightly longer than usual. If they don't meet your eye, they may not be ready. Wait a while and try to put them at ease.
- STEP 3** - Move in slowly with your mouth slightly open and tip your head to the right to avoid bumping noses. (According to a recent study by German scientists, 66 percent of people naturally tip their heads to the right to kiss).

Michael Cane, author of the book *The Art of Kissing*, provides some great tips for what to do next:

- Flicker the tips of your tongues (gently at first).
- Rotate tongues in a circular motion.
- If your partner is receptive, play chase back and forth.
- For added heat, try sucking or gently biting your partner's tongue.



CHOCOLATE KISSES:
If you want to give someone the really perfect kiss, you may want to try the chocolate variety. Recent studies suggest that consumption of cocoa and chocolate has positive effects on the heart, muscles, skin and brain. If that's not sexy enough, one Italian study published in the *Journal of Sexual Medicine* concluded that chocolate is a potent aphrodisiac. The study found that women who ate chocolate every day had a stronger sex drive, more lubrication and an easier time achieving orgasm. Pass the Hershey's please!



KISS OF DEATH:
Originally released in 1947 this Hollywood film noir starring Victor Mature and Coleen Gray was nominated for two Oscars. An evening of pulse pounding movie viewing may be just what you need to get your partner's heart rate up and his or her arms wrapped firmly around your neck, the perfect position for planting a reassuring smooch on warm and receptive lips. If black and white movies don't do it for you, may we suggest more recent pulse pounders such as *The Ring*, *Seven*, *28 Days Later*, *The Shining*, *The Blair Witch Project*, *Saw*, *Carrie*, *Friday the 13th*, or *My Bloody Valentine*. Who says you have to watch a chick flick to on Valentine's Day? Not us!



KISS:
Okay, maybe if you wanted ten tons of tongue you'd go for Gene Simmons, but even if glam rock isn't your thing, music can be just what you need to set the mood. An unscientific survey of the VOICE staffers uncovered their combined ultimate make-out music mix which includes:

1. James Blunt - Back to Bedlam
2. Massive Attack - Mezzanine
3. Aerosmith - I Don't Want to Miss a Thing
4. Led Zeppelin - Physical Graffiti
5. Almost Famous Soundtrack
6. Chingon - Mexican Spaghetti Waiter
7. Brian McKnight - Back at One
8. Counting Crows - Colorblind
9. LeAnn Rimes - How Do I
10. Lovage - Music to Make Love to Your Old Lady
11. Al Green - Let's Stay Together

(Note: Meatloaf caused some controversy, but the Editor in Chief ruled him not worthy of the list!)



Abena Ofori-Atta

"Sloppy, tongue all over the place. I definitely wanted to wipe my mouth afterwards. It was gross...Gross!"



Geoff Allen

"I was drunk at this party one time and this girl just ran over and tackled me and started kissing me. She wasn't even good looking or a good kisser."

SHOUT OUT: What was your worst kissing experience?

"It was dark and while making out she started nibbling on my neck. Then she started biting pretty hard. All of a sudden she goes, 'What is that?' touching my neck. We turned on the lights and realized there was blood pouring out of my neck."



Justin Humphrey

"I was really drunk, like shit-faced, and I poked in some guy's mouth. I don't even remember his name."



Kelly B

NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY

EMPOWERED U

INSTANT
DECISION
DAYS

NJCU has everything you need to succeed, personally and professionally, in the global economy.

Attend and empower yourself with an answer before you leave campus and we'll waive your \$35 application fee!

TRANSFER TUESDAY

February 23 • March 9

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Transfer Students must bring to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions (Hepburn Hall, Room 207): Official transcripts from all colleges attended, completed application and an essay. All transfer students must have earned a minimum of 12 college credits with a minimum grade point average of 2.0.



TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT, PLEASE CALL (866) 586-7823
OR E-MAIL ADMISSIONS@NJCU.EDU
2039 KENNEDY BOULEVARD, JERSEY CITY, NJ 07305-1597

COLLEGE OF THE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION AT
WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

Kamilah Bayete
Major: Communication

Your next spotlight.

Kamilah is the kind of student who wants hands-on access to all the latest technology, up-close attention from expert faculty, and real-world experience in her field before she begins her career. William Paterson is her kind of university.

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Find out what's next for you at an upcoming event. | Transfer Information Session* | Friday, Feb. 26 | 2:00-4:00 p.m. |
| | Undergraduate Open House | Sunday, Feb. 28 | 12:00 p.m. |

*Make your reservation online at wpunj.edu/undergraduate.

FIND YOUR FOCUS AT WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY.

WILLIAM
PATERSON
UNIVERSITYPLAN YOUR NEXT MOVE AT wpunj.edu/undergraduate.

Winning the praise of family and friends feels good.

Winning a \$10,000 scholarship would feel really good.

Enter the Peirce College Scholarship Competition for a chance to win up to \$10,000 in tuition toward your Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Information Technology or Paralegal Studies.

Deadline is May 1, 2010. Apply today!

Contact us now for scholarship guideline information.

YOU.IMPROVED.
888.GO.PEIRCE, ext.9000
www.peirce.edu/scholarship



PEIRCE
COLLEGE
Since 1865



OPEN YOUR EYES TO A
DEGREE IN THE SCIENCES.

The perfect place for transfer students. A science degree from University of the Sciences could be your next step to a rewarding career! We offer 25 different undergraduate programs in the natural sciences, health sciences, and the business of science, including physics, medical technology, environmental science, exercise science and wellness management, pharmaceutical marketing and management, and computer science. Our school is small enough that we can offer you the kind of personal attention to make your academic program planning easier. And we offer scholarships and financial aid. Visit www.usp.edu/transfer and see how a transfer to University of the Sciences could be the right move for you.

Apply for FREE online at www.usp.edu/transfer

An in-depth science education.
Hands-on research.
In-demand graduates.

USP UNIVERSITY OF THE
SCIENCES IN
PHILADELPHIA

New Jersey blew its chance on gay marriage

MY VIEW



Sarina Prior

The New Jersey State Senate defeated a bill that would have legalized same-sex marriage in the state on January 7, 2010. The state legislature had, within their grasp, the opportunity to show courageous leadership to advance the cause of civil rights and to end discrimination against homosexual couples – and they blew it.

Allowing same-sex couples to marry does not infringe on the rights of heterosexual couples. It does not diminish the happiness of any other couple making the same vows. The rules of the fashion industry – if everyone has it, it's not worth having anymore – don't apply to justice or to marriage.

Civil unions for same-sex couples are the compromise that many lawmakers, and



A wedding at the Jersey shore? Not for these two! They'll have to take their party plans to Iowa, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire or Vermont.

much of the voting public, seem willing to accept. The state's civil union bill was passed three years ago after a 2006 State Supreme Court decision that same-sex couples must have the same rights as other couples.

Supporters of same-sex marriage believe that the state's civil union law is a failure. They cite anecdotal evidence of hospital patients who have not been allowed to have their partner visit and people who cannot get health insurance benefits

for their same-sex partners.

According to Diane Rizzo a Mercer English professor who is also a lawyer, it is difficult to verify these so-called failures of the law because partners must have been legally joined in a civil union, and not just living together, for these cases to be considered discrimination.

"I know of only one instance in which a company, UPS, refused to provide benefits to a [civil union] partner, and they backed down. That case

has been resolved," Rizzo said.

The bigger problem, Rizzo explains, is that each state is permitted to decide the legal status of same-sex marriage and each state offers varying rights and protections. Some states have allowed marriage, some have civil unions, some domestic partnerships, and some do not allow same-sex unions at all. The result is a "chaotic legal situation with a patchwork of laws," Rizzo says.

The chaos has repercussions across state lines on people's lives when dealing with

marital assets, debts, contracts, taxes, estates, and benefits.

Even if we could clean up all of the legal statutes to account for the variety of state laws and make sure that there is no discrimination against same-sex couples, civil union is still a compromise that reserves marriage as a special category for heterosexual couples only. This "same but different" compromise sounds suspiciously like the "separate but equal" concept that we all agreed decades ago was patently unjust.

Religious conservatives say that marriage must be only between one man and one woman because this is grounded in religion and tradition. But whose religion and whose tradition?

In a country with a strict constitutional separation between church and state, basing law on religion is indefensible.

Offering civil unions instead of marriage to gays and lesbians provides little more than a legal ghetto. New Jersey law makers try to placate gay and lesbian citizens by saying they are ahead of other states. Being better than bad does not mean good. Until Jersey comes to its senses we must look to Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Iowa for human rights leadership.



PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY

Advance And Be Recognized.

You've worked hard,
now join an organization that
rewards academic excellence.

Scholarship Opportunities.
Community Involvement.
Leadership Development.
Social and Scholarly Events.

Find all this and more in the
Alpha Theta Gamma Chapter of the
Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society

If you have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 and 12 credits of college-level classes, you're eligible. Applications are due March 1st. Stop by the office in SC 117, or see an advisor for details and application packets.

Mr. Sean Levin
SC 229
570-3571
levins@mccc.edu

Dr. Jing Huang
MS 157
570-3429
huangj@mccc.edu

Prof. Ken Howarth
LA 119
570-3809
howarthk@mccc.edu

<http://www.mercerptk.org>

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 2 (of 5)

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 3 | | | 6 | | 5 | 4 | |
| | 5 | | | | | 9 | 6 | 1 |
| | 8 | 4 | | | 1 | | | |
| | | | 2 | | | 4 | 1 | |
| | 4 | 2 | | | 7 | | | 6 |
| | | 6 | 5 | | | 3 | | |
| 4 | | 8 | | | | | 9 | |
| 9 | | | | | 8 | 6 | | |
| | | | 3 | 7 | | 2 | | |

3-1-10

(c) JFS/KF -- Dist. by UFS, Inc.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 5 |
| 1 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| 6 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| 9 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| 8 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| 7 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 7 |
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 6 |

HOW TO PLAY:
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

The Voice's Editor in Chief and Managing Editor go head to head on: Who has it harder in relationships, men or women?

Editorial Board

Sara Gatling, *Editor in Chief*
Dmitry Gurvits, *Managing Editor*
Brian Edgeworth, *Copy Editor*
Ron Russell III, *Science Editor*
Matthew Freedman, *Web Editor*
Christopher Collins, *Office Manager*

Staff

Sarina Prior, *Senior Reporter*
Matthew White, *Senior Reporter*
Brendan Belluscio, *Senior Reporter*
David Hoyt, *Senior Reporter*
Christina Leahy, *Reporter*
Kelly Smith, *Reporter*
Mike Urban, *Reporter*
Aquuyla Muhammed, *Reporter*
Leslie Winder, *Reporter*

Photography

Sandra Isaac, *Senior Photographer*
Matt Freedman, *Staff Photographer*
CJ Harker, *Staff Photographer*

Alumni Contributors

Matt Williams, *Reporter*
Mike Kay, *Photographer*
Chris Szokolczai, *Photographer*

Faculty Advisers

Holly-Katharine Mathews
Michael Dalton, *Photography*
Alex DeFazio, *Layout & Editing*
Diane Rizzo, *Legal Consultant*

Do you see a
typo?

We are always trying
to improve our
proofreading!

If you see an error in our
spelling, punctuation or
grammar let us know!

E-mail us at
sara.gatling@gmail.com

**LGBTF
MEETINGS
EVERY
THURSDAY
FROM
12-1 PM
IN SC 211**

**-ADVOCATE -
-CELEBRATE -
-SUPPORT-**

THE WAY IT IS



Sara Gatling

Make-up, dieting, waxing, shaving, painful heels and uncomfortable underwear are all common expectations of many (not all, mind you) women in relationships, but these issues are purely physical. When it comes to the emotional burdens, women have it much easier than men.

Women can cry, be scared, be happy, excited, ecstatic even; not only are we allowed, but we are expected to emote. Men on the other hand, are under direct pressure to avoid being emotional. Our societal expectations of men allow them to be angry, but if a man shows sadness, fear, or anxiety too readily he may be seen as "feminine" and his masculinity is questioned.

Men are expected to be the "rock" of relationships, which for any human being can be stressful and lonely at times. Relationships should be reciprocal in all ways. Both parties should be allowed to express themselves openly and owe their partner, out of respect, this open communication of feelings.

To not be open can be considered a lack of trust. Yet, when "man" and "crying" are put next to each other in a sentence the typical male response is to show a face of second-hand embarrassment, disgust, or even "What is he, a fag?" The latter just further drives home the common societal standard dictating that men should not be open with feelings like sadness, only women and gay guys are allowed.

To further compound the stress of suppressing emotions and supporting a partner, men seem not to go to

Men have it harder: they have to live up to all the same standards as women without their emotions showing!

each other for support. The first thing I do when I have any kind of a problem is talk. I literally go down the contact list in my phone and call my mother, sisters-in-law and all my girlfriends to vent.

Apart from being helpful in getting the feelings off my chest, this provides perspective. Women seek feedback, frequently asking "Am I wrong?" or "Am I crazy?" and the really good friends tell the truth: "Well, maybe you're being a little over sensitive" or "Absolutely not! What ___ said was completely out of line!" I know of no men who do this.

By contrast, I know many men who keep their frustrations to themselves and have no means of gaining perspective. Some become withdrawn in times of trouble.

Others obsessively stew over their feelings gaining no perspective outside their own. In the worst-case scenarios these guys either implode or explode. You know the guys I mean. They may slam their fist into a wall, or drink too much in order to take the edge off the hurt, or they get angry at people who aren't the source of their feelings of helplessness or hurt.

So men have many of the same physical expectations as women; to be showered, well-groomed and well-dressed but in conjunction with the nuclear family vision of a man as the bread-winner, men are also expected to be emotionless robots. Men are expected to look good, work hard and "suck it up."

Frankly, I would much rather get a monthly bikini wax for the rest of my life than to never cry.

AS I SEE IT



Dmitry Gurvits

Every weekday morning, my girlfriend wakes up at 6:45 and, like my colleague points out, she goes through a series of ritualistic cosmetic applications before she leaves her apartment to get to work by 9AM. When I ask her why she goes through the trouble of shaving her legs, straightening her hair, putting on blush, eye shadow, mascara, lip gloss, painful heels, and a stride-restricting pencil skirt, to simply sit in her cubicle all day, she answers, "It makes me feel pretty." And therein lies the crux of the matter.

Women are, physiologically, more emotional than men. In fact, the very nature of our interaction when I ask her the question of "why" is an appropriate example of the intrinsic differences between male and female communication because of neurological hard-wiring.

When I struggle to understand why someone would spend nearly two hours every morning "getting ready" to just be in an office, where there are no potential mates or challengers for a mate, I'm practicing what psychology calls report communication. In my thought process, because there is no logical reason to get dressed up, I see the two hours spent doing so as waste. Based on the way my brain works, I see no value in doing anything other than waking up at the last possible moment, cleaning myself to maintain personal hygiene, and running out of the house; I struggle to identify with the underlying emotions that drive my girlfriend's decisions.

If you can't feel it yet, that's exactly why women have it harder. Business and management is largely data driven.

Women have it harder. They have to be two people: a man at work and a woman, always!

Decisions are made based upon a series of reports generated by all levels and departments in the professional world. Business by its nature, struggles to identify with the underlying emotions that drive a woman's choices and opinions. Because the foundations of the corporate world were laid by men, who naturally engage in report communication, in some ways success in business for women can be perceived as unnatural. Women must work very hard to think differently in order to succeed professionally.

What's lost here is the value of rapport communication, which is the way women communicate. Whether men choose to admit it or not, they have emotions that affect them too. With the kind comfort of rapport communication not factoring into business decisions, women must sit idly by and watch their intrinsic contribution go unnoticed and undervalued. To be effective and valuable, women must think outside of their comfort zone.

While there is a trend showing an increase in women's pay and cracks in the corporate glass ceiling, the pressure placed on women to participate in the corporate world, pressure they also place on themselves, is not matched with a shift in corporate attitudes.

In a way, my girlfriend has to be two people. She is a woman, an emotional, intuitive creature, driven by feelings. At work, something more and more women are doing in conjunction with raising a family, she has to suppress her natural emotional inclinations to, as we're socialized to do, move up the corporate ladder.

WANT TO WEIGH IN ON THE DEBATE? VISIT THE VOICE ONLINE AT:

WWW.MCCVOICE.ORG

EDITORIAL POLICY:

The College VOICE is written and edited by students of Mercer County Community College and published every 3 weeks during the fall and spring semesters. The material printed in *The College VOICE*, be it articles, advertisements or opinion pieces, does not necessarily represent the views of the editors, the adviser, the faculty, staff, administration or the board of trustees of Mercer County Community College.

WRITE TO *The College VOICE*!

Do you have something to say? *The College VOICE* accepts letters to the editor. Submissions should be no more than 300 words; longer submissions may be shortened. Submit materials in electronic format, and include your name and status at Mercer (major and year, faculty or staff position or alumnus). All materials submitted become the property of *The College VOICE*, which reserves the right to reject or edit material based on length, taste or clarity.

HOW TO CONTACT US:

e-mail: sara.gatling@gmail.com
phone: (609) 586-4800 ext. 3594
write to: *The College VOICE*
Mercer County College
PO Box B
Trenton, NJ 08550

ASK THE VOICE: GOOD ANSWERS TO TOUGH QUESTIONS



Help is here!

Dear Voice,
I'm dating a guy that has a twin brother and now I'm equally attracted to them. How can I manage a relationship with both of them?
-Double my Pleasure

Dear Double Dipper,
Tell them that you are also a twin
-The Voice

Dear Voice,
I was in the busy second floor LA bathroom when the

girl in the stall next to me started humming the National Anthem. I couldn't pee under the circumstances. What is the etiquette for this situation?

-Bashfull Bladder

Dear Bashfull,
Awkward bathroom situations can only be dissipated by making the other person feel more awkward. You need to start belting out "Party in the USA" by Miley Cyrus. That ought to do it.
-The Voice

Dear Voice,
I am starting to have a crush on my boyfriend's best friend. What should I do?
- Think of Straying

Dear Strayer,

Have your best friend hit on your boyfriend. If he takes the bait, you'll have an excuse to do the same.
- The Voice

Dear Voice,
My boyfriend never gets me anything good for Valentine's. Last year he got me a Jonas Brothers back pack. How do I give him a hint that chocolate or flowers would be nice?
- Sweetie

Dear Sweetie,
Count your blessings. Your boyfriend is a creative and original individual. While other girls get the usual boring gifts, you get the three sexiest men/boys alive on your back!
-The Voice

HOROSCOPES



Capricorn

DEC. 22 - JAN. 19

You are strong, but be prepared because you may get sick in the coming weeks. Among other things, you may have a fever and the only thing that can cure it is more cowbell.



Taurus

APR. 20 - MAY 20

Look for new ways to bolster income. We like working on the paper, but there are other sources of revenue. If you are hot, may we suggest stripping.



Virgo

AUG. 23 - SEPT. 22

This is going to be a lucky month for you. Get ready for money, love, and success to all come your way. You will reach the summit... oh, wait sorry, wrong sign. This is awkward.



Aquarius

JAN. 20 - FEB. 18

When two paths converge in a wood, move quickly or you might bump into someone about to merge into your lane. Or this person could be the love of your life. Go on and bump.



Gemini

MAY 21 - JUN. 20

Value your friends and never take them for granted. Help them out and be there for them when they need you to be. After all, they will be the ones to bail you out of jail someday.



Pisces

FEB. 19 - MAR. 20

What do an extra five pounds, a lonely Friday night and a pair of Ugg boots have in common? You, if you don't stop staying in, eating pizza and feeling sorry for yourself. See pub crawl article on page four.



Cancer

JUN. 21 - JUL. 22

This is your month to dance the dance of life, just make sure that dance isn't the Macarena. Or the electric slide. That's pretty bad too.



Aries

MAR. 21 - APR. 19

February and March will be cold and dreary, but cherish the snow, ice, wind, rain, black ice, freezing hail, and endless shovelling, for these are the things that bring us snow days.



Leo

JUL. 23 - AUG. 22

Avoid stretching yourself too thin. Being popular and involved is fun, until you are stuck attending a steak dinner for the Honors Society and then a P.E.T.A. club meeting.



Scorpio

OCT. 23 - NOV. 21

February is the time for love. Search high and low for that special someone because they are waiting for you... outside your bedroom window...with a boom box. Oh wait, that's John Cusak.

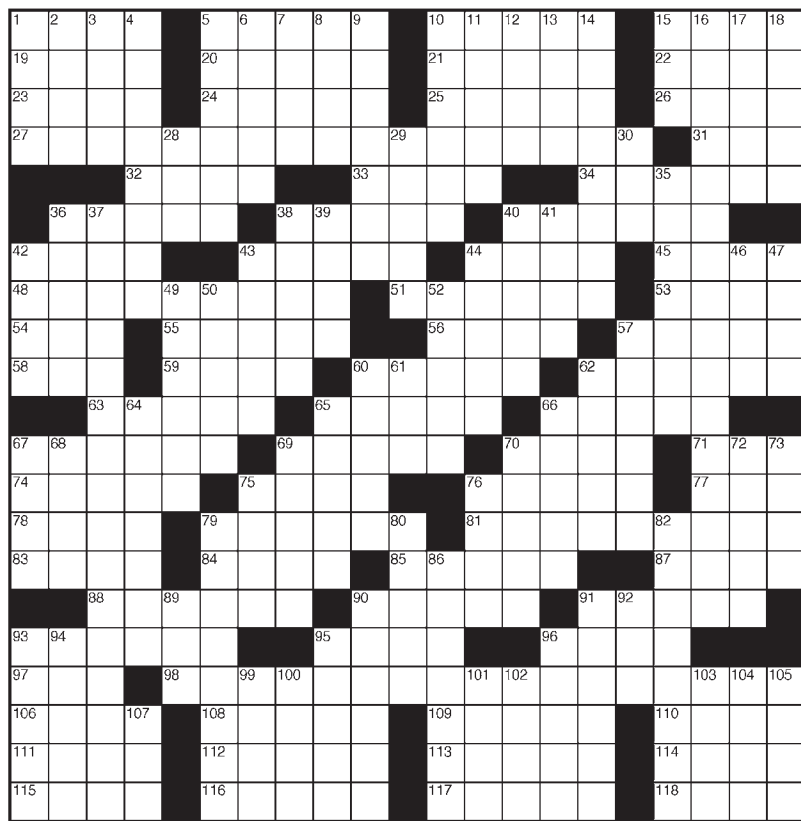


Sagittarius

NOV. 22 - DEC. 21

Sometimes love doesn't work out and you are going to have to learn to accept that. You just have to say, "Look, you treat me poorly and I can't stand sharing the bed with you anymore. Goodbye Mom!"

THEME CROSSWORD: SOFT CENTERS



ACROSS

- 1. June honorees
- 6. Not up yet
- 10. Tapers off
- 14. Disturbance
- 18. Blowhole
- 19. Blender output
- 20. Huron neighbor
- 21. Actress Turner
- 22. AC discoverer
- 23. Lunchbox treats
- 24. They may hold up a drunk
- 26. Required for most crossword solvers
- 29. Florida shipments
- 30. 14-legged crawler
- 31. TV Jeannie
- 33. Battery part
- 34. Split, so to speak
- 37. Miss Ward
- 38. "Great"
- 40. Harvard's league
- 41. Withered
- 42. Pulls the trigger
- 43. Builds
- 47. Adds seasoning
- 49. Over again
- 50. Diagnostic process, for short
- 51. Bracelet holder
- 52. Create a chair, perhaps
- 53. Poet Ezra
- 55. Luce brainchild
- 56. "Mamma -"
- 57. Nursery-rhyme bush
- 60. Denpasar's island
- 61. Kay follower
- 62. Osmond hit of 1976
- 65. Measure of popular opinion
- 68. 1040 recipient

DOWN

- 69. Blooming
- 70. More idealistic
- 71. Fuel
- 72. Polynesian carving
- 73. Rabbit
- 74. AAA recommendation
- 78. "- Today"
- 79. Poetic tribute
- 80. Instruction to driver
- 81. Sink feature
- 83. Mescaline source
- 85. Plump guy's nickname
- 86. Terse
- 87. Big dictionary, for short
- 88. Employer obligations
- 90. Font
- 91. Actress Paquin
- 92. City straddling the Rhine
- 95. Behold!
- 96. Fill with dismay
- 98. Accumulations
- 100. Star salesperson
- 105. Place for rejects
- 107. Layers
- 108. Father and daughter singers
- 110. Between a walk and a canter
- 111. Look for
- 112. To the point
- 113. Donald's ex
- 114. Evil marquis
- 115. To be in ancient Rome
- 116. Backtalk
- 117. Island of the Cyclades
- 118. Guess
- 1. Time in Spokane
- 2. Mimics
- 3. Palatial
- 4. Left Bank coffee order
- 5. Names in lights
- 6. Nimbus
- 7. Miss Blethyn
- 8. Anti-discrimination agcy.
- 9. Lucille and -
- 10. Conger
- 11. Tonics
- 12. One of the Bahamas
- 13. Back-to-school mo.
- 14. Skirt feature
- 15. Vaquero's loop
- 16. Entered the game
- 17. Out of date
- 19. Corn cookers
- 25. Grassland
- 27. Tough question
- 28. Looked suggestively
- 32. Miss Barrymore
- 34. Clean a windshield
- 35. 50/50
- 36. Big Apple insignia
- 38. Cheap-sounding
- 39. Radioactive element
- 41. Fix with stitches
- 42. French composer, d. 1924
- 44. Medallion
- 45. Fluttering tone
- 46. Pocket-sized
- 48. "- and Circumstance"
- 50. Prefix for thousandth
- 53. Coke rival
- 54. Air France destination
- 55. Score
- 58. Sensationally
- 59. Down and out
- 60. Movie piglet
- 62. Unearth
- 63. Remove
- 64. Emerson work
- 65. Sack material
- 66. 1992 also-ran
- 67. Onstage telephone
- 70. Classifies
- 72. Calculate a sum
- 73. Slice of meat
- 75. "One - a time ..."
- 76. Adolescent
- 77. "Ring" role
- 80. Soft mineral
- 81. Guess
- 82. Take steps
- 84. Do surgery
- 85. Crew quarters
- 86. Evergreen tree
- 89. Has confidence in
- 90. Hoglike jungle creatures
- 91. Recess
- 92. Woody fibers
- 93. Ghana capital
- 94. Young cod
- 97. Crystal clear
- 99. Church area
- 101. Chooses
- 102. Appeal
- 103. Israeli carrier
- 104. City on the Truckee
- 105. Get by, barely
- 107. Stockholm arrival

2X THE GET FUZZY AND DILBERT!

