

# THE VIKING

A Publication for  
Alumni and  
Other Friends of  
Mercer County  
Community College

Winter 2004



## Joseph Blasenstein Receives FAA Instructor Award



Joseph Blasenstein at the awards ceremony with FAA Aviation Safety Manager Ilene Iandola (left) and MCCC Dean of Business Jacqueline Sanders.

Joseph Blasenstein, Mercer's Aviation program coordinator, received the Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) of the Year award from the Philadelphia Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The award was presented at a banquet on Oct. 22. According to Ilene Iandola, FAA aviation safety program manager, "This award signifies that an instructor is the crème de la crème in the field. Mr. Blasenstein is very, very deserving of this honor. He has positively affected so many people in aviation. His time in history has certainly come."

The CFI award is merit-based and reserved for those who make major, long-lasting contributions to aviation education. Nominations come from within the industry and from aviation safety counselors.

Blasenstein is in his 20<sup>th</sup> year at Mercer, where he serves as program coordinator, professor and chief pilot of the Aviation program. Most recently he developed a course to train helicopter pilots

to fly fixed wing, single engine airplanes in just one semester. (See article, page 5.) According to Dr. Jacqueline Sanders, Dean of Mercer's Business Division, "Joe Blasenstein is the personification of aviation education. He is always concerned about his students and is happiest when he gets news of graduates who have attained a job in the aviation industry. His attention to safety is constant."

Mercer's Aviation Flight Technology program was the first community college program in the country to be accredited by the Council on Aviation Accreditation. Students receive sophisticated instruction on flight simulation training devices. Flight training takes place at Mercer's fixed base operation at Trenton Mercer Airport. The college has its own fleet of ten aircraft and staff of flight instructors. The program provides flight instruction for private and commercial certificates and instrument ratings. Related programs of study include Aviation Management, Aviation Customer Relations and Aviation Flight Technology CFI.

## Mercer Hosts New Jersey's First Entertainment Technology Conference

Next Year's Conference  
Scheduled for September 23-24

This fall Mercer hosted New Jersey's first ever conference devoted to the state's emerging entertainment industry, "Exploring the New Frontiers of Entertainment Technology." The college's new conference center provided a perfect venue for more than 25 workshops that explored cutting-edge technologies such as video and multimedia software, animation, infotainment, DVD authoring, digital cinema and interactive media.

Featured speakers included Michael Uslan, New Jersey native and executive producer of the *Batman* films, Caren Franzine, executive director of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, and Dan Rayburn of Streaming Media, Inc. A New Jersey-produced digital movie, "Minimal Knowledge," was shown on special digital equipment lent by the Sarnoff Corporation. Workshops were presented by leaders in their fields from throughout the region, such as Glenn Paul of dotPhoto, John Huntington of New York's College of Technology and Yale Uni-

(continued on page 3)



Mercer's Entertainment Technology Conference offered attendees hands-on workshops and in-depth tutorials.

## Motown Madness for Scholarships

Planning for MCCC's 2004 Scholarship Dinner Dance are Vice President Thomas Wilfrid, left, pharmacist Steven W. Zagoreos, who will receive this year's Distinguished Alumni Award, and Helene Garcia, representing this year's "Distinguished Corporate Award" recipient, Merrill Lynch Corporation. At right is the 2004 Dinner Dance Chairman, Raphael Sharon, psychologist.



Your Best Choice!



## Mercer Summer Camps Enriched by Superlative Staff

With the winter wind howling outside their windows, the coordinators of Mercer's summer camps are busy planning for the approximately 4,000 youngsters expected on campus from June through August. According to Camp College Coordinator Sharon Vlasac, Mercer has the most comprehensive summer camps for children and teens anywhere in the region. "Young people can pursue practically any interest here – in academics, recreation, athletics and the arts," Vlasac said. Programs include Camp College, Tomato Patch Visual and Performing Arts Camp, weeklong Sports Camps in eight sports, and short-term specialty camps in a wide variety of subjects.

In addition to their scope, Mercer's programs are notable for their staff. Many of the adults who lead the sessions are elementary and secondary school teachers, college coaches, or working actors and directors. Some, like Kristen Callahan, who taught "HTML" to young teens last summer, are Mercer faculty members. "Each year a group of highly skilled professionals spend their summer with us, sharing their knowledge and special skills," Vlasac said. "It's a tremendous plus for our programs, enabling us to offer unique activities taught by experts who are excited about their subject matter."

For Jonathan Gaffin, a science instructor at L.M. Rivera Elementary School in Trenton, Camp College is an opportunity to focus on areas of personal interest such as woodworking, fishing, archaeology and paleontology. He is also group leader during three weeks of "Sea Camp" held at Sandy Hook. "You can't help but be enthusiastic when you're teaching subjects you find most interesting in life," Gaffin said. "I have had some very talented campers in my classes, and I always look

for things to add to make their experience even better."

Rebecca Woodward, an art teacher at Katzenbach School for the Deaf, teaches sign language at Mercer. "Over the course of four weeks, I expose the campers to several hundred signs," Woodward said. "They may not remember many signs, but they are likely to remember our discussions about deaf culture and what it's like to be deaf in a hearing world."

Among Mercer's other "teacher counselors" are Tom Brettel, a high school physics teacher who teaches rocketry, and high school Spanish teacher Mary Howley, who teaches Italian, a second foreign language she loves. Mercer's own Doug Fee, coordinator of the Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management program, leads the ever popular "Kids in the Kitchen."

MCCC Athletic Director John Simone notes that in Mercer's Sports Camps, the senior counselors are K through 12 certified teachers or college level coaches. "We are fortunate to attract staff members with extensive camp and clinic experience," he said. "These camps offer a great way for younger athletes to learn essential skills and for older athletes to hone them." Sports include soccer, tennis, baseball, softball, golf, basketball, lacrosse and in-line hockey.

In Tomato Patch, where budding visual and performing artists can delve deeply into their craft of choice and also experiment with "electives" in other areas, the staff is rich in artistic talent, according to Camp Coordinator M. Kitty Getlik. "We pride ourselves on the fact that all of our instructors are professionals in the arts. Our campers get a true professional experience."

"When families sign up their children for



Campers Michele Tomasulo (left) and Brittany Patten paint birdhouses they built during Camp College's 2003 season while woodworking instructor Jonathan Gaffin looks on.

the summer programs at Mercer, they may not be aware of the excellent credentials of our staff," Vlasac said. "Often the subjects we offer do not fit into a regular school curriculum, but they can enrich a child's life and open up new worlds."

**The Open House for Camp College, Tomato Patch Visual and Performing Arts Camp, and Mercer Sports Camps is scheduled for Sunday, February 8 from noon to 3 p.m. in the Student Center. The snow date is Sunday, February 15. Camp registration begins on February 8.** Brochures for camp programs will be available early in 2004. To receive a brochure call (609) 586-9446 or check Mercer's website, [www.mccc.edu](http://www.mccc.edu), under "Community and Youth Services."

## Dr. Diane Campbell Named Dean

Dr. Diane Banks Campbell has been promoted to dean for student and academic services. She most recently served as assistant dean for academic and student affairs and director of The Virtual Campus. She is also an associate professor of psychology. Campbell holds a B.S. from Morgan State University, an M.Ed. from The College of New Jersey and an Ed.D. from Rutgers University.



## Mercer Students Win College Bowl

Four Mercer students recently took first prize at a "Jeopardy-style" College Bowl at Monmouth University. They competed against ten two- and four-year colleges, including Montclair State, Monmouth University, and Rutgers Law School. The panelists are all members of the Student Activities Board (SAB), shown here with their

mentors. From left are MCCC student mentor Geri Isme, Director of Student Activities Danielle Garruba, and student leader Theresa Contor, with the College Bowl team: Robert Sutton, Tina Lestician, Matthew Stein, and Anthony Lagana. The College Bowl was part of the regional conference of the Association of College Unions International.

## JKC Receives \$84,000 Grant to Mentor/Train School Personnel

Mercer's James Kerney Campus has secured an \$84,000 grant from the New Jersey Department of Education to mentor and train Trenton Central High School paraprofessionals. These staff members, also called teaching assistants, need to be brought up to the level considered "highly qualified" in order to meet new federal standards in the *No Child Left Behind* program.

The grant enables a newly hired career mentor to work with the paraprofessionals for ten months, and provides money to conduct summer workshops where paraprofessionals and teachers can earn college credits.

According to MCCC's James Kerney Campus Provost Beverly Richardson, Mercer is already helping around 75 school employees who have been taking classes at both campuses in preparation for meeting the new requirements. By 2006 the paraprofessionals in New Jersey will be expected to have earned 48 college credits, or pass an ETS exam that measures their skill levels.



## A CD for Mercer Students

Admissions and marketing staff members have been working on a new CD that will be a gold mine of information for MCCC students. Quickly flipping the CD into a computer drive will be an easy way for students to find answers to basic questions on everything from the placement test and financial aid to advisement, sports, student activities and parking.



## Kerney's Career Training Institute Prepares Students for the Workforce

For Alex Ortiz of Trenton, the Career Training Institute at MCCC's James Kerney Campus (JKC) was the perfect solution to finding his niche in the workplace. After graduating from the program in January, 2003, with a certificate in PC Applications, Ortiz is now employed by Municipal Court Services. As part of an MCCC incentive program for its successfully employed students, Ortiz was the recipient of a computer loaded with MS Office software.

In only 30 weeks or less, students who enter Mercer's Career Training Institute (CTI) can learn marketable skills to get started in a career. The program also focuses on employment-readiness and offers professional guidance in finding employment. Financial aid and training grants are available to qualified individuals, and the staff helps students to apply for funding.

CTI Director Robert Estok says the program has many success stories. More than 93% of graduates find jobs. A recent graduate who was changing careers found a secretarial position paying \$37,000 annually.

According to JKC Provost Beverly Richardson, CTI students come from a variety of backgrounds. Some are preparing to enter the world of work for the first time, some are experienced workers who wish to upgrade their skills, and others want to re-enter the workforce after an extended leave



Alex Ortiz, of Trenton, seated, accepts a certificate of achievement and a personal computer loaded with software from Robert Estok, director of training and placement at the Career Training Institute (CTI) at MCCC's James Kerney Campus, and Linda Levitt, senior career counselor.

of absence. "We are very proud of Alex and all of our CTI students," she said. "They work hard and deserve the best."

MCCC's Career Training Institute offers five certificate programs in office skills, including Secretary/Word Processing, PC Applications, Computerized Accounting, Legal Secretary/Assistant, and Medical Secretary. Instruction is offered in popular software packages, including the MS Office Suite (Microsoft Word, Access, Excel

and PowerPoint), Acclaim and QuickBooks. Students begin with a core curriculum that includes keyboarding skills, business communications, and an introduction to the personal computer. Employability skills training covers resume writing, interviewing skills, job search techniques, dressing for success, money management, stress management, and customer service. CTI graduates also have the opportunity to make a transition into college credit programs at Mercer.

Those who choose the Culinary Technician program have two options -- food service or baking. Both options offer courses in basic food preparation, sanitation and safety, business math, customer service, and workforce readiness. Under the supervision of Bill Johnston, culinary technician instructor, CTI students operate the JKC Center City Café, which is open to students, college staff and the public.

For more about the Career Training Institute call (609) 586-4800 ext. 6670.

### In Memory of Ross Davies

Ross Davies, a Mercer faculty member for six years and coordinator of the Television program, died in early October after a long illness. The college community, with family members and friends, celebrated Davies' life and work at a memorial service in MCCC's Studio Theatre, where Davies often taught.

Robert Terrano, dean of Arts, Communication and Technology, said in a tribute to Davies, "This is Ross's TV studio, his life, his joy. This is where his audience was, his students.... You could hear a pin drop as his students listened to his every word here... You could see the ease with which he shared his knowledge and skills... As he told me, 'I belong in the classroom. It is my job. It gives me my energy. I love being with my students.'"

One comment from a Mercer alumnus summed up the feelings of many of Davies' students and former students: "Ross was my professor and became my friend. From the first day of class he inspired me to be all that I could. He was always there with support and encouragement. He has been an inspiration to me and I will never forget him."



### Entertainment Technology Conference (continued from page 1)

versity, Thomas MacCalla of Karagosian MacCalla Partners, and Daniel Brown of Adobe.

The New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Commission partnered with MCCC to plan the conference, along with the Sarnoff Corporation and the Mercer County Office of Economic Development. Immediately following this year's successful event, an enthusiastic committee began planning next year's conference, set for September 23 and 24, 2004.

News that California-based Manex Entertainment, a film and television production company, would be opening a facility in Trenton was one impetus for the conference. The company's Trenton groundbreaking ceremonies were held in late November. According to Rose Nini, Mercer's dean of Corporate and Community Programs, "We wanted to prepare for their coming by setting up educational and training programs compatible with the emerging industry. This conference was a big first step toward working in partnership with Manex and other firms in this exciting and expanding field." The college is now in the process of developing a new associate degree program in Entertainment Technology. (See article, right.)

For more information about the 2004 conference, visit the EnTech website at [www.entech.mccc.edu](http://www.entech.mccc.edu), or contact Dr. Michael Glass at 609-586-4800, ext. 3530 (e-mail [glassm@mccc.edu](mailto:glassm@mccc.edu)).



Featured speaker Michael Uslan, left, producer of the Batman series, with MCCC's Dr. Michael Glass, who coordinated the Entertainment Technology Conference.

### Mercer Proposes New Entertainment Technology Degree Program

The college is working to finalize the curriculum and secure approvals for a new associate degree program in Entertainment Technology. A special advisory commission is now in session, and the program has a tentative starting date in September, 2004.

The new program will prepare students for careers as lighting and sound technicians, technical managers, equipment marketing representatives, and personnel for industry distributors and rental companies. Additional career options will be in the allied fields of film and television production, trade show exhibition, club, casino and theme park operations, and related performing arts production. Students will complete a 180-hour practicum and will participate in the technical, managerial and performance aspects of theatrical productions at Mercer's Kelsey Theatre.

Short Takes



# "Late Night Series" Adds Unique Performance Venue to Local Arts Scene

For more than a year, the Drama Club at Mercer has been orchestrating a grand theater experiment. Each Friday evening, the "Late Night Series (LNS)," located in the new MC3 Studio Theatre (CM122), opens its doors for an eclectic evening of "anything goes," open microphone performances. The result is a boon to the students, alumni and community members who perform there and to the Drama Club students who call it their baby.

In September 2002, the Drama Club decided there was no time like college to attempt such a venture. With the support of faculty advisor Nick Anselmo, coordinator of the Mercer Drama Program, and Robert Terrano, dean of Arts, Communication and Technology, club members and staff claimed a large storage room in the Communication Building, gave it a thorough cleaning and transformed it into an avant garde performance space. The club produced flyers to advertise for performers and the Late Night Series opened for business.

Anselmo recalls that at the LNS' inaugural performance, the audience was just marginally bigger than the number of performers on stage. Drama Club President Stephen Lewandowski estimates that the first event drew around 15 people, but "by the end of the year we were drawing 60," he said. Now, says Lewandowski, the LNS is "the hottest show around." Even Mercer professors are occasionally spotted in the crowd and a few have been part of the show.

"We strive to make the LNS a 'safe' environment, where performers can experiment on stage without fear of harsh audience reactions. We are a loving, accepting group," Lewandowski said.

With an emphasis on original work, performances range from poetry to live instrumental and vocal music to dance, plus "anything else people come up with," said Carole Latini, a Drama Club member and dance major who performs there. Other Drama Club members also perform regularly – dancers Austin D'Angelo and Tiffany Troiani, poet Lyndsey Potosky and dramatist Emily Franks. "The LNS is a great place to show our work," Latini said enthusiastically.

Club members arrive at 8:30 p.m. to prepare the theater. Performers begin to arrive by 9:30 p.m. Featuring 10 to 12 performers per evening, the show starts at 10 p.m. and typically runs until midnight. There is a five-minute limit on poetry readings and a one-song limit per band. The event is free, although donations for refreshments are eagerly sought. Since the opening of the MC3 Studio Theatre, the college has contributed new lighting, curtains and portable seating.

According to Anselmo, the variety and level of talent have really improved since the LNS' inception. "Many of the performers are young, independent, and intent on establishing themselves," he said. "They often have CDs and poetry books for sale." Through Anselmo, several performers from New York City have found their way to Mercer, including a troupe that performed "No Good Nigga Blues." (An encore performance is scheduled for February, 2004.)

Twice during the fall, Mercer Communication Professor Kathy Paluscio arranged for "MouthWorks," her student creative speaking troupe, to premiere its work in the LNS. Students performed thematically linked prose, poetry, choral readings, and group oral interpretation using uncommon sources such as greeting cards, recipes, and situa-

tional scenes like bad dates. "The students had a fantastic time," she said. "Their performances were entertaining, professional and showed their ability to work as an ensemble."

Paluscio believes that the LNS provides a supportive, casual forum for performing students. "It's a place where beginners can get their feet wet and where students who have work, school and family obligations can still perform without the long-term commitment that many shows entail," she said.

The LNS has a website ([www.latenightseries.com](http://www.latenightseries.com)) created by Fine Arts student John Beck. It is updated regularly and features Beck's digital photos of performers, available for viewing and ordering. The website even boasts an online store where performers and fans can purchase apparel and other souvenirs.

The students behind the LNS say the experience has gotten them thinking about theater in new ways. Notes Anselmo, "Schools tend to fail drama students by not educating them in other aspects of theater besides performing, such as administration and production." Latini has been concentrating on choreography, while Lewandowski is immersed in the production end of



The producers of the "Late Night Series" are Drama Club members (l. to r.) Lyndsey Potosky, Tiffany Troiani, Austin D'Angelo, Emily Franks, Carole Latini, Stephen Lewandowski, and Drama Program Coordinator Nick Anselmo.

theater and Potosky is focusing on stage management.

As word about the LNS spreads, crowds are growing larger and increasing numbers of performers are seeking a chance to showcase their work. According to Anselmo, the Drama Club will strive to set necessary limits without marring the independent, progressive nature of this unique theater experience.



MouthWorks premiered its work in the Late Night Series in the fall. Pictured are Mercer students, from left standing, Brenda Pottish, Charles Channon, Sal Vumbaca, David Bosak, Dominick Rodriguez and Carmen Rivas (seated).

## MCCC Offers Degree in "Communication: Speech and Theatre"

Students interested in pursuing careers in theatre, mass communication, speech, advertising, and related areas will be interested in one of Mercer's newer degree options: "Communication: Speech and Theatre." Under the umbrella of "Liberal Arts and Sciences," the associate degree is designed for students who want to transfer into a baccalaureate degree program.

Students pursuing this option will become immersed in the excitement of theatre through participation in productions at MCCC's Kelsey Theatre, which stages 26 shows a year for adults and children. There will be opportunities to take part in student productions at the new MC3 Studio Theatre and in "open mic" performances in the Late Night Series.

Dean Robert Terrano said, "In the past year, under the leadership of Nick [Anselmo], the college's theatre program has grown by over 70% and has produced three major shows: 'Blinding Light,' 'Working,' and 'The Laramie Project.' With the addition of dedicated space in the MC3 Studio Theatre, we can provide students with quality rehearsal time and many options to perform before a live audience."





## From Helicopters to Airplanes in One Semester

Helicopter pilots seeking to expand their horizons will have a concentrated, cost-effective and well-supervised way to add “fixed wing airplane pilot” to their resume thanks to a new course offered at Mercer starting January 2004. According to Joseph Blasenstein, coordinator of Mercer’s Aviation program, “Flight V” is a training course designed for pilots who already have expertise in helicopter piloting, but seek the additional certification required to fly single-engine planes. It is the only course of its kind in the northeast United States.

Blasenstein notes that “Flight V” will give certified helicopter pilots a commercial airplane instrument rating in just 70 flight hours and 30 ground/classroom hours. Two years in development, the course was conceived in response to a request by a group of helicopter pilots from the New Jersey National Guard. “They approached me wanting to add a fixed wing (airplane), single-engine commercial flight rating to their rotary wing (helicopter) certification,” Blasenstein said.

Mercer’s course offers the same demanding curriculum as the standard 155-hour training programs, but draws on pilots’ previous expertise

to shorten the credentialing process. The syllabus includes advanced topics in aircraft performance, preflight procedures, operating procedures, maneuvers, aircraft systems, federal aviation regulations, radio navigation, physiology of flight, environmental systems, and air traffic systems and procedures.

“Flight V” will enable pilots to fly planes for commercial and private purposes and to easily add a multi-engine rating and move into civilian commercial operations. “It is an excellent career move for these pilots, making them more versatile in their current positions and more attractive to future employers,” Blasenstein said. He compares the certification process to driving. “If you are a licensed driver of a car and wish to start driving a tractor-trailer, you must pursue an additional license.

“These students will not be novices,” Blasenstein stated. “We expect to see the ‘cream of the crop’ seeking this certification. Many have military training and 1 to 2,000 hours of helicopter flying under their belts. In addition to their flying skills, many have training in survival and communications, as well as considerable technical expertise.”

According to Blasenstein, “Flight V” takes the MCCC Aviation program to a higher level. Part of the ground training will be conducted on a state-of-the-art Advanced Simulation Training device (AST), which was purchased this fall through a grant from the New Jersey Division of Aeronautics, Department of Transportation. A highly sophisticated enclosed flight simulator, AST has both single- and multi-engine training capabilities, and will be utilized by Mercer’s other aviation students as well.

Blasenstein is delighted to finally be offering “Flight V” at Mercer. “The last time we added a course was in 1989,” he said. “It was a great deal of work getting this highly detailed curriculum approved by the Federal Aviation Administration.”

In addition to the New Jersey National Guard, this class will be open to helicopter pilots from state and county police departments in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, as well as to personnel from commercial operations. The course tuition will be covered by Veterans Administration benefits for those employed by the National Guard. For more information, call (609) 586-4800, ext. 3487 or email blasensj@mccc.edu.

## Mercer Students Help to Inspire Next Generation of Chemists

“Very fun,” “enjoyed everything,” “very cool,” even “had a blast” are just some of the comments from third through fifth graders about chemistry presentations at their elementary schools by students from Mercer and Rider University. The visits took place during National Chemistry Week, Oct. 19-25.

Coordinated by Mercer Assistant Professor of Chemistry Helen Tanzini, the presentations are part of an annual volunteer program developed by the American Chemical Society to foster excitement and scientific curiosity in students from a young age. Mercer has participated for the past six years in partnership with faculty and students from Rider. “The point is to expose children to the fun part of science. It really makes an impact,” Tanzini said.

She notes that the children develop an almost instant rapport with the college students. “They really respond to the fact that college students are teaching the class,” she said.

This year’s theme was “The Earth’s Atmosphere and Beyond,” and the program included six demonstration and hands-on experiments to wow a young audience. Utilizing antacid tablets and vinegar, the students saw how acid rain wears away vulnerable surfaces, while a misty demonstration with dry ice drew oohs and aahs from the youngsters.

The final experiment, making “slime,” was a departure from the atmospheric theme, but “it’s always the highlight of our show, so we do it every year,” Tanzini said. The children make a long-chain molecule known as a polymer by mixing polyvinyl alcohol (PVA), powdered soap and food coloring in a cup. The result is a gelatinous green substance that they can take home as a souvenir.

According to Tanzini, the number of Mercer student volunteers has grown steadily over time, with more than 20 participating this year. “There is no extra credit for this assignment,” she said. “I want students to participate for the sheer joy of giving something to the community.” Additional faculty members have joined the group, including Mary Ann Norcross, Diane Hilker, Yvonne Green-

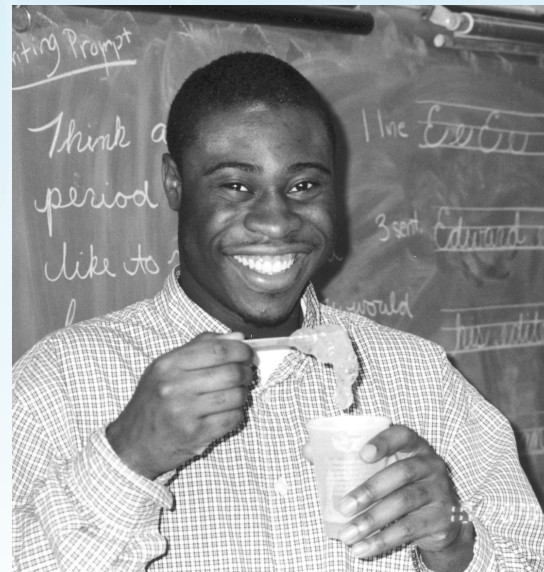


Participants in the National Chemistry Week presentations included: (kneeling in front) Physter Andrews and Ryan Fugate; (standing l. to r.) Mohammad Umar, Karen Pyle, Wilyean Ricks, Assistant Professor Helen Tanzini, Rocco Gervasi and Julie Cameron.

baun and Gail Smith from Mercer and Bruce Burnham and Alex Grushow from Rider.

While not every student can make the daytime school visits, there are tasks associated with the project to fit practically every student’s schedule. One crew comes in the evening before a presentation to prepare materials, another group does the school visits, and a third does clean-up back at Mercer, a job Tanzini used to tackle on her own.

The program’s popularity in the community is spreading. Tanzini gets requests every year from more schools than she can handle. This year, her students led classes for 600 elementary school children in Hamilton, East Windsor, West Windsor, and Ewing. Following the presentations, Tanzini received “thank you” cards from many youngsters and teachers. In the words of Jeff Grabell, a teacher from Dutch Neck School, “The students and teachers have been raving about your visit. I know that, in my class, the students learned a lot and had fun. Just as important, I think you helped to inspire a number of future chemists.”



Mercer chemistry student Physter Andrews mixes some “slime” during a visit to the Alexander School in Hamilton.

Journal



# Motown Madness



## The Soul Cruisers

The long-time favorite house band at New York City's famed Copacabana Night Club, the Sensational Soul Cruisers have also performed at many high profile engagements, including the Whitney Museum for the late John Kennedy Jr., Radio City Music Hall's holiday party, Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, Hollywood Casino, Princeton and Yale universities, the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, and more.

**Screamin' Steve Barlotta**, a well-respected New York saxophone player, has spent years perfecting this musical sensation. Just think of your favorite classic, party or R&B song and this group probably performs it (as well as you've ever heard). Performing favorites from the Spinners, the Delphonics, Sly & the Family Stone, Kool & the Gang, Earth, Wind & Fire, and more, this band knows how to get people up on the dance floor and keep them there!

## You're Invited to Join the "Motown Madness" for Student Scholarships

Motown Madness, an extravagant evening of fun and entertainment, awaits you at the MCCC Scholarship Dinner Dance set for March 20 at the Hyatt Regency. The evening will feature the Sensational Soul Cruisers, an 11-man group fronted by four soulful vocalists who pay homage to classic performers from Otis Redding and the Drifters to Barry White and the Commodores.

Event Chairman Rafe Sharon, psychologist and member of the MCCC Foundation Board, said his committee is bursting with soul and enthusiasm, and is working to raise more money than ever before for student scholarships.

Proceeds from the dinner dance enable Mercer to offer scholarships for new full-time students from Mercer County high schools, achievement awards for academic excellence, and funds for high-risk students and emergency student loans. Proceeds from the art auction will go toward scholarships for fine arts students.

Advertising sales and corporate sponsorship solicitations are now in full swing. Tickets for the event are \$200 each, or \$2,000 for a table of ten. Corporations may participate as gold sponsors for \$10,000, silver sponsors for \$7,500, bronze sponsors for \$5,000 and corporate sponsors for \$2,500. Advertising rates range from \$200 to \$600. Because of a generous anonymous underwriter, every advertising dollar goes directly to scholarships.

Come and cruise with us as we help more students achieve their educational goals. Call our Foundation Office at 609-586-4800 ext. 3607 or 3601.

*From left, Dean of College Advancement Bill Mate and President Robert Rose meet with Princeton Hyatt General Manager Heinz Gartlgruber and Human Resources Director Maureen Lucido to prepare for the 2004 Scholarship Dinner Dance. The Hyatt will receive this year's "Community Service Award."*



## MCCC Run and Fun Fest a Good Time for All



The MCCC Alumni & Friends Association hosted its second annual "5K Run and Fun Fest" on Sept. 12. Runners enjoyed a straight flat course that circled the Mercer campus, plus a delicious picnic dinner following the race.

Thanks to event sponsors: Hartsough Kenny & Chase, The Loff Group/UBS Financial Services, Merrill Lynch, and NAI Fennelly. Gift certificates for the winners were donated by All-Season Sporting Goods. Race proceeds benefited Mercer student-athletes.





### Savor the Seasons

Demonstrating their culinary skills as they prepare for Mercer's "Savor the Seasons" gourmet reception are Teaching Assistant Frank Benowitz, Chef Annie Prizzi and baking student Susan Kagel. The October event, set in the beautiful atrium of the college's Conference Center, raised funds for student scholarships. Michelle Siekerka, senior counsel with AAA Mid-Atlantic and a member of the MCCC Foundation Board, and Ellen Souter, sales associate with Coldwell Banker in Princeton, co-chaired the event.

### Mercer Wins Design Awards

MCCC recently won five awards from the National Conference of Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR), District I, which represents marketing and public relations professionals at colleges in the northeastern U.S., eastern Canada and the U.K.

Mercer won a gold award for a brochure by MCCC graphic designer Francis Paixao. Two silver awards were for brochures and logos marketing the college's new Conference Center, designed by Red Wolf Design in consultation with MCCC staff. The college's Viking alumni newsletter won a bronze award. It is written by Saveria Symons, public information coordinator, and associate Wendy Humphrey, and designed by Lynn Holl, director of marketing. The college's newly redesigned website ([www.mccc.edu](http://www.mccc.edu)) won a bronze award.



### DaimlerChrysler Supports MCCC

Students and staff of MCCC's Automotive Technology Program meet with representatives from DaimlerChrysler. The company presented a \$13,000 check to support the program, which prepares students for employment as automotive technicians. DaimlerChrysler also gave a \$1,000 scholarship. From left are Program Coordinator Fred Bassini, students Dan Baez, John Mazzarone and Eric Munoz, MCCC President Robert Rose, and representatives from DaimlerChrysler Michael Cantrell and Joseph Morton.



The website team includes, from left, Tim Fitzpatrick, designer, Brad Kent, editor, and Mark Meara, dean of technology services. The award-winning team worked with the Princeton Internet Group (PIInG) on the 600-page site.



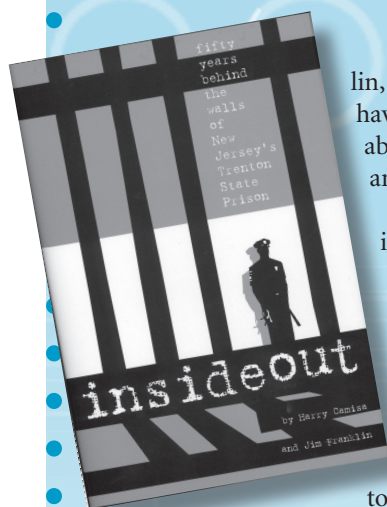
### September 11 Commemorated

Mercer staff and students gather at a solemn ceremony to commemorate the events of September 11, 2001 as Don Jones (at right in photo), MCCC's director of enrollment and student services at the James Kerney Campus, sings "God Bless America."

Among the speakers at the event were Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Thomas Wilfrid, Board of Trustees Chair Bill Baroni, and County Executive Robert Prunetti. The three placed a floral arrangement on the college's memorial bench, located in a public garden outside the Student Center on the West Windsor campus.



## Harry Camisa, Retired Prison Guard and MCCC Graduate, Collaborates With Mercer Professor on Trenton Prison Book



Harry Camisa, Class of 1974, and Jim Franklin, MCCC professor of English and Journalism, have collaborated on a recently released book about Camisa's 50-year career as a prison guard and teacher at Trenton State Prison.

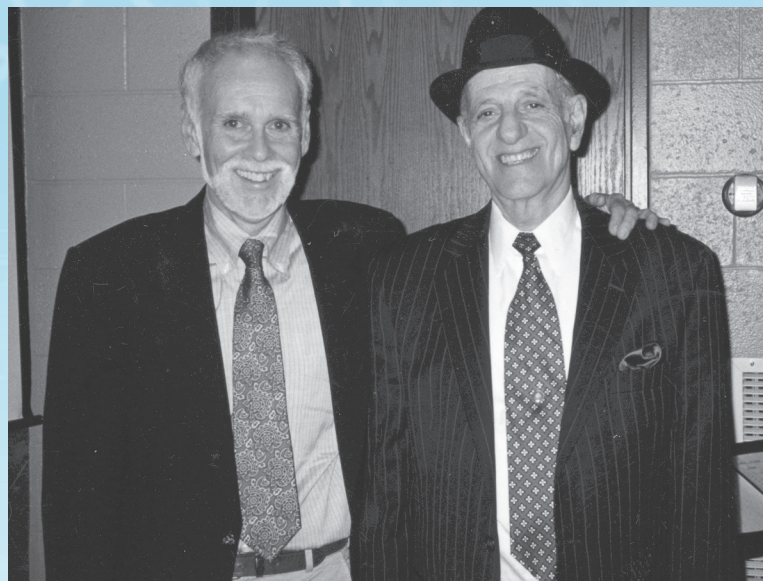
The book, published by Windsor Press, is entitled *Inside Out: Fifty Years Behind the Walls of New Jersey's Trenton State Prison*. It chronicles Camisa's experiences at the maximum-security prison from 1950 through his retirement in December of 2002. *Inside Out* tells the stories of the crimes of New Jersey's most famous criminals as well as Camisa's experiences with them after they were sent to the prison. Among the noted convicts Camisa

knew were "Joe Adonis" (Joseph Anthony Doto), the "Teflon Don" of the 1950's, and John List, a mild-mannered accountant from Westfield who murdered his wife, three children and mother and neatly lined up their bodies on the floor of the ballroom in their Victorian-era mansion. List managed to elude arrest for 17 years until he was brought to justice after being featured on *America's Most Wanted* television show. During his long career, Camisa witnessed 13 electrocutions and was taken hostage twice.

Camisa began his college career at Mercer in 1967. In that year, the federal government began funding college courses for prison guards, and the veteran officer found himself back in the classroom at the age of 45.

"Jim Franklin was one of my first instructors when I started taking courses at Mercer," Camisa said, "and he busted me for getting a little too much help from my wife on one of my essays. He said to me, 'Harry, you have a lot of potential. Do your own work,' and I never forgot that." Camisa and Franklin reunited in 1999 to begin work on the book project.

Camisa earned an AA from Mercer and transferred to Trenton State College (now The College of New Jersey), where he earned a BS in Educa-



MCCC Professor Jim Franklin, left, with Harry Camisa after a lecture Camisa gave at Mercer in October 2003.

tion. After 29 years as a prison guard, Camisa retired and went right back into the prison as a civilian employee in the education department. He served another 21 years in that capacity before retiring for good in 2002.

Camisa was cited several times for his outstanding work as a correction officer and civilian employee, most recently in 1994 when he noticed a ceiling tile out of place and stopped an escapee who was only inches away from breaking through the outer wall.

Camisa's book is on sale in the MCCC bookstore, the New Jersey State Museum gift shop on State Street in Trenton and Micawber Books in Princeton. Further information is available at the Windsor Press website, [www.windsorpress.net](http://www.windsorpress.net), or by calling toll free (866) 577-6327.

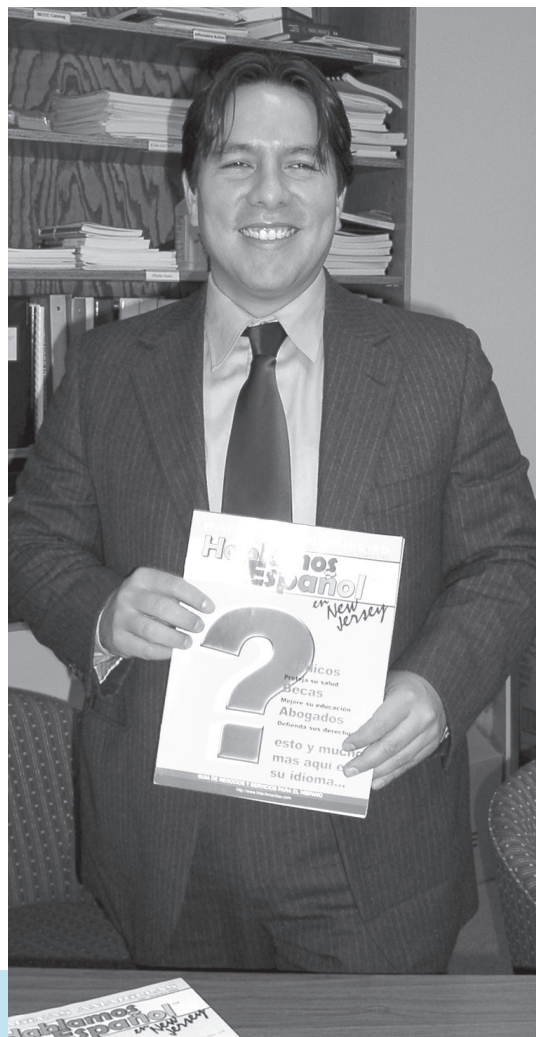
## Alumnus Draws on Own Experience to Start Hablamos Español

When Diego Maya was a high school senior in the 1980s, he heard other graduating students talk about their plans to head off to places like Cornell University and other top colleges. Diego remembers thinking, "Where do I go next?" With parents who spoke little English and no family members having attended college in the United States, he was asking questions for which they had no answers.

Fortunately Maya found his way to MCCC, where he first took courses in architecture and then switched to computer applications. "Mercer gave me the chance to explore the possibilities and to figure out what I wanted to do," said Maya. "There were Hispanic staff members, which was a great help to me." He was an original member of Mercer's Latino Club, now a thriving student group. He transferred to Rider University in 1995 and graduated in 1997 with a BS in Computer Information Systems.

After working as a computer analyst/programmer for two years, Maya recognized that his true passion was for entrepreneurial business. And, drawing on his own difficulties growing up in an English speaking culture, he decided to focus on helping other Spanish-speaking people make the most of the resources available to them. "When you don't speak English, you don't know what's available or how to find it," said Maya.

In January 2003, Maya published the first edi-



tion of *Hablamos Español* (*We Speak Spanish*), a free Spanish language directory that provides Hispanics with critical resource information, such as listings of nonprofit agencies, educational opportunities, and health and human services contacts, plus Internet addresses for 105 websites that offer minority scholarships. A second, expanded edition of the directory came out in August. When the next directory is published in February 2004, all resources listed in print will also appear on a new website, [www.interamarillas.com](http://www.interamarillas.com), along with web pages for each of the businesses that have placed ads in the publication.

Maya is excited about the guide's potential to promote education among Hispanics. Currently focused in Mercer County, Maya envisions a far wider distribution for *Hablamos Español* into other magnet areas such as Elizabeth, Long Branch, Bound Brook and Plainfield. The 2004 directory will have a one-time printing of 70,000, and will be distributed through non-profit agencies, churches, the advertisers, and at major Hispanic events.

"When people see *Hablamos Español*, they say 'wow.' They can't believe that someone is taking the time and effort to compile this information that is so useful to them," Maya said.

The first in his family to attend college in this country, Maya isn't the last. Both his brother and sister knew where they were headed after high school – to Mercer County Community College.

Diego Maya '95

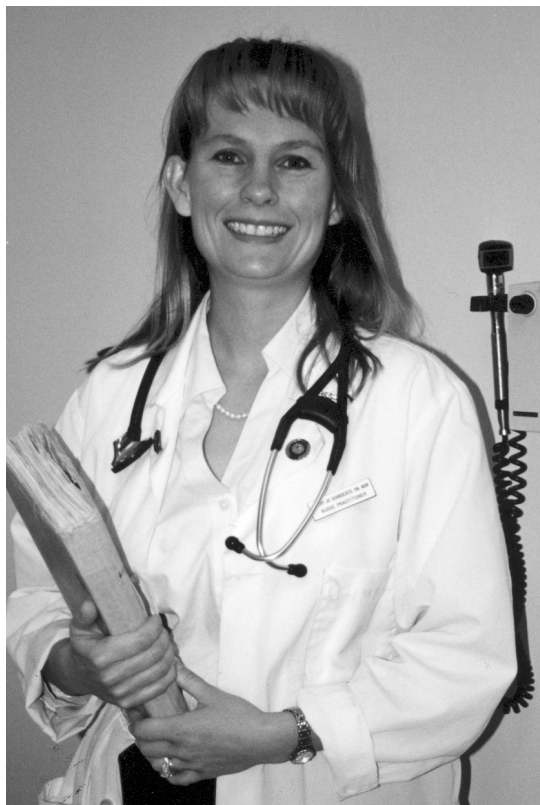


## Nurse Practitioner Credits Mercer for Healthy Start in Rewarding Career

Cathy Jo Schroeder, MSN, CRNP, started her education at Mercer in 1989 and spent the next 11 years on the academic track. Now a certified nurse practitioner in the practice of Sheryl Haber-Kuo, M.D., in Hamilton, Schroeder (formerly Williams) is a skilled health care provider who says that Mercer laid the groundwork for her rewarding career.

With physical therapy as her initial career goal, Schroeder planned to take the required science courses at Mercer and then transfer to a four-year school with a physical therapy program. "It turned out that all of the courses I was taking were part of the nursing program and I loved it," Schroeder said. She graduated with an AAS from Mercer's Nursing program in 1992 and her career path was set.

Schroeder learned the ropes of medical/surgical nursing at Burlington County Memorial Hospital and then embraced the fast paced, adrenaline rush of emergency nursing at Atlantic City Medical Center. She also began coursework at Stockton State College, graduating with her BS in Nursing in 1997. Moving back to the central Jersey region, she started working as a trauma nurse in the emergency room at Hahnemann University Hospital in Philadelphia while she pursued her master's degree. In 2000, Schroeder earned



Cathy Jo Schroeder, MSN, CRNP

her MSN and her certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner (CRNP).

As a nurse practitioner, Schroeder is trained to carry out many of the duties performed by physicians. She conducts well visits, sick visits, and physicals, orders lab tests and interprets the results, and prescribes medication. "Nurse practitioners have a slightly different focus than physicians. We take the whole body approach," she said. Typically she has more time to spend with patients and works one-on-one to educate them about healthier lifestyles.

While Schroeder finds the intimacy with patients most fulfilling, occasionally she dips back into the emergency room environment, working at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Hamilton. "There is such a demand for nurses and sometimes I do miss the excitement and challenge of that setting. It's great to be able to do both types of nursing," Schroeder said.

Assessing her road to success, Schroeder notes that Mercer provided her with important basic skills and the flexibility to explore her true career path. "It's where I started and it's where I got my foundation. I recommend Mercer to people all the time," she said.

### MCCC's International Business Group Tours Mexico

Four members of MCCC's Business Division planted the seeds for an international business collaboration and enjoyed a culturally enriching experience when they visited Mexico in August. Jacqueline Sanders, dean of MCCC's Business Division, Assistant Professor Carol Weber and two students, Maryse Dorvil and Melissa Dungao, traveled with eight representatives from Austin Community College in Texas to introduce the International Business Practice Firm (IBPF) to Mexican educators.

The IBPF is a network of simulated business firms operating throughout the world that enables students to conduct business on a global scale. Students get hands-on experience and exercise initiative in a world-wide venue, working on purchasing, accounting, marketing and human resources.

Weber has been leading the initiative at Mercer, which has offered the innovative course as part of its business curriculum for several years. She has been a leader in promoting the program and training faculty at other colleges.

"There is a lot of interest in developing the practice firm concept in Mexico," Weber said. "What's exciting is that Mercer would be spearheading the effort there." Serving as program ambassadors at home are Mercer's two student travelers, Dorvil and Dungao, who have been giving presentations based on their travel experiences.

Highlights of the culturally enriching tour included visits to Tula, Mexico City, Saltillo and Monterrey, where the group visited historical, industrial and cultural sites, educational institutions, and governmental organizations. At Mexican universities the group stayed in dorms and met students for cultural exchange workshops. "I found the people friendly,"

Dorvil said. "They became attached to us. You don't expect people you don't know to be that friendly." Dungao agreed. "It was pretty amazing," she said. "Each place was so different and each had its own cultural traits."

The trip was made possible through a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education.

*Mercer's four representatives are, fourth from left: student Melissa Dungao, Dean Jacky Sanders, and faculty member Carol Weber. Student Maryse Dorvil is directly behind Sanders and Weber.*



### Business Program Recognized

MCCC's International Business Practice Firm (IBPF) was chosen as this year's model program and received the "Program Excellence Award" from the New Jersey Global Educators Association, which promotes international education.

Associate Professor Carol Weber, IBPF coordinator, was recently elected to the three-member management team of the International Organization of EUROPEN, an association of mostly European practice firm educators. Weber will be chairperson for calendar year 2005. This is the first time a U.S. representative has been elected to the group's management team.

Associate Professor Carol Weber

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## Men's Soccer

At many colleges, second in the nation would sound like quite an accomplishment; but at Mercer, the Men's Soccer Team had its sights set on No. 1. The Vikings almost got there, but lost to Yavapai (AZ) Community College in the NJCAA title game for the second straight year. This time the loss came on penalty kicks after two overtimes. The national tournament was held Nov. 20-23 in Tyler, TX.

"No one likes to see a game come down to penalty kicks," Mercer Head Coach Charlie Inverso said. "It was a tough way to end the season." Mercer went ahead 2-0 in the first half on goals by Boomer Kotchin and Umut Angis (assisted on both by Leon Malca), but allowed Yavapai to tie the game in the second half.

Leading up to the final, the Vikings showed why they had been ranked No. 1 prior to the tournament. They faced No. 3 College of Du Page in the quarter-final on Nov. 20, whose roster included the top scoring player in the country. The Vikings proved their grit, hanging on to win 2-1 in double overtime.

Mercer had an easier contest in the semi-final round, beating Northern Oklahoma 4-0. The Vikings defeated the College of Southern Maryland 5-0 in the District 3 final on Nov. 13 to advance to the nationals.

The Vikings' final record was 18-0-2. (The title game goes into the record books as a tie.) Leon Browne and Ramon Bailey were named to the All-Tournament team. Mercer won the Sportsmanship Award.



The Mercer Men's Soccer Team after winning the Region 19 final on November 8, 2003.

One of the highlights of the season was the team's 700<sup>th</sup> win, which came on Oct. 15 against Brookdale Community College. According to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, Mercer holds the all-time record for most soccer wins of any junior college in the country. The program, which began in 1963, has had Inverso at the helm for 18 seasons.

With eight players returning from last year's squad and a number of strong new players, Inverso had a wealth of talent from which to draw. The team enjoyed playing on its new field, with state-of-the-art turf that contributed to an injury-free season.

Fine tuning for the national tournament came during the Region 19 Tournament. Mercer faced Del Tech in the semi-final round, scoring with just minutes remaining to win 3-2. In the Region 19 final, Essex (NJ) Community College also proved a tenacious opponent despite Mercer's control of the game. Mercer won that spirited match-up 2-1.

Inverso noted that even with its top ranking, Mercer had no leaders in the national stats. "It was a group effort this year, which is the best way to play soccer. There was no one player who held the key to our success," he said. Sophomore Anthony Tuesta led Mercer's scoring with 13 goals, followed by Browne with 12. Kotchin came up big in the tournament with key goals in the quarter-final and final rounds. Sophomore Brad Lowyns was a steady presence in goal, behind a defense that gave up only 15 goals all season. Inverso was assisted this season by Larry Povia, Bill Dailey and John Pietrowski.

## Women's Soccer

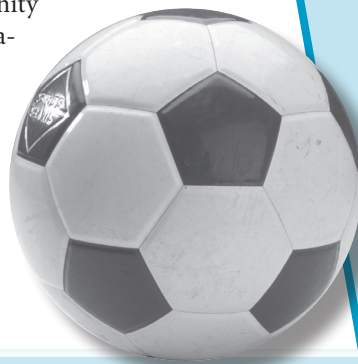
When the women's soccer team started out with an 8-0 loss to Anne Arundel Community College on Sept. 7, Head Coach Shelly Dearden wondered what kind of season the Vikings were in for. So even with a 3-1 defeat to Essex (NJ) in the regional final, she considers the season a resounding success.

"We really got it together as the season progressed," said Dearden. "We did what it took to get the job done." She credits a solid work ethic and teamwork, plus some strategic changes in the lineup. The team was also helped after pre-season training by the addition of several players who quickly got into top shape and made key contributions.

There was no shortage of thrilling endings, as the Vikings won three of their last four games in overtime. And they posted a defensive and offensive coup in their regional semi-final against Sussex, winning by a score of 7-0. The women finished their season with a 9-5-1 record.

Dearden praised the solid defensive nucleus of returning sophomores: the team's co-captain, goalkeeper Michele ("Mo") Brown, fullback Heather Anderson, and fullback Courtney Williams. (Williams had played offense last season, but was needed in the back and performed admirably.) Co-captain Jillian Byrne proved her versatility by playing several positions, and midfielder/forward Jackie Lewin, defender Suzanne Larson and forward Kristin O'Donnell also turned in solid performances. Two freshmen made a strong impact: forward Anna Zablocka, the team's high scorer and top play maker with 15 goals and 11 assists, and Katie Ann Scott at sweeper.

Dearden has completed eight seasons as head coach. She was assisted this year by Cindy Astore, Kristine Bucchino, and managers Amber Oliver and Jennifer Perry.



Calling Men's Soccer Alumni

The Athletics Department is planning a Men's Soccer Hall of Fame Reunion. Whether you played for Mercer 30 years ago or three years ago, we want to hear from you. Let us know your current address so we can invite you to the big event. Call (609) 586-3741.

### Mercer Coach Charlie Inverso Honored for Contributions to Soccer

While Mercer men's soccer coach Charlie Inverso is well known on campus for the exceptional men's soccer teams he produces each year, he is also known in the community beyond Mercer for touching the lives of many young players. Inverso was honored by the Trenton Select Committee for his outstanding contributions to youth soccer at a banquet on Nov. 9.

Having just completed his 17<sup>th</sup> season with the Vikings, Inverso has been involved in soccer since childhood. He was the goalkeeper for the Notre Dame High School 1974 state championship team and then continued his soccer career at Trenton State College, where he earned his BS and MS degrees in Physical Education. Today he teaches at Crockett Middle School in Hamilton. Inverso also serves as a staff coach for the Region 1 Olympic Development Program, and as goalkeeper coach for under-14 and under-16 U.S. National soccer teams.

Under his leadership, the Vikings have won four of their seven national championships (1988, 1991, 1995, 1996) and have come close to the title numerous other years. Inverso has been named National Coach of the Year four times. His 326-28-12 record with the Vikings boasts the second highest percentage of wins among active college coaches.

Many of Inverso's former players -- 110 by his count -- have graduated from Mercer and continued to play soccer at their transfer schools. Thirty-two former players have become college or high school coaches and another 15 have played professionally.





## Men's Basketball

This year the Vikings may finally have everything they need to capture a regional title. According to Head Coach Kelly Williams, now in his fifth year at Mercer, this is the most balanced team he has coached at Mercer. "We have the height, the speed and the depth to get results," he said. Last year's squad lost to Lackawanna in the regional championship.

The Vikings opened their season by decisively winning their first six games. "The players work hard in practices and they have a great attitude. It's spilling over to our games," said Williams. With early rankings putting Mercer at No. 9 in the nation, he anticipates many challenges ahead. "We have a bull's eye on our forehead. Other teams are going to come after us." Williams believes Mer-

cer's toughest competition in the region will come from Essex and Del Tech.

Williams is counting on the leadership and talent of returning sophomores, center Stephen Taylor, shooting guard Dwayne Washington, Jr., and forward Clifford Pollard. Promising freshmen include Anthony DaBronzo at small forward and Miroslav Babiarz at point guard. The Vikings' already strong roster should be bolstered in January when power forward Clifford Powell and swingman Reggie Kelly are expected to join the team.

"If all the pieces fall into place, this team right here could be our best chance for the title," Williams said. The regional tournament will take place Feb. 25-29.

## Women's Basketball

With their five-year run as regional champs having ended last year, the Lady Vikes have one main goal in mind: to reclaim the Region 19 title. They will be led in their quest by returning sophomore forwards Vicki Jenkins, Katy McCormack and Allison Werkman. Their early record of 5-1 bodes well for the season ahead.

Now in his 14<sup>th</sup> year, Head Coach Mike Tenaglia notes that with ten freshmen on the roster, this is a young team. "But the women are working well together and learning a lot," he said. "They enjoy each other's company. Chemistry on any basketball team is important and ours is really positive at this point."

The team boasts a deep bench of 15 players.

"That allows us some flexibility," Tenaglia said. "We expect to have the solid defense we've been known for in past years, combined with athleticism, aggressiveness and speed."

The roster includes 6'2" freshman center Gina Broach and four strong guards who will join the lineup in January: Nicole Brown, Amber Oliver, Ebony Davis and Brandi Hayes. Jenkins has already added four double doubles to her total from last year, giving her 22 in her 33 games at Mercer.

Tenaglia predicts that Union County College, last year's Region 19 winner, will be the Lady Vikes' toughest opponent, followed by Lackawanna and Essex. The Region 19 Tournament will be held Feb. 24-28.

## Women's Tennis

With a 10-0 record, the Mercer's Women's Tennis Team wouldn't change a thing about its perfect 2003 season. Winning their seventh consecutive Region 19 title on Oct. 24, the Vikings dwarfed the competition with 23 points to second place Brookdale (10 points) and third place Ocean (7 points).

The women played a record number of matches this year, which added up to the best season record in team history. "We picked up a number of additional matches," Head Coach Marc Vecchiolla said, including a contest against Nassau (NY) Community College, which the Vikings won 7-2, and the Harford (MD) Invitational Tournament, in which Mercer prevailed with 12 points.

"Playing so many matches helped us out," Vecchiolla said. "The players needed the experience of going into battle. I saw them grow with each match. They had so much more in their 'bag of tricks.' Their confidence improved, their stamina increased and they made some smart strategic moves on the court. They were able to take their games to the next level." Practice begins in January for the NJCAA National Tournament, which takes place in College Station, TX, May 1-7, 2004.



Region 19 Champs: (back row, l. to r.) Volunteer Assistant Coach Barbara Pleva, Landry Shelley, Head Coach Marc Vecchiolla, Victoria Lissova, and Assistant Coach Ralph Bencivengo; (front row, l. to r.) Jana Sulerova, Maureen Haggerty, Desiree Noel, Janice Wilcox, and Sherry Lin.

## It's "Tee Time" on June 15

The MCCC Athletics Department invites you to tee off with Mercer alumni and friends on Tuesday, June 15, 2004 at Mercer Oaks

East in West Windsor, the area's newest golf course. This year's event is in memory of Dr. Cynthia Schaeffer, a member of the college's Foundation Board, who died recently. The day includes a friendly round of golf, barbecue lunch prior to tee-off, and a cocktail reception and dinner at day's end. There will be raffle prizes, awards and a chance to support a great cause -- scholarships for MCCC athletes.

The tournament is open to the public. For registration or sponsor information, contact MCCC Athletic Director John Simone at (609) 586-4800, ext. 3740, or e-mail [simone@mccc.edu](mailto:simone@mccc.edu).



## Men's Baseball Team Has New Head Coach

After three years as an assistant coach, Clifford "Kip" Harrison is taking over the elite Mercer Men's Baseball program as head coach. His goal is to continue Mercer's dominance in Region 19 and the Northeast District. "From our first team meeting in September, we have set our sights on defending our titles and heading back to the World Series," Harrison said. The Vikings have traveled to the NJCAA World Series in three of the past eight seasons, including last year.



With his first connection to Mercer as a counselor in the summer Sports Camps, Harrison joined the baseball coaching staff in 2000 when Dave Gallagher came on board as head coach and Randy Voorhees was an assistant coach. "I learned a tremendous amount from them," Harrison said. "I intend to draw on that experience as head coach."

A former Nottingham High School baseball player, Harrison is now a health/physical education teacher at Ewing High School. "My greatest strength is my patience," he said. "I believe in allowing players to make mistakes and learn from them. I want them to understand what's happening and why." His ultimate goal is to help his players develop and be able to move on to play at four-year schools.

Harrison is positive about the Vikings' prospects this coming season. "We have a number of experienced returning players and some strong freshmen recruits," he said. "We're hoping for lots of good things on the field -- and for a little luck to go our way."

Sports



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**THE VIKING**

Check out MCCC's redesigned website,  
([www.mccc.edu](http://www.mccc.edu)), with its easy online registration.  
Browse open sections in credit and noncredit  
courses. Previously registered students can look  
at their grades and course history.

# 2004

## Mercer Arts Calendar The Time Machine at Kelsey Theatre

### Spring 2004 Schedule

#### Full Length Productions

**Of Mice and Men**  
Jan. 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18

**She Loves Me**  
Feb. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15

**Deathtrap**  
Feb. 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29

**A Connecticut Yankee in  
King Arthur's Court**  
Mar. 26, 27, 28; Apr. 2, 3, 4

**Crazy For You**  
April 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25

**Student Show**  
May 7, 8, 9

**Mercer Dance Ensemble**  
May 22, 23

#### Kelsey Kids Series

**The Great Dinosaur Mystery**  
Jan. 10

**Sleeping Beauty**  
Jan. 30, 31; Feb. 1

**Camp Muckalucka**  
Feb. 21

**A Little Princess**  
Mar. 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14

**Music Maestro, Please!**  
Mar. 20

**Corduroy**  
April 17

**Alice in Wonderland**  
April 24

**Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel**  
May 15



## The Gallery

**Altogether Now**  
MCCC Fine Arts Faculty Group Show  
Jan. 20 – Feb. 19

**Mercer County Artists 2004**  
Mar. 9 – April 8

**Visual Arts Student Exhibition 2004**  
April 27 – May 13



## Academic Calendar

- January 20** Classes begin for 15-week, 7-week & 5-week sessions  
**February 24** 10-week and second 5-week sessions begin  
**March 15-21** Spring recess  
**23** Second 7-week session begins  
**April 6** Third 5-week session begins  
**May 10** Classes end  
**11-14** Final exams  
**27** Commencement and Honors Convocation

THE VIKING, a publication for alumni and other friends of Mercer County Community College, is published by IMPACT (Information, Marketing, Publications, Art Gallery, and College Relations Team). Editorial offices are located in room 250 of the Administration building on the West Windsor Campus. THE VIKING welcomes suggestions for feature stories and articles. Mail to Public Information, MCCC, PO Box B, Trenton, NJ, 08690, or email: [saveria@mccc.edu](mailto:saveria@mccc.edu).

For Kelsey events call (609) 586-4800 ext. 3566 or visit our website at  
[www.kelseyatmccc.org](http://www.kelseyatmccc.org).