

Official Newspaper of the College of Staten Island

Faculty and Student Government Take Opposing Stances on Pathways

Both Claim to Represent Students Best Interests

BY JEAN-CLAUDE QUINTYNE & SARAH ALADHAMY

CSI's Student Government and Faculty Senate have taken opposing stances on the implementation of the Pathways initiative.

While previously against the Pathways initiative, Student Government is currently supporting the measure in order to control the content of the new curriculum.

"Last year, without further information, we didn't think it was the best decision for it at the time," said Student Government Senator Meagan Derbyshire.

"Without concrete plans, we felt it was going to dilute what students were learning. But this year it's different. We have our own opinion of it. At the time, it was supposed to focus on transfer students. When we came back, decisions were being made about whether or not to oppose pathways."

The Faculty Senate at CSI has repeatedly voted against implementation Pathways proposal. Faculty felt that the establishment of the program was a CUNY decision and not theirs.

Astrophysics professor Irving Robbins has been fighting pathways since it began. Every year he gathers science professors from other universities to write letters against it.

"It's really sad, they're lowering standards," said Robbins. "By fall 2013, all four-credit classes will become three-credit classes... we are forced to participate in this. I hate pathways. I think it's a screw job for students. But it's written up on the wall and at this point, there's nothing we can do."

When the program goes into effect, Robbins says he's going to try and give his students the best education they can get.

In community colleges, the program has minimized science classes to three hours instead of four, including a lab, with English and math classes being affected also.

Participating students need to obtain two sets of credits. One includes twelve Common Core credits and eighteen

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S93 Finally Arrives On CSI Campus

Rerouted Buses Should Ease Commute



The long-awaited adjustment to the s93 route allows the bus on campus for pick up and drop off at building 1A

BY REBECCA DANIELS

The s93 has finally been rerouted to CSI's campus as promised since the beginning of last year. Notice of this change has been posted on other MTA bus and subway routes. The pick up and drop off location in front of 1A is rather hard to miss due to the excessive amount of people waiting for the bus.

"If they are going to bring the 93 on campus they need to run on time," said Samantha Habib a frustrated student commuter who believes that the change has no effect what so ever. "People have to physically fight to get

on the damn bus, it's so bad."

Since its run onto campus, the reoccurring issue is how beneficial is it to the hundreds of students and faculty who are still taking it.

"It's only great because I can actually get a seat instead of waiting for the loop bus and beat the line," said Daniel Salibi a student whom also commutes to Bay Ridge. "But they still stop in the front so they are packing us in like a bunch of sardines."

As reported in an earlier issue, the school website quotes Operational Services that

they are patiently dealing with the MTA but also stated they don't have direct contact or control over MTA services.

Former student body president Kevin Storberg was responsible for the initiative of bringing the s93 on campus, by reaching out to local politicians, NY1 news, and NYPIRG, to reach out to their representatives in Albany.

Storberg says with future time and planning he wishes to bring the s62 on to campus as well.

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Igniting the Spark with a Leadership Conference

Student Heads Summit in the Poconos

BY LUCY FARFAN-NARCISSE

Forty diverse student leaders representing several clubs on campus were in attendance at last month's annual Student Leadership Conference that took place from January 22 to the 25 at Skytop Lodge located in the Pocono Mountains.

This year's conference, "Igniting The Spark To Lead" embodied the theme of leading with passion, energy, equality, honesty, and wisdom by enabling leaders to inspire fellow CSI club members, students and community alike.

Faculty members King Kee representing Student Life, Philip Masciantanio representing WSIA, Donald Hudec representing Student Government and Kelyn Potes, CSI Club Commissioner worked tirelessly to ensure the conference ran on a timely schedule in an envi-

ronment that was educational, safe, nurturing and fun.

"Don't compare yourselves, everyone is different and that is what makes it so wonderful, you can learn from each other," said Kee, encouraging students to find their genius and explaining the purpose and goal of the retreat was to make more thoughtful leaders.

"As leaders you need to go out on a balcony, gain a broader view and a larger perspective," said Kee. "Knowing that your work impacts the world makes a difference."

David Coleman who is known worldwide as the "Dating Doctor," author, entertainer and motivational speaker was the keynote speaker and trainer at the conference and led the student leaders through a series of group oriented activities and exercises entitled: "Building an Organization that Bonds," "Energizing,

Retaining and Transitioning Your Members" and "Why Be Ordinary When You Can be Remarkable."

"Something remarkable can be accomplished when you perform a common task uncommonly well, choose to be courageous," said Coleman.

Coleman emphasized to student leaders the importance of being the strongest link, living an intentional life, and being responsible for placing their actions in alignment with their goals. He provided guidelines and suggestions to promoting their clubs recruiting exceptional people as members, retaining members, and empowered involvement.

"There is no shortcut in life to anywhere worth going leave a legacy," Coleman said.

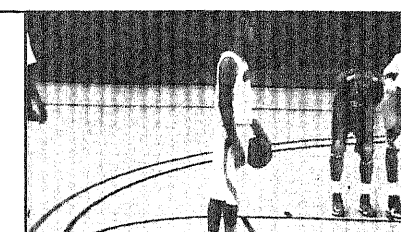
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To The BSA: Include Everyone or Go Away

BY MARK REVELLO

The Boy Scouts of America have recently come under scrutiny for the exclusion of homosexuals in their organization after the dismissal of a lesbian scout leader for her sexual orientation. As the outcry from civil rights and gay-rights activists reaches a crescendo, the Boy Scouts are considering the reevaluation and possible rescission of this exclusionary aspect of their organization; there is even a vote on the matter is scheduled for early May.

This potential change in the Boy Scouts policies towards homosexuals has generated an uproar from conservative and religious groups, who are against by the possibility of gay young men or scoutmasters actively participating in the Boy Scouts. Former Republican Candidate Rick Santorum, has gone as far to call it an "outrage".

The response from conservative and religious groups is overwhelmingly against the inclusion of homosexuals, and these responses are more of an "outrage" than the issue of discriminating homosexuals solely on the basis of sexual preference.

The decision to exclude any person from an organization is more disturbing than any argument that could be made for an entity, in this case the Boy Scouts, that does not allow membership based on race, religion, sexual orientation, or any other aspect covered by the 1964 civil rights act.

What is more disturbing than simply excluding a person based on their sexual preference is that this policy is more harmful to democracy, and by extension America, than any of its detractors seem to realize.

Author and activist Robert McChesney lays out three criteria for a well functioning and healthy democracy in his work, "Corporate Media and the Threat to Democracy". McChesney's positions are an excellent starting point to answer why the Boy Scouts exclusion of homosexuals and why the conservative and religious groups that are against a policy amendment are actually detractors of democracy and harming the citizenry of the country as a whole.

McChesney argues in his second criteria that, "it helps when there is a sense of community and a notion that an individuals well being is determined to no small extent by the community's well being. This provides democratic political culture with a substance that cannot exist if everyone is simply out to advance narrowly defined self interests, even if those interests might be harmful to the community as a whole."

By excluding homosexuals, the Boy Scouts and their conservative and religious supporters, are taking away from an individual's well being by depriving them of a community in which they can feel apart of and work with to advance more egalitarian agendas. A well functioning community should work to include all of its inhabitants and citizens in a meaningful way and by excluding a person on the basis of sexu-

al orientation, communities are regressing instead of progressing. No meaningful conversation can be created if one group is advancing its own self-interests without the creation of some sort of dialogue.

Addressing the second half McChesney's second point, The Boy Scouts, and their various supporters, are advancing their own self-interests despite the harm that an individual may suffer, solely by their exclusion principles based on sexual orientation. An organization, whether for or against the issue, blindly promoting their views solely for the purpose of promotion is an injustice to fostering dialogue that may allow citizens to improve their community by including the most amount of people.

McChesney's third point also raises some implications about how the exclusion of homosexuals, and by proxy the promotion of one value over another, in this case heterosexuality over homosexuality, is damaging to a democratic society, writ large.

McChesney writes that, "democracy requires that there be an effective system of political communication, broadly construed, that informs and engages the citizenry, drawing people meaningfully into the polity."

The Boy Scouts and their conservative and religious supporters are creating circumstances opposite to those that foster democracy and growth. The choice to engage in political communication that excludes a particular member of society based on their personal beliefs or choices does the opposite of meaningfully drawing people into the polity.

Even worse, the Boy Scouts could be used a vessel to breed and create more intelligent and critical young men that could be drawn into the political arena, but instead it is being used to promote one particular orientation over another; frankly, this harms democracy by excluding Americans based on their sexual preferences.

While the BSA has every right to model their organization the way they see fit, as guaranteed under the constitution, they should not be allowed to express their marginalizing views in public forums, nor be allowed to use public lands for their use.

Public spaces and public lands, such as parks, should be places that are used for the maximization of inclusivity for all AMERICANS, regardless of race, religion, creed, sexual orientation, or other, as guaranteed by the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The BSA's use of public forums and lands to suit their exclusionary needs should not be allowed. They should be barred from these spaces if they are going to discriminate against a particular sexual orientation. Once again, public forums should not be the place for the BSA to express their views if those views impinge upon the rights of other Americans.

The Boy Scouts should reevaluate their policies if they want to still consider themselves an upstanding and moral institution. There is no morality in the exclusion of any American based on their sexual preference, race, or otherwise.

Liberal Activists Attack the Boy Scouts of America

BY JOHN FALCONE

Amidst continued attacks by gay rights advocacy groups, the Boys Scouts of America are considering changing their national policy regarding the exclusion of openly gay scouts and leaders.

While some may see this as a long overdue step in the right direction, it is, in reality, one more piece of evidence that points to the continued assault which groups with conservative views face from hypocritical liberal advocacy groups.

Operating under the pretense that they are fighting for tolerance and inclusiveness while claiming that they represent the open mindedness of modern America, liberals and liberal groups are, in reality, intolerant and closed minded when it comes to their attitudes towards groups, which hold conservative views; such as the Boy Scouts of America.

Instead of tolerating the Boy Scouts and their policies, liberal groups would rather attack and harass the Boy Scouts until they change. The problem with this is that, legally, the Boy Scouts have every right to maintain their policy on homosexual scouts and scout leaders because this is the United States of America, and they have the freedom to do so.

Constitutionally, the Boy Scouts of America, as a private non-profit organization, are granted the freedom of speech and peaceable assembly. They also have the right to exclude homosexuals from membership if they so choose, a right which was affirmed by the Supreme Court in 2000 at the conclusion of the case *Boy Scouts of America v. Dale*.

Here is an excerpt from the official Syllabus for the case, which was released by the Supreme Court:

"Held: Applying New Jersey's public accommodations law to require the Boy Scouts to admit Dale violates the Boy Scouts' First Amendment right of expressive association. Government actions that unconstitutionally burden that right may take many forms, one of which is intrusion into a group's internal affairs by forcing it to accept a member it does not desire... Such forced membership is unconstitutional if the person's presence affects in a significant way the group's ability to advocate public or private viewpoints."

There you have it; it would be unconstitutional for the Boy Scouts to be forced to accept into their membership anyone whom they feel affects their ability to advocate their views, regardless of how tolerant or intolerant those viewpoints may be. So if the Boy Scouts have confirmation from the highest court in the land that the law is indeed fully on their side, why are liberals and liberal groups still harassing them to change their policies? Well to put it simply, liberal groups just cannot tolerate someone or some group which they consider intolerant. Ironic isn't it?

It would not be difficult for gay rights advocacy groups to avoid this hypocritical

stance; if they were confident that the policies of the Boy Scouts are so out of touch with reality they would simply allow the Boy Scouts to die out. If they are so sure that their views are in alignment with those of today's America, then they would stand back and watch the Boy Scouts and their outdated policies pass into the history books as an intolerant and un-inclusive organization of homophobes.

Unfortunately "live and let die" is not a slogan those who assail the Scouts are willing to live by. Liberal advocacy groups have continued to persecute the Boy Scouts for the past thirteen years since the Supreme Court decision, and have driven them to the point where they are now considering a policy change.

The change in policy, which the Boy Scout officials are considering, would allow individual sections, or troops, to create their own policy regarding the admission of openly gay scouts and leaders. Causing the Scouts to change on the national level would not be a victory for gay rights advocates however. Firstly, the Supreme Court's decision still stands. Boy Scout policy is not the law of the land. Secondly, it would only signify the beginning of another battle in this war on the Boy Scouts in which the battle lines will simply move from the national level to the local.

And on the local level, things are going to get ugly. It is going to get ugly because the vast majority of scouting troops are integrated with and supported by churches. This means that advocacy groups are going to be taking their war to the churches which support local troops. Many churches then will be facing an attack from gay rights advocates on two fronts; on one front they would be defending their stance on marriage, on the other their scout troop's admission policy.

Let us all hope, for the sake of our Constitutional rights, that the Boy Scouts do not throw in the towel and change their policies. If it so happens that the Scouts do decide to change their policies on a national level, let us hope that local scouting groups that choose to continue to maintain a policy which prohibits gay scouts and leaders stand firm and fight for their rights. Even if you disagree with such a policy, there are principles here which are at stake which go beyond the Boy Scouts and their policies; this strikes at the very core of our freedoms. That is why the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Boy Scouts; if they were forced to accept gay members against their will, what group would be next on the list to have their freedoms encroached upon?

Any person or group, which espouses tolerance and inclusivity, should remember that their rights to free speech and free assembly are protected by the Constitution just the same as any group, which may hold views to the contrary.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: Increasing Student Involvement at CSI
Reading your article, I completely agree with getting students more involved in activities and clubs on campus. If "The Banner" also feels this way you should interview the coordinator for each club and list clubs with meeting times so students can have options with insight about what they are entering. The odds of emails being checked on CSI are slim so we should try to reach out with any means possible.

Kevin Brijlall
Senior

Re: Drugstore Brands vs. High End Brands
This article was an enjoyable, as well as, an informative article to read for a cosmetics lover like myself. It offered helpful tips and tricks on how to get more for your money. However, with the "How to Get the Look for Less," more information could have been provided. Drugstore dupes for high end products could have been listed so the readers could truly learn how to get the look for less, as they get high end quality products, for drugstore price.

Michelle Grossman
Junior

Re: Drugstore Brands vs. High End Brands
I found your article very interesting because I am a person who likes all these girly things. I love makeup, nail polishes, and getting my hair done and I think it's great that your giving out some suggestion to make my pocket that I buy. What caught my eye were the OPI nail polishes because that is something I use and it is the best nail polish. Thank you for giving me some other ideas and how to "Get the Look for less."

Suze Ponton

Re: "Advertising Policy"

I received The Banner for the first time from my Professor in class. It was my first time reading the paper but something startled my senses. On the second page, I was surprised to find an ad for egg donors. Okay, I understand

the freedom of press and I also understand that you have the right to publish what you want. But I find it a bit irresponsible to place an ad like this where your impressionable women can find it. Have you researched the effects this procedure may possibly have on young women? Think about this.

Ellen Deupsti

Re: US Army Ad on Page 11

I do not belong to The Banner advertising board; however, I feel the urge to spill ink regarding the US Army ad splashed across page 11 of the December 14th 2012 issue.

The Banner requires to support negotiation publications. The Banner requires to support prostitution/cover up massage classifieds, but The Banner agrees to encourage our fellow CSI classmates to enlist to America's most wonderful war machine.

Clement Thiery
Senior

Re: Michael Kors – Above and Beyond the Logo

Michael Kors is one of the most popular fashion lines in New York. I found this article very uplifting that someone famous such as Michael Kors can drop out of college and now is worth more than 1 billion dollars. I have many Michael Kors items including the clothing. I love how you stated about his men's line because most people are not focused on that section, which I must say has beautiful and classy items for men this story was very interesting and I enjoyed reading this article.

Michele Scotto

Re: Men's Basketball Trumps York

While reading the article on the men's basketball team, I came to realize that some things were off meaning the information did not fulfill the men's team. I have read past articles that have been written about them and most of them were legit articles and on point with the information. I think it being so early in the season maybe you should have talked more

about the players and not just the ones who played a lot of minutes and scored a lot of points. I am looking forward to more of your sports articles that follow men's and women basketball.

Jordan Young
Senior

Re: Not Quite the Revolution you were expecting

I liked this article; its 6/10 rating of ACIII has at least made me interested in a game I own but have not yet even touched. The mention of a slow start to the game's story is a confirmation of my suspicions and is the reason why I haven't so much as looked at the game yet. Could you review some classics? Like a top ten or top five N64 games or old games in general. Or maybe call out the COD/Black Ops franchises on their BS.

Matt Connelly
Sophomore

Re: "Ask Erica"

After reading "Ask Erica" I found myself quite pleased. She is confronted with true-life situations and provides very positive and hopeful feedback to many people who have felt hopeless or lost during very hard moments in their life. Her advice is both well thought out and constructive, and after reading her responses to a wide array of questions, I would come to her for my own questions and problems.

Jeremy Anderson
Senior

Re: Suggestion

Although the material in The Banner Styles were very informative, I feel as there can be better stories and materials to be published fashion world. With Fashion week approaching, it would be great if someone can report about it.

Obiageli Ukatu
Junior

The Banner is now offering INTERNSHIPS to CSI students. Internships last one semester and give students the opportunity to learn about media. Interns will work a minimum of 12 hours per week, and can focus on:

- Blogging
- Editing
- Photography
- Graphic design
- Layout & production
- Reporting
- Web design
- Fact-checking

**Visit us and EAT FREE PIZZA on Thursdays, 2:30-4:30, at 1C-228
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"Faculty & Student Government take Opposing Stances on Pathways"
Continued from the front page

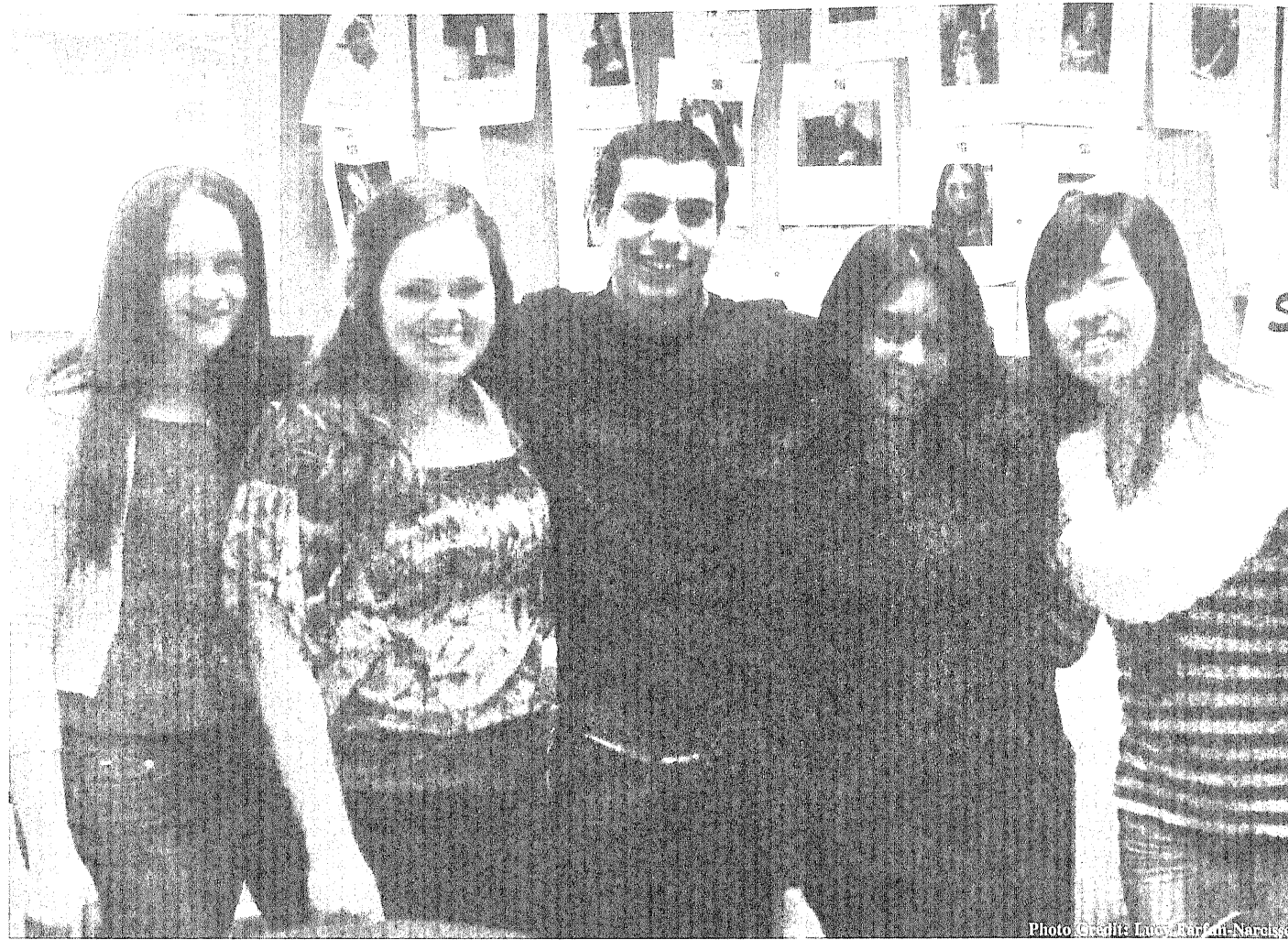
Flexible Common Core credits. After a student completes one of these requirements, it would be acceptable in other CUNY institutions, making graduation and transferring easier. Students who only plan to obtain an Associate's degree do not have to satisfy these credit requirements.

The program has also affected the Foreign Language department by reducing the required three classes to two.

"Foreign languages are being put into the World Cultures and Global Issues category," says Jane Marcus-Delgado, head of the Department of World Languages and Literature. "The American Sign Language (ASL) class will no longer be recognized as a foreign language and would be put into the disabilities department."

Once the program begins, many current students at CSI will be grandfathered into the program.

"If taking less language requirements will benefit students, then it's not really a big deal," says Derbyshire, "if students really need it, then it will become a general education requirement."



Members of Student Government unify during the 2012-2013 Academic Year to draw support for the Pathways Initiative, a radical change from the last year's administration

"The S93 Finally Arrives on the CSI Campus"
Continued from the front page

"In terms of Public Transportation, you do not bring the public to the transportation, you bring the transportation to the public," Storberg said.

Storeberg emphasizes that by doing so, it would provide better traffic control and it would bring more revenue on to the island as well as the schools community as a result of the dormitories opening Fall of 2013.

"We are not focusing on the s62 issue at the moment, it should be fairly easy though given the fact that we have an MTA subchapter," said Andrew Oppenheimer, project coordinator for NYPIRG on the CSI campus.

Although the prospect of having the s62 on campus as well as the s93, students and staff are still expressing their frustrations about the lack of service provided by buses running accordingly.

"It's simpler but it's obnoxious that it only runs in the mornings and evenings," said Tabitha Wasserman. "Other times they all come at once and we miss them all."

Storberg and Oppenheimer stated that although the buses run on campus, they are still run and operated by the MTA. Times and frequency are not in control of CSI and questions or concerns need to be directed to the MTA. Schedules can be found on both the CSI website and the MTA.

The issue remains of crowding and lack of service but there are still alternatives that don't have to do with the MTA. It might be out of the way but the ferry is always another solution to getting on and off campus.

"Sometimes I'm forced to go home on the ferry shuttle but even that gets over packed," said a professor who wished to remain anonymous. "It's frustrating because I go out of my way due to lack of options."



Top: Student Government President boards the s93 for a swifter commute to Bay Ridge
Bottom: Signs near the loop bus route draw attention to the service changes to accommodate student commuters

"Igniting the Spark"
Continued from the front page

In between the workshops, during free time and meals the participants were asked to interact and acquaint themselves with everyone at the conference. These friendly interactions lead to conversation, ideas and stories being shared and new friendships and alliances being formed. "The conference was a great

experience because it gave me a chance to interact with other student leaders," said Sabiha Khan who is majoring in Medical Technology and an active member of the Art Club at CSI. "I learned how to work and communicate with fellow students to achieve tasks while respecting other's views, differences and suggestions."

"I needed to find time for myself, learn balance and how to communicate better," said

Alan Fung, President of the Love Your Neighbor Club and majoring in Social Work at the College of Staten Island.

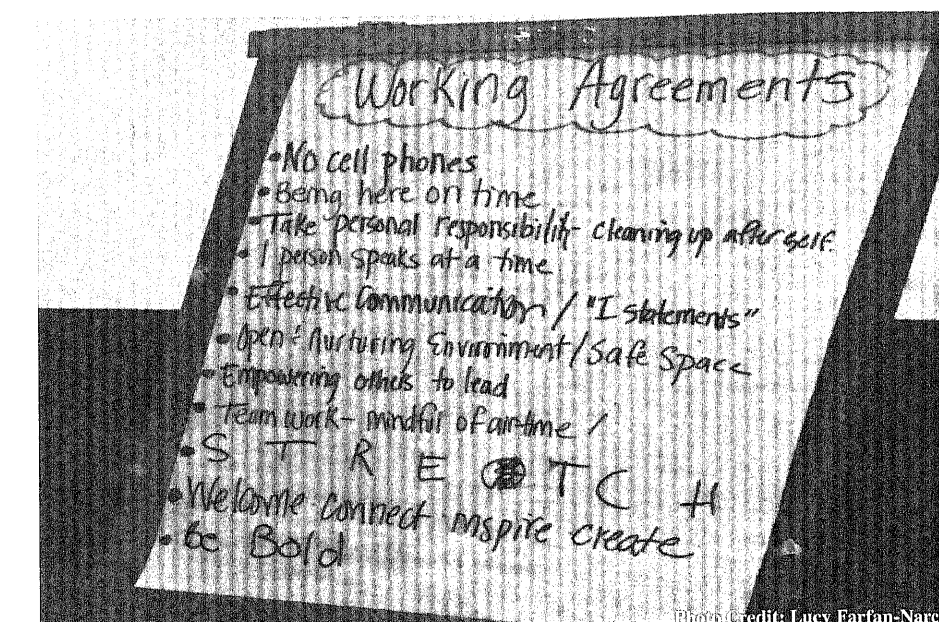
Fung felt that attending the Student Leadership Conference would help him to attain greater leadership skills so he may pass this acquired knowledge to other club members. Monica Sibri who is a Sophomore Senator for Student Government, an active member of the Campus Activities Board and is

currently working towards a double major in International Studies and Political Science made it a personal goal to approach and introduce herself to every leader in attendance at the conference. It is her hope to create alliances and build friendships within the student body.

Top Left: Coordinator of Student Leadership Development Robert King Kee shows off some fancy footwork

Middle Left: High fives all around from potential Student Leaders

Bottom Left: Working agreements agreed to by each Student Leader present



Top Right: Students let off some steam during a random dance break

Middle Right: Several student leaders enjoy hot chocolate and smores

Bottom Right: David Coleman the Keynote Speaker at SLC demonstrates a group exercise



BANNER STYLES

Spring Fashion Preview

BY VICTORIA CAROCCIA

With the unforgiving winter chill still nipping at our noses, warm weather and spring fashion seem like they are light years away. Thankfully, New York Fashion Week has given us something to look forward to. Last month, designers showcased their looks for Spring and Summer 2013 at Lincoln Center, resurrecting some familiar styles and introducing fresh new looks that will hold us over until the weather breaks. These ready-to-wear trends are sure to give you Spring Fever and help you ride out the last few weeks of winter.

When the temperature rises, you'll want to ditch the down parka and show off some skin. Some of the most popular trends this season are peckaboo pieces and Bermuda shorts. Crop tops, cutouts, and sheer fabrics were spotted all over the runways from designers like BCBG and Diane von Furstenberg. Whether you want to be daring with a cutout body con dress, or

choose to go with modest chiffon tops, the peckaboo trend has a look for all shapes and sizes. Bermuda shorts are perfect for those of us who weren't blessed with the gams to pull off last year's cutoff shorts trend. They can be dressed up for work with a button down shirt and heels, or worn casually with flats and vintage t-shirt.

While Bermuda shorts and cutouts look great on the runway, the bitter February weather makes it difficult to rock these looks right now. Fortunately, there were plenty of runway looks that could still be worn throughout the rest of the winter. Bold, colorful stripes were very popular among designers like Michael Kors and Marc Jacobs, who showed their stripes in everything from suit jackets to maxi dresses. Stripes can easily be paired with jeans for a classic look or go nautical with navy accents. While head-to-toe stripes in bright colors can be a bit overwhelming, railroad



Source: Vogue.com

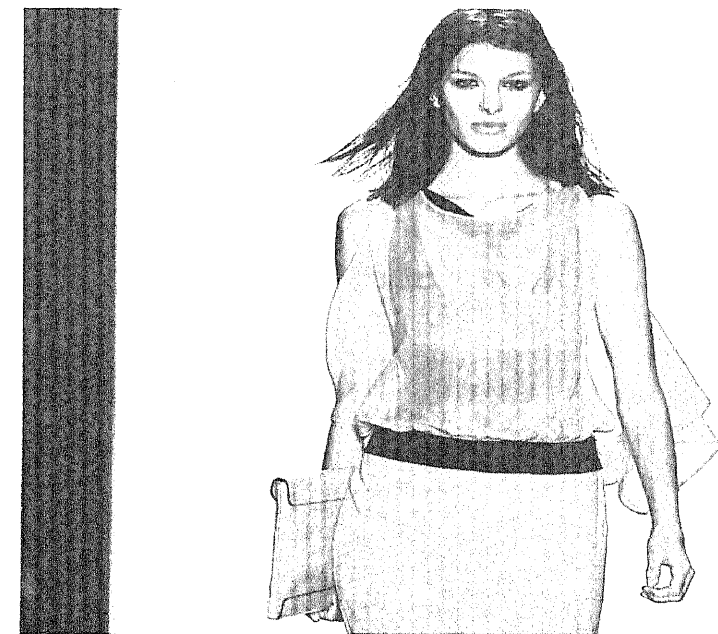
stripes are a more subtle way to wear this trend. Vertical railroad stripes on a pencil skirt or blazer will flatter any figure, and when paired with khaki or white denim, provide a fresh look for spring.

Women's spring fashion is expected to be bold and beautiful with statement pieces such as striped suits and barely-there silhouettes. The same can be said for many of the men's fashion on the runway. This year, Versace and Roberto Cavalli wowed the crowds with avant garde menswear looks that seemed to be pulled straight from the movies. Bright neon colors and metallic trench coats topped with fantastical headwear appeared to be modeled after Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, while half naked men in gladiator suits looked like extras from Magic Mike. Designers showcased these signature pieces simply for the wow-factor, knowing that most men wouldn't be caught dead in a metallic gladiator suit.

However, there were plenty of menswear trends on the runway that could be easily styled for everyday life.

Despite what Versace portrayed, less is more for men's fashion this spring. Chalky colors and solid patterns are very big for menswear this season. Dolce & Gabbana showcased dozens of perfectly tailored suits in navy and light gray with patterned ties and pops of color. Classic looks like Marc Jacobs' patterned trench coat and wide brim fedoras made a comeback this season and will keep you dry during those April showers. To cope with the cool weather, layer a fitted denim jacket under a sport coat for a cool, yet unconventional look.

Sunny skies and warm weather are still a few months off. But thanks to these awesome trends from NYFW, the forecast for this season is looking bright and beautiful!



Source: Vogue.com

Campus Style

BY DIANA PORCELLI



Aldiana Selferi
Major: Psychology
Bloomingdales, Simple/Expensive



Brandon Gorton
English/Education
Vans, CCS, Karmaloop, and thriftstores



Almira Selferi
Nursing
Saks 5th Ave



Emil Ruvinov
Computer Science
Business Casual

BANNER STYLES

Spring Break Packing for Dummies

When Going Away Less is More!

BY SHAKIYA MCRAE

Ahh, Spring Break is just around the corner! You, having to stick to your collegiate budget, don't want to pay a fortune for overweight bags. So I'm going to show you how to stuff as many things as you can into as few bags as possible. Follow these simple steps and you'll have some extra cash in your pocket for Spring Break festivities.

Step 1: Gather All Your Clothes

Remember, you're only packing for a week or less, so try to stick to the essentials. You don't need 5 shirts, 4 jeans, and 6 pairs of shoes. You can use this list as a guideline:

- Cute spring tops
- Under garments
- Bathing suits
- Short shorts
- Flowing sun dresses
- Party dresses
- Spring bag/satchel
- 1 pair of flip-flops
- 1 pair of heels
- Sunglasses
- Accessories

Step 2: Roll your clothes

Rolling clothes as opposed to folding saves tons of space. You can tightly roll your cottons, jeans, tees etc. Place these at the base of your suitcase. If you have some stiff or wrinkle-prone items that you cannot roll, neatly fold

them and place them on top of your rolled items.

Step 3: Add your Small items

Look for nooks and crannies, usually along the edges, to place your smaller items like bras, socks, liquids, and gels (3.4 oz. max). You can stuff the cups of your bras with rolled up socks to maintain the shape and save extra space. Also, if you are bringing belts, you should line them around the inside of the suitcase

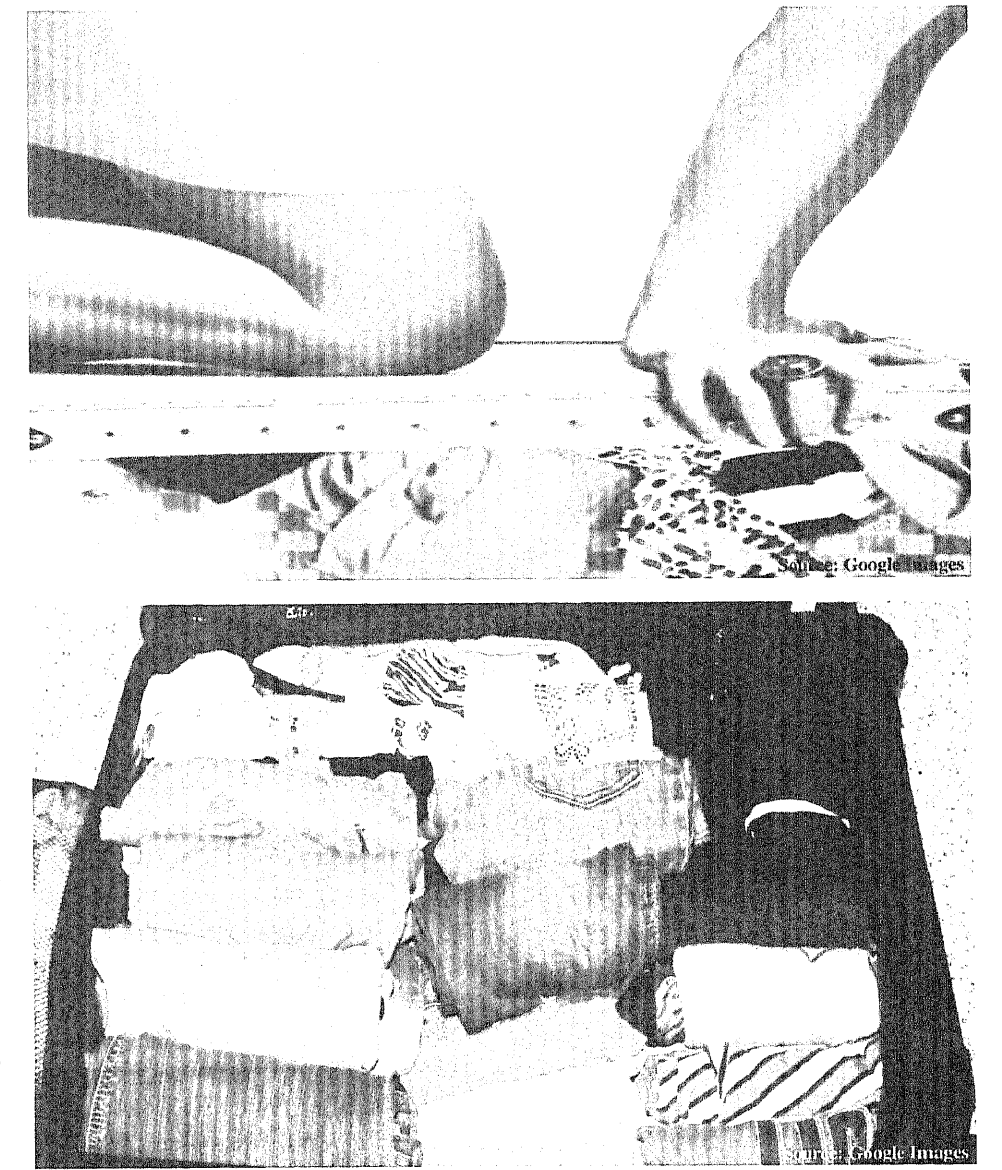
Step 4: Packing Shoes

Place your shoes on top of your clothing. Try to avoid bringing too many pairs of shoes. 3 should be the max. To avoid staining your clothes, you can place a layer of plastic in between your clothes and shoes. Arrange your shoes so that the heel of one aligns with the toe of the other.

Step 5: Jewelry

Store or jewelry in small Ziploc bags to ensure the safety of the product as well as your clothes. Try to avoid bringing along expensive jewelry. If you do, do not pack them in your suitcase, wear them on the plane to avoid having them lost or stolen.

So there you have it. Packing for Spring Break in five simple steps. No, no, don't thank me; just take a shot for me!



Manifest Foundation Offer a Chance to Give Back

Voluntourism - Travel With Purpose!

BY SHAKIYA MCRAE

Spring Break is the perfect time to kick back, relax, and ease academic stress.

Every year, college students put all their money towards getaways to hotspots all over the country. While there is nothing wrong with having a Spring Break filled with relaxation and hard partying, some students are finding more fulfilling vacation alternatives. Many non-profit organizations offer trips for students who want to give back by providing children with an opportunity to learn, and possibly change the world. This Spring and Summer, you have the chance to help a child, change a life, and change the world, all while on vacation.

Manifest Foundation is a non-profit organization that dedicates itself to helping children by creating, "Strong foundations for health, education, and mentorship as well as contributing to the financial support which is so desperately needed." Among their newly established volunteer and fundraising projects is the Voluntourism DreamTrip.

The Manifest Foundation has partnered up with a non-profit organization called Hug It Forward. This collaboration allows vacationers, as individuals or as organizations, to give a portion of their time and/or money to help build Bottle Schools in less fortunate areas of

Central America.

During this 7-day 6-night stay, you will be working with the local community to build a two-classroom school made of discarded plastic bottles. Local community children collect thousands of plastic bottles in preparation for construction. The bottles are stuffed with inorganic trash, such as plastic bags, which are then stacked and sandwiched between chicken wire to build the foundation of the walls for the school. After that, the walls are coated with cement. By working with children from the community to provide them with a school that otherwise would have ceased to exist, you are giving them a shot at a better education. As you can see, this is an eco-friendly and cost efficient project!

The base cost of this program is around \$1,000, which is nothing compared to costly study abroad programs and foreign exchange. The program specifically caters to college students through several programs and specialized projects, all of which can bolster your transcript and reward you with valuable experiences.

By working with children from the community to give them a school that otherwise would have ceased to exist, giving them a shot at a better education.

Not only will you be making an impact,



Manifest Foundation a non-profit organization donates time and effort into projects in third world country

but you will also have the chance to experience Guatemalan culture, visit the ancient Mayan ruins, and shop the local markets.

This is an amazing opportunity to make a lasting impression on a community, form new friendships, learn about a foreign culture, and see the world, all at the same time.

As of now, the Manifest Foundation is hosting trips in March, April, May, June, and November. If you want to lend a helping hand or learn more about this awesome organization, visit their website at <http://www.manifestfoundation.org/> or check them out on Facebook: Manifest Foundation.

BANNER ARTS

We Are The 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace and Magic Foxygen's Sophomore Album A Lovely Trip Down a 60's Psychedelic Road

BY MARK REVELLO

The San Francisco based duo that make up Foxygen, Sam France and Jonathan Rado, have been craftily emulating the sounds and feel of the best groups from the 60's rock era since 2005 and like good friends have a tendency to do, they built from something they loved and created a sound akin to the minimalist yet pop friendly tunes that of American Garage rock bands in that time period.

Their first EP, "Take The Kids Off of Broadway" was a modest attempt and made small waves in the music world with its pop friendly jangles and boisterous sound. "Take the Kids Off of Broadway" had all of the spirit of the movement but lacked a bit of refinement to really break out.

The groups' sophomore EP, We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace and Magic is the perfect follow up to Take The Kids Off in that it takes all the heart of their first EP and combines it with the refinement and saturated reverb the duo needed to get out past West Coast music circles. The album is an assorted collection of three and four minute tracks that are as diverse as they are eerily similar to the artists they pay tribute to.

The onset of the album, "In The Darkness", begins with the sounds of The Beatles experimental era, ala "Magical Mystery Tour". Sam France starts off "21st Century Ambassadors" with drawling, drowning, crooning that sounds like George Harrison when he says, "Maybe I won't even go to work that day."

The insertion of the horns in the album along with the ambient guitar licks and reverb

filled spaces paired at the right times with Sam France's vocals make the track sound like something off that now famous Beatles album.

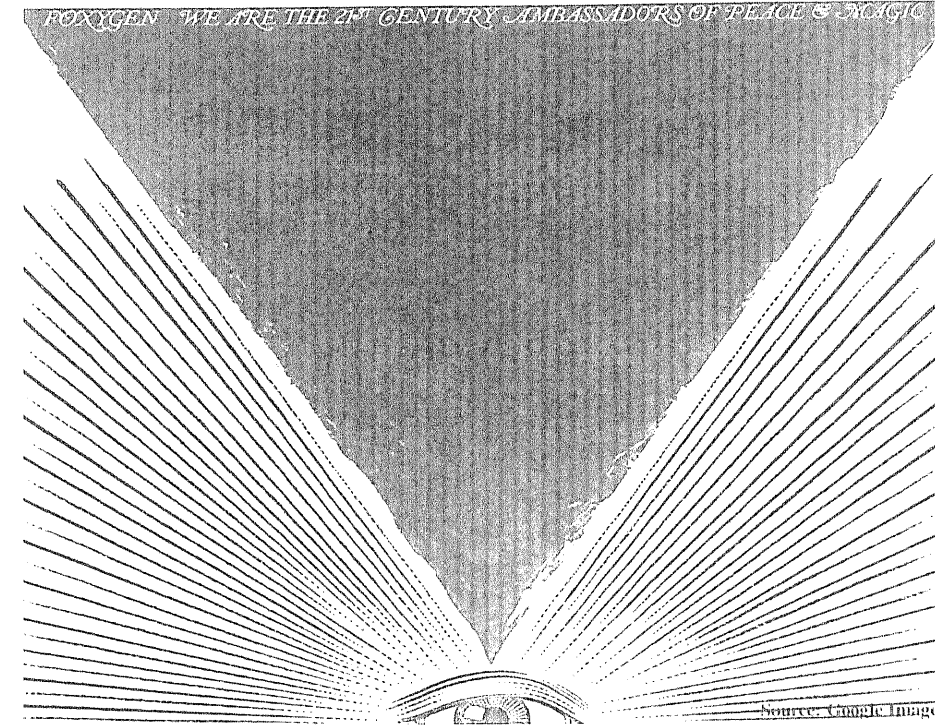
The track "No Destruction" is laced with lyrics that have the same sound and nonsensical, non sequitur qualities that Bob Dylan was so well known for. The track also uses a lot of the same qualities employed by The Velvet Underground when they were in the heyday of doing a lot of hard drugs and psychedelics; the guitar thrumming behind "No Destruction" is played in a stripped down way that is eerily similar but just as cool as Lou Reed.

Indeed there seems to be a lot of inside jokes or obscure references on "San Francisco". Sam France bleats, "you politely say you miss me, but we know you don't mean that anymore", or the soon to be quoted everywhere, "there's no need to be an asshole, you're not in Brooklyn anymore."

It becomes hard to tell if Foxygen are calling attention to or just plain making fun of some of the conventions and disjointed lyrics of the time.

"On Blue Mountain" approaches the same period of rock from a completely different direction. Sam France draws and pumps his singing to great effect in the style of a southern revival; Mick Jagger would most likely be very pleased if this were his own work.

21st Century Ambassadors tribute track to their hometown, "San Francisco", is a pop friendly tune that skillfully skewers those aspects of early British artists with ridiculously playful bits in their lyrics like, "I caught you sipping milkshakes in the parlor of the hotel", or the catchy yet inane back and forth chorus that starts, "I left my love in a field" to which



Source: Amazon Images

the repose is, "That's okay, I was born in L.A."

The first single from the album, "Shuggie", takes the album on a hard left turn in the middle of an otherwise idyllic cruise down the Californian coast during the 60's. Interrupting the flow on an album might not work for some bands, but "Shuggie" and its placement on 21st Century Ambassadors only demonstrate Foxygen's uncanny ability to put together catchy gems that form a weird, yet coherent, sort of tapestry.

"Oh Yeah" sounds like something else that The Rolling Stones would have put out on any of their bluesy albums. The follow up to "Oh Yeah" steps even further into the Stones territory; "21st Century Ambassadors of Peace and

Magic" is belted out in a wonderful emulation of Mick Jagger. Sam France drags his voice across a high pitch for these two songs and the raspy and lo-fi qualities of them make the songs sound very true to the time period they were emulating.

The most notable, and probably strongest, aspect of the band is taking these sounds and spinning them in a fresh way.

The pair not only knew their roots, they knew how to take them and build a wonderful little niche rock club on the foundation. If it were a real place, you'd probably run into more than the fair share of artists, singers, and songwriters, which Foxygen deftly manages to spin in a fresh way.

Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters

BY LUCIA ROSSI

Hollywood has proven that Grimm's tales are not just for children with the January 25th release of Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters. The horror-fantasy film, in regular widescreen, IMAX 3D, focuses on the main elements of the childhood classic while adding a dark twist.

Featuring Jimmy Renner of the Avengers and Gemma Arterton of Clash of the Titans, Hansel and Gretel relies heavily on action scenes and lacks in plot and thematic substance. While the movie still thrills in regular format, the 3D release is guaranteed to be eye popping and graphic.

The most intense scenes belong to the witches, who make a terrifying team of villains and create an element of shock and fear.

The weaponry used in the film was also very unique. Instead of a bow, Hansel used a very unique shotgun that is more modern than the time period of the movie suggests. Gretel, however, did use a bow. Her crossbow could shoot in three directions while her stun gun was there as a handy form of backup defense. Most intense, though, was the troll, Edward, who simply bashed people's heads in with

sheer force.

Hansel and Gretel's journey lands in the hands of Muriel, the Grand Witch, who is kidnapping children to sacrifice for a ritual. The ritual is supposed to make all witches impervious to fire. Because witches can only die from beheading or being burnt to death, this will make them nearly immortal. How are Hansel and Gretel going to take down not only an entire coven of witches, but also a massive crowd that are coming for the ritual?

While the action and special effects were on point, the script itself seemed very contemporary for that time period. It sounded as if the characters were speaking in an accent that wasn't exactly centuries old.

The film left audiences asking quite a few questions: Why did Hansel and Gretel's parents abandon them? What kind of people have Hansel and Gretel become since their traumatizing childhoods? Why are they the only two people impervious to all witch's spells and curses?

The only background information that is explained pertains to Hansel and Gretel's parents. This was the most important and most revealing part of the movie. However, the



movie lacked in explaining the history of Hansel and Gretel, and instead focused on their awkward, borderline incestuous relationship. The background information on the witches is also lacking, making their characters really difficult to understand.

While the movie contains many plot holes, it is a continuation of the Grimm's tale that is just meant to be fun. With that goal in mind, that is definitely what this movie accomplished. The movie ends on a high note, seemingly hinting at a sequel.

BANNER ARTS

GTA 5 Stands Out as the Biggest Highlight of the Upcoming Year

Why I Believe in Grand Theft Auto 5

BY STEPHEN KLEIN

There are plenty of fantastic games releasing this year, but only one can stand out above the rest.

Now don't get me wrong, 2012 wasn't all that bad. Mass Effect 3, Far Cry 3, Twisted Metal, Prototype 2, Sleeping Dogs, PlayStation All-Stars Battle Royale, Spec Ops: The Line, Journey, Max Payne 3, and the PlayStation Vita stood out as some of my favorite purchases last year. There was not one game, however, that truly blew me away last year.

Usually, there are at least one or two games each year that stand out above the rest and this year, that could very well be Grand Theft Auto V. If you're not a gamer though, you may be asking yourself why this game is so important. If you are a gamer, however, you'll already know why, and I'm going to tell you anyway.

So let's talk about Grand Theft Auto V. The way I see it, there are five main things going on with it. One, there are the character switches. In GTA V, you get three very different playable characters that can be switched at any time outside of missions and for a fresh game play perspective during missions.

In particular, the idea of switching characters during missions has me excited.

Why is that? GTA IV, possibly my favorite game of all-time, had me feeling like I was playing through an extremely fun action

movie. The character switches could only enhance that cinematic nature, that feeling that you're playing an action movie.

Think about it. In an action movie, you're constantly shifting perspectives. One guy could be trying to diffuse the bomb in one scene and then the film shifts to another character mowing down the bad guys in the next scene.

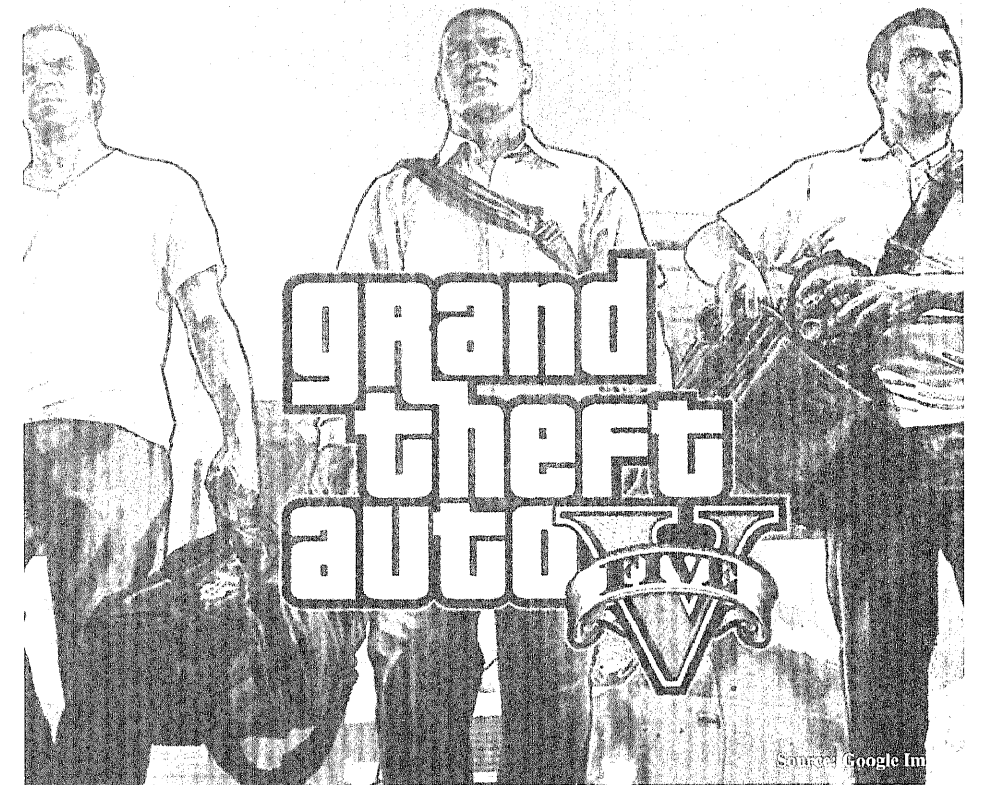
The great thing here is that you're controlling these shifts. This is your movie.

This is your game.

Two: the open world is said to be bigger than the worlds of Red Dead Redemption, GTA IV, and GTA: San Andreas combined with room to spare. Not to mention that the world is packed with side activities ranging from golf to scuba diving to base jumping to yoga. This could be the ultimate time sink. Personally speaking, I'm prepared to spend months playing this game.

Three: Rockstar has taken influence from their previous games such as Red Dead Redemption and Max Payne 3, both of which stand amongst their finest outings. The random missions from RDR and the cinematic techniques from Max Payne 3 are playing a role in GTA V thus enhancing my fantasies of playing an action movie and the ultimate time sink. GTA V will also mark the first time ever in the series of containing a musical score as influenced by RDR and Max Payne 3.

Four: Rockstar is promising that they have



refined and evolved every mechanic from previous games. From fine-tuning the shooting to making the cars feel more like in a racing game.

Five: This is said to be the most strongly scripted game in the series according to writer and vice president of Rockstar Games, Dan Houser. This might sound blasphemous, but as much as I enjoyed my time with GTA IV, I

never felt like the story gripped me. Houser claims that having the three main characters makes for having a better story.

Grand Theft Auto V is the sequel to what is quite possibly my favorite game of all-time. Open world games are quite possibly my favorite genre of video games. Action movies are amongst my favorite genres of film. What's not to love?

Peter Jackson Revists The Shire for The Hobbit

First Installement of the Three Part Series Lukewarm at Best

BY IAN USTICK

Well it is finally here. J.R.R Tolkien's beloved book The Hobbit has been adapted for the big screen. With Lord of the Rings director Peter Jackson at the helm, this film is sure to do justice to the book and be a worthy prequel to the Lord of the Rings trilogy. Or is it?

After an extended pre-production period and with Guillermo Del Toro signed on as director, The Hobbit was planned as a two-part series. After Del Toro dropped out due to other obligations, Peter Jackson decided to do a trilogy of films to help develop characters and give more of the story to the audience. There may have been good intentions but The Hobbit really could have done well as one stand-alone film.

The story begins in the Shire, a quiet part of Middle-Earth where creatures known as Hobbits live. Bilbo Baggins, played by Martin Freeman, is a shy and introverted hobbit with no love for adventures. After Gandalf the Wizard invites a company of Dwarves to Bilbo's home, the hobbit ultimately decides he will accompany the group to take back gold from the Dragon Smaug.

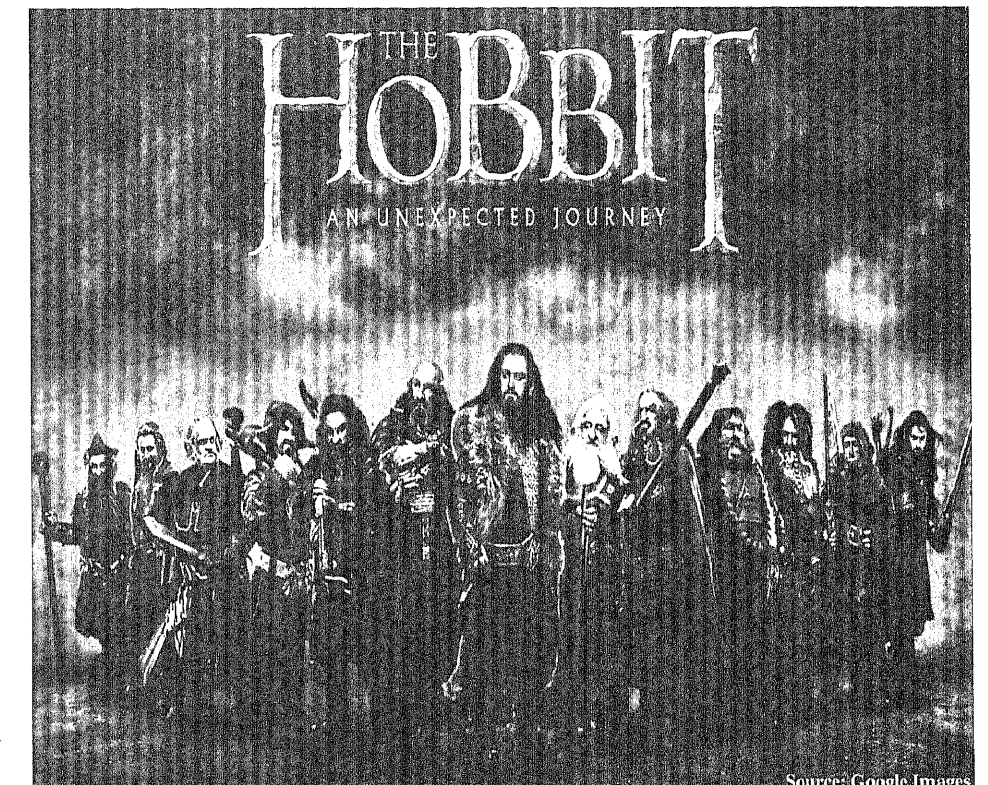
The film has incredible visual effects. This is no surprise as Weta Digital, the same company that did the incredible battle scenes from Lord of the Rings, is considered one of the best

effects companies in the business, but special effects alone do not make a movie.

The main story is a bit lacking. With an excellent cast and talented screenwriters, this film should have been a masterpiece, considering Tolkien wrote The Hobbit prior to Lord of the Rings. Yet, the story dragged on too long with unnecessary characters that contributed nothing to the plot of the film.

What made Lord of the Rings such a spectacular movie was that director Peter Jackson was able to take the basic story of the book and translate it into film. In The Hobbit, Jackson is trying to cram in as much as he can and by doing so he confuses the audience. There is no sense of geography and many characters are not developed enough. That may be an unfair criticism, since this is only the first part of a trilogy. Yet as a stand-alone film, it does not deliver the goods. It leaves you wanting more, which may have been Jackson's intention.

One fascinating aspect of the story was of how the Dwarves were driven from their homeland by a fearsome dragon. They become greedy in their pursuit of more gold. Dragons in Middle Earth apparently are very fond of gold and will do anything to possess it. The Dwarves now have no homeland and are wanderers looking for work wherever they can. This was a touching part of the story; the idea



of returning home is a fascinating storyline that has been used in numerous stories throughout the history of film and literature.

As far as if this film will be remembered in years to come, it is hard to say. We will have to wait for the full trilogy to come out and then can assess if this was a worthy first part to the story. As a fan of the book *The Hobbit*, it

seems as though Jackson added in unnecessary plotlines to the story and deviated too far from Tolkien's work.

Obviously, he is trying to tie these films into Lord of the Rings, but I felt there was more than enough plot in the book for it to make a fabulous adaptation.

SEX AND THE ISLAND

Fail + Sex = Sexy Epic Fail

BY MARK REVELLO

There is a phrase that originated amongst the internet community to express those particularly shameful or outrageous errors people tend to make, and this term is known as 'fail'. The first cousin to 'fail' would be 'epic fail', which is pretty much self-explanatory. 'Epic fail' is when you fail so hard that you could probably write a book, poem, or story about it, and it still would shame you even after learning others have made the same fuck-up you have.

So, dear readers, what does this have to do with anything? Well the tale I am about to regale you with is the perfect example of 'epic

heading home and defiling myself and my pride in front of the computer screen. I casually suggested that her and I go smoke a cigarette outside of the bar in a location that wasn't readily accessible, or in the line of sight of anyone else that may have come outside or were already there.

I walked out of the bar, lit my cigarette and hoped that she got hint and would be right behind me. A minute or two later, I was pretty pleased with myself when she crept around to where I was with a sly grin on her face. I guess she knew what was up all along, and I guess I wasn't the only one looking to get laid that night.

Right after her bra comes off, usually when things about to get even more serious, she drops the "we can't have sex, I am on my period" line in between bouts of making out and bumpin' and grindin' like kids at a high school dance in an ethnic neighborhood.

Now this actually doesn't bother me, because: a) if it's true, the honesty prevents a messy situation, b) I don't prefer to liken myself to Moses and, c) even if it is usually a euphemism for "I don't want to sleep with you", I can totally respect that, even if you don't have the courage to just say that to me point-blank.

At about this time I am not really deterred, so much as I am calling an on-field audible: I'm just gonna have to figure out a different way to storm the beaches is all. I'd like to note to my gender that even if a woman does happen to be on her period, it doesn't mean you can't get her off, or doesn't mean you shouldn't at least try. I mean, you're probably expecting a blowjob anyway, so might as well earn that somehow.

As we continue making out and dry humping, we both end up in our underwear. Things continued to get serious, despite the bomb she had dropped on me before. Like I said, you gotta try and earn your keep somehow.

It was probably my earnest attempts coupled with sexual tension that led to me to just saying, "fuck it" to myself, and I prepared to check the waters for a red tide. After receiving the all clear from the lifeguards, we are both naked and I am jumping in face first. I am actually pretty clear at this point, everything was going swimmingly, except for the tampon that happened to still be in the way like a downed tree in a forest path. I knew about it

What I do remember, though, is that I went down on her trying to play off the whole thing as cool as possible. I was there for so long, trying to get myself out of the corner and into round 2, that it was like when a plumber is trying to tack on a few extra dollars to the bill; I am pretty sure I could get an apprenticeship after all was said and done.

During this intense examination, I had literally lost the feeling in my jaw and was about to develop carpal tunnel syndrome. I asked her for a 10 minute timeout so that I could get it up and ready. We smoked a few cigarettes, her being even more cool with the situation and me apologizing the whole time, as I prayed to every deity under the sun that I would not fail a second time.

When enough time had passed, I continued where I left off before, shaking that shit like I was waking a drunken man. When the canal opened a bit and everything started flowing again I was getting excited to go.

When finally ready, I got up and proceeded with the most natural course of action. I wasn't at 100% but I wasn't where I was before so I figured I was doing pretty good for the situation and I would get more and more into it anyway.

Oh boy, I was certainly wrong. As I went to switch positions, the blood drained from my penis faster than sailors abandoning the USS Arizona; it was knocked out like it had been punched by Mike Tyson in his prime. I was metaphorically sprawled on out the mat and looking at the referee, not even processing him counting me completely out.

As soon as this happened, I knew I was done for the night, and probably ever again with her. It probably was me being sick, upset

As I am standing there, naked and eagerly waiting for the path to be opened to sexual deviancy, I was making sure all my shit was ready and good to go.

and was given the appropriate heads up, but in my enthusiasm had totally forgotten to get that taken care of. Luckily, she took care of this problem for me when she too realized things down there were no longer like banks of the Colorado River in the spring, and did so like it was no big deal, which was pretty cool.

As I am standing there, naked and eagerly waiting for the path to be opened to sexual deviancy, I was making sure all my shit was ready and good to go. Before I know what even happened, I am standing there with a mess in my hands, frantically searching for something to clean myself up with before she got back from the bathroom.

The full weight of my excitement had immediately turned into dread, pound for pound. She came back from the bathroom and I really can't remember what I said or if I even tried to explain myself at that point.

over my recent break-up, just too drunk, or some combination of the three, but I was pretty disappointed with myself regardless.

Much to this poor girl's credit, she was insanely awesome about the situation, even as I awkwardly apologized and tried to make light of the situation. She was still cool as we both got ourselves dressed and even more so as we said our goodbyes.

I still can't believe I fucked up as hard as I did, completely blowing, somewhat literally, what probably would have otherwise been a good time. Oh well.

On the plus side though, I ended up completely redeeming myself about 10 days later by doing what I had failed to the first time, and doing it well. I guess what little I did do was enough to merit a second chance, and I'm not going to complain but rather hope that never happens again.

BANNER OPINIONS

Does Student Government Represent the Interests of the Diverse and Large Campus Body?

Does 5% of the Campus Vote Really Constitute as Our Voice?

BY MIKE MILEY

I have long been a critic of Student Government, because as the allegedly duly elected representatives of the student body when deal with matter concerning to administration, they should strive to actually represent the student body. Their failures in this can fill volumes, and in a way pretty much have, if you go and find certain back issues of Third Rail, (or come by the office, room 230 in Building 1C, where one can be provided upon request) that deal with Student Government and the fact that these clowns draw a stipend while our tuition continually increases. So I don't think it is far from incorrect to say that our Student Government, on top of all the complaints that can be laid that their feet, are incompetent or barring that grossly negligent.

What proof do I have for these severe allegations? Just ask yourself this, (though I'm sure the vast majority of the students here are not reading this), did you even know we had a student government? I cannot even begin to recall the number of times that I have had a conversation with a fellow student about the many, many, many, many, flaws to be found here at this lovely institution, only to mention Student Government and how terrible they are, to be met with astounded looks followed by the phrase, "we have a student government?" That in my humble view is reason enough to condemn Student Government for their lack of activity on campus and

their dereliction of duty in representing the student body. Our Student Government is practically packed with toadies and bootlickers for the administration.

Since it is one thing that in my time here I have seen that every Student Government, instead of embracing their role as adversarial to the Administration, instead puts their wants and needs before the students, this is most clearly represented in the increase to Student Activity fees that was passed about a year ago and Student Governments recent embracing of the Pathways Program, which is to be covered by The Banner in an upcoming issue. I do want to say just one thing about their new stance on Pathways, in that I have it on good authority that the deciding factor to support it was fear of reprisals from the Administration.

Besides the fact that any such reprisals would be against the law, CUNY bylaws, and you know the kind of laws that people can get sent to prison for, which should have been obvious to a group of college students but I find even more damning is that they lack conviction and courage. There are events held for student leaders, here and at other CUNY's that are supposed to teach "student leaders" how to be leaders. Members of student government do go to these workshops and in all that time I cannot believe that they have not learned that when you are a leader sometimes you must take risks and put your neck on the line consequences be damned!

For the right thing to do isn't always easy and isn't always popular and may sometimes bring great risks to do it, but to fail to do so in black spot upon an leader and should lead to questioning their ability to lead.

Perhaps though some moral argument that Student Government is a tool of the Administration, filled with toadies, bootlickers and slimy two-bit wannabe apparatchik's isn't enough to convince you dear reader, so perhaps the fact that it can hardly be said they actually represent the student body will. Here at CSI we have just about 16,000 students. That's a hell of a lot of people if you ask me, yet every semester we have Student Government elections and barley five percent of the student body votes in them. Can an elected body truly be said to be representative when 95% of the population has not voted for them? If done on a national...hell if done on a city wide scale, people would be up in arms! When the vote to raise the Student Activity fee was put to the students, it was said that getting 15% of the students to vote on it would be preferable, yet only 4.6 percent actually voted, was signed off by members of the Administration, and approved by CUNY and not once did Student Government raise its voice in protest over this. Just more proof that OUR Student Government does not represent the student body.

This is just a drop in a sea of scandals, even though there are strict rules against

electioneering by voting terminals, which in any publicly accessible computer terminal or station, or even your own private laptop, on campus. Even though one can be disqualified for doing so, it is treated with a wink by the administration and an outright joke amongst the candidates, especially considering that current President Michael Allenby, as described by eye witnesses, to have walked around with his own laptop and had people voting in front of him, is it any surprise then that he got elected? To call these circumstances shady is an understatement. I can't be the only one out there disgusted by the uncaring behavior of our student government who can barely be bothered to their jobs in representing and reaching out to the students, yet insist on having their stipends raised! A vote they themselves can hold not even bothering to go through with the farce of holding a referendum. Yes there are a few members of Student Government opposed to this, and I applaud them, and wish them the best of luck in this endeavor.

Yet I can only return to the fact that less than five percent of the students here at CSI have even voted for them. This is something that should have profound repercussions, but as of yet none have materialized. These people should not be allowed to go about claiming to represent the students when that is clearly not the case.

A United College of Staten Island *Lazy Students and Unsympathetic Professors?*

BY JEAN-CLAUDE QUINTYNE

Shortly after walking in half an hour late on my first day at The Banner, I directed the staff's attention to the surprisingly prevalent notion that "CSI's students are lazy and this causes professors—a majority of whom are incredible—to 'water-down' their syllabi."

At the beginning of my Environmental Ethics class a few Wednesdays ago, an unintentional debate arose in which some of the essential aspects of student life here at CSI were discussed. These were: commuting to campus, work-load, and landing a good job after graduating.

On the first two topics, commuting and work-load, my Environmental Ethics instructor, Professor Amy Hannon, Ph.D., using Princeton University as an example, stated that "Every student [at Princeton] taking this course—any course, for that matter—would be required to read at least twelve books for the semester. Professors usually assign

two books a week so that a detailed discussion about the material can take place by the next class." As my Ethics professor said "detailed discussion" I pondered this and thought about the fact that there is always an awkwardly long moment of silence that takes place after a professor asks, "What was the author's main argu-

education here out-of-pocket and that because this is a commuter school and most students have three or four jobs, they cannot do the reading or participate in class. We don't live on campus like Princeton students do on their campus."

Outraged and struggling to contain my laughter, I fired back and said "There

I have made many friends here who are simply incredible and have the uncanny ability that is supposedly lacking around campus.

ment in Chapter 5 of last night's assigned reading?"

Instantly after the instructor finished describing the stark difference between a typical Princeton syllabus and one from CSI's, a student raised his hand and asserted that "[I] can guarantee that half of the students attending CSI pay for their

is no excuse. I have a two hour commute to this institution from Brooklyn, have heavy work to do in all of my classes, help my family, and still manage to do every reading." My argument was backed-up by two or three other classmates, but my point was that there are a majority of students who attend CSI that

are by no means lazy and take every opportunity they can get to squeeze out a more-than-quality education here.

I have made many friends here who are simply incredible and have the uncanny ability that is supposedly lacking around campus. Their voices need to be heard. Their presence needs to be felt. I am tired of walking out of certain classes and being hit in the face by the laughter of students commenting on how "idiotic" and "weird" their professor is. I am tired of all the attacks on the content of certain textbooks. I am fed up about overhearing fiery discussions about all the problems that CSI harbors and how fucked up the institution is. How about we as students and intelligent young adults stop listing all the aspects of every problem and begin focusing and working heavily towards solid and sustainable solutions. I have got mine ready to discuss; now let me hear from you. Is it possible for there to be a united College of Staten Island?

Anyway, we were smoking and chatting about things I cannot even really remember, because being half-cocked can do that to your memory, or so they tell me.

fail' and just how wrong things can go in the bedroom when the circumstances just happen to line up against you.

One night over break, I had decided to go to a bar with a few of my friends to get schwaisted and try and forget some of the things I had been dealing with at the time, including, but not limited to, being sick, going through a breakup, and other petty things that can drive you insane.

You can already see how my head, the one that encases the brain, not the other one you perverts, was already in a bad place.

However, that's the one great thing about alcohol. If you drink enough of it, eventually you just forget about these things and go into autopilot, and that's what I started doing, drinking like it was going out of style.

As I am in the process of heading towards shit-faced drunk I noticed that a girl from one of my classes had showed up to the same bar. We knew each other somewhat well. She was really cute and pretty cool to hang out with, at least with her clothes on.

Throughout the semester that we had class together, I began to get the feeling that she was somewhat into me, or at least willing to mess around.

Somewhat intoxicated and possessed with the charm that only comes with being drunk and horny, I start trying to lay a foundation so I could later lay down the pipes.

Things were going pretty well. I was drunk enough to be witty, but not drunk enough to be slurring my words or saying things that sounded great in my mind but caused people to turn their heads in wonderment when it came out of my mouth.

I was doing a good job of flirting, or at least in that state I thought I was. I began trying to figure out how I could get a more solid idea of whether or not what I what I was doing was working, or if I was just going to end up

Anyway, we were smoking and bullshitting about things I cannot even really remember, because being half-cocked can do that to your memory, or so they tell me. All I really remember is that I managed to transition from conversing to us hooking up, like that fierce "I-can't-wait-to-fuck-the-shit-out-of-you-later" type of making out, so I had to have done something right.

As the night starts to wind down, she offers me a ride home because I had walked to the bar, knowing full well I would not be able to operate a motor vehicle, or maybe even a doorknob, after I was done. We get into her car and head off toward my house, both of us doing our best to be nonchalant as we smoked cigarettes and bullshitted some more. She pulled up along the side of my house, parked, and turned the car off.

I didn't even have to ask for her to come up, she got out of the car the same time I did, and at this point I am both happy with the game I spit and her candor about the whole situation. It takes a lot of balls, especially for a woman, to be that forward and upfront about sex.

We get up to my room, take off our jackets, shoes, and anything else that might get in the way of the coitus that was about to take place, and start making out in a way similar to the way we did at the bar.

Before you know it, we're making out and shedding clothes as naturally as reptiles shed skin: a shirt there, a shirt here, undershirts, a bra, and maybe some socks, those fucking things just end up going missing somehow. You might be asking yourself at this point, where is the 'fail' here, Mark? It seems like a pretty average, or hell, even a good night for a 23 year old college student. What was the point of your whole introduction to the concept of 'epic fail'? I would respond with, patience, because you have no idea what is going to happen from here on out.

BANNER SPORTS

Men's Basketball Gets Back Into The Win Column

Dolphins Add Another Notch to the Win Column

BY BRAD POPKIN

CSI's mens basketball team defeated the Lehman College Lightning 65-59 while improving to 16-5 on the season. The win comes in a timely fashion if the Dolphins look to keep pace with the Baruch Bearcats, the CUNYAC leaders, who are just ahead one game. The win also secures a first round CUNYAC Tournament home game on February 17th.

"We want to be the best team in the conference," said Head Coach Tony Petosa. "But we didn't play well tonight."

Tonight's game featured poor shooting with both teams combining to shoot about 35%. Shooting wasn't the Dolphin's only problem as the team was outrebounded in addition to their 21 turnovers.

The Lightning stormed out to an early six point lead and held it before the Dolphins took over midway through the half following a 13-3 run. Forward Hershel Jenkins gave the Dolphins a lift off of the bench and was instrumental in the run. The rest of the first half featured a few lead changes with the Dolphins falling behind 24-23 going into halftime.

The game was closely contested in Lehman's favor until the Dolphins found a spark from Shooting Guard Bloochy Magloire, who was previously held scoreless, in the second half. Magloire nailed

three straight, three-point field goals which really swayed the momentum with a little under ten minutes to go in the game.

"I play off of my teammates," said Magloire. "They found me and I got a little comfortable."

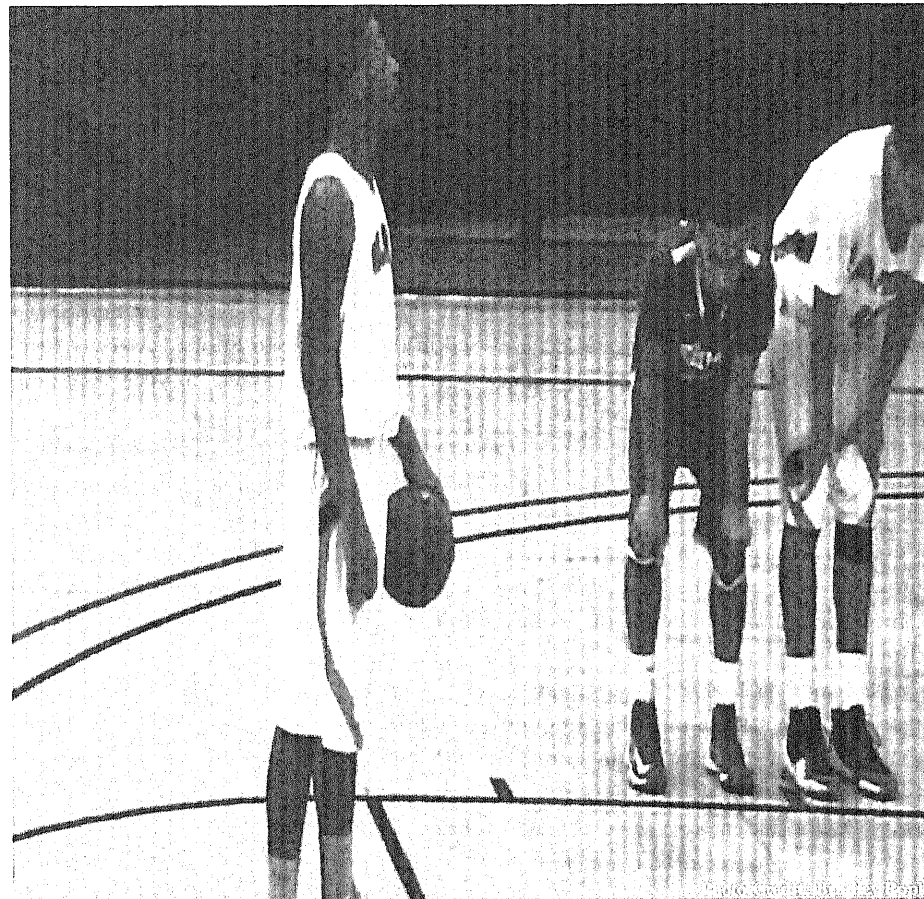
The Dolphins would then hold the lead for the rest of the game surviving a late surge in the final ticks by the Lightning. Magloire finished with 20 points. Center Dylan Bulger and Forward Javon Cox posted double-doubles with 12 points and 11 rebounds, 15 points and 10 rebounds respectively. Jenkins chipped in 7 points and 6 rebounds.

The Lightnings' 2-3 zone gave the Dolphins fits and which was evident in their poor outside shooting. A big factor in the game was size, and the 6'11 Bulger made his presence felt all night. Of his 11 total rebounds, 8 were offensive.

This wasn't the first time these two teams have met. They met earlier in the season at Lehman with the Dolphins getting the better of the Lightning. They have now won 5 straight games against Lehman.

The Dolphins still have 3 games remaining on their schedule but they have revenge on their mind come playoff time.

"They not only beat us, they took first place from us(in the conference)," said Bulger. "we're the last team they want to



Javon Cox help lead the Dolphins to a 65-59 win with 12 points and 11 rebounds against the Lehman College Lightning

face in the playoffs."

Bulger is talking about the Baruch Bearcats who last defeated the Dolphins at Baruch. The season series is tied 1-1

The Dolphin's hit the road to take on last years CUNYAC Championship opponent Medgar Evers College Wednesday February 6, at 8pm.

Lady Dolphins Narrowly Edge Lehman

Defense Pushes Dolphins to Close Win Despite Cold Shooting

BY JESSICA PIFALO

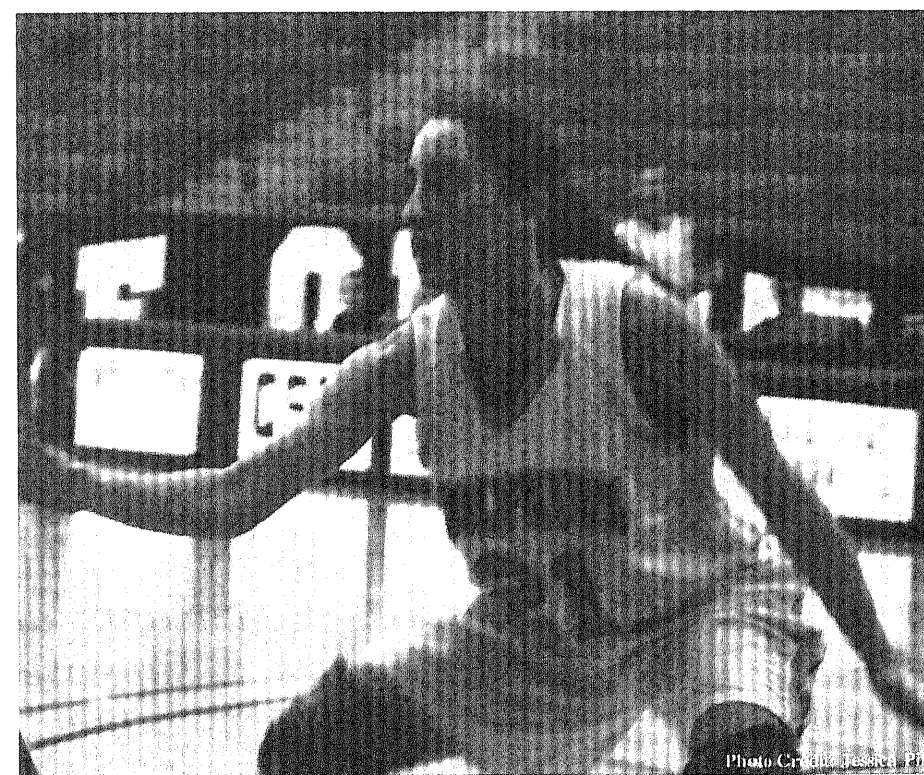
The CSI Lady Dolphins edged out the Lightning of Lehman College 49-43 Monday night at the CSI Sports and Recreation Center. The Dolphins improve to 12-10 overall and 9-4 in CUNYAC play.

Hitting the court, Lehman came out of the gate with a lay-up, following free throws to put the Lightning at a 4-0 lead in the first two minutes of play. The Dolphins did return when Freshman, Lisa Galasso would pour in a nice lay-up, getting the Dolphins on the board. Galasso would return to the line sinking a free throw, cutting the lead to one. Lehman jumped ahead of the Dolphins with a rebound and a lay-up for the lightning to set the score 6-3. After some cold shooting, Freshman Victoria Gallinaro would go on a fast-break and pour in a lay-up off a good rebound and assist from Galasso to cut the lead to one again.

Senior Olivia Tierno would then get the foul and tie up the game for the Dolphins, by sinking a free throw at the 15:30 mark. A minute later, Lehman would sink a three-pointer, putting the Lightning up 9-3. From there the shooting turned cold, both teams could not connect shots. At the 10:30 mark

Danielle Kartalis went on a fast break to sink a lay-up putting the Dolphins behind by one again, followed with a free-throw by Melanie Johnson to tie up the game. From there it was a back and forth contest, until Lehman would pull ahead 18-12 with 4:30 seconds left in the half, this would be Lehman's biggest lead of the night. The Dolphins did not give up without a fight however, going on a 4-0 run from Megan Myrhe, Tierno and Gallinaro, the Dolphins would see themselves up 19-18 going into the locker room.

The second half, the Dolphins hoped to keep the momentum going, and it seemed like it would, with a three-pointer from Myrhe and a lay-up by Sophomore Nikki Fabozzi, the Dolphins would see themselves up 21-18 within the first two minutes of play. It wasn't long until Lehman answered with a three-pointer of their own, tying the score up 21-21. CSI would not lose their composure, extending their lead by 7, after a three-pointer from Myrhe and a pair of lay-ups from Tierno and Galasso to give the Dolphins a 28-21 lead at 14:19. Lehman would come back with a lay-up and a jumper to attempt to cut the Dolphins lead. The lightning would keep chipping at the



Senior Olivia Tierno's defense assisted the Lady Dolphins in their 49-43 win on Monday night

Dolphins lead, but every time Lehman answered, the Dolphins would answer right back.

Despite the cold shooting of a mere 28% the strong defense from the Dolphins would hold off the Lightning, forcing 26 turnovers.

Leading the Dolphins was Senior standout Olivia Tierno who posted a double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds.

The Dolphins will hit the road Wednesday February 6, taking on the Cougars of Medgar Evers College.