

THE BANNER

Professors Earn \$1.7 Million for Research

Studies Will Analyze the Ways in Which they Can Cure Spinal Cord Injuries.

BY LIANNA RODRIGUEZ
CONTRIBUTOR

Dr. Maria Knikou and Dr. Zaghoul Ahmed, professors of physical therapy at CSI, were recently awarded two separate grants totaling \$1.7 million.

Both grants were administered by the New York State Department of Health in correlation with the Wadsworth Center Spinal Cord Injury Research Board. The agency allocates research grants to prominent researchers who seek new ways to cure spinal cord injuries. According to Dr. Jeffery Rothman, professor and chair in the department of physical therapy, the grants are very competitive.

"The fact that CSI has received this support speaks highly of the college and faculty," he said.

Continued on page 5

CUNY Chancellor Reports

Budget Adjustments Likely Next Year, Goldstein says.

BY WILLIAM KLINE
CO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

CUNY's budget, already under tenuous circumstances may face more cuts if financial turmoil on Wall Street persists.

"There is a high likelihood that the budget will have to be re-examined next year," Chancellor Matthew Goldstein said in his late September report to the CUNY Board of Trustees. "I have talked with the college presidents about these storm clouds we were seeing and the potential for the storm clouds to have a very serious effect on this university.

"In no way did I anticipate the that they would be as complex as they are."

Continued on page 4



Photo by William Kline

The new Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost, Dr. William Fritz, intends to highlight CSI's most recognized programs in order to gain national recognition that will lure better students and faculty to CSI.

Aspirations of a Higher Rating for CSI

Dr. William Fritz Hopes to Woo College Ranking Agencies.

BY WILLIAM KLINE
CO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dr. William Fritz, the new Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost believes that if CSI can improve its national ranking, it can become a true research university.

Achieving such a goal would not only improve the image of the college, but make each student's degree worth more, according to Dr. Fritz.

"My goal is to bring us to measure," said Dr. Fritz in an interview with The Banner. So the college can "look as good nationally as we can."

In order to do so, according to Dr. Fritz said he would have to determine which programs will lure students to CSI. Then, it could improve its rating in such ranking surveys as U.S. World News Report.

"My view is that CSI is mis-ranked," said Dr. Fritz. "There hasn't been a lot of focus on benchmarking. CSI is one of the best kept secrets."

In an effort to adjust to the changing face of the campus, Dr. Fritz has created two new positions this year. Alfred Levine will fill the role Dean of Research and Graduate programs and Mary Beth Reilley will serve as Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management.

"We tried to re-structure the provost office," said Dr. Fritz. "It's important to have time to set a vision."

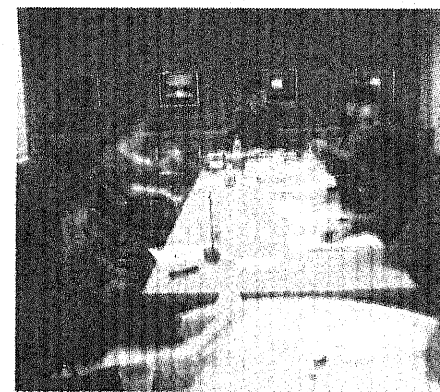
Part of that vision involves attracting grant money, inviting prestigious speakers to give speeches, encouraging the publication of faculty members, and promoting public service, he indicated.

"We need to be an institution that promotes learning," said Dr. Fritz. "Our mission, in addition to teaching, is creation of new knowledge."

Grants, such as a recent \$1.7 million dollar award for spinal cord research, allows faculty to make discoveries that extend way beyond Victory Boulevard.

Continued on page 3

Student Government Makes Progress With Activity Fees



The Banner

es," said Dennis Gaffigan SG senator.

Plans for the room include pool tables, air hockey and even a Nintendo Wii and Playstation 3.

"Sometimes video games are cool, but pool tables are better for adults," said Gaffigan.

Attempts to renovate this room have been made in the past but things will finally get rolling soon according to Gaffigan.

Students who can't afford textbooks, will also benefit from activity fees. SG designates \$20,000 each year to buy textbooks for the school library. Students who normally borrow their textbooks from the library, won't have to deal with a lack of copies since SG will supply the library with extra copies of the most frequently used books.

"We stress that all students take advantage of the funding for textbooks," said Peter DeCrescenzo SG president.

SG asks professors of departments for the titles of the textbooks used most by students, spends more on those, and cuts down on the books that aren't used as much.

Continued on page 3

BY VINCENT FUNARO
STAFF WRITER

Student Government has confirmed plans for an upgraded game room in the former sleeping lounge, almost \$20,000 in funding for library textbooks and \$10,500 to be used for scholarships for select students, with funding from student activity fees.

The new game room will replace the former sleeping lounge on the second floor in the 1C building.

"Its going to be a safe good place for students if they want to relax after class-

Inside The Banner...

Election Coverage

Page 2



Banner Fashion Column

Page 4



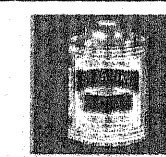
The Tempest: Theatre Review

Page 10



The Angry Intern

Page 11



American Democracy Project

SING FOR CHANGE

Obama, Hitler Youth, and Disco Queens

BY THOMAS MORRISSEY
CONTRIBUTOR

An old girlfriend of mine, G., had a third grade teacher who discovered within herself a vein of social consciousness about the plight of Native Americans. To raise people's awareness, she mounted a production at a school assembly. G. and her classmates dressed up with feathers and war paint, shuffle-danced in a circle and did the 'woo-woo' thing that Native Americans are famous for, all while the teacher played the song 'Half Breed' by Cher. Yes, that Cher. To raise consciousness.

I kid you not. Why, you may wonder, am I telling you this? Simple; I've just seen the new video of the Obama campaign, 'Sing for Change'. Like G's Native American show, 'Sing for Change' is a production that uses grade-school kids to advance a political agenda. If you haven't seen it yet on YouTube, let me give you a quick rundown:

We open with a black screen and the

words, 'a recent sunday...a neighbor's house...venice, california' (all sic). Scene opens up to young white girl singing in front of a homemade 'Obama '08' sign. She sings 'we're gonna spread happiness, we're gonna spread freedom' and how 'Obama's gonna change it, Obama's gonna lead us'. Fade to a group of children—I believe there are 22, multi-ethnic, mostly girls, all apparently pre-teen—wearing identical blue shirts with 'Imagine Hope' logos. Standing in front of another wall-sized, homemade 'Obama '08' sign, they continue the song the little girl was singing, doing the kind of goofy 'act out the words' gestures anyone who's seen a school play knows. As they sing, the camera pans around at the proud parents and the gentle, earnest musicians. The kids go into a bit of round robin verse, ending with a flourish of 'Yes We Can!' Everyone applauds, and the camera moves among the faces of the kids. The first lit-

tle girl comes back up, singing the same verses she sang at the beginning, and we fade to another black screen that says: 'please...VOTE!!!'

Just regular folks on a lazy weekend afternoon, right? A group of families getting together for a good ol' fashioned sing-along. The tone of this piece, from opening card to fade out, gives the impression that it was shot by one of those parents who videos everything. There are blurry moments, some odd angles, some zooms that are a little too sharp; all in all, a thoroughly unremarkable job. At least I thought so, until I learned the video was put together by a group of professionals including President of NBC Jeff Zucker, post-producer and choreographer Holly Schiffer, steady-cam specialist Peter Rosenfeld and editor Andy Blumenthal. Does it seem a little odd to anyone else that so many skilled Hollywood veterans would produce such an amateurish video to post on YouTube? More importantly, why does this video make my skin crawl? I watched it a few times, and I realized: it's the kids.

I'm not attacking anyone personally, although the little girl at the beginning had a Jonestown Kool-Aid glaze in her eyes. It's just that, the only children I've ever seen singing the praises of a politi-

cal figure come, with the exception of Nazi Germany, from Marxist nations. You know, the bad guys. Communist leaders like Stalin, Mao and Castro revealed in being serenaded by the children of their countries. It reassured them that the future was in the hands of individuals indoctrinated from an early age in the greatness of State over Individual. True, the kids are singing about Obama and not to him, but the Great and Glorious Leader isn't always present at these shindigs. Ask a history major about the Hitler Youth. I wonder about the parents raising the kids in this video. Is advancing their political agenda so important they feel okay with—sorry, it's true—pimping their kids out?

All I'm saying is, the only time I've ever seen kids singing about the glories of an individual leader in this way have been in totalitarian, cult of personality dictatorships where the USA was the enemy. Seems like a hell of a birthplace for campaign videos...

Before I go, a riddle: what do Palestinian terrorists, dictator Kim Jong Il of North Korea, the Islamofascist mullahs of Iran and Libyan strongman Muammar Khadafy have in common?

I'll give the answer next column. For now, I've got to get 'Half Breed' out of my head. Some heavy metal should do the trick. I hope.

Debate Heats Up The Presidential Race

BY DHANISH JOHN BABU
STAFF WRITER

The race towards the presidential election is in full swing and the ongoing debate between republican Senator John McCain and democrat Senator Barack Obama has been creating headlines. Barack Obama and John McCain clashed repeatedly over the causes and cures for the worst economic crisis in 80 years Tuesday night in yet another debate.

McCain proposed a \$300 billion program to shield homeowner from mortgage foreclosure. He added that he hopes to revive his fortunes in the presidential race which is now tilting towards Obama. Meanwhile, Obama questioned McCain's steadiness in foreign policy. "This man called for the annihilation of North Korea and the bombing of Iran," said Obama. "I don't think that to be a good way of handling foreign affairs. This remark was followed by McCain accusing Obama of threatening to invade Pakistan.

The debate, which was the second of the three between the two candidates also allowed voters, who sat a few feet away from the candidates to pose ques-

tions to them. Most questions were concerned with the recent economic crisis. Obama stated that the current crisis was the final verdict on the failed economic policies of the last eight years ruled by the republican party and President George W. Bush. He further added that

the republicans including Bush and McCain had favored deregulation of the financial industry. On the other hand, McCain's pledge that the government would help individual homeowners to avoid foreclosures, went beyond the recent bailout that cleared the Congress.



Photo by blogs.indiewire.com

One thing to be noted here in the debate was, even though both the candidates spoke politely of each other most of the time, references such as "that man," "that one" were often heard from both the candidates.

Currently, the polls and surveys are in favor of Obama in the major states. The two men also competed to demonstrate their qualifications as reformers at a time voters are clamoring for change. McCain accused Obama of being the Senate's second-highest recipient of donations from individuals at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the two now-disgraced mortgage industry giants. Obama shot back that McCain's campaign manager, Rick Davis, has a stake in a Washington lobbying firm that received thousands of dollars a month from Freddie Mac until recently.

The audience was selected by Gallup, the polling organization, and was split three ways among voters leaning toward McCain, those leaning toward Obama and those undecided. Tom Brokaw of NBC, was the moderator, screening their questions.

Watch this space for more election news.

National Coming-Out Day on Staten Island

BY JOHN ADRIAN
ARTS/COPY EDITOR

National Coming-Out Day (NC-OD), which is managed in the United States by the Human Rights Campaign under the National Coming Out Project, offers resources to LGBT individuals, couples, parents and children, as well as straight friends and relatives, to promote awareness of LGBT families living honest and open lives.

This year the SI LGBT Community Center and Community Health Action of Staten Island decided to hold their Annual Coming-Out Day Picnic on Sunday, October 5, the same day the Unitarian Church of Staten Island held its National Coming-Out Day Service.

Among the celebrants from CSI were Amanda Holbert and Andrew Savage, history majors, Kevin Peters who is working for his M. A. In Liberal Studies, CSI Gay-Straight Alliance president Nicholas Gianfortune, a junior studying Liberal Arts and Business and for whom it was his first NC-OD picnic, CSI-GSA advisor Katie Cumiskey and her wife, Robin Garber.



Professor Cumiskey and GSA President Nicholas Gianfortune. Photo by John Adrian

In the course of the afternoon over two hundred people came-out to visit with friends, listen to both live and recorded music, dance and finally, enjoy the sunshine that finally drove the clouds away and eat.

About half a dozen people told their coming-out stories, which while very much alike in many ways, were unique for each individual.

One man spoke of spending forty years suffering from clinical depression

while seeing a half-dozen or so therapists who tried to change his sexual orientation from gay to straight while prescribing various anti-depressants which did little to help his depression, but caused severe side-effects. Finally after five years with one shrink he realized that he was no less attracted to men and no more attracted to women than he had been in the beginning. He finally found a therapist who helped him adjust to being a gay man and get him off anti-depres-

sants. Today, ten years later, he no longer suffers depression and found himself "a wonderful man with whom to share my life."

Perhaps the most touching story was told by a mother who spoke on behalf of her thirty-six year old son who is "severely involved" by cerebral palsy. Eric, who only speaks through a dynavox computer has been a client of United Cerebral Palsy of New York City (UCP-NYC) for many years.

While under UCP-NYC's care he fell in love with one of his care-givers who is gay and they had a two-and-a-half year relationship until one day Eric spoke of this intimate relationship with a UCP-NYC supervisor. UCP-NYC immediately fired the care-giver, had Eric declared "incompetent for sexual consent", while competent in every other way. When Eric's mother fought UCP-NYC for Eric's right to sexual consent UCP-NYC refused to allow him to visit his mother at home without supervision.

NC-OD events are aimed at raising awareness of the LGBT community among the general populace in an effort to give a familiar face to the LGBT rights movement. NC-OD has attracted international recognition.

Student Activity Fees (from front)

"Student government offers to spend \$20,000 annually but during most years ends up with a \$5,000 surplus," said DeCrescenzo. Previous SG's started this textbook spending plan.

Another 10,500 dollars will go to their scholarship program. The program which chooses seven random departments each year and urges professors to get to know their students better, so they can select a young talent deserving of a tuition break.

"We want department heads to pick one student with no strings attached," said Gaffigan.

Upon selection the student will receive \$1500 in tuition assistance.

"The idea is to see if the faculty knows the students," said DeCrescenzo.

Faculty will contribute a paragraph stating why the student deserves the scholarship, and SG will submit it to The Banner each month for publication according to DeCrescenzo.

Students don't have to be broke or have a 4.0 to be selected for these scholarships.

"We are looking for someone in the middle of the pack who's gone above and beyond," said Gaffigan. "A CSI Dolphin."

Student government wants talented unique students who aren't eligible for financial aide and can't quite afford tuition comfortably.

SG's plans don't come without hard work.

"We could use help from students," said Gaffigan. "Students should come to meetings and volunteer for committee."

Gaffigan describes SG as a "rewarding experience," and both the president and senator are proud of the accomplishments SG has had in the past, and look forward to the future.

Aspirations for CSI (from front)

Breakthroughs in any area of study would bolster the college's prestige. It also gives students the opportunity to conduct research along with faculty members, which gives them actual professional training.

CSI administration this semester as the VP for Academic Affairs/Provost

Dr. Fritz joined the CSI administration this semester as the VP for Academic Affairs/Provost after a two-pronged career at Georgia State University where he served as an administrator and a professor. He stepped in for Vice President for Information Systems and Technology, Dr. Michael Kress, who served in the interim of the departure of former Provost, David Podell.

During his 27-year career at Georgia State University, Dr. Fritz was awarded a

research university in his area of study, geology. Dr. Fritz specializes in sedimentary, or, layered rocks. He published his book Roadside Geology of Yellowstone Park, which is part of a prominent series of books started by his former professor.

Dr. Fritz grew up in western Montana on a cattle ranch, where he helped his father raise beef cattle.

Before his lifelong venture into higher education, Dr. Fritz schooled in a one-room school-house made built with logs.

Now, just a ferry ride from New York City, Dr. Fritz works from an office on the 3rd floor in Building 1A in the country's largest public university system.

"Our challenge is to say: What do we do better than any other CUNY university?" he questioned.

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Third Rail Hailed by Journalism Giant



Business Manager Joe Brush

BY WILLIAM KLINE
CO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Student Publication, Third Rail Magazine, won a Gold Medalist Certificate from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association [CSPA], a student media coalition owned by Columbia University.

Recognized for their Spring 2008 issue, entitled "God Damn American Apartheid," Third Rail Magazine placed in the top 95th percentile out of a pool of 400 applicants.

"It's a very hard review," said Business Manager, Joe Brush. "They don't let anything slide by."

College publications like the Third Rail win awards through contests and affiliations such as the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The Third Rail also belongs to the College Press Association, the New York Press Association, and the Student Press Law Center. Branching out to organizations like these helped the Third Rail win an award in 2003.

The Third Rail previously won an award for reporting, in an issue that featured a cover of former CSI president, Dr. Marlene Springer. Five years later, when Columbia University lauded the student-run magazine, they hoped to garner some esteem from not only CSI students, but from readers all around the state.

"We hope that people who associate with Columbia, associate us with that standard," said Brush.

Brush pointed out the high degree of teamwork it takes to construct an award-winning magazine issue. He specifically thanked writers Nikki Bautista and Mike Miley, art director Neil Schuldiner, and "most importantly" Jeff Graham and Michael Gualtieri.

"I can not be the reason for the award," Brush said.

According to their website, Columbia University founded the CSPA in 1925. The CSPA is affiliated with Columbia's Graduate School for Journalism, which remains a renowned institution for aspiring journalists.

CUNY Chancellor Reports (from front)

In the thirty-minute speech, the CUNY Chancellor specified what impact the looming budget crunch would have on the university, highlighted CUNY's increased enrollment, and expressed pleasure at the ratification of the faculty and staff contracts during his report to the CUNY Board of Trustees.

Chancellor Goldstein announced in his late September speech that the university filled most of the budget gap, which totaled \$68 million in state assistance to CUNY. Individual campuses felt only light tremors that resulted from the impact, he said.

"This administration was not sitting idly," said Goldstein. "The campuses did not see the effect of that because it did not really affect our core business at all."

CSI would face a \$1.7 million shortfall according to Vice President for Finance and Administration Milton Santiago in a previous interview with The Banner.

In addition to April's \$18 million cut in state assistance, and August's \$50 million slash in aid, city funding decreased by \$8 million.

It's still unclear whether CUNY will face further cuts for the current fiscal year when Governor David Paterson releases his predicted budget around the third week of January. Chancellor Goldstein said that the governor might re-convene the state legislature for a special session to address budget concerns.

The decline in CUNY revenue reflects the overall economic woes that face the city and state during this financial crisis. The chancellor tried to deliver some words of comfort during this troubling time.

"I will assure all of you," said Goldstein, "we will get through this. It may be a little tough at times."

While CUNY copes with a revenue loss, it can take solace in the fact that enrollment has increased. Chancellor Goldstein pointed out the 4.3% increase in "head count" had boosted student populations. This fall's incoming students, he said, have the highest SAT scores in CUNY's existence.

"Students of a very fine ability are

looking at this university as a place to shape their professional goals," he said.

CUNY expects an enrollment of 270,000 students for continuing and adult education. He signaled that the college might follow the path for greater academic recognition. Two CUNY schools will be granted authority to award a PhD which Goldstein said he hopes will set an example for CSI.

"I hope the College of Staten Island [among others] will follow in that path."

This article was accessed through the September 23 edition of the CUNY Podcast. To hear the live audio go to: http://www1.cuny.edu/portal_ur/news/radio/podcast/chancellor_17.mp3

If you want to comment on a story/picture, tell us how much you love The Banner (or how much you hate The Banner), or how you think we could make YOUR newspaper better, drop us a line: the.BANNER.csi@gmail.com

CSI Meets Fashion

A Student Who Creates Trends Instead of Following Them

BY LATHLEEN ADE-BROWN
CONTRIBUTOR

You might be wondering what brand of clothing that kid is wearing that sits next to you in math class. Don't think too hard because there is a good chance that it might have No Name, a brand created by a CSI student.

Francesca Ojeh, a junior started sketching her own designs at age 9. She would strategize a particular look in her head and then sketch it down on paper with whatever she had in her hand; pen, pencil or even crayon.

Everyone knew Francesca had talent when she couldn't find the perfect dress for her 12th grade prom. She used her gift of drawing to sketch her own prom dress. Dared by a bunch of her senior classmates to actually bring the dress she sketched on paper to life, she took the drawing to her local tailor. Francesca was the star of her prom, and won best dressed at the end of the night.

"Once I saw Francesca's drawing of her clothing designs I was officially mesmerized," said Agnes Stevenson, a former classmate of Francesca's. "I knew she had to start her own clothing line."

Agnes sparked an idea in Francesca's head that might be her smartest move yet in starting a new career, if successful. Francesca enrolled herself in a three-month sewing class that she would attend everyday after school. Once she completed her three months she was eager to start her empire.



Photo provided by Lathleen Ade-Brown

She went to the nearest arts and crafts store and purchased ribbons, a sewing kit, glitters and as many gadgets she could conceive. Not to mention, she stopped by Barnes and Noble bookstore and collected every magazine there was on fashion. She would spend the next day analyzing her ideas and even thinking of a name for her clothes. After months of deliberating, she was stumped and could think of no name for her fabulous clothing line. She decided for it to be called No Name.

Francesca proudly wore a purple and orange plaid shirt that had soft ruffles going down the middle, displaying NO Name in small print on the inside collar of the shirt. Several students over the

course of the semester had noticed that her funky shirt stood out amongst every one else. They had to have it!

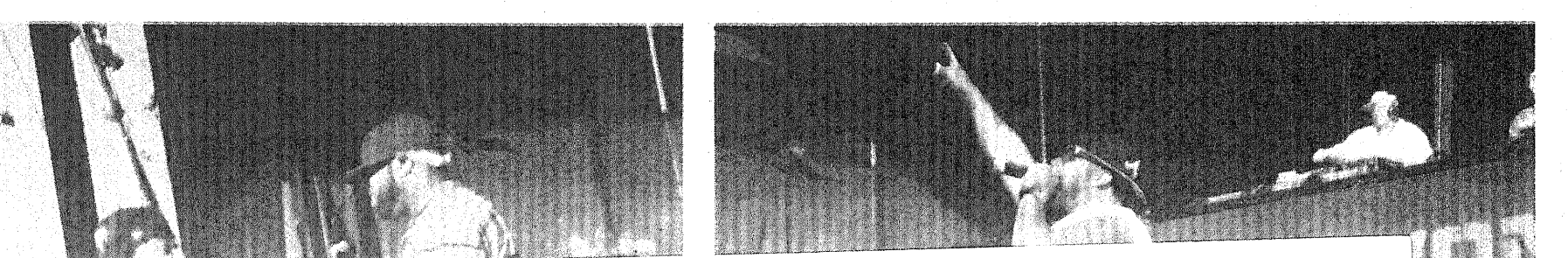
Francesca designed two more of the same shirt she wore and distributed it to the females that asked her about it. Soon enough, many students on campus acknowledged the No Name brand clothing Francesca and other students were wearing. It was now in high demand. Students wanted to wear and own her designs. Francesca went hard to work at making clothes for many different students at CSI and countless others off campus.

"When I wear her clothes, I feel different," said Sandra, a senior at the college who owns two articles of clothing from the No Name Brand. "She makes me feel like the clothes were made for just me and no one else."

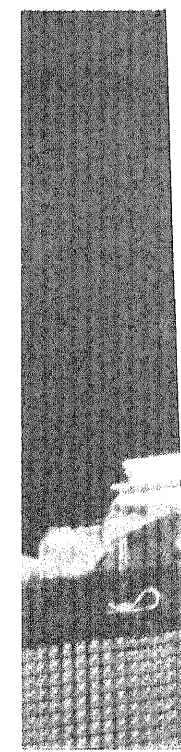
The talent of this young fashion designer can go unnoticed on campus because not only are several of our students wearing her brand, but it is hard to miss.

"Every time I see Francesca I feel like I am going to go blind with those bright colors she wears," exclaimed Bilikisu Hassan, a current tutor for Francesca. "I love her clothes, but I am afraid to wear them. I am not that bold. I like the basics."

Francesca likes to work with bright colors, particularly those, which don't match. She likes to mismatch her colors on purpose because it sets the tone of being unique and different. Her goal is perhaps to have one of the professors rock her brand, not just students.



Ghost rocking



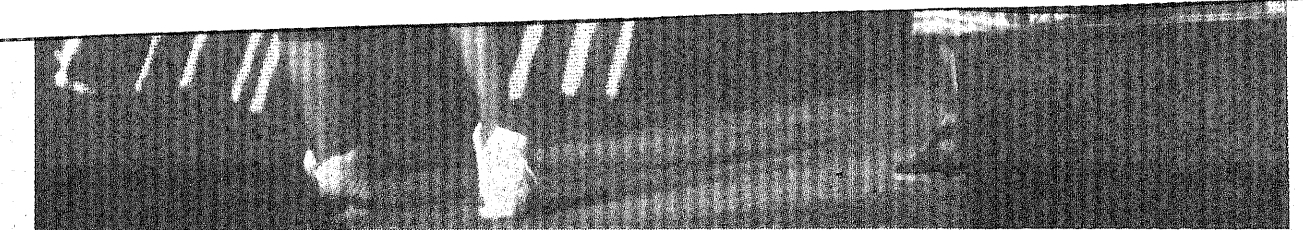
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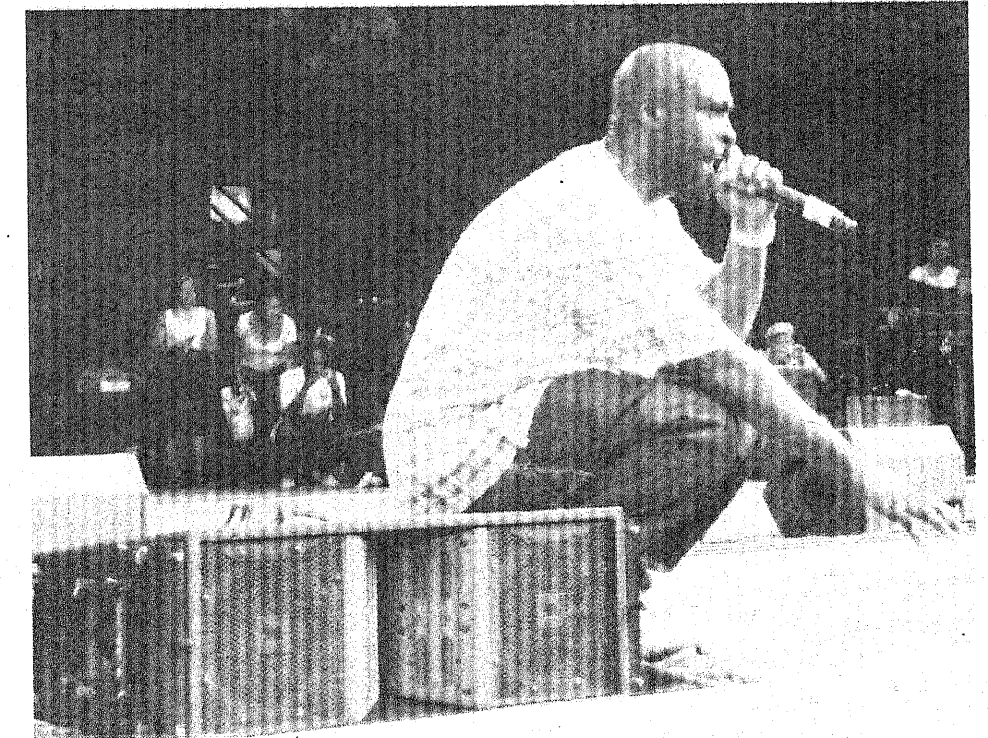
Ghost rocking with Cappadona.



Raekwon is eating.



J Love in the house.



Three feet high and rising.



Mos Def hypes up Q-Tip's dolo set.

Emma Hernandez's SEX AND THE ISLAND

Love And/Or Sex

Does a good relationship necessarily mean good sex? Can the same be said for the reverse?

BY EMMA HERNANDEZ
SEX COLUMNIST

Once, I read somewhere that sex is better when you're in love with your partner and I couldn't help but scoff. I'm not sure where I stand on the whole view of "love" and "soul mates" because it varies every day. Sometimes I'm a believer, but most days I'm just skeptical of everything. But whatever you believe, I just don't think it's fair to say that one thing is better than the other without arguing both sides first.

I can honestly say I've only been in love once (I think) and I mean, not to sound conceited or anything but I've had more than a few good lays. Especially since I'm not exactly a big fan of relationships (I don't feel like they're ever really worth it), the majority of the guys I hook up with, sleep with or whatever-I'm definitely not in love with them. In fact, I didn't even really like the guy I hooked up with a week ago but I still managed to

"Great. Of all the boys I could've hooked up with, I had to get the one that just wants to talk."

have a pretty amazing orgasm.

After work last Sunday, a bunch of us went over to our friend Lauren's apartment in Jersey City for pizza and lots of beer (classy, I know). We put her iTunes on shuffle and just hung out, telling stories and gossiping about everything and anything. Lauren's friend Andrew was there, a boy I had met at her Christmas party last December. I had been really drunk that night and all I could remember about him was we had a discussion about our mutual love for Chuck Palahniuk novels. We all ended up getting really trashed and I also remember Andrew trying on one of Lauren's dresses as a joke, because I had made a sarcastic comment about how the floral print of the dress he was wearing "really complemented" the state of his worn-in Doc Martens.

So, Sunday night, we were sitting around Lauren's kitchen table in these really awesome chairs that are shaped



Photo by girlishrink.com

like spindly-fingered hands (the part you sit on is supposed to be the palm), just laughing, talking, and drinking. Andrew was sitting across from me, wearing the typical punk kid uniform: a buzz cut, Doc Martens, slim fit black denim pants, an old school punk band shirt and a leather jacket with patches.

I noticed that he kept stealing looks at me, but I was barely paying attention to him. Karen and I were too busy lurking a MySpace profile of this girl we both hate, making fun of an outfit she was wearing in one of her pictures, and crafting mean, witty truth box comments. Lauren, who was pouring everyone another round, heard our banter and asked Damien (one of my other gay best friends) what we were doing. He looked at us and told her:

"I don't know, but they're being mean. It's watching like Sex and the City, except the characters have septum piercings."

Damien came over, sat next to me and I started to whine to him about how a certain feathery headband that I bought at Urban Outfitters only weeks before, had snapped and broke while I was trying to put it on earlier that morning.

"Did one end snap around and pen-

etrate your skull?" Damien asked.

His use of the word "penetrate" might have been a Freudian slip, because Damien and his boyfriend haven't had sex in weeks and it's a subject that's always on his mind lately.

I laughed and said:

"No, Damien, there was no penetration involved, whatsoever."

Then Andrew glanced over at me and muttered under his breath:

"Well, I mean, I can help you with that."

I just giggled and sipped my beer, secretly thankful that I was the only one who heard him.

The night went on and one drink turned into two, then three, then four. Andrew got up, excusing himself to smoke a cigarette and asked if anyone else would go outside with him. He looked directly at me as he said it and I knew what he meant, so I grabbed my purse and followed him. I lit my cigarette as he rolled his (the epitome of DIY) and we sat down on the steps to Lauren's apartment building. We started talking and he told me he liked my gladiator sandals. I was absentmindedly playing with one of the straps as I put out my cigarette and he made fun of me for it.

Photo by myspace.com/tanyagallo

When I looked up to say something back, he leaned in and kissed me. We stood out there for the rest of the night.

It was the easiest, most effortless hook up I've ever encountered.

I always seem to fall into this pattern. It's a cycle and it's vicious, but I never know what to do to stop it. It's the same old story. Big and I are so off and on that when we're off, I fall back into old, bad habits. Like exactly what happened that night-hooking up with random boys just because I can (and also because I tell Big every detail in the hopes that he'll get jealous).

And of course, there are guidelines during this off period. I never let myself get attached to any of the boys I hook up with. It's always strictly "friends with benefits" even though it's more benefits than friends.

It's not like I like Andrew, I barely know him. But the physical attraction was there and I just seized it. It was the first time I had let myself get carried away like that with someone since Big and I called it quits. I mean, it was there so I just took it.

"The physical attraction was there and I just seized it. It was the first time I had let myself get carried away like that..."

Andrew and I ended up moving from the stairs in front of the apartment to the small alley in between Lauren's building and the one next to it. Clothes were removed, hands were in places they should or shouldn't have been (depending on how you're looking at the situation). We were already finished when we heard the door open and our friends talking, but we still had to quickly fumble around for our clothes in the dark. He handed my my shirt, buttoned his jeans and ruined the whole spontaneity of what we had just done with awkward small talk, asking things like "So, what are you into?"

Great. Of all the boys I could've hooked up with, I had to get the one who just wants to talk.

Do you have a question for the sex columnist? Do you need relationship advice answered? Send your questions and comments to the.BANNER.csi@gmail.com

VIN FORTE IS NOT FUNNY

HUMOR SECTION

Cigar Eating Contest is Cancelled

BY DENNIS GAFFIGAN
AFICIONADO COVER MODEL

Political Correctness has once again hit the campus of CSI. The 12th Annual Cigar Eating Contest has been cancelled.

This adds to a long list of events at CSI where the PC Police ruined traditions and good times.

Four year's ago the Female Mud Wrestling Contest was picketed by 64 members of the National Organization of Women (NOW). Then President Springer caved into the



Photo by findadeath.com

Next came Dwarf Bowling, an event where the PC police again protested, and triumphed.

The Fifties throw back event, The

Goldfish Eating Contest was picketed by P.E. T.A. as "cruelty" to goldfish.

Now an event that was unique to CSI and gave us national exposure has been cancelled by the PC Police.

"The Campaign to Ban Cigar Eating (CBCE) made the current administration cave in like a two dollar suitcase," said Mike Gualteri, past winner of the contest. Mike continued, "except for a three day nicotine buzz, what's the problem? Cigars have a lot of fiber, and we all need more fiber in our diets."

Sorry Mike, another tradition shot down. What is next my fellow students? The Topless Poetry Jam? When does it end?

Soylent Green found in Cafeteria

BY DENNIS GAFFIGAN
MUCKRAKER

Science fiction became science fact at CSI last month when the cafeteria staff admitted to using Soylent Green as an ingredient in many of its meals.

Tyson Foods is now the country's largest processor of Soylent Green. Spokesperson, Dale McKeever explains that Tyson's Soylent Green is: "The highest quality human cadavers, who have been processed, freeze dried, flaked and then vacuum packed into a very nutritious protein powder." Tyson Foods currently has plain, garlic, and barbecue flavor Soylent Green available nationally.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the use of "human based" Soylent Green in October of 2006 and found it to be "a safe and efficient way to bring a healthy diet to the American consumer."

Soylent Green is an environmentally safe and animal cruelty free way of eating," said P.E.T.A. representative, Helen Krump. "If humans eat poor defenseless

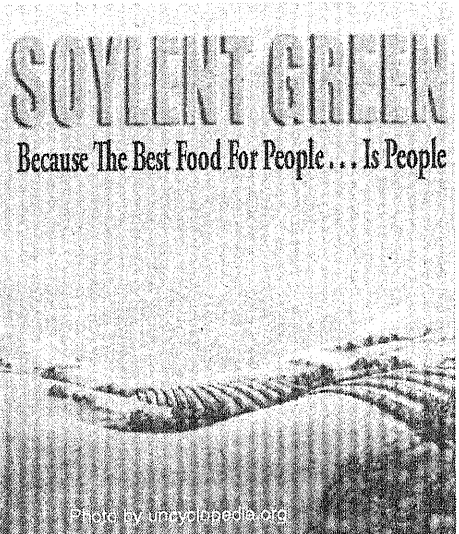


Photo by undeposed.com

animals, why can't humans eat dead humans?"

When asked about the use of Soylent Green in the Cafeteria, Ira Persky (CSI Auxiliary) said: "We are always looking for new ways to cut cost and give the students the best value possible. Soylent Green is high in protein and enhances the flavor of meatballs, tuna sandwiches, sausage and many other menu items."

This reporter "bellied up to the bar" and tried a \$1.99 Soylent Green burger. It was pretty good! Great texture, moist, and it really does taste a lot like chicken. Bon Appetite!

"Friday Night Nude Swim" at the Rec Center is a big hit

The sign at the entrance to the CSI pool on Friday nights says, valid student ID required, you must be over 18 years of age, and no cell phones or photographic equipment allowed.

It's Friday night at CSI and the response has been overwhelming at the pool. The amount of nude student swimmers averages about 128 per night. That's more than the attendance at CSI sporting events.

Lifeguard Trevor Wombley said "the crowds are large and well behaved."

Tonight, maverick English Professor Peter Conti has his creative writing class in attendance. Conti said: "Where else can you get naked in public and not get

arrested?" I wasn't all fun and games for Conti's class. They are expected to write a 3 to 5 page paper. The topic is, "Shrinkage: Biological Fact or the Male Excuse?"

"The amount of nude swimmers averages 128 per night. That's more than the attendance at CSI sporting events."

A roar resonates from the crowd, and a perfect cannonball by Vice President of Student Life, Mike Daniels, topped off a fun filled evening. This reporter overheard a group of coeds saying, VP

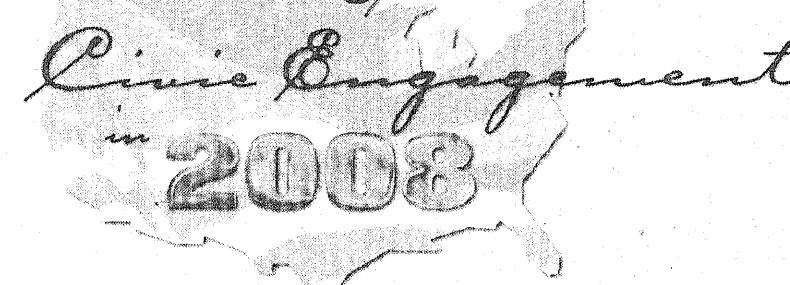
Daniels was "very impressive." The VP was clearly having a good time with the students.

Student Government will continue to fund this event through December, so come on down!

Have fun, get naked, and earn clue credits.

-DENNIS GAFFIGAN
PARTICIPANT

The Staten Island Foundation Three College Lecture Series



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Final lecture, The Meaning of the 2009 Presidential Election, to be held at Wagner College, Monday, November 17, 7pm to 8:30pm. For more information call 718.420.4485.



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COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND, 2800 VICTORY BOULEVARD, STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

BANNER ARTS

A Gust of Reviews for The Tempest

BY ANNA PAPAPOULOS
CONTRIBUTOR

As Ike Blew Through Texas, The Tempest Hits New York

As massive Hurricane Ike ravaged Galveston, Texas, Classic Stage Company wrapped up its second week of production of *The Tempest*, a production director Brian Kulick once said he was scared of.

This is definitely not the BBC's version of *The Tempest*. There is no effeminate Ariel frolicking around in a thong or Caliban with unruly hair growing out of everywhere. Instead, the multicultural cast resembles the multifarious nature of the people walking outside the theater in Union Square. In fact, there is such a familiarity with the cast's resemblance that at times I actually thought I knew them from somewhere else. Even choosing the well-known actor and Tony Award winner, Mandy Patinkin, to play the Prospero role seems intentional. Interestingly, the audience was rather homogenous – white, middle aged – diametrically opposed to the racially mixed cast.

The costumes are juxtaposed between the old, heavy Elizabethan garb worn by the shipwrecked crew and the light, white, muslin ghost-like attire of the island crew. The Grecian outfits of



Photo provided by Christine Sanders

Miranda, Ariel, Caliban, and Prospero look like something that could have come off the movie set of *Mama Mia*. Furthermore, all the characters are barefoot throughout the production, which strangely creates a simultaneous sense of distraction and intimacy. It occurs to me that I'm not accustomed to seeing the bottom of strangers' feet and I'm fascinated by the intimacy of it and can't stop staring.

Overall, the production left me feeling vulnerable and in communion with others. It emphasized the familiarity among us despite age, race, culture, boundaries and gender.

BY CHRISTINE SANDERS
CONTRIBUTOR

Tone of Change, Not in Politics, but, in Kulick's Portrayal

The stage design is minimalist in its simplicity, yet sophisticated in execution. Elizabethan in flavor, the costumes set a rigorous social caste. Though all the players are barefoot, the haves in this society are easy to identify as they wear brocade and ruffled collars, whereas the have-nots must make do without.

Less usual in Shakespeare productions, though canonical for *The Tempest*, is the inclusion of music.

The audience, many experienced Shakespeare-ophiles as evidenced by their rapt postures and appropriate laughter during the tripping repartee between Trinculo and Stephano, obviously enjoyed the play, but in that interior world where the play goes forward, long after the curtain goes down, I worry that Prospero faces further challenges from Alonso, who pointedly refused his formal kiss of peace. If we accept Kulick's interpretation as a call to embrace the struggles of ordinary reality, I cannot help but feel that Prospero—though lacking a small army of sprites to do his bidding in Milan—will find effective allies in the reformed Alonso and his honest son-in-law Ferdinand.

At the heart of Kulick's interpretation is change and how it is achieved. He asks the audience to meditate upon transformation, even as the characters race about in a mad attempt to recapture the dropped reins of their galloping lives. Vital to the understanding of Kulick's vision is the careful decoding of the clues found in the setting and costumes, and how they affect character. Equally important to the production is the effectiveness of his numerous doubling decisions—everyone and everything must double in this production in such a way as to advance the primary thematic point of embracing change.

Music With Passion

BY NICOLE GNIEWKOWSKI
CONTRIBUTOR

Tanya's passion for music has gotten her through some of the toughest times of her life. Her first single *Without You* released in October 2007 was about her father's passing away. "I was in a really dark place, and music seemed to make it better," the singer/songwriter said. Tanya has always had a passion for music. Growing up, her mother would play everything from Janis Joplin to Alanis Morissette. "Music was the only thing I ever saw myself doing."

Tanya writes all of her own music. Her first instrument is the guitar but she can also play the piano. Her music is described as folk rock. Her second single set for release on October 31 is called *Fall Away*. When asked to pick just one artist as her favorite Tanya chose Fiona Apple. Her reason? "Because she is awesome." Her favorite song of Apple's is *I Know*.

When I asked Tanya what venue she



Photo by myspace.com/tanyagallos

Tanya Gallo

would love to play one day she replied: "Most people would say something like Madison Square Garden which is cool, but I'm into more intimate venues, I would love to play somewhere like Irving Plaza."

Tanya will be playing CSI's Battle of the Bands on October 16th in the Green Dolphin Lounge along side Tony Hanson of Fenix Down. For more information on Tanya visit her website at www.TanyaGallo.com or her Myspace page at www.myspace.com/Tanyagallos.

Upcoming Events in The Center for the Arts (Building 1P)

New York Philharmonic Ensembles- Monday, October 20, 2008 - 7:30 pm - Springer Concert Hall - 2 hours, including intermission. Tickets: Free, reservations required, call CFA Box Office 718-982-2787. This year's concert features Ludwig van Beethoven's Septet in E-Flat major, Osvaldo Golijov's Lullaby and Doña, and selected tangos by Astor Piazzolla. Made possible through the generosity of Dr. Michael Shugrue, CSI Emeritus Professor of English.

Ingrid Michaelson - Home- Wednesday, October 29, 2008 - 8:00 pm Williamson Theatre - 2:25 hours, including intermission and CD signing in the Atrium. Tickets: \$30 - Only CFA members discount offered. CSI students can purchase specially-priced tickets through CSI Office of Student Life starting Monday, September 8th. Limited availability. The lucky winner of the CSI Battle of Bands organized by the CSI Campus Activities Board will open. For information on the Battle of the Bands, contact: cab@mail.csi.cuny.edu, 718.982.3268. Organized with the CSI Office of Student Life, the Campus Activities Board, and WSIA Radio.

The White Album Experience-Saturday, November 22, 2008 - 8:00pm The Marlene Springer Concert Hall. \$35, \$45, \$50. Glen Burtnik and Friends Play The Beatles. Celebrating the 40th anniversary of The Beatles' release of *The White Album*, Glen Burtnik and Friends perform the classic rock album in its entirety—note for note. Burtnik has recorded and toured as a member of multiplatinum rock band Styx, written songs for Randy Travis and Patty Smyth/Don Henley, and portrayed Paul McCartney in Beatlemania. Marshall Crenshaw, who portrayed John Lennon in Beatlemania, joins Burtnik and Friends on stage.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

BANNER OPINION

Communication Breakdown

BY MATT SIGNORILE
CONTRIBUTOR



Photo by math.tulane.edu

In the Career and Scholarship Center, located in 1A, two computers idle as their keyboard go untouched and their mice go unmoved. Their hard drives are packed with internships from a variety of offices spanning nearly every major. In the year I spent working in the Career and Scholarship Center, I could count on one hand the amount of students I saw actually at those two computers.

As the year progressed, I met many faculty members of the Career and Scholarship Center. Every counselor in that office was eager and ready to help students in their professional pursuits. There were workshops and resume writing sessions that took place that gave students guidance.

I didn't know why this great resource went seemingly unnoticed by the majori-

ty of the students. Then, while conversing with someone in one of my classes, the answer became readily apparent. I told him where I worked, and he replied, "We have a Career and Scholarship Center?" Asking around, I discovered that most students weren't aware of the center on campus. If they were aware of it, they thought it couldn't give them anything of value.

Here is a great resource that CSI offers, that can propel students to great heights in their careers, but lack of communication inhibits many students from crossing that threshold.

It's not just the CSC either- I've seen great events and opportunities offered by CSI that go largely unnoticed by the student body. There are trips to Medieval Times, Dorney Park, and musicals such as *Spam-A-Lot* and *Avenue Q*, all for discounted prices that the Student Life Office graciously puts together.

Students will blame the administrators. They'll claim events are poorly marketed and poorly timed. They'll also blame work for consuming whatever free time available. Administrators are often left scratching their heads, wondering

how they can stir what looks like a dead campus back to life.

The problem is two-pronged. Students need to become more aware of what the college offers. Administrators need to make more of an effort to reach the students, instead of e-mail and flyer bombardments. Having professors mention events in classes pertaining to the class subject wouldn't be a chore.

However, the administration can only do so much before the blame falls primarily on the students. Think about how often you fly right by those bulletin boards in all the buildings that have flyers detailing events, internships, and even possible job opportunities.

For your sake, and for the sake of the school, stop and browse the flyers on that bulletin board. One flyer could make all the difference.

If you have an opinion about CSI, CUNY, or anything to say about student life, services, or activities, e-mail your editorial to the.BANNER.csi@gmail.com

Memo From an Angry Intern

BY MICHAEL COHEN
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

I am a sick intern. I am a spiteful intern. An unattractive intern. I think my butt hole hurts. But actually, I don't know a damn thing about my ailments.

I've been figuratively raped so savagely that I have a gaping figurative butt hole six inches in diameter. Did you know that some people get paid for writing? Yes, there is more than the premature baldness and high blood pressure that comes with running a student newspaper. Not much more, but more.

A few days ago XXL put me in charge of a dangerously paper-cut prone task - mailing out writer's work orders. The hideous gashes were worth it though. I learned something that I never had the gall to ask. I've always felt like asking a new colleague about their pay is analogous to asking a new cellmate, "what are you in for?" Just not proper etiquette.

But the work orders had all the dope laid out right there. Writer names, type of article, word count, penalties for deadline lapses, and yeah, pay. Even stuff I didn't care about like social security numbers. (I don't have patience for schemes of that magnitude.)

One writer got a sneak peak at one of the biggest albums of the year and wrote a 550 word review for about \$0.84



Photo by iinstudio.com

a word. That's \$462 more than a Banner writer gets for any review. Plus the \$15 that a student journalist spends on the album. Major record labels' myopia clouds their prioritizing capacity, thus rendering them clueless to the value of college press.

Granted some student writers have more trouble stringing together English sentences than Sarah Palin, but most of us work ungodly hours and remain committed to the point of our own social detriment.

idea was struck down quicker than a Bush veto.

But this doesn't really anger me. I'm actually quite amused at the over-worked, bloated and balding people who run CSI publications like *The Banner*.

The real but ravaging violation (figurative of course) hit me when I came across a work order for a 2000 word feature piece. It paid \$4000. I get \$250 for 2000 word features with *Foundation Magazine*. That's sixteen times less than what XXL pays.

Don't get it twisted. I'm not angry with *Foundation*, *XXL* or *CSI*. I'm merely warning those Direct Loan scoundrels.

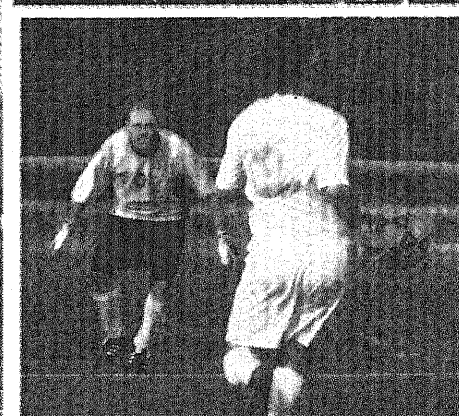
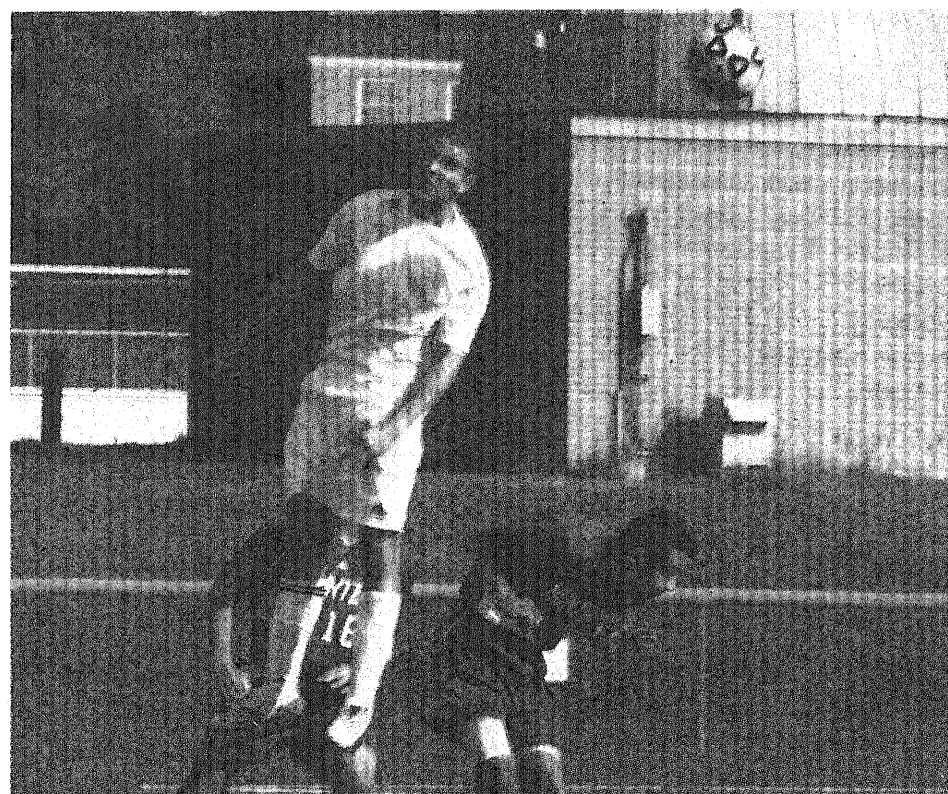
If I could get some real pay I might actually consider paying back my student loan. Until then I proudly remain one of the causes of this credit crisis because I have no intention on paying the loan back unless I find good employment in the field that I studied for. Not public relations.

You say 'this aint no angry intern. This is a whining journalist.' Well, if you don't understand then you probably don't get the Dostoyevsky reference in the first sentence dumb ass. And don't ever think my head is gassed. It's *The Banner*. No other pub got swagga like us.

This op-ed is part of a series which examines the life of an, anything-but-average intern at *XXL*, a premier hip-hop magazine.

BANNER SPORTS

Ribeiro's 5 Goals Lift Dolphins From Slump



Photos by Ednita Lorenzo

BY EDNITA LORENZO
STAFF WRITER

It may have taken them a little longer than expected, but after a strenuous schedule and 10 games in, the CSI Men's soccer team has made its mark this season. "The storm has officially begun," expressed senior midfielder Sam Musovic. The big "W" couldn't have come at a better time, as CSI is well into midseason and looking to bring home that CUNY championship.

Facing the NYC College of Technology Yellow Jackets on Sept. 27, the team was looking for the light at the end of the tunnel. "We organized ourselves well, stayed focused and kept a positive mentality and found the result we were looking for by putting a 'W' on the board," commented leading scorer Jason Ribeiro.

The game began on a cool and cloudy day where the intensity was felt in the air. CSI was 17 minutes into a powerful game play when senior Robert Nieto kicked a long shot to Ribeiro where he chipped it right over City Tech's goalie. That's when Ribeiro began his storm. Within a span of 15 minutes, Ribeiro scored four goals, including a penalty shot caused by a tackle to Konstantinos Koulouris inside the box. City Tech didn't respond until the last 10 minutes of the first half where a penalty shot was also given to them and ended the first half 4-2 in favor of the Dolphins.

In the second half, CSI came out confident and ready to defend. Leading the defense were Dimitri Sidiropoulos (Sr.), Nicholas Mullady (Fr.), Pat Lenza (So.) and Guillermo Parra (Jr.). City Tech managed to get two goals in the second

half but CSI retaliated with another two as well. One came from senior Sam Musovic and Ribeiro finished with his 5th goal of the game and to make it 6-4. "From game to game the players are getting better and better. The team finally got a taste of winning and will continue to win more games. We do have some more work ahead of us and we have to work on a longer quality game," stated coach Armen Simonians.

The win was one of two in the CUNY conference matches. The second win came on Oct. 4th where the Dolphins faced the Medgar Evers Beavers beating them with a score of 3-2. The game was another intense match where this time it was the Konstantinos Koulouris storm that kicked in. Scoring the first goal of the game and his first of the season, that goal was the ignition Koulouris needed to keep the Dolphins' energy going. Not long before the game ended, Koulouris made a great cross to the middle where Ribeiro's head found the ball and into the net. Koulouris then scored his second goal in the 83rd minute from a pass by Ribeiro and then going for the break away to end the game. "It felt so good to finally get not one but two goals in. We needed this win and the team really put their all in this one," expressed Koulouris.

So far it's been a rough season for the Dolphins but with these wins you can be sure that they will be looking for more. With other CUNY games coming up, the men are working towards that championship game and looking to bring home the trophy. Make sure to catch them in action.

Dolphins on Roller Coaster Ride

BY EDNITA LORENZO
STAFF WRITER

As mid-season rolls about, the Lady Dolphins are finding themselves in unfamiliar territory. Having won back-to-back games against the College of Mount St. Vincent and City College of NY, things seemed to be changing. Unfortunately, the team hit an unexpected bump in their game plan.

Facing Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU), and two CUNY teams (CCNY once again, and Medgar Evers), the Dolphins felt confident it would come up on top and show what it can do out on the field. However, it didn't end up that way. The Dolphins were left with 2 losses in 3 games and faced the end to a perfect streak.

The ride began on Sept. 25th where CSI fought its way to stay alive against the FDU Devils in Madison, NJ. Struggling against a team that dominated in height and at times speed, the Dolphins didn't let them have full control CSI managed to cause some confusion. Up until, they were faced with unfortunate injuries. The Dolphins broke down and ended the game 0-5.

In their second conference game of the season, CSI once again faced the CCNY Beavers on Oct. 1st. Knowing who and what they were up against, the Dolphins came well prepared and succeeded in breaking down the Beavers. Scoring four goals, each from Fiosa Begai (Sr.), Jennifer Griffin (So.), Tina Chechel (Jr.), and Kelly Kenny (So.) respectively, the Dolphins came out on top with another shutout, 4-0.

The ladies were now 2 games into CUNY conference matches and remained undefeated in CUNY for the past 4 years, a streak once thought wouldn't be broken. The roller coaster ride continued here where the Dolphins crossed paths with new and fresh Cougars.

"Medgar Evers was never really a team to fear. Last year we beat them 11-1. I don't know where these new faces came from, but they made us play their game most of the time. They gave us our first CUNY loss in 4 years. I still can't believe it," expressed captain Fiosa Begai. The Dolphins were stunned and battling its way through the game. They managed to score 2 goals but not until the damage was already done. The Cougars upset the Dolphins 5-2.

The Soccer Diaries

BY EDNITA LORENZO
STAFF WRITER

An era has ended. Our perfect, undefeated CUNYAC era died and gave us a reality check. There's no such thing as perfect. It's been 4 years and no other CUNY team has beaten us. But on Oct. 4th Medgar Evers came out of no where and ended our streak. Of all teams to lose to, I can't believe it was Medgar. We used to destroy them by more than 6 goals at every game. They were never able to keep up with us.

How in the world did this happen?! It was such a disgusting game. We didn't have a few of our starters like K.K (our fastest and best defender), Alyssa (powerful and skilled midfielder) and Kelly (an all-around strong and physical player) and it seemed like we kind of broke down to their level. Pretty bad game for us. Nothing we can do about it now.

So now we look on to the future. Was this a taste of what will happen next year when we lose our seniors? Hmm... possibly. But that just means we really need to get our stuff together and get back to work. I take it as we just had a bad game. I hope this gets us pumped to go out there and score. We will come back from this. Don't worry. Just have to give it our all and I know we will.