

THE BANNER



President Morales speaks at a recent conference in the Green Dolphin Lounge to discuss issues pertaining to the school with CSI Media. "I'm taking the time to meet with academic departments faculty, student organizations and groups," Morales said. Photo by Carlo Montagnino.

No News is Bad News at Media Conference

Journalist hopefuls from across the city, gather to discuss the future of news at CUNY Media Conference

BY WILLIAM KLINE
ADP EDITOR

Hosted by the CUNY Graduate Center, the event brought together students and recent graduates from various Communications and Journalism circles, along with aspiring reporters and writers, with industry professionals from some of the top tier media outlets. It enabled many of the students to listen to first-hand advice about the career field that they wish to break into.

"We got to hear from professionals who can give us insight into the day to day business of the media," says Michaelson Bruno of Brooklyn College.

The attendees gathered in a lecture hall on the ground floor of the Center after they sucked down a morning cup of writer's fuel and ate from an array of choice muffins. Michael Arena, the Conference Chairman and an associate professor at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, kicked off the day with a welcoming speech and a little bit of news satire.

"It's my daughter," said Arena as he answered his cell phone in the middle of his speech at the podium and poked fun at the highly publicized Rudy Giuliani blunder. "Of course you all know about 'the call.' You're journalists."

The day boasted a plethora of activities. Highly respected members of the journalism community, professors, and student reporters spoke in specialized panels in which they analyzed key issues that affect the future of the media and both the positive and negative impact it could have on budding journalists. Guests had the option of attending four sessions.

In the panel, "Get it Write," the editor of the AP Stylebook, Norm Goldstein, warned writers of grammatical errors and spelling slip-ups. He says this can make journalists lose credibility.

"Spell check ought to be banned,"

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Professor Liu Makes Astronomy Fun

BY VINCENT FUNARO
STAFF WRITER

When I walked into room 232 in building 1N I expected to meet a boring science geek of a professor, who was going to put me to sleep with his astronomy research and have me yelling at my editor for giving me such a boring assignment. But instead, I met Prof. Charles Liu who jumps off desks to demonstrate gravity, and claims he has a hot wife. This is not your every day science professor.

Meet Mr. Liu who is a 39 year old astronomy professor at CSI. Born in Taiwan, raised in Ithaca NY, Charles Liu is recent favorite among students. "He's entertaining, friendly and not boring," said students Freddy and O' Day. These two guys were all smiles and laughs while Mr. Liu was tutoring them. They told me about his class and how much they enjoyed astronomy, as long as Charles Liu was teaching it.

Charles Liu is a Harvard graduate

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Walking Against Cancer



Next Sunday, Grace's Sunflower Girls will be walking in Clove Lakes Park in an attempt to raise awareness for breast cancer.

BY LUCIE LAURIA
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Sunday morning, October 21, 2007, participants of The Walk against breast cancer will meet up at 9:15, in Clove Lakes Park, 1150 Clove Road, to walk three miles in support of all those who suffer from this treacherous disease and to honor the memory of cancer victims on the occasion of the celebration of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Rose Cahill, a CSI aerobics instructor, who lost her mother, father, and sister to this insidious disease, will rally her "Grace's Sunflower Girls" to make

strides against cancer. The event starts at 11 o'clock in the morning after the registration that takes place from 9:15 to 11:00.

"There is much warmth and love for women who are facing breast cancer," Cahill says. "My sister Grace died in 1997. She loved sunflowers. We called ourselves 'Grace's Sunflower Girls'. You don't have to be eighty now to have breast cancer. Girls in their twenties have it."

The American Cancer Society and

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American Democracy Project

America's Water is Running Black

BY JENNA CALDERON
STAFF WRITER



As the war in Iraq rages on, a good number of Americans stick by the idea that it is all worth it; that the U.S. is doing its duty as a superior country by cleansing the Iraqi people of their heathenistic ways. What most of these Americans don't know, either because they don't listen closely enough, or because they turn a deaf ear to anything that makes the country seem a little less saintly, is that Americans can be pretty brutal people themselves. Some of the tactics that have been used in Iraq have been nothing short of evil, and most of these instances can be traced back to a company known as Blackwater USA.

Blackwater USA is a corporation that was founded in 1998 by a former Navy Seal by the name of Erik Prince. Prince took his political experience and the experience he gained from watching his father make it big in business, and opened the company. It was supposed to be like a sportsman's training center in the wilderness of North Carolina, but became much more than that. It has prepared tens of thousands of security personnel to work in key areas around the globe, and at its main facility in North Carolina it has shooting ranges for high-powered weapons, buildings for setting up and recreating different missions and situations and housing for their trainees. It is so well equipped that actual army recruits come from all over to utilize what the facility has to offer. Blackwater has quickly become one of the chief private security firms used in Iraq and

Afghanistan. It has provided security for many US diplomats, foreign dignitaries and the like.

One may say, "Well this seems all fine and good, so what's the problem?" Men trained under Blackwater are essentially mercenaries, except for our purposes they are known as contractors. There are around 10,000 of these so-called contractors in Iraq at the current moment. These men were brought in mainly due to a lack of enlistment, much as Hessian mercenaries were made use of by British forces during the Revolutionary War. Now the problem lies in the fact that these forces are in no way affiliated with the US Army. They are a private group of men hired to do certain jobs. Since they are not part of the rules and regulations the common soldiers in Iraq must adhere to. One may think common morals and ethics might be enough to keep men in line but pervious history of this group shows this is not the case.

Not too far back there was a scandal of sorts that involved American soldiers as well as a number of men from these private mercenary companies. At the prison of Abu Ghraib where prisoners of war were being held, the Jailers, which consisted of the men mentioned above, were torturing and humiliating the prisoners. A few instances included men attaching electrodes to the inmates' genitals, making the prisoners strip naked and make a human pyramid and

one man was even forced to wear a bag over his head and stand with Christmas lights strewn across his naked body. Stipulations laid down at the Geneva Convention in the 1950s strictly prohibit the torture of prisoners of war, the definition of which is also explained at the convention. However, to get around this it was claimed that these were enemy combatants, which were not accounted for at the convention and were therefore fair game. Plus, a good amount of the men were mercenaries who were also not included when the convention took place and therefore do not fall under its jurisdiction. It seems then that Blackwater is sort of above the law. Now Blackwater does not only operate overseas. It is in our own backyards. Forces are found in cities from New York to New Orleans. Blackwater claims its forces were, and still are in New Orleans to join in with hurricane relief. They are supposedly providing airlift services, security services and crowd control. It has since come to light that Blackwater mercenaries are actually engaged in general law enforcement activities including "securing neighborhoods" and "confronting criminals." In New York a few said that they not only had the authority to make arrests but also to use lethal force.

South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham, a former JAG officer in the Air Force, slipped a rider (jurisdiction that could never be passed as a bill on its own) into the 2007 defense authoriza-

tion that President Bush signed into law that said that these private contractors will be placed under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or in other words, the court-martial system. The only thing left is to do something with this bill, for as of right now nothing has yet to come of it. They can be put under the court martial system, which would essentially prevent any more of these outlandish offenses, but no moves have been made. The legislation needs to be backed up, needs to be included as a separate bill, not as a piece of something totally different. Responding to this conflict, the House of Representatives approved a bill that would bring all US contractors in the Iraq war zone under the authority of American criminal law. This would require the F.B.I. to investigate any situations of possible wrongdoing.

The aforementioned bill was approved by the House 389 to 30, coming after a Sept. 16 shooting by Blackwater personnel in Baghdad, which stresses the fact that many contractors in Iraq have been able to slide past American military or civilian laws and apparently lie outside the reach of the Iraqi judicial system. The State Department, which had been fronting the investigation, said that a team of F.B.I. agents sent to Baghdad had taken over the situation. No charges have been filed, and Justice Department officials have said it is still hazy as to whether or not American law applies. Even if the bill were enacted, it would have no authority over past conduct by Blackwater or other contractors, which is where most of the problems to be fixed are.

As of right now the Bill is meeting major opposition from the White House, and it doesn't seem like any progress will be made as long as Bush remains in office. The most headway on the issue is being made by Barack Obama who put forth legislation that seeks to expand the domestic prosecution of contractors on the battlefield and calls for the Pentagon to make clear how it's going to execute the bill that was technically passed by Bush allowing the court marshalling. As of right now, all we can do is watch and wait; an issue this big isn't going to fall one way or the other without a fight.

Troops Depict a Brutal Battle In Their Own Words

BY WILLIAM KLINE
ADP EDITOR

The war documentary, *The Ground Truth* attempts to depict what it means to kill a human being. No film could actually conceptualize the true nature of murder, or the feeling of remorse that results from it. Only the people that commit the act can attempt to sum that up in words. Director/Producer Patricia Foulkard focused on the lives of U.S. Soldiers who fought in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. They agreed in their interviews that their sole purpose was to take the lives of others. The movie unfolded almost narrative like, and followed the lives of soldiers before, during, and after their time at the war.

The story began where all soldiers begin--- with videos of recruitment ceremonies, military advertisements, and boot camp. Several of them gave their reasons to explain why they joined the military in the first place. Some joined to pay for college, some inherited a vast family tradition, others saw they glamour in the uniform. A vast majority had nowhere else to go outside of jail or a funeral home. One recruit actually joined because of the movie *Top Gun*, which ironically revolved around the Air Force. They acknowledge the unusual ease in the transition from being "a normal" to being a full-fledged killing machine.

"Everything is about killing," said

one soldier. "After a while, you want to do it."

Through battle cries and simulated fight scenarios, drill instructors screw the theme of death into the soldiers brains. They would have the recruits repeat the words "Kill! Kill! Kill!" until it became first nature to them. They would call rifle targets Bin-Ladens in an inspiration of contempt.

Even though these humans condition themselves as tactical war machines, they do so in order to protect them from an unsure near future. When the troops deploy, they enter a foreign land where there is a language barrier, a police state, and an enemy that looks like an ally. Insurgents don't dress in uniforms. They cloak themselves as civilians when they hide roadside bombs and other rigged devices. Some of the people on one block will adore the soldiers, while the next block hurls bricks at them. For many soldiers, they face a moment where they have to decide between protecting their own life and exterminating someone else's. There is not enough time to make a logical decision, so they rely on instinct.

Rob Sarra accidentally killed an innocent woman because he thought she had a bomb. He broke down when he realized she was reaching for a white

flag. The memory still haunts him.

"If I became a Muslim, I still couldn't bring back that woman," Sarra says. "There's nothing I can do to reverse that."

When their one year term expires, and the soldiers come home, they have two options. The first, according to the film, involves staying at the base to receive treatment for any kind of psychological or physical treatment. The other involves simply going home. Most likely, after spending a year on the battlefield, a soldier would prefer to go home. Once trained to kill, society expects them to turn off the switch to their instinct and resume their lives as "normals" once again. In one way or another, all of the soldiers come home with injury. Some have lost limbs, but almost all have some sort of psychological trauma that severely affects their conduct in society.

A lot of soldiers endure the disorder, formerly known as "shell shock," called Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). With out the steadfast support of family, the soldiers confront the issues of readjusting to family life, personal life, and social life. They often develop anger issues or substance abuse problems and sometimes fall into a life of crime. Their heightened sense of observation

often provokes a deeply rooted paranoia in them. In order to acquire treatment, they must file a complaint and wait 120 days for treatment. A lot can fall apart in 120 days --- a marriage, a career, a life. While some soldiers linger around in desperation, waiting for treatment, the government completely shuns some of or other returning veterans.

More and more, the federal government deems a veteran unworthy of examination because of a "prior personality disorder," according to the movie. Basically, that would mean that the government could decide that someone was ineligible for psychological treatment if they could attribute the disease to a pre-existing disorder (a great way to rubber stamp a person's life away). For the rest of these soldiers lives, anything could throw them back into the war, to a time where they were forced to commit acts that haunt them.

The Ground Truth strayed from the typical fluffy expert rhetoric that often discredits the actual value of some documentaries. This film drafted its audience right into the action and fueled itself on candid interviews and hostile clips. The storytelling fell solely on the troops, which made the film hard to digest.

Voter Apathy: an Editorial

BY WILLIAM KLINE
ADP EDITOR

In all honesty, most college students don't have the time to comb through thousands of pages of documents to inform themselves about current events. Between tests, jobs, parking, and that distant memory of family and friends, a day barely yields enough time to read a newspaper. If you're reading this article, you're one of the lucky ones. But, the vast majority has a very little attention span for verbose, conflict driven stories. So when Election Day rolls around, many young people find themselves pulling random levers and dimpling random chads.

Criticism tends to fall among the 18-25 year olds for not voting and lacking in civic duty. But, according to civicy-

outh.org, 70 percent of youths had registered to vote in the 2004 presidential election. Youth voters can attribute the percent increase from the previous presidential election in the year 2000 to the many voting initiatives that target young people in places like college campuses.

Civicyouth.org published a statistic that claims that 38% of young people (ages 18 to 29) didn't register to vote because politics did not interest them. A similar finding (39%) showed that adults (ages 30 and older) didn't vote because of the same reason. Therefore, adults actually factored a lack of interest in their reasoning for not voting as often as young people did. But, with the hype of the 2008 election building, it's time for the lingering thirty percent of our nation's young and unaffected non-voters to mark their calendars and meet the

candidates who want to run this country.

Students dispelled a common myth that the young people of America display a complete lack of interest in politics. Numbers and statistics reveal that young people consider themselves informed but, actually, most people are impervious to current events. Firsthand, I have witnessed students who didn't know who served as Vice President of the United States. Most associated the name Dick Cheney with "the dude who shot that other guy."

"I don't know any of the candidates and I don't know what they're running for," said David Stanley, 20, in regards to why he doesn't vote. "And besides, isn't Hillary Clinton running or something?"

While some students refuse to vote due to a lack of information, others don't vote because it simply isn't rele-

vant. "I don't think a politician can really help me," said Leyna Gregorio, 20.

Their key issues, war, immigration, healthcare, abortion, and gay marriage, don't reflect the most pertinent issues that resonate young people's concerns. This doesn't suggest that they don't care, but their daily realities don't yet stretch that deep. In the realm of a young adult's world, they face issues like, finding a job and keeping a job. Young people have opinions on issues like war and abortion, and strong ones too. Sadly though, some do not have an opinion either way. But, if politicians presented the issues to young people in ways that mirror the facets of their everyday life, they would be more inclined to respond at the polls

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Eating Popcorn Can Kill You

BY NERVANA GABALLA
CONTRIBUTOR

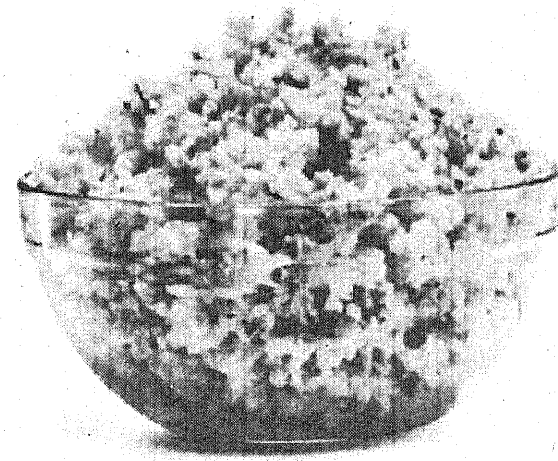
You might want to think twice before you stuff your face with the delicious buttery taste of microwave popcorn. According to a Times excerpt, a man who has been eating two bags of popcorn for the last ten years has developed a life-threatening lung disease known as popcorn lung. This illness is said to be caused by an additive called diacetyl, which gives the popcorn its buttery taste.

A U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention spokeswoman, Bernadette Burden, said, "This is the first time we're being made aware of a potential consumer case."

The prior cases have all involved factory workers who have developed a popcorn lung from being exposed to diacetyl daily over a long period of time. According to questions and answers frequently asked on the website butterflavoringlunginjury.com "The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) reports that it has found cases of severe lung disease among workers at popcorn factories who breathed butter flavoring vapors, which contain the chemical diacetyl."

Animal studies conducted by NIOSH showed that diacetyl in popcorn butter flavoring was highly toxic to the airways of rats." But, diacetyl was still being used in the factories continuing to harm workers. "Investigators at the NIOSH say that workers who make a wide variety of products, from candy to snack cakes to potato chips, could be at risk of developing a severe lung disease associated with breathing butter flavoring vapors."

From this, it can be concluded that consumers who buy candy, snack cakes, and potato chips with diacetyl as an ingredient, are at harm of developing the popcorn lung. Popcorn lung, or more scientifically known as bronchiolitis obliterans, has no cure except a lung transplant. The symptoms range from skin irritation,



shortness of breath, episodes of mild fatigue, dry cough, and severe skin rashes.

ConAgra Foods Inc., the maker of Act II and Orville Redenbacher said that they will remove diacetyl from the popcorn. A ConAgra spokeswoman, Stephanie Childs said, "We made that decision in order to provide our employees with the safest work environment possible but also to eliminate even the perception of concern for consumers." According to an article found in Revolution Health called "FDA to probe popcorn link in man's lung disease" shares of ConAgra decreased by 1.6 percent on the New York Stock Exchange.

ConAgra Foods Inc. also are makers of Pam, Slim Jim, Healthy Choice,

Parkay, Chef Boyardee, Banquet, and many more.

The question that should be concerning us, the consumers, is how far will the companies' ignorance go until another person is fallen ill with a product of theirs. This subject of the popcorn lung surfaced nationally when a man who ate a certain product developed abnormal side effects to the food in question: popcorn. Nowadays, every food entering our body has been preserved, "cleaned" with pesticide, and/or flavored for better taste through chemicals that, like diacetyl, are toxic. So as a word of advice to all students, always check the nutrition label for diacetyl. If a certain food contains this harmful chemical push it aside and go eat an organic fruit. Just know what you are taking in when you are eating what you think is just naturally flavored popcorn or anything else for that matter. The Food and Drug Administration approved diacetyl as a flavor ingredient, which shows how much knowledge they have about health; from this case, none whatsoever.

The Makings of a Fashionista

BY TIFFANY JEFFREY
CONTRIBUTOR

Andrea Garcia is a young woman who knows what she wants out of school, a career, and a relationship. Dressed in simple black shorts and a purple shirt with silver designs, Andrea is very subtle with her fashion approach. Her ensemble was completed with straight flowing hair and uniquely shaped stylish bangle bracelets. She informed me that one of her pet peeves is when people mispronounce her name. Also that her name is spelled with an accent over the "e" but she chooses not to write it that way because "it looks weird."

In a few years her name will bear a ring of recognition. Andrea is focused and ambitious yet surprisingly friendly. Her determination does not make her unapproachable, which made getting to know her interestingly eventful. As it is drawing near her 19th Birthday, Andrea is already quite knowledgeable about her career goals and what is needed to accomplish them. She has a master plan mapped out. Andrea continuously makes aspirational decisions that are calculated and geared towards her many life objectives. The most important to her now is becoming a Fashion Journalist.

Andrea is a sophomore currently enrolled at the College of Staten Island. She is majoring in Journalism. Though she likes CSI, the college is only a stepping stone which enables her to contin-

"My long-term goal is to become Editor in Chief at a high end magazine like Vogue; I want to be a household name."

ue her journey through the ever-growing world of fashion. This Brooklyn native is currently taking an Introduction to Journalism course this semester, which she expects to learn the fundamentals of writing for print magazines. After she obtains the required credits needed, she intends to transfer to the New York City Fashion Institute of Technology to continue her education.

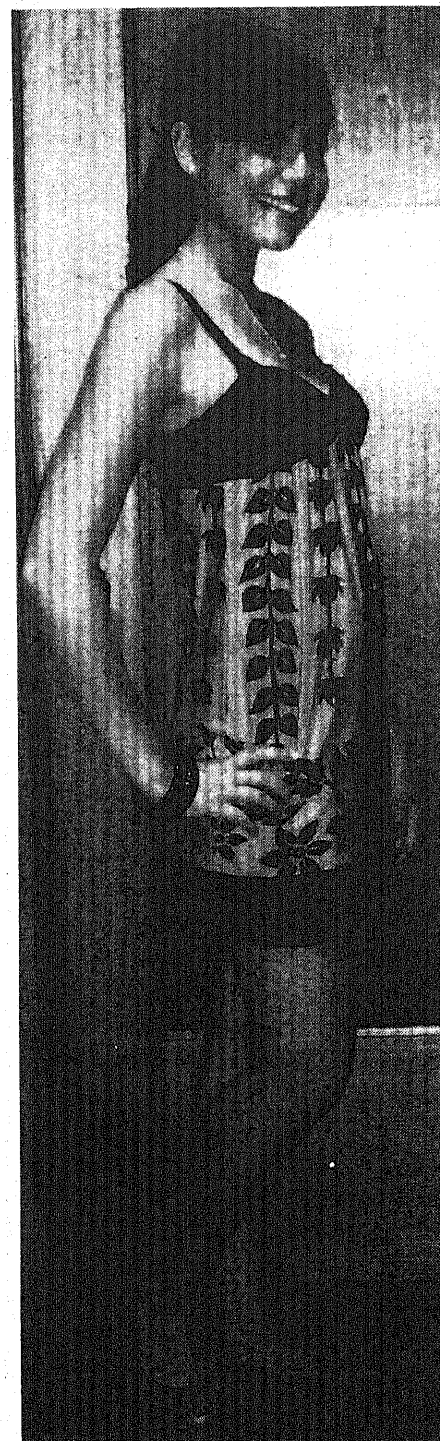
"A degree from FIT will make you more appealing to employers," Andrea said. Following the completion of school, Andrea will be ecstatic to close the "education" chapter of her life to open her next chapter as a career woman. However, she knows that the learning process will truly only just begin and that the work place is an educational experience within itself.

She loves "Inconsolable" by the Back Street Boys. "It reminds me of a past relationship," Andrea said. "And how the breakup impacted my life." Andrea also believes that the song continues to help her to move on with her

life through disappointments while not forgetting its pains. Her second song is The Pussy Cat Dolls' "I Don't Need a Man," which also illustrates her appreciation of life, independence and solitude. Song number three "What Goes Around, Comes Around" by Justin Timberlake speaks to her strong belief of karma. Her fourth and fifth songs "Breakaway" by Kelly Clarkson and "Big Girls Don't Cry" by Fergie both encourage her to go out on her own to become the woman that she is determined to be.

Her songs selection only reiterates my initial impression of the young and insightful woman. Despite heartache and other obstacles that would have normally thwarted the spirits of many people by slowing down or even halting their overall mission due to doubt and grief, Andrea does not wallow in misery and pain long enough to forget her goals. "My long-term goal is to become Editor in Chief at a high end magazine like Vogue; I want to be a household name." Her determination is unrelenting and her story, though it has just begun, is encouraging to her peers. She will be a great asset to the fashion community.

Right: Andrea Garcia models a dress for adoring photographers.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: Willowbrook State School Lives On?

Has CSI ever thought about using the resources that they already have in terms of maintaining the campus? There are so many social, civic, and school groups on Staten Island that are constantly looking for various community service projects. Why not let them do something for CSI, Staten Island's only public institution of higher learning? Even some students at CSI would be willing to do something extra for their school. The Department of Building and Grounds should initiate an ongoing community based program where volunteers take on small projects to beautify and protect the grounds. If the current budget can't cover large scale projects, why not start small? Volunteer groups could clear out our parking lots and walkways of litter and debris. There could be various projects taking place depending on the time of year. I can't recall a time that I didn't have to climb over overgrown weeds, dead tree limbs, and trash on the walking paths in the wooded area between 1P and the gravel lots. A group of volunteers could spend an afternoon clearing those paths and earn community service hours. Many of the other parks on Staten Island, frequently host community wide events such as "It's My Park Day" to promote a cleaner and safer outdoor environment. This spring, I would look forward to CSI hosting an "It's My Campus Day" where the college and surrounding communities stepped in to make CSI more beautiful. The potential is there. We don't need more funding for a project like this. We just need someone in the administration to let it happen.

Joey Caramanno

I think it's so unfortunate that we can call ourselves "the largest campus in NYC" but can't be proud of the campus itself. I myself have noticed the various maintenance problems around the campus, and it kinda makes you wonder, where the hell are my thousands a year going? Listen up administration, we want to actually see our dollars being put to good use!

Chrissy Deliso

As I read the article "Willowbrook State School Lives On," I can't help but agree with the writer's opinion. Every day that I walk on the campus at the College of Staten Island, it's hard to avert my attention from the landscape that's dwindling away. When I was a freshman, I didn't take notice to the scene around me; I was too concerned about getting to class on time and other matters. As time went on, and I was used to seeing the same campus every day; it was hard not to observe how

poorly the trees and grass were taken care of. I think we can all agree the parking conditions here are absolutely horrible. It takes me about twice the amount of time to find a parking space than it does just to drive to school. We put enough money towards other areas in Staten Island, and it's time to start rebuilding the campus. A large amount of students attend CSI, both from Staten Island and other areas, and I believe the college should be a representation of superiority and not of neglect.

Melissa Hayden

Thank you for addressing some of the issues CSI currently faces. While the school is said to be the largest campus in NYC, I wonder why students are perpetually confronted to parking issues.

The pot holes and gravel parking lots show a pitiful image of the 204-acre site. If enough funds are not allocated for the maintenance and improvement of the campus, then where is the money collected from the decal sale? Are not those revenues used to maintain the parking lots?

Students would certainly want to know how CSI is spending the parking fees if the campus is unable to provide decent parking lots. Otherwise, students should not be charged by the college to park on gravel lots that are causing more harm than good to many cars.

Abdulai Bah

I have definitely noticed that the school is not being kept up to par. It's pretty easy to notice, you can't miss it. When you look out the window and notice the window is being kept open by a garbage bin or just by looking at the picture in The Banner, you see how things are falling apart. Just like the saying goes for cars, they last as long as you maintain them, the same can be said about the campus. Just show the campus a little love. I understand these things take money but come on.

Nick Drossos

When reading this article, I couldn't help but nod my head in agreement. Being a sophomore at CSI, I have noticed the broken steps, the destructed fountains, overgrown weeds etc. CSI is CUNY's largest campus and the City should be proud of that. Cleaning up the campus' landscape would be a good way to show their sense of pride. In the spring and summer time, the green lawns and blooming trees certainly don't match well with broken stairs and side walks.

Andrea Garcia

I agree with your article that CSI's campus needs fixing up. Some of the outdoor landscape is in dire need of a fix-up, and it reflects poorly on the school itself. I agree that we should

spend more money on landscaping and making the campus beautiful, but I do not agree with taking money from parks. Who can say that people don't use the Staten Island parks enough, or that the people who do use it, do not deserve that they are kept as well as they usually are. I personally enjoy the parks on Staten Island, and it makes a great change from the constant flood of houses and shopping centers here. Fixing the CSI campus is a good idea, hurting the parks of SI is a bad one.

Nicholas Rizzi

It's really sad that our campus had gotten this bad. Overgrown weeds (God only knows what's living in them), the cracks in concrete, poor drainage in the fountain. I can't help but agree with Sarah Schulman on the 1980s East Germany comment she made. The City should try to do something about this or else CSI may lose potential students who will come to see the school as garbage-choked shack.

Nicole Prata

I never realized the poor maintenance conditions CSI had until I read this article. People are always accidentally tripping over the broken sidewalks as they bashfully look around in embarrassment to see if anyone saw them. Our campus is beautiful, but if you look closely, there is much work that needs to be done like have cleaner bathrooms that don't have rusted doors with broken locks. The administration is always rushing students to pay for their bills or any other unexpected bill, so why don't they apply that same urgency towards repairing the school grounds? Guess that's just one of the many issues that President Morales will have to solve.

Jenifer Cortes

Re: New Student Government President at CSI

Useless. That's what CSI's newest president is. Utterly useless. I will address your post chronologically:

Firstly, how wholesome is it for a collegiate body to have its highest form of student representation to be CONSTANTLY tired? Sleeping four hours a NIGHT? Jesus, I don't see how a run-down president can best serve the student's interests.

Secondly, she comments that, "In the past I think things were more political..." POLITICAL? Bull-crap. And to further display her ineptitude, she lazily comments that she knows what students want, and what turns "a lot of people off." This is no fascism. Give us someone who will NOT make these elementary fascist-like assumptions. (Proving her own lack of care is the third paragraph of Cohen's piece, whereby she labels the entire student body APA-

THETIC!)

What is certainly neglected is the "diversified talents and abilities" of the representative staff. This article completely fails to mention even ONE of these traits. Simply, the only characteristic that resounds of this poorly capable president is lack of CANDOR.

Thirdly, lacking in taste is the segment about her anxieties of releasing her personal email address. First of all, how does this begin to illustrate her willingness to contribute to the CSI community? None. Simply, releasing a private e-mail to a student body while simultaneously muttering of your fears of STALKERS in the SAME BREATH really hits home of the quality of our president. "Attractive, intelligent young woman" the article reads. How carelessly this smacks of what many simply care about. Looks.

Again, prove me wrong. Prove US wrong, and actually DELIVER us a promise or two about major changes that will take place. She promises a "FRIENDLY atmosphere," yet I DEMAND more expression and democracy on campus. Many of the intelligent and rational students on campus would profusely agree.

Our money, which comes at great expense in the Staten Island environment, is frivolously discarded for UMBRELLAS? What about the computers on campus in desperate need of fixing? What about the broken gym floors, the low-moral security staff that is quick to their rude remarks of the students?

What about restoring some damn pride in the CSI atmosphere by holding some PEP rallies? Or maybe by giving us a president we can be proud of?

Many ambiguous things have been said by her, but will any be delivered? Will she dignify a student body long deprived of ONE acceptable student body president?

For the sake of all students at CSI, who cannot see through the murky promises of the fledgling president:

AIR this article. Let it be heard or printed so that we, as a conscious body, can and WILL progress as well-informed group of scholars.

James Plunkett

Re: Why Did Allison die?

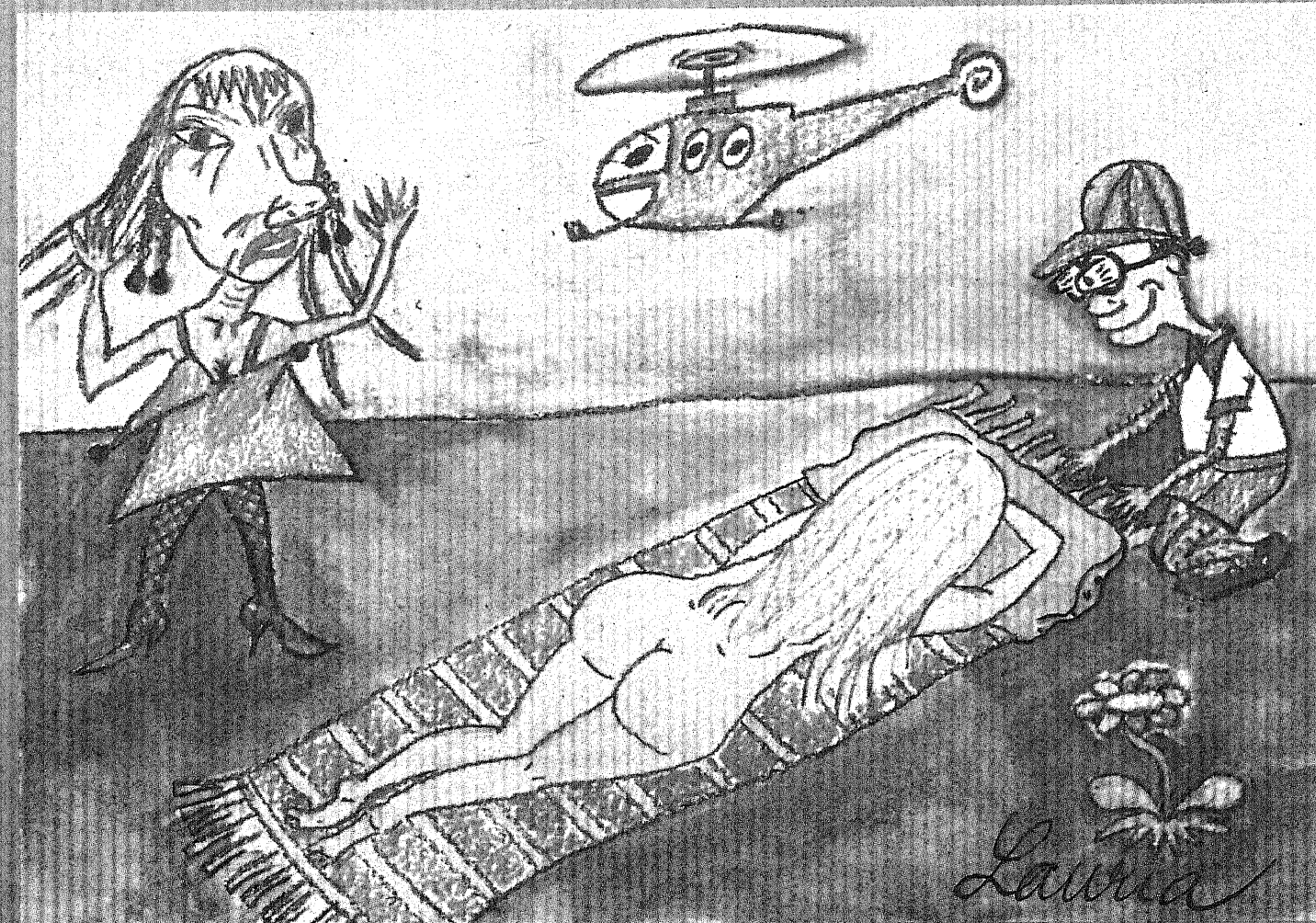
The article about Allison Cunningham, the CSI graduate who mysteriously died, was very touching. It was shocking to learn that someone so young could die without an apparent cause. Allison was a very successful graduate from the college and had a great future ahead of her, but tragically, it was cut short. In future issues of The Banner I hope to find updates on Allison's story and find out exactly what took her life.

Amanda Comparato

The Comedy Club

Short Moments with Theresa & Jorge

By Lucie Lauria

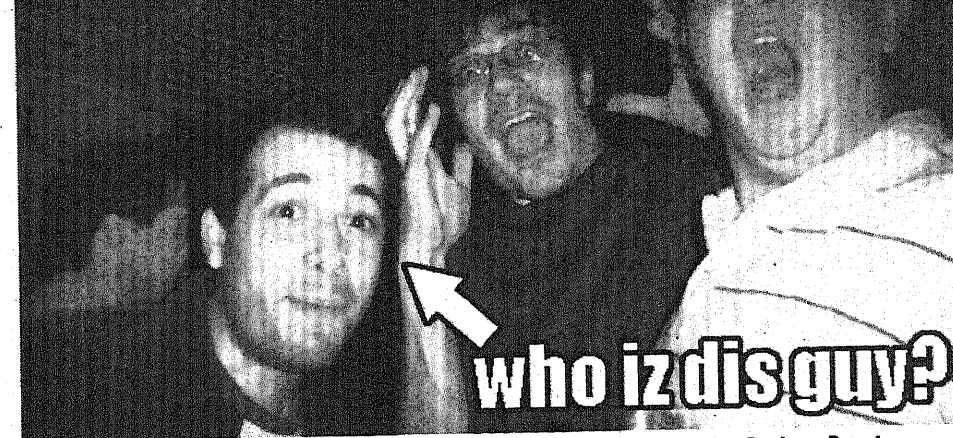


Come on, Jorge. Let's go home. Now I know why that helicopter was hovering around.



Can my boyfriend renew his GED here?

DAPS iz continuin? who izdisguy?



Chris, Carlo, and thier buddy Broderick at Bonelli's Blowout Birthday Bash at Burrito Bar. Photo by: Nicole Bonelli, Funny Caption by: Chris, Carlo, and Matthew Broderick (really)

New President of Local 342

BY SAMUEL JAMES
CONTRIBUTOR

To celebrate my election as Local 342's President I am inviting the press to my home office in Manalapan to see the knick-knacks that I keep on my shelf.

The knick-knacks are arranged in sentimental order from least sentimental, to most sentimental. I keep the shelf very tidy, dusting every Sunday before I attend Mass at First Lutheran.

My wife helps me categorize my knick-knacks, which I lovingly refer to as my "sugars," because sometimes I need help figuring out how sentimental they are to me. We spread them out on the dining room table and go through them one-by-one. As we have done this last night I am confident in the integrity of the order of my collection. I shant tell you of our process in organization, but know this. It is very rigorous. We often spend two to three hours each month doing so.

This top shelf contains sugars I have received from my family. This hat was given to me by my uncle James. He had seen it sitting on the roof of a 1996 Ford Taurus one day. He had waited by his windows keeping an eye on the hat to ensure that it's owner would retrieve it. After seven hours of watching and protecting the hat, I say protecting because there are many children on his block that have the tendency to take what does not belong to them. After these several hours of watching he decided to take it in himself and give it a good home. As you can see it is a little worm, but clean. My uncle James loved this hat. He even placed his favorite pin from the local I now represent, next to this vintage pepsi-cola emblem. On the right side of course. My uncle James was left handed you see, and felt the guilt of having the devil in him like that. So everything he did, he did on the right hand side. That's the side of the lord.

Next to that is a baseball card my grandson gave me. He's 8 right now and bright as anything. The card is of his favorite player, Bernie Williams.

Personally I think that's because his father, my son-in-law goes on and on about him. I don't think he's that good. And why is a little kid gonna like a player like Bernie Williams? I just don't understand these kids now a days, they grow up so quickly.

This photo is of a particular view I had seen when I was in South Dakota. Now there isn't much there to begin with, except maybe this view, so I figure that hundreds of people who visited this particular town since way back, must have the same photo. I guess it makes me feel like I'm a part of something special.

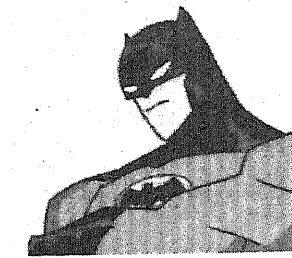
This lighter may look like a regular lighter. Windproof, shiny chrome finish, but take a look at the engraving. It reads "Look up!" I found this outside my door one night, when I used to live in Old Bridge. When I picked it up, and read the engraving, I did just that. I looked up. You know what I saw? A bright beam of light shooting across the sky. Too quick to be an airplane and far too blue to be a shooting star. If I were to pull it out of the sky, it'd be as big as a nickel. I imagine that it must have been tremendous. At that moment I ran inside to call the police, but then I realized that I was special.

I knew that if I was connected to that light in this way, with this lighter, that I could use it somehow to bring them back.

It took me years of studying and playing with the lighter, which I now believe is a transmitter to sentient beings from another galaxy, I have finally figured out how to contact those beings, and call them down to earth.

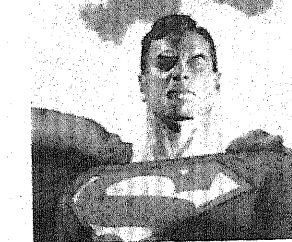
I believe in doing this that they will enslave the human race and slowly eradicate them. The human race has been a plague upon the planet, and have begun to understand too much, too soon. Our feeble minds may understand the secrets of the universe, but cannot imagine what to do with the power that comes with it. We will be destroyed and all will be set right again in the universe.

CELEB SIGHTINGS @ CSI



"We originally formed the Justice League to protect the student body from Parking Services. Parking in Times Square is cheaper than those tickets they write."

-Batman



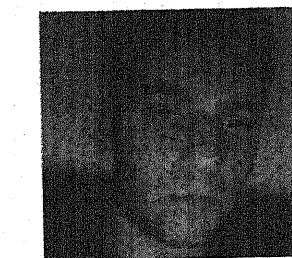
"There is a Facebook group trying to convince Dane Cook™ to perform at CSI. He is not funny. All he does is yell synonyms. Are you all that stupid?"

-Superman



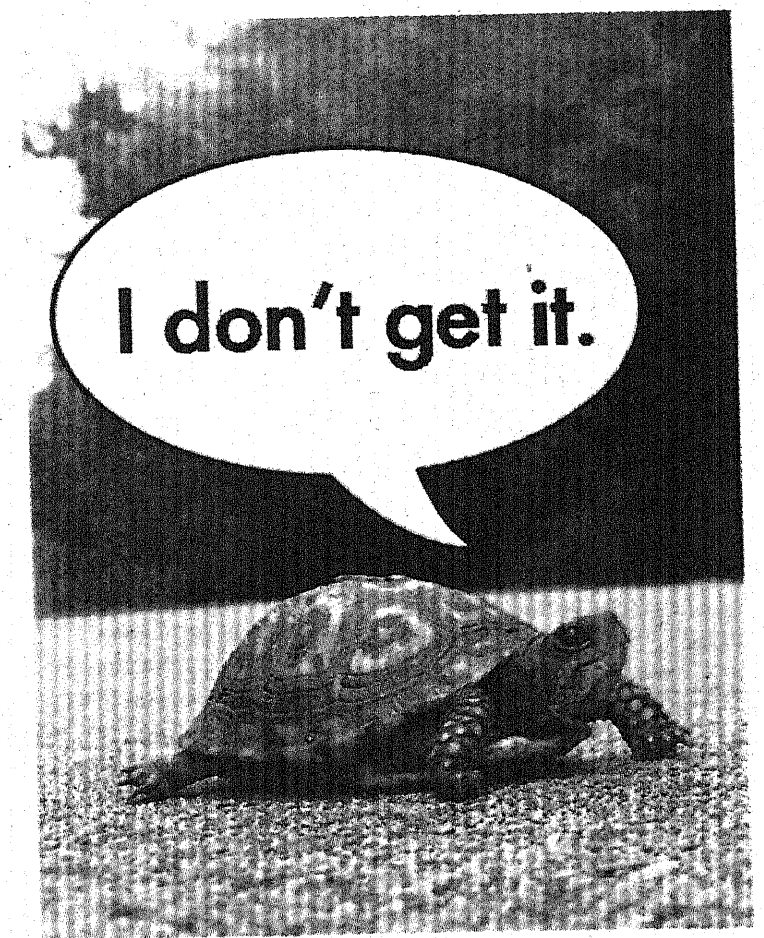
"My weakness is Yellow. Seriously, what kind of bull\$hit is that? I Suck."

-Green Lantern
*note from DAPS Editors:
We should have interviewed the Flash.*



"I work for Marvel now, Screw the Justice League, and screw the Banner. However my bosses over at Marvel would like to aquire the rights to Theresa and Jorge."

-Dan Colonna



Carlo's Cute Cuddly Critters



DAPS Retraction:

We apologize sincerely for mentioning Steve in the Mac Lab last issue.

"Sorry Steve! We still love you! It will never happen again!"

- Chris and Carlo

Nicole Bonelli's SEX AND THE ISLAND

No Ifs, No Ands, Just Butts.

Met a guy that wanted to be more than "just friends"? Check. Received/given mind blowing oral sex? Check. Finally reached the land of milk and honey? Check. Fell in love? Check. Talked to a professor about anal sex? Check. Wait a minute... isn't that sexual harassment? I'm calling my lawyer! Oh, who am I kidding, I'm a 21 year old college student who works part time at The Y.M.C.A. I can't afford a Starbucks' Raspberry

"Call me a scardie cat, but I have never, and will never be brave enough to bend over and scream, 'Yes Sir May I have another?'"

Latte let alone a lawyer.

When word broke out about my Writers Block Syndrome, students, friends, and even professors came to my aid. Throwing in their two sense about possible topics to discuss, everyone wanted to help the sex columnist. To my surprise, anal sex won by a landslide. Hoping that curiosity would not kill the writer, I felt it was my duty to find out why the hell everyone is so fascinated with back door lovin'. It has become this

controversial topic that pokes at everyone's minds... and behinds. No pun intended.

BANNER STAFF BRAINS ACTIVATE! When we're not sitting around watching videos on YouTube, inappropriate conversations that would make any truck driver's ears bleed are exchanged in order to help us procrastinate. Brain storming soon made a turn for story time as a writer who chose to remain nameless revealed the messy truth about daddy's little girl. "My friend was having anal sex with his girlfriend when her dad came home. He paused. "Her dad walked in on them, and with all of his force, pulled the boyfriend off his daughter." With our jaws dropped to the floor, he continued. "In the process, her rectum exited with his penis." Reconstructive surgery may have repaired this girl's junk in the trunk nightmare, but that image is forever burned in my mind like a bad porno scene... a really bad one.

Speaking of porn, why has an industry that has casted Jenna Jameson in countless videos painted this act as a Picasso? I'm sorry to bust 99.9% of the male race's bubble, but the majority of women you date are not porn stars. We are turned off by the idea of having something entering the back door.

Call me a scardie cat, but I have never, and will never be brave enough to bend over and scream, YES SIR, MAY I

HAVE ANOTHER? Anal sex is just not my cup of tea, and with good reasoning. A few months ago, Willie, a two year old humping machine Boston Terrier jumped on the couch while I read my boyfriend's anaconda. Caught up in the heat of the moment, my midnight delight came to a halt as I felt our twosome develop into a threesome. Not wanting to come to

"I felt it was my duty to find out why the hell everyone is so fascinated with back door lovin'. It has become this controversial topic that pokes at everyone's minds, and behinds."

terms with the fact that a dog had just tossed my salad, I sat there speechless as my boyfriend complained about me "ruining the moment."

But believe it or not, there is light on the other side of the crack. Millions of people around the world are left screaming "GIMME MORE," and I am pretty sure it's not because Britney Spears says it fifty thousand times in her new

song.

So, are you contemplating about entering the area of the unknown? Here are a few tips for having a safe and successful voyage:

Tip 1: Come prepared! Make a checklist for yourself including the following: a towel, a bottle... or two... or three of lube, and most importantly, a flash light. Ok, the last one was a joke, but wouldn't it be cool to make shadow puppets?

Tip 2: That isn't mud. If you have a bad stomach, proceed with caution. "My friend was having anal sex with some girl... and well, let's just say she didn't make it to the bathroom before nature called."

Tip 3: Let's talk about sex... while we're having sex. Communication is essential in a relationship. If you are ever uncomfortable, the other person will not know how you feel unless you SPEAK UP. If you can scream and moan during sex, you can talk about your feelings.

Tip 4: Don't believe the myths: "My ex-boyfriend told me that my ass would grow if we had anal sex. So, I believed him and went through with it... We broke up two years ago and I'm still waiting for it to grow."

Tip 5: Who let the dogs out? Unless you are into bestiality, don't allow the dog to stay in the room... it's going to be a long night.

Majors Week Approaches, Time To Find A Calling

BY JENNA CALDERON
STAFF WRITER

It's never too soon to start thinking about the future. Whether you are a freshman or a senior, it is important to begin to consider where you want to be not only in college, but after it's over as well.

From Monday, October 29th - Thursday, November 1st the Career and Scholarship Center, along with FedEx will be hosting CSI's annual Majors Week. All week there will be programs and workshops being held designed to help gear students towards choosing a major, including information about various majors as well as the processes involved in picking one. There will also be career testing for those who have no inkling of what they want to do, the results of which will indicate to students the possible careers and majors they

should be considering.

Aside from workshops, on Thursday the 1st from 10AM-2PM a part-time job fair is going to be held in the atrium of 1P. Represented will be On Your Mark, Hollister, Target, Northwestern Mutual, Safe Horizon, FedEx, Circuit City, Christmas Tree Store, Staten Island University Hospital, A Very Special Place, and Clove Lakes Health Care and Rehabilitation Center. All of these stores and organizations will be doing interviews right on the spot, so this will definitely be a great opportunity to check out if any student is interested in procuring a job for the near future.

For additional information contact the Career and Scholarship Center at (718)-982-2300, or stop by for a visit in 1A-105 to talk with counselors about careers, majors, scholarships, internships or anything else you may need.

MAJORS WEEK
OCTOBER 29-NOVEMBER 1

Career Testing 10:00-12:00 Atrium CFA, 1P	How Your Interests Determine Your Major 11:00-12:00 1A-107	Who's Really Looking At Your MySpace? 1:30-2:30 1C-211	Part-Time Job Fair 11:00-2:00 Atrium CFA, 1P
How Philosophy Can Change Your Life 10:00-11:00 1C-211	When the CUNY BA/BS Program and Why It's Great 11:00-12:00 1A-107	Who's Really Looking At Your MySpace? 1:30-2:30 1C-211	Part-Time Job Fair 11:00-2:00 Atrium CFA, 1P
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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
Career and Scholarship Center
1A-105
(718) 982-2300

Partner Programs
Your ability to succeed and succeed

Keep a look out for this poster to find out dates, times and locations for all of the Major's Week Events!

Our Picks:
Part-Time Job Fair
Nov 1st 10am-2pm 1P Atrium
Careers for English Majors
Nov 1st 12pm-1pm 1A-107
Who's Really Looking At Your MySpace?
Nov 1st 1:30pm-2:30pm 1C-211
How Philosophy Can Change Your Life
Oct 30th 11:30am-12:30pm 1C-215
How Your Interests Determine Your Major
Oct 29th 11am-12pm 1A-107

Kiss Me Kate in concert at the Saint George Theatre

BY JOHN ADRIAN
STAFF WRITER

The Staten Island Philharmonic presented two performances of a concert version of Cole Porter's 1948 musical (filmed by MGM in 1953) Kiss Me Kate at the Saint George Theatre on Saturday, September 29th under the direction of Deborah Kym with choreography by Bryan Jarrett.

It tells the story of a pair of once married Broadway musical stars who have been cast as Petruccio and Katharine in a Broadway revival of Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew. In today's musical theater world such casting is a little far fetched, but almost sixty years ago the idea was not unbelievable. One of the beauties of musical theater in that age was like the beauty of grand opera according to Anna Russell, "You can do anything as long as you sing (and dance) it."

The Petruccio and Katharine of this production of Shew, Fred Graham and Lilli Vanessi, though divorced are still in love with each other. The issue

becomes how will the tempestuous rekindling of their personal relationship affect the production.

In the MGM film version you know whether you are watching Kiss Me Kate or The Taming of the Shew by whether the sets are realistic for the former or surrealistic (theatrical) for the latter. When you do the show in a concert version the audience has to pay somewhat closer attention. However, with Cole Porter's music and lyrics and Sam and Bella Spewak's book, this is no chore.

To say that the Staten Island Philharmonic's production of Kiss Me Kate is a "concert version" is to suggest the singer/actors stand around holding books and scores while reading from them. Nothing was farther from the truth in this production, which was, in fact, fully staged and choreographed. All that was lacking was scenery, some additional costuming and an orchestra in the pit.

The orchestra, on stage behind the actor/singer/dancers, was smaller than a symphonic orchestra, but larger than the

usual Broadway pit band. It was wonderful under the baton of musical director Daniel Lepek, and well shows the quality of the Staten Island Philharmonic's members, the perfect accompaniment for the very talented performers who, in large part, donated their time and talents.

Among the performers, all of whom stood out even in the smallest parts, were David Weitzer as Fred/Petruccio who is handsome and has a fine, rich baritone voice and Tiffan Borelli as Lilli/Katharine who is as beautiful as Weitzer is handsome and who sings with a beautiful, clear soprano. Both of them are also excellent actors.

I cannot write about this production without also mentioning Stanley Wayne Mathis as Paul and Jannie Jones as Hattie whose singing and dancing would have stolen the show were it not for Martin C. Hurt and Douglas Leland as Man #1 and Man #2, the acting, singing, dancing thugs who show-up early on to collect a gambling debt and remain to instruct the audience in how to pick-up

women by "Brush(ing) Up Your Shakespeare" (with three encores at the matinee).

The Staten Island Philharmonic is a community-based orchestra formed in 2005 to enrich the cultural life of this island. It is managed by and made-up of talented local professional musicians who play together for the love of music, classical and contemporary, with a goal of building both performers and audiences for the future. Its next performance will be an evening of Beethoven, Mozart and Brahms, Saturday, November 3rd at 8:00 in the Springer Concert Hall, Building 1P.

The orchestra needs volunteers to help sell program ads, assemble mailings, usher, and do many other things. If you are interested, write: Staten Island Philharmonic, 14 Brentwood Avenue, 10301-2004 or e-mail SIPhilharmonic@aol.com.

Media Conference from front

said Goldstein during the panel discussion, "It encourages lazy writing."

Guests convened in a separate panel, "How to Protect Your Sources— and Stay out of Jail," and delved into the more serious issue of law and journalistic freedoms. Sponsored by the Media Law Resource Center, the panel revolved around the protection of anonymous sources or confidential information.

"Web-Friendly Newsrooms: Staying Ahead of the Curve," brought technology to the forefront, as well as the issue of the fledgling print branch of the media. They targeted journalists who have a knack for the tech stuff.

Finally, in "Niche Magazines: A Success Story," Jocelyn R. Taylor of Uptown, a magazine that is geared towards the African American community, talked about her own travails as self propelled publisher. But, while the panels did bustle with restless queries from eager listeners, the true nature of competitive journalism came out at the mid-day job fair.

Dressed like working professionals, donned in business suits and hoisting leather brief cases, hoards of job seekers clutched their portfolios and resumes" on some of the endless lines. The lines led to job recruiters from some of the most respected names in media such as CBS News, The New York Times, the Associated Press, 1010 Wins, and Time Inc. Those who jockeyed for positions and exercised extreme patience gained a brief chance to inquire about possible internships and employment positions. Others strayed from the glamorous mainstream publications and headed toward the less known

job recruiters such as AM New York, the Star Ledger, and the New York Observer.

Following the barrage of the pushy and aggressive wave of representation

"Online is important for anyone trying to break into the industry."

at the job fair, the Conference finished out the day with three seminars. The topics discussed ranged from internship opportunities at the New York Times, careers in sports casting, continued education at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, and the transformation form print journalism to online media technology.

"Online is important for anyone trying to break into the industry," said Goldstein.

With the expanding industry undertaking massive changes, both in the way of how journalists record news and how they distribute it, the field's competitive nature increases. Opportunities have grown for struggling amateur writers with the advent of Wikipedia and blogs, but this leaves the integrity of the actual content of the news at question.

"It's anarchy out there," Goldstein adds.

Nevertheless, the CUNY Media Conference provides a forum for amateurs and professionals to discuss these issues and their consequences on those who hope to hone their craft and become successful and active members of their field.

Rose's Panacea

CSI aerobics instructor works seven days a week under sometimes precarious conditions to improve her students' health and mood

BY LUCIE LAURIA
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Rose Cahill, who lost a big part of her family to cancer, feeds off the energy she draws on in her everyday classes. Once the endorphin kicks in, during her workout, she feels life is worth living again.

"Workout is like a good cup cake," Rose says. "It makes your life easier, even if you go through breast cancer or diabetes. There have been girls on Prozac, girls with depression. They have now weaned themselves off the medication."

For Rose, physical exercise is like drugs. When she walks in the class, she doesn't think about anything. Workout time, her time to shine, relaxes her mind while keeping her body fit and healthy. Her classes and her students made her feel that it wasn't the end of the world.

Sometimes she has a headache or depression creeps in, but Rose has to get up at seven o'clock in the morning in her Tottenville home. A shower, bowl of Quaker cereals with honey, no sugar, and a glass of water wake her up. She jumps in her car and shoots to her 9:15 class at The Atlas gym.

After her 11:30 coffee, she rushes for her CSI class at 12:30. In her black

outfit and with a contagious smile on her face, Rose dances around her step, waving heavy free weights and prancing on colorful balls. Her students draw on her energy while she moves incessantly like a happy Energized Rabbit.

Finished with her CSI class, Rose grabs a bite of salad, egg whites, or tuna fish - something simple to make. Then she gears toward low impact in her spin class at the YMCA, riding a stationary bike and calling out movements for her students to do- jump, stand, up the hill! It's good for people who don't want to dance.

After an hour of toiling up and down the hills, she jumps off her stationary bike and teaches her step class.

Then it's time to eat that last cookie (if no one ate it) and hit the sack. Rose checks her email, voicemail, and makes a few phone calls. She does a lot of covering for other instructors. The old times show "Nick at Night" puts her right to

"Rose dances around her step, waving heavy free weights and prancing on colorful balls. Her students draw on her energy while she moves incessantly like a happy Energized Rabbit."

sleep if her adult children don't come by.

She credits her constant energy to rest, healthy diet, and the daily work-out.

As a kid, Rose was a tree climbing tomboy who grew up in a strict family of

Continued on page 10

Recipe for Better Sex

BY JENNIFER CORTES
CONTRIBUTOR

Who is at fault for you not having the explosive, mind blowing, breathtaking orgasm you deserve? You.

The problem is that we don't tell our mates, significant other or regular booty caller what it is we want when the lights go out and the bed starts rocking. Maybe the problem is that it's not rocking that's why so many women are walking around being man-haters because they're sexually frustrated.

Your friends will say, "Why don't you just buy a dildo?". But we all know nothing can substitute the mandingo and can you really see yourself screaming your name out, pulling your hair or asking yourself who's it? Maybe so if you're that into yourself or schizophrenic.

Here are some tips in how to

improve your sex life:

1. Talk Dirty - Phone sex is like verbal masturbation except that there's another party involved giving you feedback. This is a good way to build up the anticipation of wanting to see your partner and to get to know each other through creative speech and ladies I guarantee you the men will be giving you their full attention

2. Strip for your man - Teasing him with your body restricting him from touching you is a good way to get him aroused without having physical contact. Your feeding his eyes with goodies that he's beginning to hunger for. Men are spectators who like to watch scandalous things which is why they are so drawn to pornos and dirty magazines. Once in a while divert his attention to you and become his personal fantasy

3. Try new things - If you're getting tired of the same old thing cause its becoming routine why don't you take a different route. Try being promiscuous outside. Not recommending that you have sex outdoors but how about giving your guy a BJ while he's driving, arouse each other while at the movies (Hint: Make sure its not that crowded) or go to a party where you can get close with your clothes on. If you don't wish to go outside how about playing sex games where if you lose you have to take an article of clothing off and roll the sex dice that will randomly select a sexual pleasure that you must fulfill.

4. Blind fold him and feed your body parts - Why should the strawberries get to have all the fun? Instead of lathering the strawberries with whip cream, how about you add some flavor to your

favorite body part and become dessert

5. Three is not a crowd - Invite another player into the bedroom. Might be beneficial because your guy might be able to learn something about pleasing a woman and what better teacher would be able to teach a man about satisfying a woman's needs than a woman. Guessing that's one of the reasons why females are becoming bi-sexual and lesbians

All of these tips will help to make your relationship exciting and unpredictable. It's also important that you feel comfortable in front of your guy because if you're not you're more likely to be reluctant to try anything. Being conservative during sex is boring. My motto is: "Sex is a part of life. Why not do it".

Cancer from front

Cahill together with her Grace's Sunflower Girls want people stricken with cancer to know that they are not alone; they are standing behind them and not only this month.

"There are many women who have no insurance," Cahill says. "They should know there is help for them available. There are trucks with mammograms. There are places to go. Call 1.800.ACS.2345 or email Staten.Island.Strides@cancer.org, and maybe you won't have to wait at a regular doctor's office."

On Sunday morning people with come to Clove Lakes Park with carriages and babies. The organizers try not to make the event depressing, so there will be clowns to entertain the kids and adults alike. People will wear T-shirts with faces of their loved ones who died. Cancer survivors will wear special pink shirts.

The registration starts at 9:15 am at the registration area, right off the main entrance on Clove Road. Cahill recommends participants to bring a bottle of water, but breakfast and small snacks will be served. It's become a reunion where people will hug, make donations to The American Cancer Society, and talk. Every year, the number of participants grows because many people nowadays know somebody afflicted with cancer.

"You think about the people we lost," Marian Baldasanno, Cahill's student says. "My husband and I donate money. We also donate to a whole group of other organizations, starting from Alzheimer's to The Cancer Club."

Some of Cahill's students suffer from breast cancer. "Right now, as I am sitting here," Cahill says seated on a sofa at The Banner office. "I received a phone call telling me that this girl, my good friend, also has a breast cancer. She was a walker last year, she walked to support. This year, we are supporting her; we're walking for her on October

Liu from front

who has used the Hubble telescope on different occasions. He is also currently applying for the VLA, which stands for the Very Large Array to study black holes in other galaxies. A Black hole is a place in the universe which contain so much mass in a small volume. Anything that enters it disappears. For those of you that didn't know what it was, Liu explains it in a way we can understand. "Astronomy is a language like Spanish." Said Charles Liu. Once we learn how to speak the language we can understand the universe better.

Studying how galaxies are born, aged and die is his main area of expertise. Our galaxy the milky way will merge with another according to Liu in 5 million years, assuming the measurements are correct. He laughed, while telling me this was nothing to be worried about for our time.

"Astronomy is a language like Spanish. Once we learn how to speak the language we can understand the universe better."

Showing us "How we can use science as a tool to learn about the universe" is Charles Liu's primary goal as a professor. By using this method we can know where our universe came from and how it was formed. His students seemed to be dedicated, and it looks like he's about to stumble on another big discovery.

Charles Liu is a dedicated father of three, and a man of his students. His research continues to enlighten the science community. Its hard to believe that someone can find any part of science that exciting. But Charles Liu's students claim that he does more than find it exciting, he actually makes it entertaining. Jumping off a desk near you into your science class. Astronomy professor Charles Liu is part of a new age in science.

Rose' Panacea from page 9

three daughters. "I did like to play with dolls," she says. "And I liked boys; I still do."

She was considered a fast runner. She liked running, playing, and dancing.

Rose's father, who was born in Palermo, Sicily, owned a textile printing factory and worked for famous designers, including Versace. Her stay-at-home mom came from Bari, Italy.

A long time before she lost her parents and sister Grace to cancer, Rose gave birth to a son and a daughter. Shortly after she had her son, a woman, who lived on her block, took her to an aerobics class. "She introduced me to aerobics. I went to exercise classes," Rose says. "They said to me: 'Would you like to be an instructor?' I took tests after a six-month course and became an instructor."

Rose's CSI students love the atmosphere, but they don't like to be shifted around. They are not cared for as they should be, but they still keep coming back because of Rose. Women of all sizes and shapes, ages spanning between eighteen and seventy-three, continue to participate in Rose's classes despite being stared at by many men, like fish in a fishbowl, when they get kicked out of the gym to a racket-ball court.

"Sometimes they put us in a racket-ball court," Marian Baldassano, Rose's student, says. "They are lucky somebody doesn't get a heart attack here. Rose shouldn't be on a racket-ball court. We get shut down, they close for everything." Ms. Baldassano started with Rose when she was in her twenties, now she is forty-nine. They met in the Court of Appeals gym, and Ms. Baldassano still comes three days a week to Rose's class.

Despite the gym floor that crumbled again, an occasional noise of building workers, and the principle that "teachers come first," Rose's students do push-ups, squats, and sit-ups without a blink

even in a "fish tank."

"CSI has a beautiful sports complex," Rose says. "But it just needs to be maintained. I will work under bad conditions, but my staff and members shouldn't have to. There are fairs here; they rent the arena, but give us another place to work. This building should be an aerobics center unless there is a major holiday and the whole building is closed."

Many students don't even know about this building. They don't know this is what's here for them while the building is being rented out to some other organizations and events. Some students don't know that when stress from their tests comes in or a depression, they have a place to shut out their troubles and enjoy their hour of sanity.

"She is insane, but my sanity is her class," Colleen Costigliola, Rose's long-time student, says. "She keeps me sane. Absolutely, it's definitely my hour of sanity every day. I've been coming to her classes for fifteen years. My babies are Rosie's babies."

"I just worked out until nine months with doctor's permission," a student, who identifies herself as Rachel, says. "I lost my weight in two weeks 22 pounds. I came back to work out two weeks after I gave birth. They don't care about the members here."

While workout has become the pill of choice, sometimes it simply doesn't work.

A member, who comes to one of Rose's classes together with her husband, was a walker at Grace's Sunflower Girls' Walk. "Last year, she walked to support," Rose says. "This year, we are supporting her; we're walking for her on October 21st at Clove Lake Park. A lot of people I've come across have cancer. We want them to know we're standing behind them, and we always will."

BANNER SPORTS

Official Newspaper of the CSI Dolphins

Fiosa Begai Crowned Scholar-Athlete of The Month

BY MATT CIRELLI
SPORTS EDITOR

Junior Fiosa Begai, boosting a 3.8 GPA and leading the CUNYAC in scoring, was awarded for her work off the field and between the lines, by being named the CUNYAC Scholar-Athlete of the month.

Begai has played a key role in the Dolphin Women's soccer team clinching a number 1 seeded playoff berth this season. In games she has scored a goal CSI is a perfect 6-0. Head Coach John Guagliardo praised the Junior's efforts stating that she "works very hard at everything she does, and she deserves (the award)... She is a complete colle-



Begai's league lead in scoring along with her high GPA earned her the Scholar-Athlete of the Month award.

giate package."

Grateful for the recognition Begai states, "It is an honor knowing that my school work is getting acknowledged in this way." In regards to the successful season she is having thus far Begai explains, "having so many new faces, we are really blending well with one another and getting used to each other, on and off the field. The results are definitely showing."



Alyssa Pontecorvo leads dolphin attack, but fall short in a 2-0 loss to MSMC Photo Source: <http://csidolphins.com>

Women Blanked Again

Second Straight Shutout Starts Streak

BY MATT CIRELLI
SPORTS EDITOR

The Blue Knights of Mount Saint Mary kept the Dolphin women's soccer squad off the scoreboard for the second straight game, dropping their overall record to 7-6.

This comes after the women seemed to be playing unstoppable soc-

cer, as they torched their opponents in three straight victories, outscoring them 10-1. That streak was halted by Ramapo College who dominated the Dolphins in a 6-0 shutout, and now CSI finds themselves amidst back-to-back goalless losses.

Despite out shooting the Blue Knights by an impressive 25-15 mark, the Dolphins failed to take advantage of their opportunities, while MSMC cashed in on their limited chances. CSI was very much in the game, only trailing 1-0 at the half and for much of the second half, but Megan Cotta calmed every Dolphin attack as she saved 15 shots.

Both losses were non-conference games and CSI remained undefeated in division play. They have already secured the number one seed in the HVWAC for postseason play.

Three's a Charm

3-1 Victory Lifts Men into 3rd Place

BY MATT CIRELLI
SPORTS EDITOR

The Dolphin men's soccer squad rose into third place in the CUNYAC, via a 3-1 final over the NYC College of Technology, their third consecutive conference victory.

Teamwork was the theme of this victory as CSI scored each goal off of excellent assists. Jason Ribeiro, the Dolphins' leading scorer, got things rolling early as he sent Sam Musovic's lead pass ricocheting off the goalpost and into the net, six minutes into the game. Fifteen minutes later freshman Francesco Sciortino headed in Adam Birbaum feed. CSI tacked on the third

goal mid way through the second half when Sciortino picked up an assist as he led Ribeiro to his second score with an easy shot on goal.

The Dolphins were out shot during the contest 20-13, but they took advantage of their opportunities. Goalkeeper Ronaldo Btsh excelled in net, sending away shot after shot, on his way to picking up 14 saves.

CSI's three game streak began with a 4-3 OT triumph over Hunter College. A game in which they were again out shot, 24-10, Sam Musovic made sure to make each opportunity count, tallying two goals. A 5-0 trouncing of City College followed, powered by Francesco Sciortino's and Jason Ribeiro's two scores apiece. The win over NYC CT lifted the Dolphins into third place in the CUNYAC, keeping their playoff hopes alive. They hold a 4-2-1 conference record, with one division game remaining against Baruch College.



Ronaldo Btsh eyes his team on the offensive in the Dolphins third straight victory over NYC College of Technology Photo Source: <http://csidolphins.com>

Write for the Banner!

The Banner is looking for writers, editors, photographers, designers and cartoonists for this, and future semesters.

If you are interested in sports, hard news, art, movies, politics, music, comedy, or just about anything, join the Banner team!

You can submit your articles to room 228 in the Campus Center, or email them to lucie.lauria@gmail.com.

DOG AND PONY SHOW



Grab Your Midterms by the Bulls!

BY CHRIS OLIVIERI & CARLO MONTAGNINO
DOG AND PONY SHOW EDITORS

It's 11:30 on a thunderous Thursday morning. Chris wakes up to 6 missed calls and 3 text messages from Banner staff, the most interesting of which was from sex columnist Nicole Bonelli. "I'm F*cked."

Panicked, he runs into his kitchen and grabs a Rockstar energy drink and 3 Tylenol, necessary to cure the beer pong hangover he had won the night before. Knowing the gravity of the situation his cure needs to be fast and furious.

Flash forward to 3 hours later, with photographer Matthew Broderick in tow, Chris has finally made his way to Carlo, who has procured a weeks supply of energy drinks. All of which will be consumed over the course of the following three hours.

What would drive these two mad men to consume so many caffeinated beverages in such a short period of time? The need to crown a king of energy drinks who rules with an iron fist, a heart of gold, and enough taurine to make the Kessel run in less than 12 par-secs.

First up is a local favorite. Fruit Punch Vitamin Energy (by Glaceau.) When poured into our really scientific 8oz plastic cups, it looks very much like grape soda, which was "Fantastic!" as Chris so eloquently put it.

Before we take the first sip, Matthew Broderick decides it would be a good

idea to make a toast. "To Professionalism, Frederick Kaufman, Lois Lane, and Hogs on the Horse Head. Tonight we feast like our brethren who came before us."

After thoroughly, and quickly, enjoying the Fruit Punch Vitamin Energy Drink, we saw a chance to keep the momentum going and cracked open our Red Bull.

"It looks like piss," said Carlo. "I never saw it out of the can," quipped Broderick.

Feeling the initial effect of the caffeine boost, Carlo amorously rubbed his chest screaming, "Let's have a Red Bull wet t-shirt contest!"

At that very moment, Jennifer Cortes, a new contributor to the Banner, walks in. She is visibly afraid of the two raving lunatics who are now dousing themselves in Pepsi while Broderick threw money at them.

(We might have gotten a bit carried away, but in Carlo's mind, that's what happened. The rules of perception state that this makes it true.)

Somehow Cortes found a way to make her self comfortable and told the guys they should call her "Baby." (This may have been said in jest, but for the purposes of this article that's what we're going to refer to her as, yes we think it's funny, shut up)

Red Bull has a very special place with both Chris and Carlo. In the past

Chris and his cohort Travis De la Hunt, once attempted to make Red Bull Jell-O. De la Hunt pointed out that the experiment failed. When asked why De la Hunt responded: "There were a lot of reasons why it failed; first we used unflavored gelatin and too much of it, and that was gross, we also put it in the freezer (instead of the refrigerator)."

Carlo once had a Red Bull chugging contest with his boy-toy Vono the 2nd. Carlo had 7 in 5 minutes, while Vono had 9.

"My heart felt like it would explode," Carlo reminisced fondly.

Completely sick of stories that do not advance the article in any way, Chris and Carlo decided to move on.

Next in line was Full Throttle; Nature is One Bad Mother, Acai Berry flavor energy drink.

"Bad Mother is terrible, it smells and tastes like sh*t," observed Chris.

"It smells like a pet store," added Carlo.

"Like rabbits and stuff," shouted Baby

"Hey, hey, hey, hey, hey baby," responded Broderick. This made little to no sense being that he had not consumed an ounce of energy drink.

"I feel like I want to puke," said Carlo.

"Don't puke on the computer," exclaimed Editor-In-Chief, Lucie Lauria. "Go puke on the Third Rail's door."

Feeling nauseous and needing a cigarette badly, Carlo led the crew outside. The calming calm of his nicotine made the daunting task of finishing the horrible beverage slightly more bearable.

(See Auglemania.com for hilarious photos of all of the action)

After gagging down the last of the full throttle next to the strange Shakespearian dolphin in front of 1C, Chris felt it would be good to check with Health Services to make sure that it was safe to move on with the experiment.

"I am not for energy drinks, they are not safe." Explained a member of the health services office, who proceeded to take the pulses of our heroes.

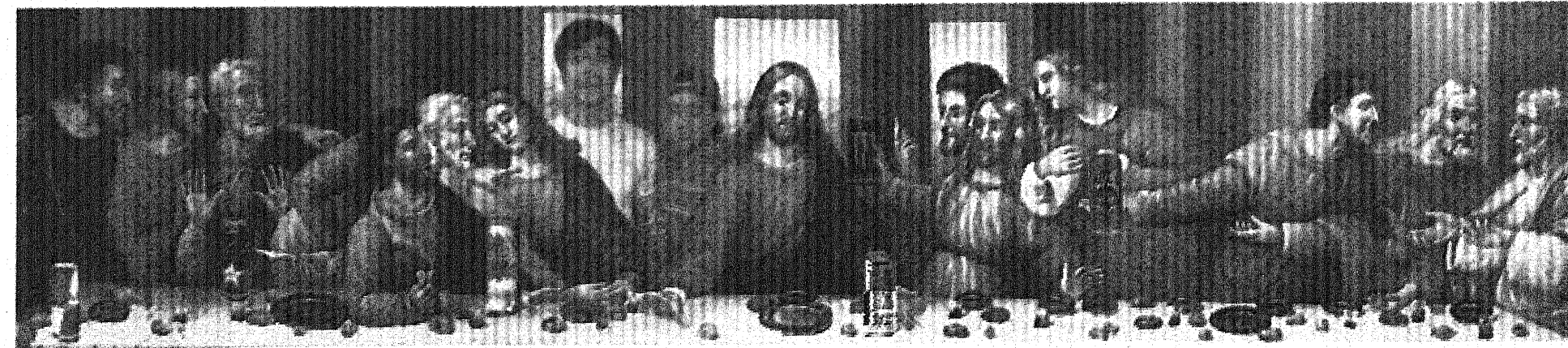
"You have an irregular pulse," she pointed out to Chris. "You should stop immediately"

Upon leaving health services the gang headed back to the banner office to finish off the remaining two cans of energy drink. A Can of Low Carb Monster Energy, and a can of Berry Flavored Enviga sparkling green tea. Carlo cracked the Monster open and once again there was a toast.

After about 30 minutes neither Chris nor Carlo had finished their 8oz plastic cup of Monster.

"I'm afraid of the Enviga," said Chris

"Do you want to just end this?" asked Carlo "Nobody reads anything in the Banner anyway."



Chris, Carlo and friends enjoy energy drinks over supper. "What's for dessert?" asked Carlo who was not full after dinner. "What kind of cheap-os serve only bread?"

FOR MORE DOG AND PONY SHOW, GO TO THE MIDDLE OF THE PAPER ON THE RIGHT. THAT'S US.