

# THE BANNER

October 30, 2006

## Got Stress? Counseling Center Helps Students and LGBT

AnnMarie Costella

With finals coming up and the holidays just around the corner stress levels are high and even the best students can feel like they are on the verge of becoming unhinged.

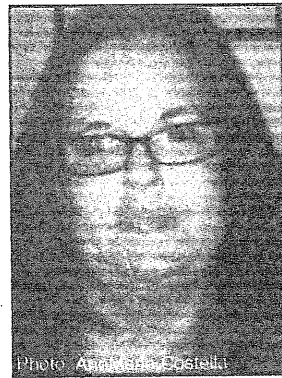


Photo: AnnMarie Costella  
Dr. Ann Booth helps students struggling with academic and personal issues.

Sometimes talking to family members and friends is not enough, but a session with a private therapist can cost upwards of \$100.00 per hour. Fortunately, at CSI's Counseling Center (1A-109) students can receive academic, personal, and LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) counseling with an experienced mental health professional and it is free and confidential.

The qualified and caring staff of four full time counselors and five part time counselors all have a minimum of a master's degree in the areas of either psychology, social work or mental health counseling. They don't give advice, but rather provide direction to aid people in finding the answers within themselves. Students are encouraged to listen to their inner voice and obey their gut feelings. They can speak freely without fear of being judged. "I would certainly hope that students would feel comfortable coming here," said Counseling Center Director, Dr. Ann Booth. "We try to make it a relaxing place, free from the hustle and bustle of the campus."

On any given day 20-25 students visit the Counseling Center seeking help. They can either walk in or make an appointment. The center will never turn away someone who is in need. Session usually last one hour, but if someone needs additional time counselors will stay with him or her for up to two hours. The most common problems students have are: depression, anxiety, stress, and relationship or family difficulties.

The Center adheres to New York State

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## Quantum Inside CSI brings the Future of Computers Closer to Reality

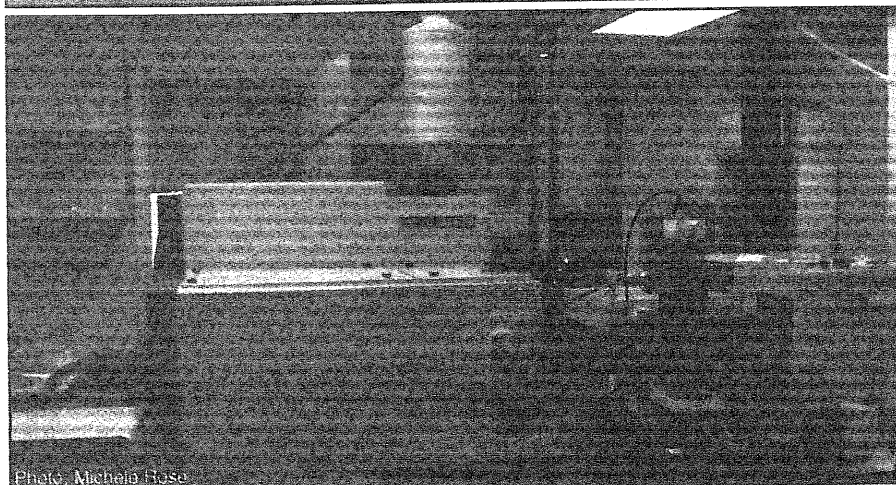


Photo: Michaela Fazio

Michele Rose

In a lab tucked away in 1N, CSI Physics Professor, Anshel Gorokhovskiy performs an experiment which he hopes will advance his research of photonics. He is assisted by Alexandra Bergman, a graduate student, who is working on her PhD. The task ahead of them is complex and tedious. Coordinated teamwork is essential to their success.

Bergman slips her hands into a pair of gloves, snaps protective goggles over her eyes, and pours a liquid with a cloudy white vapor into a device resembling a small pool filter.

Gorokhovskiy attaches electrodes to a grey sliver of a diamond the size of a nail head perched under a microscope. The current begins to flow. She walks over to the light switch, flicks it off and the lights go out. The diamond sample glows, an effect called electroluminescence; the reason the backlight goes on when an alarm clock goes off. The dynamic duo takes a small step toward harnessing a single photon.

The correction of eyesight, tattoo removal, barcode scanners at the supermarket, and light shows at

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## Springer's Last Stand

### Farewell Convocation Filled with Emotion and Optimism for the Future

Melissa Seecharan

October 19 - After 13 years as president of CSI, Dr. Marlene Springer gave her final convocation to faculty, staff, and other members of the college community, who filled the Williamson Theatre.

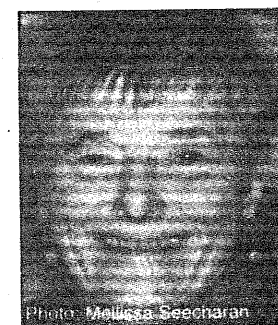


Photo: Melissa Seecharan

The candid speech garnered much applause from the audience as

Dr. Springer spoke of the great transition currently taking place at the college. "CSI is at that time where we can victoriously spread our wings in the years to come," said Springer.

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## CSI Dry? Why? Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited on Campus

Lucie Lauria

On a gloomy autumn afternoon, I decided to explore the possibilities of The Park Cafe Restaurant located behind the cafeteria at 1C building. I sat down at a small square table, adorned with a bouquet of artificial flowers, by a window overlooking the vacant wind-swept terrace. A pony-tailed waitress, wearing black sweatpants, brought me a menu. I stared at it for a moment.

"What would you like to drink?" she asked.

"A glass of Cabernet, please."

"Sorry, we don't serve alcohol," she said.

Why can't I have a glass of wine at CSI? Why is this campus plagued by pro-

hibition. I ordered lunch, and after I finished the delicious turkey special of that day, Jodi Merendino Director of Dining Services showed up. "On the campus where I studied, we had bars, so I saw the downside and upside of it," Merendino said. "I think the problem is the law. It should change. It's ridiculous to make people legally able to do other things, but not to be able to drink."

As a matter of fact, CSI did have some brighter moments in its history. "At the old Sunny Side campus, we had 'The Middle Earth Lounge,'" Glenn Savino, a former CSI student said. "They used to serve beer and we smoked pot, and played poker and scrabble. That place was nothing spectacular, but sort of comfortable for students."

Prohibition is usually imposed because someone wants to make money from destroying others' business. But are there any pubs outside the campus profiting from the prohibition at CSI?

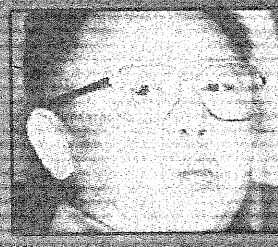
The wind-swept CSI campus lacks cozy taverns where the students could socialize and so does the neighborhood. Unlike urban campuses or charming university towns, CSI and its surroundings offer next to nothing to the students or faculty who would like to relax in romantic student-style brasseries or wine bars.

"In the old days when I was a student, both bars and professors' parties were occasions for faculty and students to mingle together and talk informally

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Dolphin's MVP guarantees a CUNY championship  
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If you can't beat 'em, nuke 'em.  
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Fergie releases solo debut album, "The Dutchess"  
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# ADP

# The New York Times The American Democracy Project

## Allies Disregard U.N. Sanctions Against North Korea

Lucie Lauria

As it plays the first card of a round trying to lambaste Pyongyang for its nuclear test, the U.S. encounters a growing opposition to the United Nations' resolution against North Korea while more countries adopt the resuscitated Cold War strategy of nuclear deterrence to shield themselves from nuclear bullies.

The U.S. has already been exerting sanctions on North Korea for half of the year as a punishment for Pyongyang's conventional rocket tests. The most recent one was carried out in June. North Korea has also been charged with trafficking nuclear weapon parts and counterfeit currency.

The U.N. resolution, ratified after North Korea's Oct 9th nuclear test, demand countries to prevent Pyongyang's trafficking in illicit materials. But North Korea's neighbors - South Korea, China and Japan - hesitate to enforce tougher measures or a naval blockade against Pyongyang.

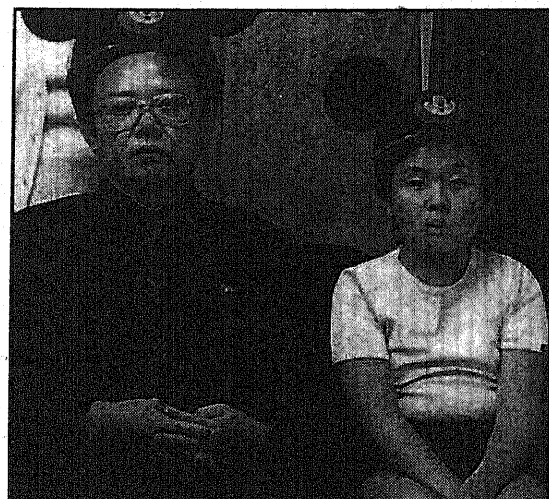
"We have to really understand why some countries pursue military nuclear programs," Mohamed al Baradei told Die Zeit. "On the part of North Korea, developing nuclear weapons is a cry for help and a fight for survival."

The club of nuclear-weapons countries keeps growing as more countries engage in a strategy of nuclear deterrence to protect themselves from imperial powers. Some governments of sovereign states deem it their duty to protect their country from foreign imperial domination.

President George Bush deserves blame for the present nuclear weapons' race because he violated the Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Signatories to NPT declared "their intention to achieve at the earliest possible date, the cessation of the nuclear arms race and to undertake effective measures in the directions of nuclear disarmament...The cessation of the manufacture of nuclear weapons for all time, the liquidation of all their existing stockpiles, and the elimination from national arsenals of nuclear weapons...and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

In his State of the Union address

on January 29, 2002, President Bush declared North Korea a perennial enemy,



along with former allies Iraq and Iran, as "the world's most dangerous regimes and the axis of evil." In fact, Pyongyang has never ceased to be considered an "enemy" since the

U.S. remains officially at war with North Korea since 1950.

The U.S. war on North Korea stands out as one of the major war crimes of the Twentieth Century. During the military operations, the U.S. Army destroyed 78 North Korea's Cities, thousands of its villages, and exterminated approximately a third of the country's population.

In light of the above mentioned facts, President Bush not only branded North Korea a perennial enemy, but also submitted to Congress a "Nuclear Posture Review" on January 8, 2002, which ordered the Pentagon to prepare contingency plans for use

of nuclear weapons, which was in a sharp defiance of the NPT treaty.

President Bush carries the blame for the present reversal of the nonproliferation and disarmament strategy to nuclear arms races worldwide. Bush keeps the U.S. nuclear options open and approves of development of new types of nuclear weapons, such as "mini-nukes."

"The U.S. has also violated the Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT) when it signed, on March 2, 2006, a nuclear cooperation with India, which has obvious military application," Pravda stated. "By agreeing to supply nuclear reactors, fuel and expertise to help India produce larger quantities of plutonium, without insisting that India sign the NPT, the U.S. implemented a double-standard which promotes possession of nuclear weapons in countries like India, Israel, and Pakistan.

This trail of events led North Korea and other countries, such as Iran, possibly Brazil, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and potentially many others to adopt the nuclear deterrence strategy and to disregard the NPT as a worthless piece of paper since it has been violated by the nuclear-weapons countries. The fragile balance has been broken and the world is bound to search for new solutions to defend itself against the imperial domination.

ground" at various cocktail parties, "fund raisers," and meetings of suspicious organizations, of which all of them are members. The New York Times observed at a party organized by the Clintons that, "Mr. Clinton was beaming like a proud presidential spouse as he sat and listened to Mrs. Bush champion her husband's agenda."

The New York Times noted that the Clinton's party crowd was rich, well-dressed and heavy on men. They were deal-makers, risk takers, money men and software kings. They mentioned that Uzbekistan was a landlocked country surrounded by other landlocked countries. They discussed Central Asian hangover cures. "Obviously, the business warlords yearn for the Russian oil now, as Richard Lugar, the Chairman of the US Senate Committee for International Affairs had indicated by his demands on Russia to withdraw from the area the warmongers call "the landlocked countries."

Nevertheless, it looks like the neo-cons and neoliberals may give us a break for a little while.

The reason why we're getting the little break from them seems to be twofold - the failed propaganda cam-

paign and the failed military campaign. At this point, when even the mainstream media, such as Harper's Magazine calls 9.11 a "staged Pentagon airshow" and the U.S. government's prestige lies in tatters, the power, money and blood-hungry "elite" has to change their strategy a little bit.

While President Bush ran out of energy and may not be able to keep up his promise to the Christian Zionists to foment the "last battle with the Antichrist", his successor may be getting ready for the job. Our ruling "elites" participate in the same suspicious organizations. They have common interests. Their interests differ tremendously from those of the American people. The two-party system is not giving us a choice, and the electronic voting machines are placing fairness and democracy at risk. America needs alternatives, if it wants to stay a free, truly democratic country, not a two-party deadlock. Should Chelsea Clinton and Bush III marry, would we officially proclaim an American monarchy in the New American Century? What comes next? The New World Order?

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## Got Stress?

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confidentiality laws. Everything that a student says during a session is private unless the counselor believes that the person is suicidal, a danger to themselves, or a danger to someone else. Further, if they learn that a child is being abused, they must inform child services of the situation.

### Launching the LGBT Support Group

Recently, the Counseling Center under the direction of Dr. Ann Booth and Jason Reiph is trying to start a LGBT support group for CSI students. The scheduled launch date was October 16, 2006, but that has been postponed due to a lack of interest. Dr. Booth says that the group will officially begin once a minimum of five members can be found.

The coming out process is an extremely difficult one. Some fear the way their family or friends will react. In many cases, the homosexual individual will experience and have to endure the disap-

proval, disappointment, or even anger directed at them.

"Here is the very basic argument that comes up - 'I don't flaunt the fact that I'm heterosexual, so why do you have to flaunt the fact that you are homosexual,' but what people don't realize is if they have never been part of a minority, is that minorities in order to get civil rights, human rights, or any kind of equal treatment, they need to be visible or else they will become invisible and nobody will think about them," said Booth.

"People often reduce it to sex and sex makes a lot of people uncomfortable. Being gay is no more about sex than being straight is about sex. It is usually a statement that comes from someone who has not had to struggle for visibility. Whether it be women, people of color, or people of low socioeconomic status, you need to stand up and say: 'Hey, we're not being treated properly. We're here. We want what we want. We want what you have.' Some people say: 'Sit down, this is about who you sleep with,' and it's really not."

Homophobia is a societal problem and can have many roots. Sometimes an

## CSI Dry

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about serious subjects," Professor Brian Cogan said. "Since the drinking age went up something has been lost. In the old days students would not dare to get drunk if their teachers were around, they acted sober by convention because they would have been seen as weak if they could not hold their alcohol. Now in America, that privilege is largely gone, as is much of the camaraderie we used to enjoy."

Wine, the beverage of priests and aristocrats, appears firstly on the ancient pages of the Old Testament, as the earliest written evidence of viniculture, which tells us that Noah planted a vineyard and made wine. Another Noachian fable talks about a Persian Princess who attempted to poison herself by drinking juice made of table grapes that had spoiled in a ewer. When she awoke from her intoxication, all her worries disappeared.

Indeed, wine must have been discovered by chance because it comes to the world as a natural phase of grape spoilage. Scientists believe that wine drinking had started as early as 6000 BC.

Those of us who come from liquor worshipping European cultures think about wine, beer, and spirits with an affection others may find improper. I started drinking wine early, at the age of thirteen. My uncle Hubert took me to Weingut Kloster am Spitz, a monastery, near Zwettl in northern Austria where I tasted the delicious wine made by the local Cistercian monks. I recall that moment when I was so deliriously happy after drinking almost the whole bottle of the utterly refreshing, sweet-tasting, heavenly nectar with a distinctive translucent pink appearance and a full-taste strength that satisfies with a resilient finish.

Many students and faculty long after a nice glass of wine between or after classes. "People should be allowed to

drink and also the age limit should be revoked," Colomba Varriano, a freshman from Argentina, said. "This is not right. The law should change, the whole thing should change. If students misbehave when they get too drunk, they would get expelled, but it's up to them not to make a mess out of themselves."

The CSI administration looks up to the times when the prohibition laws plagued U.S. citizens countrywide and concocted the same humiliating and restrictive situation for the CSI students. Prohibition became enforced after enacting the Volstead National Prohibition Act and the Eighteenth Amendment that was grafted to the U.S. Constitution in 1920 forbidding the "manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors."

Prohibition mentality has never entirely left the American bodily system.

"There is no place where the faculty could drink either," Carol Brower Director of Student Life said. "It's not students versus faculty issue. It's just about the age. There is also a certain level of maturity that is individual. We don't say 'never.' The first step is to provide students with an inviting environment. We want to convert the Green Lounge into a Coffee House with nice trendy furniture for students to chill with friends. So, this will be the first step and then will see."

"Prohibition represents both the increasing emphasis on liability by colleges, they essentially have become paranoid of lawsuits," Professor Cogan said. "In Europe most people emphasize personal responsibility, but we Americans are, sadly, a litigious people."

"I support not having alcohol," Vice President for Student Affairs Carol Jacobson said. "It's a commuter campus; students drive, but they are not held captive here. If they are legal age they can drink home with their families. Research suggests that liquor impairs good thinking."

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individual fears that they themselves maybe homosexual, others learn the prejudice at home from family members and friends, while others are fearful of a behavior that they cannot understand. Many times people object for moral or religious reasons. Since there is no one origin, the task of eradicating homophobia can be quite challenging. Everyone is entitled to their opinion, but just because it's your opinion, doesn't make it so," said Booth. "In terms of: 'if you don't like it, leave,' well we can be wherever we want, whether it is a conservative environment or not. People have a right to protest."

We at CSI must do our part to be open and accepting of those who are different from ourselves. "You try to change the way people think, or at least impart the message that outward discrimination is unacceptable," said Booth. "My dream would be for everybody to be tolerant of everyone's differences. It's going take a gay and straight alliance, not just in the form of a club, but in general, because gay people can't do it alone and straight people can't do it alone."

Liquor still carries the hallmark of impropriety and sinful temptation. Not only that, but people also believe that some CSI students are not sophisticated enough to control themselves and have to be handled by authoritarian restrictions. "I don't think it's a good idea," Glenn Savino, a former CSI student, said. "We don't need some college kids to get drunk and kill somebody. It would be a problem for the college. I went to the college in the early eighties, like a lot of parents; we didn't care about any rules on smoking, dope, and drinking. But every year some freaking kid drinks too much and dies all over the country."

Ed Rlenkiewicz, a junior, expressed a similar opinion. "I can handle it. But our students are so stupid that they would have a lot of problems."

CSI administration not only prevents students from getting into a problem but also from exercising their own free will and rights. Wine, a demon when consumed more than one can master, contains healthy antioxidants - the enemies of loose radicals that can plague us with cancer, deafness and other afflictions. Already the ancient Greeks and Romans were well aware of medicinal effects of wine. Hippocrates, a famous ancient Greek doctor, was among the first to prescribe it. One has to; however, come to one's limit and recognize the right moment to stop.

Beer competes with wine for first place among health beneficial drinks. American scientists have come to a conclusion that beer is healthier than wine due to its higher content of vitamin B12, niacin, folic acid, anti-oxidants, polyphenols, or ferule acid.

"Wine and beer at CSI sounds good," Tatiana Cioccarelli, a freshman, said. "People have to learn responsibility one day. I don't want to be baby-sat. Don't baby-sit me!"

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### Quantum Inside

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Webster Hall originated in photonics. Gorokhovskiy, a native of Tartu, Estonia, explains that the creation and manipulation of light particles, or photons, is the basis of this science. Early in the morning on every third day, Bergman pours liquid nitrogen into the Raman Spectrometer. This device is commonly used in combination with a laser. It produces red, blue, or green light in order to characterize the optical properties of diamonds.

When handling nitrogen, safety goggles and gloves are a must - imagine a substance so cold, it can burn through skin. On average, the temperature is 77 degrees Kelvin, or a numbing negative 321 degrees F. This liquid is similar to the gas in a car, except it's about fifty cents less per gallon than fuel on the island.

Unlike one in a ring setting, the diamond sample is laced with xenon, a gas that creates an eerie glow, producing an LED (light emitting diode). When the day's experiment is completed the results are magnified onto a Sony Trinitron television screen and logged into a computer in graph form. The hulking Spectrometer, costs \$250,000, bringing the grand total of all the equipment to a cool one million.

The photonics team puts this pricey equipment to good use as they attempt to harness a single photon. In theory, it will allow for the secure transfer of information - the basic idea behind encryption.

"The idea is to get to the point where you can count photons. When a light is flipped on, a million photons are radiated out and it's impossible to control," said Bergman. "With the releasing of single photons that carry information, it is easier to manipulate, controlling the number of photons emitted."

It is understood that the receiver would be the only one able to interpret the message, securing it from anyone who would try to intercept it. This is the basis of quantum computers, encoding information. As far as what the device will look like; that's left to the engineers.

In any PC, the term bits refers to the combination of ones and zeros, which make up all operations from words in a document to modem status. The world of physics is always black and white - an electrical switch has the option of on or off and an object can't exist in two places at once.

Quantum computers break the rules of binary code; instead of bits, these quantum bits, or qubits, can represent a one or a zero, a combination of both, or something between zero and one. The possibilities are infinite. Quantum computers have the potential to out run even the fastest Intel Pentium chip, according to an article published in Scientific America.

In 1994, in New Jersey, Peter Shor, a research scientist at AT&T's Bell Laboratories, set out to discover

how to solve a number theory using quantum computers, calculating huge numbers extremely rapidly, much faster than the average desktop. Keep in mind that photons move at the speed of light, roughly over 9 million feet. Since then it has sparked national curiosity because of its potential use in military and commercial communication. Inevitably, the research conducted at CSI and elsewhere will develop the technology to produce smaller, more powerful computer chips and conserve energy.

Professor Syed Rizvi, the Chairman of the Physics Department, saw the change in global trends immediately after Sept. 11th, knowing full well that the need for homeland security would emerge quickly. Research ideas stem from current events or just a general need. Demand is the driving force.

When the Physics team comes up with a new research project idea, Prof. Rizvi draws up a proposal and mails it to a funding agency. For the past ten years, he has managed to charm the Department of Defense (DoD) into funding a large portion of their research. The United States Air Force has also been intrigued by the technology that CSI's facility can churn out. CSI's team is collaboratively working in this CUNY-wide effort to discover this encryption technology. Despite the larger size of the lab at The City College of New York, the Chairman is confident in CSI's facility. "It's a very competitive area," said Prof. Rizvi. "Given the size of CSI, what we have is significant and we're not in bad shape."

Of course there are always kinks to work out with new technology. Without regard for security, quantum computers could open the door to every encryption under the sun. It would allow the professional code breaker behind enemy lines in a matter of seconds, according to an article published by Military.com.

"You'd be surprised how many people have nothing to do but break into computers" said Prof. Rizvi. "We call them hackers." More research is needed - and fast. The institutions working on these quantum computer glitches include California Institute of Technology, Los Alamos, and the epitome of monopolies, Microsoft.

For years CSI has worked strictly with organic material, elements from living things such as carbon. Prof. Gorokhovskiy revolutionized photonics at CSI in his work with inorganic materials, metal substances. Ultimately both materials make up a quantum computer. "What he does is unique," said Gail Simmons, Dean of Science and Technology.

"We're trying to do something that no one has done before," said Bergman. As the applications of quantum computing develop, the more there will be a need for it. An article from the University of Oxford speculates that quantum computing will not become a reality until 2020.

Perhaps CSI's photonics team will take the world where no man has gone before.

## Debbie Does Dating

Debra Santulli-Barone

If celebrities can date younger guys, then why can't CSI students do the same? What would a date be like with a younger man? Could these mature students be missing out on something? Finding the guy and asking him out without turning his stomach is the hard part. I asked, former classmate, Emilio Medugno. We met in Spring 2006, in a newspaper reporting class.

While waiting for a return call, I realized that he might not call back. How many guys would be interested in a date with an older woman? I needed a date!!! So I asked John DePetro, a senior majoring in communications. "I'm going out with someone already," he said. "I don't really date older women."

Joe Podkalicki, a junior and English major, was much more accommodating. "I have no problem with age, I'd go out on a date with you," he said. So I asked where we would go. "On a first date, I like to play pool," Podkalicki said. "I observe the competitiveness of a person when we are playing pool. Competitive women turn me on." Who knew?

One more gentleman accepted the challenge, Senior and Communications major, Donald Vroome. "Going out on a date with an older woman would be fine," he said. "I don't even think my mother would mind." I'll be sure to remember that.

It started to dawn on me that it wouldn't be hard to find a date, but I was still holding out for Emilio. Let's face it, I wouldn't have had this problem if there were more guys my age attending this college. Finally, Emilio called. Elated at the prospect of the date, another worry emerged. What was I going to wear?

What started out as a fun day of shopping, turned into a frantic search for the right outfit. How does one dress for a younger man? You strive to look youthful, classy, and sexy, but not ridiculous. It went something like this: What should I wear? What size am I? Nothing fits. The color is wrong. Finally, the last blow to my ego - Nothing looks good on me. I walked out of the store empty-handed and freaked out. What was I thinking

when I asked a younger guy out? In the end, I settled for jeans, heels, and a black t-shirt under a striped blouse.

For three hours, we talked in the back room of his favorite place, The Black Dog Grill on Forest Avenue - his hangout, his friends, his turf. I felt honored at this point. Emilio introduced me to all his friends. Some hugged us; others shook our hands, and some sat down and chatted with us. What more could I ask for? He was confident without ever being cocky. Conversation with this man was easy. We talked about everything. We even compared dating styles from 20 years ago to dating in 2006.

There were two funny things that happened during the date. First, when Emilio's mother called him (he had told her about our date), I yelled out "Hi, Mom," what else could I do? But when Corey the bouncer asked Emilio if I was his mom, I thought I would slip under the table with laughter. Emilio stayed cool and replied, "No, this is my friend."

On this date, I learned that Emilio, with his long ponytail, will be cutting his hair in November. He is donating it to Locks of Love, an organization that makes wigs for kids who suffer from long term medical hair loss, called Alopecia Areata. He also has his own radio show, The Degoshow on WSIA 88.9, on Tuesday nights from 10-2 a.m. at CSI's radio station, all of which I found quite impressive. I can see why girls flock to his side.

It makes you think, does a woman my age have a future with a 23-year-old? Maybe with some liposuction, botox and collagen, we could all get these dates. Snapping back to reality, I remind myself that I'm not 20 anymore. I better get over it fast. And though I didn't want the night to end, it did. How did it end, you ask? I'll never tell.

## Springer Convocation

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Reflecting on her time spent as President, Dr. Springer recalled the numerous personal losses she experienced in the past few years. "We've all been through a lot," Springer said. "We have done a tremendous amount in four years, when I think about the stresses."

Lightening the mood, Dr. Springer joked about her departure. "Regardless of what you heard, I am not pregnant."

According to Dr. Springer, CSI's Master Plan is currently in its first stage, as the site of the future dormitories has already been decided upon. "It will be back, near the Recreation Center," stated Springer. "There will be people who won't like the site, but there are people

who wouldn't like any site. Springer admitted that CSI is preparing for residential like, but "doesn't know how it will all come out."

In addition to the Master Plan, Dr. Springer announced 29 new faculty searches, the expansion of WI-FI to parking lots, and the Verrazano School, an extension of the F.I.R.S.T. program, which Dr. Springer called, "a school within a school."

Addressing the goals and responsibilities of higher learning, Dr. Springer expressed the importance of ethical leadership and behavior. "We need to keep these principles in mind to continue enthusiasm of what we do here."

## Editor's Note

"Oh God!" I shamefully muttered those words, not in a moment of failed ecstasy, but after seeing the commercial for MTV's True Life: I'm a Staten Island Girl. The 30 second clip screamed train-wreck, and I knew life, at least as a Staten Islander, would never be the same.

Despite the fact that I wasn't born on this forgotten borough, I can't help but take offense when people ruin a good thing. Whether or not you're part of the stereotype, seeing how Staten Island is viewed makes you want to crawl under a rock. It's that embarrassing. However, we really need to ask ourselves who is to blame for this negative perception. OK, MTV should hold some sort of responsibility, but Staten Islanders are not innocent.

In this issue, Nicole Bonelli's review of the episode is dead on. Most of the complaints are from those who share the same beauty regimens and believe there are only two ways to get into Manhattan. Apparently, public transportation is as foreign as pale skin. To these ladies I ask, "Why are you offended?" If your skin looks radioactive, and you speak with that infamous accent, then those three girls were reflections of you.

One year ago, the Sunday New York Times ran a profile of a few Staten Island women who were on a quest to find Mr. Right and settle down. These women were portrayed as mindless, marriage-focused idiots. Were they far off? Maybe. Maybe not. If you present yourself in such a way then your right to complain is void.

The only thing MTV did was capitalize on a long-standing stereotype. Why be angered and outraged at something you're upholding? These girls/women hated Staten Island. Bigger and better, that's what they wanted, and were more than ready to leave the Island. They complained about accents, lacking diversity, and men. They complained about Staten Island, yet they filled every stereotype imaginable. Complaining when you're part of the problem doesn't help.

-Melissa Seecharan

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Re: Tennesse Farmer Takes Italian Journey**

This story to me seems heartfelt and almost like a dream come true, which doesn't happen much these days. Students should learn from an experience like this and take up a dream of their own. With a little research and a lot of hope, it will go a long way,

- Jaime Manus Senior

I enjoyed reading your article on Professor Milligan. It must be interesting for him to be teaching in CSI, the College of Smartest Italians, of all places. Did he pick the Island because of this, or was he just lucky?

- Jonathan Zimmerli

This was a great article. Robert Palmieri did a wonderful job. The lead on this story was great, it caught my attention and made me want to read the rest of the story. This article serves as an inspiration for students to make sure they enter into a field of work that makes them happy.

- Idelie Perez Junior

**Re: Habeas Corpus Busted**

Seriously- even though there was a law that says "Do not torture prisoners," they will still be tortured! I mean, they will be protected by the government because it is the government that runs things, not the people. Government for the people was an old tale.

- Jihane Tamri

It's amazing how the Bush administration has such little respect for international treaties, or even the Constitution. The Geneva convention has protected soldiers from torture for decades and now Bush wants to get around that and be able to torture detainees. It is ridiculous. He may as well wipe his ass with every treaty agreement this country has ever signed or been a part of since the 1700's.

- Matthew Roca Junior

**Re: Journalist Assassinated**

Kudos go to Lucie Lauria for writing about the politics of Russia in regards to Chechnya. The world isn't black and white and neither are politics. This story gives a more in depth look about the issue as opposed to when mainstream media outlets report. I encourage you to build on reports like this and branch out to more parts of the world.

- Omar Hammad Senior

I recently saw a program on the History Channel about poisons. It

featured this woman explaining how she didn't live in fear, how she was unafraid of the government and that she knew that she would come under attack. This is really an incredible person. I would have left long ago.

- Joseph Podkalicki

I sympathize with the family, friends, co-workers and journalists all around the globe. I also understand that when a journalist is killed democracy suffers but why does The Banner have to write about Russian journalists when our own are being killed and wounded in Iraq. I feel that if the Banner is going to write about democracy keep it more to our own. It's about time we worry about our American Democracy because the way things are panning out across the world, our freedom is becoming more fragile as we speak. The title suggests, "The American Democracy Project," so keep it American.

- Enrico Turchi Senior

**Re: Women's Volley Scores**

I feel as though the article documenting the volleyball team's recent success is a nice show of respect for a team clearly on the rise. The more informed students are about the progress of the team, the more likely it may be that we'll see a bigger turnout at games in the near future. The choice to include Alba Basha's photo was a wise one. She is coined by many as being the team's biggest offensive threat.

- Stephen Spagnoli Senior

I was so pleased to finally see an article about the women's volleyball team. I am on the team and we have all worked so hard this season and in the summertime when everyone else is enjoying their summer off. Can't wait for the playoffs and the last game is home against Marymount College on 10/28. Come by the game and watch us play. The louder the better!

- Patrea Patterson Junior

**Re: Injured Dolphins Clinch Playoff Spot**

It was nice to read that the CSI Dolphins Men's Soccer team clinched a playoff spot after all the adversity that they had to deal with. It says a lot about a team when they can come together after all the injuries and still compete for a championship. Some teams might have used the injuries as an excuse and given up on the season, but not the Dolphins.

- Anthony Pierno Junior

**Re: Closet Closed. Fear and Poor Promotion Make Coming Out Day a Disappointment**

While I agree the poor attendance was due to poor promoting, I disagree it was due to fear. I doubt this commuter campus has time to notice let alone not tolerate a day dedicated to lesbians, gay and bi-sexuals.

- Donald Vroome Senior

I am glad that National Coming Out Day was a disappointment. I think that people should just stop bragging that their gay. There are other things you people are. Take pride of who you are, not what you are. Just because I like having sex with girls, I don't brag about it because there are other things that I can do in life. Also, if you don't like the fact Staten Island is ultra conservative, then move.

- Adam Salhany Senior

*From the Banner:*  
We suspect that in your time at CSI, you did not learn how to construct a grammatical sentence and correctly use homophones. If you need help, the Writing Center is located in 2S-216.

**Re: Nurse Stephanie to the Rescue**

The article about the nursing student was very interesting to read. It must be hard living with kidney disease. I give this girl all the credit in the world. For her to pursue his goals is truly inspiring.

- Robert Palmieri Junior

I found this article to be very moving. Several of my friends have pursued a career in the nursing/medical field and I always admired them for that. Being a nurse is a critical job, it's the nurses who determine how the patients stay had been, by being caring and helpful. I flinch when I get a paper cut, so I have a lot of respect for those who are able to take on such a major role as nurses.

- Lauren DeMetrio Senior

**Re: Planning National Coming Out Day: From A to Z**

The Gay/Straight Alliance sounds like a great group to support. A little more than just showing movies may get a bigger reaction. It needs something with active participation to grab a person's interest. You should have stuck with "The Birdcage." It's a good one.

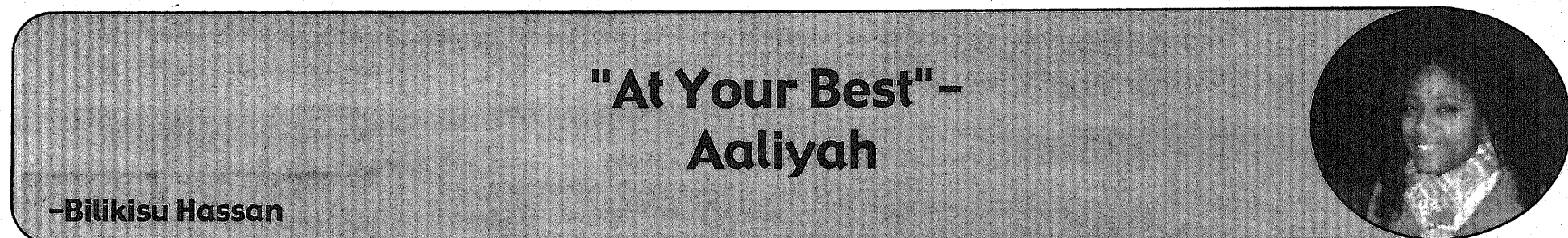
- Stasiu Tyburski

# WHAT SONG BEST REPRESENTS YOUR LIFE AT THIS MOMENT IN TIME?



"Quando, Quando, Quando" -  
Michael Buble ft. Nelly Furtado

-Eva Campbell



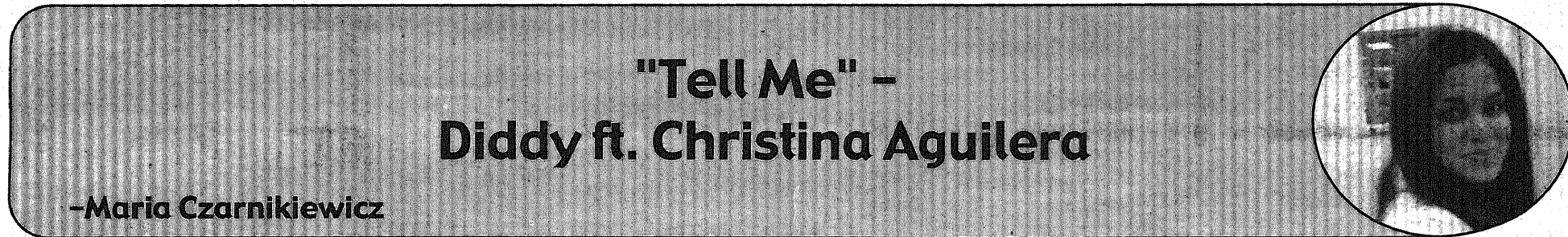
"At Your Best" -  
Aaliyah

-Bilikisu Hassan



"Night On Bold Mountain" -  
Bob James

-Matt Burns



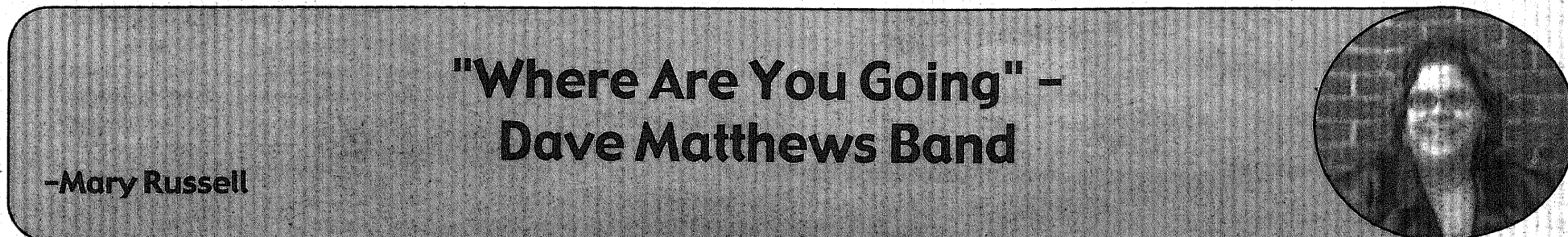
"Tell Me" -  
Diddy ft. Christina Aguilera

-Maria Czarnikiewicz



"Loser" -  
Beck

-Rafael Calderon



"Where Are You Going" -  
Dave Matthews Band

-Mary Russell

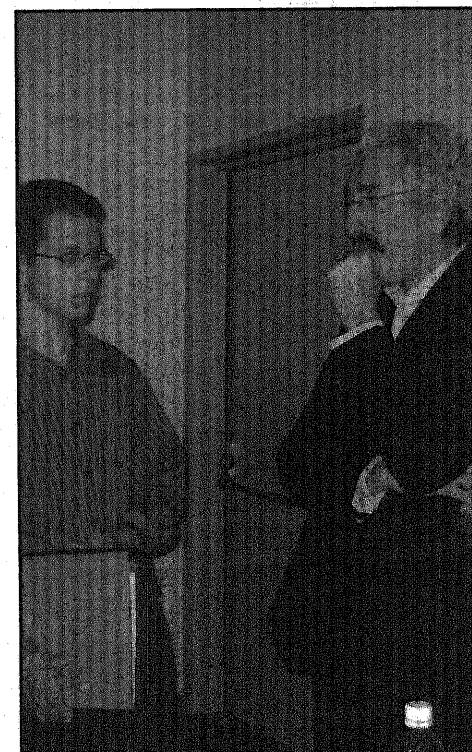


"How To Save A Life" -  
The Frey

-Sarah Troncione



Carlos Sierra, former chair of the University Student Senate.



James Murphy, Senior Executive Producer ABC News' Good Morning America (Right)

## THE GRADUATE CENTER NEW YORK CUNY STUDENT MEDIA CONFERENCE AND CAREER FAIR

Photos by Michele Rose & Jennifer Miller

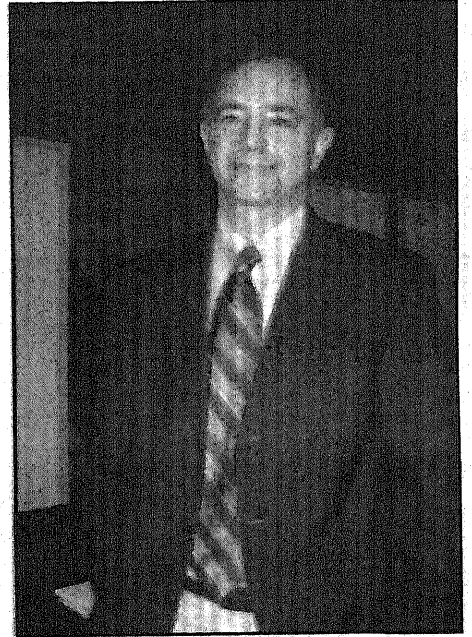
Hundreds of CUNY students gathered under the roof of the Graduate Center in Manhattan on Friday, October 27, for the sixth annual CUNY Student Media Conference and Career Fair, "Where the Jobs Are!"

CSI English Professor Frederick Kaufman had the pleasure of interviewing keynote speaker, James Murphy, Senior Executive Producer of Good Morning America. They covered a wide variety of topics from the dangers of overseas reporting (Murphy has been to Afghanistan and Iraq) to the importance of interning (he started out as an intern at WBIX-TV, which is now CW11).

Students had a choice of attending one of three breakout groups. In "The New News Room," students learned how the media is keeping up with the newest technologies. In "Open Forum: Big News on Campus," students met with editors of CUNY's top campus publications and swapped notes on common issues. "Extra!!! Extra!!! Community Newspapers In Demand," looked deeper into local news publications and why they've previously been left in the dust, until now.

Over forty employers, including MTV, CBS News, 1010 Wins, NPR, Newsday and NY1 News, sent representatives to take resumes and speak one on one to students, helping them map out their future.

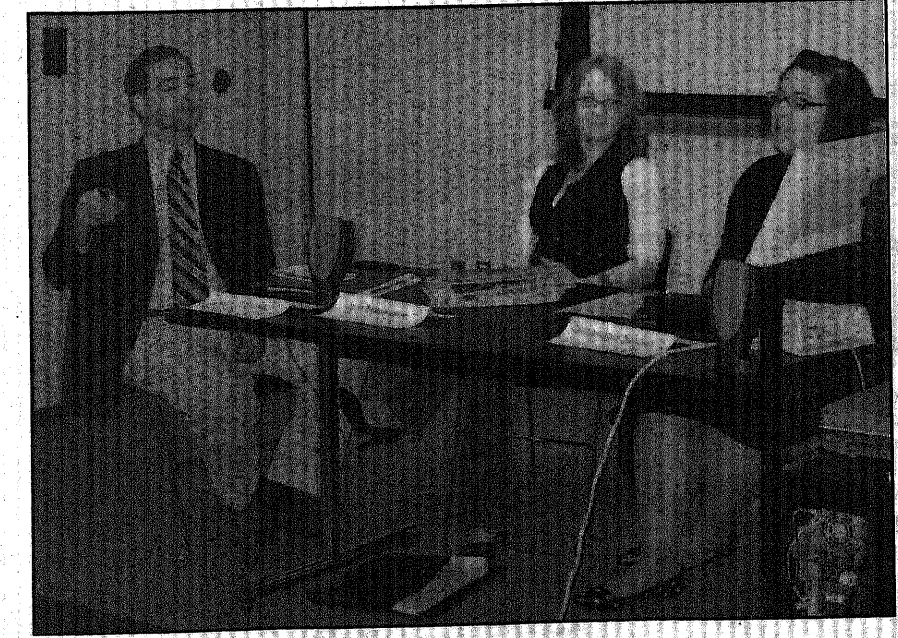
-Michele Rose



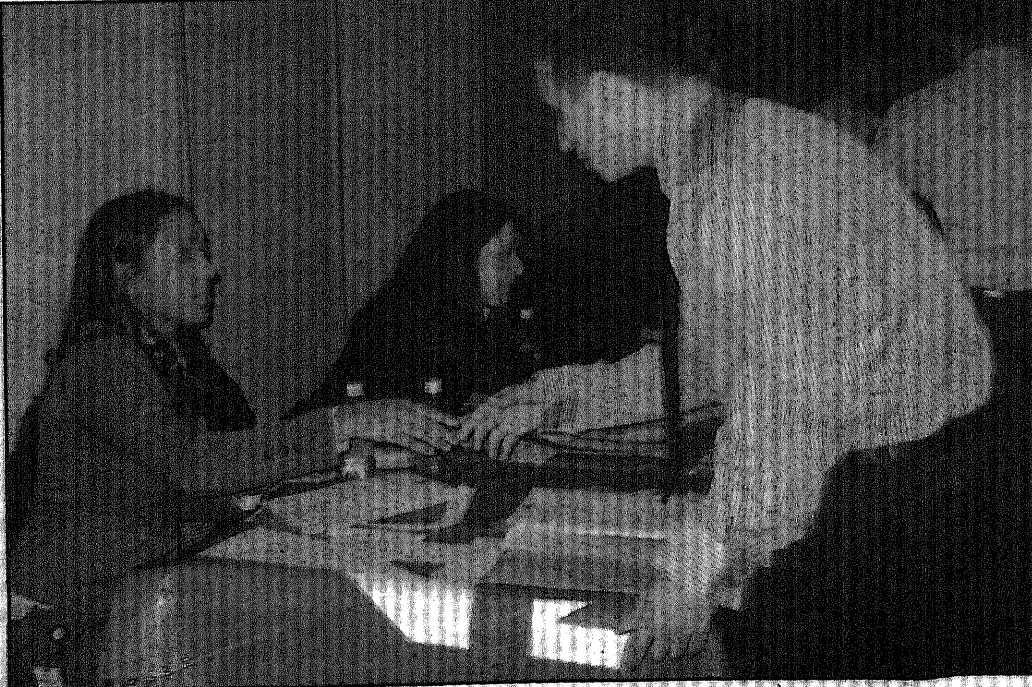
Paul Moses, Faculty Advisor of The Kingsman at Brooklyn College

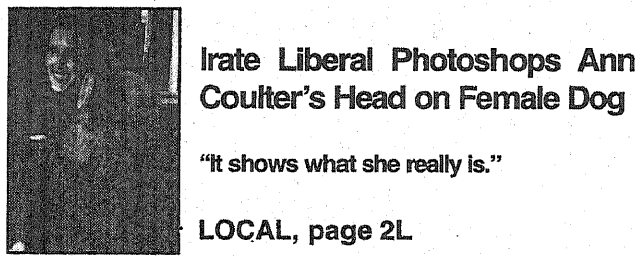


Jihane Tamri, Craig Pisani, Debra Santulli-Barone and Joseph Podkalicki enjoyed CUNY's Media Conference.



Brooklyn College's Editor-in-Chief of The Kingsman, Annamaria Scaccia (right), their Faculty Advisor Paul Moses (left) and Editor-in-Chief of The Ticker, Jana Kasperkevic (middle).

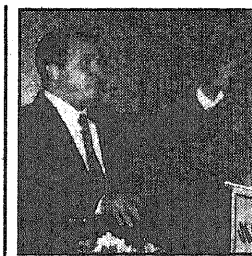




Irate Liberal Photoshops Ann Coulter's Head on Female Dog

"It shows what she really is."

LOCAL, page 2L



Church of Athelism Ready to Spread the Word of God that Doesn't Exist

NATIONAL, page 401K



Opinion Boyfriend Catches Porn Star Girlfriend Cheating on Him

"She totally sucks! And I mean that literally and figuratively."

LOCAL, page 4

One Issue Closer To Hell

# The Beacon

\$1.87

An Enrique Ignacio Inocente Joint

October 30, 2006 | Volume 5 Issue 5

## Unappreciated Mother Plots Revenge

No mother wants to admit it, but deep down we all hate our children. The stories you hear of mothers killing their children are simply incidents where the mother just refuses to deny her impulse.

Now, I'm not saying killing your kids is an option—it is though—but there's no denying the homicidal tendency that creeps in when your 5 year-old is screaming hysterically at Toys R Us because she wants another sleazy Bratz doll, or when the newborn is crying nonstop because it just shit itself and expects you to clean it! Then there's the disrespectful, smart-alecky teen that's becoming just like his whoremongering father—bringing countless girls over when I'm not home, but the smell of sex still lingering in the air.

Not that I care my husband is fucking everything in a skirt! I have my own secret lover and his name is Jack Daniels. Sure he's just a bottle of whiskey, but he tastes good, fills me with self-importance, and won't leave me for his home-wrecking secretary.

Okay, maybe I'm a little bitter, but times, they are a changing. Oh yes, those little bastards are going to get it, and the last laugh will be mine!

## Midget Pedophile Molested by Another Pedophile Who Mistook Him for a Toddler

### Beacon Little People Watch

BALDNOB, OR—Diminutive child predator Joey Truman, 35, had a rude awakening when another child predator mistook him for a toddler and abducted him. After being sexually violated by said kidnapper, Truman was let go in a neighboring town where an area resident man found him wandering the streets in a daze.

"Everything happened so fast," said a shaken Truman. "I was simply left dumfounded afterwards."

The incident of mistaken identity occurred because of Truman's wardrobe. When stalking innocent children on the playground, Truman dresses like a child to blend in with the crowd, at which point he gains the confidence of the children, and then leads them to a secluded area where he violates them. But things did not go according to plan when Truman's turf was invaded by another pedophile,

which immediately took a shining to Truman who was in the midst of coercing children under the jungle gym.

The stranger walked up to Truman, and asked him if he could help him change his flat tire. Being a Good Samaritan,

Truman agreed, but was forced into the trunk when they came upon the car. The man drove to an abandoned tenement building where he proceeded to fondle his victim.

"I kept telling him I was grown man," said Truman, holding back tears, "but that only seemed to excite



Joey Truman feels unsafe stalking playgrounds after run in with another pedophile.

him all the more." The man responded to Truman's pleas by simply saying, "Yes, you're a big boy, a big boy." The man then put his fingers in Truman's smelly spot, and told him to make a wish.

"Words cannot explain how humiliated I felt," Truman said, "but that only seemed to excite

### NATIONAL

Editor-in-Chief of The Beacon Denies His Paper is Blatant Rip-Off of The Onion page 3K

### LOCAL

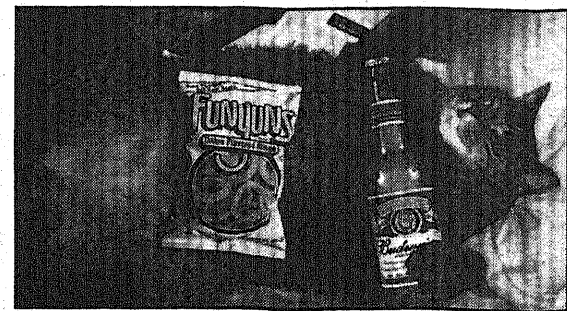


Photo: AnnMarie Costella

Unambitious Fat Cat Just Fine With How its Life is Going page 7L

Area Man Fails HIV Test With a Score of 64. One Point Short of Passing page 5L

### SCIENCE

Germans May be Master Race According to Recent Study page 3B

## Slag Pose Epidemic on MySpace at an All-Time High

### Beacon Douchebag Bureau

With the growing popularity of MySpace, a new epidemic has struck the globe. Millions of people all over are posting photographs on their profile that misrepresent how they really look in hopes of appearing sexy and more desirable online.

This trend of posting provocative pictures of oneself in order to get attention from complete strangers originated with MySpace whores, who Urban Dictionary defines as persons (usually female) who go nights without sleep and forgo homework to post comments, bulletins, and pictures of themselves looking slutty. They generally have 200 to 1000 people on their friends list, and are constantly threatening to delete their account because they are begging for attention.

MySpace whores once made up only a small fraction of users, but their numbers have since risen to staggering heights. Federal government statistics show that more than 3/4 of the 70 million MySpace users are "whores". This fact is usually represented by the sexu-

ally suggestive pictures they post of themselves.

"These pics people have on their page are so misleading," said Mick-Foley-is-God in his daily blog on MySpace. "The pictures are always dark, blurry, and only of their face. You never know what you're really getting because these slags strategically angle the shot so you don't see how obese they really are."

Statistics also show that 9 out of 10 times when all a person has are blurry headshots of themselves; it usually means they are fat and/or ugly in person.

As harmless as all this may sound, the US government is beginning to crackdown on slag poses, and deceptive personality descriptions committed by delusional MySpace users. "This role-playing on the internet has spilled onto the streets," said William Burgundy, spokesperson for the Federal Department of Human Decency. "We now have millions of young children believing they are the sexy persona they created on MySpace. Everywhere I turn I see kids with their shoulders high, and pouting their lips



These are only a minuscule sample of the millions of faux sexy poses MySpacers set as their profile pics. Notice pouty lips. Sure sign of a MySpace whore.

for no apparent reason."

As such, legislation has been proposed to curb this growing crisis gripping our nation's youth. One law pro-

see SLAG, page 5

## What Up Boo

An Enrique Ignacio Inocente Joint

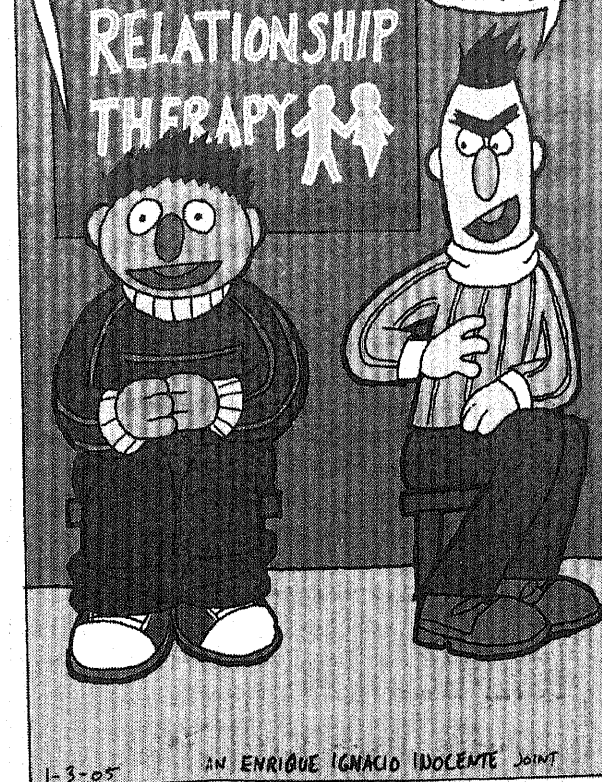


## THE SUPER GROUPIES



## Laff Quickie

BERT TAKES ME FOR GRANTED IT'S OUR ANNIVERSARY AND HE DIDN'T GIVE ME ANYTHING. WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I GAVE YOU THE CLAP, DIDN'T I?



## ASK

someone who cares

Have a question? Send it to The Banner and we'll find a clever way of replying to you.

Dear Ask, Is Jeeves gay?

Sincerely, Count Butt-Munch-a-Crunch

Dear, Count Munch-a-Crunch, Yes. Yes he is.

Dear Ask I think that cuddling is natural for two people in love. I feel that my boyfriend is not sufficiently attracted to me. Why is he like this and what should I do?

Signed, Bumbah Clot

Dear Bumbah Clot Wha' dee Bum-Bah-CLOT! Cum nah, get dee rass off me car?

Dear Ask, My girlfriend very rarely kisses me, except after sex. Then she scratches herself and goes to sleep. How can I get her to be

more affectionate? Cordially, Huckle Buckle Jerk-a-Round

Dear Huckle Buckle, Don't fret it. Sex shouldn't stop just because one partner is asleep. It's not rape if she doesn't know about it. Besides, you're dating. She should expect no less.

Dear Ask, As the recipient of all the problems of youth, I am curious as to your insight for solutions. Currently, our 16-year-old girl is a runaway. We know she is relatively safe, but this has been a month now.

Sincerely Mrs. Punani Bubble

Dear Mrs. Bubble Your daughter is a runaway, and you think she is relatively safe. Yeah, keep telling yourself that you deadbeat. For all you know she could be in Moscow and part of

the seedy underground sex trade, being fondled by fat, greasy American buisness men. For shame, woman. For shame.

Dear Ask, Please, sir. Can I have some more? Sincerely, Oliver Twist

Dear Oliver Twist, YOU WANT MORE?! ::Punches him in the face, and kicks him in the ribs:: You like that don't ya bitch!

Dear Ask, How many licks does it take to get to the milky white center of a Tootsie Roll Pop?

Hugs and Kisses, Mrs. Hooters the Tit

Dear Mrs. Hooter the Tit, Tootsie Roll Pop? That code for a penis? Well, you'll know when you get there. Just don't choke.

# Sex and the Island

Nicole Bonelli's

A Case of Nikki Luck

After each failed relationship or dating experience from hell, I am left with a bitter taste of lost hope in my mouth. Surprisingly, I still have enough hope in me to keep my fingers crossed at all times. Maybe, just maybe my bad luck streak will pack its bags and head to Cancun and end up on Girl's Gone Wild video so I can finally meet a decent guy (if they even exist).

While the entire East coast was ready to start a nudist colony during an unbearable heat wave this past August, my friends Andrea, Meghan, and myself found ourselves at a bar that we once considered our second home. Karl's Klippers, which is the Cheers of Staten Island because everyone really does know your name, and the color of your underwear by the end of the night. (Damn you alcohol for impairing my judgment.) Rockstar Karaoke is the theme for every Tuesday night, and even though I hold the reigning crown for the worst karaoke singer that can make everyone's ears bleed, I was more than content by just playing a few games of Photo Hunt while sipping on my Bacardi and Sprite Zero.

Due to the high temperature of a summer night, and the body heat that filled the atmosphere, I felt like I was on fire and desperately needed someone to hose me down. I sat by the bar adjusting my clothes on my sticky wet skin as my firefighter walked in. His name was Paul, a 22 year old senior at a Manhattan college majoring in business. Standing at about 5'10 with messy jet black hair, dark brown eyes covered by a pair of thick black framed glasses, and from what I

could tell, had a body worth seeing naked. His look was somewhat dorky, and in my eyes, was a splitting image of the lead singer of the band Weezer, Rivers Cuomo.

Lady luck must have been on my side that night because as I sat there trying not to stare, Meghan ran up and hugged Mike (an old friend of hers). I continued to hit the jackpot, because Mike was friends with Mr. I'm Worth Drooling Over. After Andrea and I downed our shots of Sex on The Beach, we made our way over to the other side of the bar to our hang out group for the night. The company was refreshing, so we jumped right into the conversation.

Meghan continued to talk to Mike about memories, so I took it upon myself to introduce myself to my mysterious hottie. Within the first five minutes of meeting someone new, you know if you are going to click or end up hating each other. As far as I was concerned, we both passed the dreaded first impressions test. We had a lot in common, from our favorite bands (one being Radiohead), to loving the best movie of all time, Sorority Boys. I thought to myself, a guy, and a good looking nice guy who actually appreciates this movie. He is too good to be true!

As hours filled with laughs and shots of Vodka passed, we were all pretty much ready to call it a night. Our conversation continued outside, and the topic of relationships came up. Paul chimed in by saying, "my girlfriend and I broke up because she cheated on me." After a quick pause, he continued to speak, "She broke my heart." This then of course brought up the

argument about cheating. Concerns such as, which sex takes part in this crime the most, and why people do it, came up repeatedly. What was then supposed to be a quick goodbye, turned into a dragged out, "OK make out already" extravaganza. Mike finally pulled me over, and said, "Paul thinks you're cute, so why don't you guys make out already?" I shot Paul a look, and we crept away from our friends for a good night kiss. The kiss was ok, but it was nothing a few make out sessions couldn't fix.

Even though we exchanged numbers that night, he left me on pins and needles as I waited for my phone to ring. At the same time though, I wasn't surprised. Majority of the time when a girl gives a guy her number, he never actually calls. Believe the lines of bull shit or not, but every time I think about this, I can't help but to scratch my head and think, "What has he done with the piece of paper my number is on? The answer is simple; he is probably using it as a coaster. I decided to take this situation by the balls, and sent him a text message. (For some girls, that's a big step.) As each reply was received, I got the "I'm not that into" vibe so I took a hint and backed off.

While I was getting ready to meet up with a friend the next day, I sat by my computer casually skimming through friends MySpace pages. I soon "stumbled" along Paul's page. For a quick second I felt like Scooby Doo and The Gang as I unraveled the mystery I like to call, "Why Boy Number 3,454 Sucks." How typical, he had a girlfriend. I felt my blood pressure rise as my anger took control over me.

When I finally calmed down, I decided that it would be best to confront his girlfriend. This wasn't me lashing out for revenge, but if my boyfriend was cheating on me, I would want to know. Countless messages were sent back and forth, and another skeleton soon came out of the closet. They lived together, and now because of her boyfriends cheating ways, she was planning on kicking him out.

Paul eventually sent me a text message, but it was far from pleasant. He had the balls to tell me about how "horrible" I was for exposing his true self to his now broken hearted girlfriend. He went on to claim that what he did was a mistake, and felt horrible for what he had done. Funny, that's not what he said several nights ago while he shoved his tongue down my throat as I felt his uninvited hard on my thigh.

Making a mistake is forgetting to put the toilet seat down after you use the bathroom. Cheating is intentional, and cheaters are not sorry until they get caught. (and if you are with a real "winner", they won't feel a single ounce of remorse.) Not only did Paul cheat on his girlfriend, but he lied to me about EVERYTHING. My theory is, cheaters should get cheated on so they know exactly what it feels like to be at the other side of the table. As Ms. Samantha Jones wisely said in an episode of Sex and The City, "Men cheat for the same reason that dogs lick their balls... because they can."

P.S. - If you have a girlfriend, don't make out with me.

## Who, What, Where, When, Why, and Wii

**Dominic Fiduccia**

It appears that Nintendo is working hard to end its current console failures. The past decade hasn't been good for Nintendo as their last two home console systems: the Nintendo 64 (N64) and the Nintendo GameCube (GCN) were unsuccessful against their competitors.

Nintendo is hoping that will all change now with their newest home console: the Nintendo Wii. According to Nintendo of America President Reggie Fils-Amis: "Our strategy is based on one core belief: That the next step in gaming is bringing gaming back to the masses." One thing that Nintendo is gambling heavily on is their new controller. Believing that large controllers with lots of buttons is ok for experience gamers, but turns off new ones. Nintendo decided to make a simpler controller that looks more like a remote control rather than a video game controller and is motion sensitive to create more innovative gameplay experiences.

Since the release of the Super NES, Nintendo has been infamous for only having a very small number of games available at launch. That all changes for the Nintendo Wii

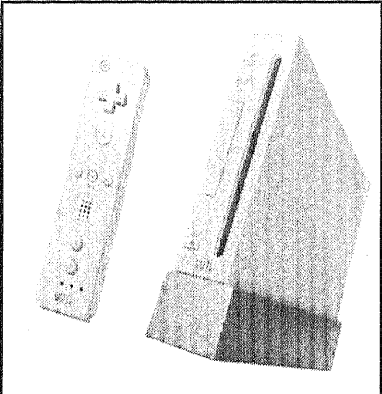
as a total of 24 games will be ready on the November 19 launch. That's the most since the launch of Nintendo's original home console: the NES, which had 20 games at launch and all of them, were made by Nintendo.

While the Wii has 24 games at launch, only a mere 5 games are being release by Nintendo. This means that Nintendo is taking third-party support very seriously unlike the N64 and GCN which both had a lacking amount of it. Currently, 11 game developers have made commitments to make games for the Wii. Many of them are among some of the biggest names in video games. They are: Activision, Atari, Atlus, Electronic Arts, Konami, Majesco, Midway, Sega, THQ, Ubisoft, and VU Games.

Having strong games available at launch is always important and the Wii will have plenty. Nintendo is expecting Zelda: Twilight Princess to be its killer app for you to

want to buy the Wii. Other big titles include: Call of Duty 3 and Tony Hawk's Downhill Jam from Activision, Electronic Arts' Madden NFL 2007 and Need for Speed: Carbon, and Ubisoft's Rayman 4 and Red Steel. In the first six months, Nintendo will have three of its biggest franchises available for the new console with Metroid Prime 3: Corruption, Super Mario Galaxy, and Pokemon: Battle Revolution. Sega will have Sonic and the Secret Rings ready in that time as well.

Nintendo is working hard to make the Wii stand out and they are including many on-line features that give the system a very similar feel to the Xbox 360's Xbox Live. One feature of the Wii is the Wii Channel which is a feature made to be a "Profile". The user can select from several pre-made caricatures or create their own so that it can look like them or make themselves look like Hulk Hogan, Ash Ketchum from Pokemon, or someone else. Although the character will appear cartoonish so don't expect to make any ultra realistic look-



## Keepin' Indie-Rock Steady

**Arthur Morelli**

Last I heard from Tad Kubler he was bent sweet on codeine, typing from somewhere within the belly of Williamsburg, flung far from the banks of the Mississippi River. He and his band, The Hold Steady, were back at home-base Brooklyn to begin work on a new record, Boys and Girls in America, their third effort in as many years.

Since its debut LP, Almost Killed Me (2004, Frenchkiss), the band's rise to indie-rock stardom, from the ashes of Twin Cities art/punk outfit, Lifer Puller, has been at least nothing gradual, if not sensational. That year, the record spotted at number 31 on the Village Voice's yearly critics' poll, Pazz & Jop. And yet, prior to its second release, Separation Sunday, in May 2005, the band became the first rock group in recent memory to get the cover.

Separation, a loosely conceptual record, follows the lives of three characters- Holly, the Catholic-addict prostitute; Charlemagne, the pimp; and Gideon- as they tramp, drunk and high, from town to town searching for themselves or just another party. It's a narrative that drags through the debauched grottos of a drugged world and back- "Holly's been disappeared for years. Today she finally came back."

Sonically the record is slow and fast, layered in horns and keys and plugged-in riffs rooted in classic rock. Craig Finn, singer/songwriter, doesn't keep secret the impact of Springsteen, Billy Joel or even Meat Loaf composer Jim Steinman, but to dwell on that would be to cloud your better judgment. The record jumped to eight in last year's P&J poll and separated the band from the shadows of the bar tap.

Boys and Girls in America abandons the linear narrative, but with each track displays a concerted effort to get back to the same themes of love and guys and girls and relationships. The title itself comes from On the Road by Jack

## True Life: I'm a Staten Island Stereotype

Nicole Bonelli

MTV, I must thank you for doing a documentary on Staten Island girls. You did a fabulous job of taking the whole female population of this tiny shit hole of an island look like a bunch of assholes with IQs equivalent to my dog's feces. Not only did this special make me want to never talk again because of my supposed Staten Island accent, but the downfall of your network makes me never want to tune in for another episode of My Super Sweet 16 (I used to love making fun of spoiled bitches... oh who am I kidding, I still do).

First off, nice work of picking the three most stereotypical Staten Island girls. For the 30% of this island who have not given into looking like an Umpa Lumpa, highlighted their hair, or started dating a typical Italian Guido for arm candy, we still get labeled. I've read some of the reviews that my fellow Staten Islanders have written, and I couldn't help but to laugh. These girls have the balls to complain about the girls that were on this show. In reality, these girls are the exact clones of what they are bitching about! Can we say in denial? The first step in order to get some help is to admit that you have a problem, ladies.

Besides this "Staten Island way of life", these girls have another thing in common. They all wanted to get off of this island to move on to bigger and better things. There is the girl who had debt coming out of her ass, another one who creamed herself when a guy's "spikes" were at the desired angle, and finally a girl that should probably learn sign language so no one would ever have to hear her speak again. Move to the city? These girls don't even know the ferry exists! Come on! Who hasn't had a drunken boat experience?

There was Angela. The 25 year-old college grad that still lived at home with mommy and daddy. "Angie" tanned so much, that it looked like you could make a leather bag out of her skin. Once a week babe, it gives you a base tan and you won't look like a prune! Like any girl, she has experienced countless bad dates, but only has herself to blame. What does this girl look for in a man? An orange tan, spiked hair, and a hot bod. I think that it is safe to say, not only in Staten Island, but anywhere you find a guy like that, he is bound to be a douche bag. Angela baby, you are setting the bar high—higher than your chances of getting skin cancer. As she ventured out to the city for a "girls night out", the guys she met didn't fit her requirements for "Mr. Right." Give it about five minutes, and Mr. Hot Bod appears. Miracles

## Fergie Steps Out As The Dutchess



**AnnMarie Costello**

Fresh off a six year stint with The Black Eyed Peas and a notorious pants wetting incident, Fergie steps up and out with her solo debut album, "The Dutchess." The CD is filled with a combination of dance tracks, retro-style love songs, and sappy ballads. It's exactly the lighthearted romp we'd expect from Fergie and while the lyrics lack depth and the spelling out of words that plagues the choruses of both "Fergilicious," and "Glamorous" can get annoying, all in all the album is fun, catchy, and infectious. All hail the Dutchess.

The album's first single "London Bridge," adds new meaning to the nursery rhyme we all loved as children. As Fergie asks the age old question: "How come every time you come around, my London, London Bridge want to go down?" Sexual innuendo, a

thumping baseline, handclaps, and a tag line from Full Metal Jacket all add flavor to this pop hit.

"Clumsy" is reminiscent of the Natalie Cole style love songs of the 1970s, and comes complete with spoken declaration: "Every time a boyfriend and I break-up, my world is crushed and I'm all alone. The love bug comes right back and bites me...and I'm back."

"Mary Jane Shoes" is bursting with wonderful island rhythms that have been hijacked from Bob Marley's "No Woman, No Cry," and layers smooth harmonies over the reggae beat. Its slow build up to a No Doubt-like crescendo makes this tribute to the official footwear of Lolitas everywhere, quite memorable.

Some tracks like the silky smooth "Velvet," and the sugary sweet "Glamorous" are so soft and bland that listeners who aren't careful may soon find themselves asleep.

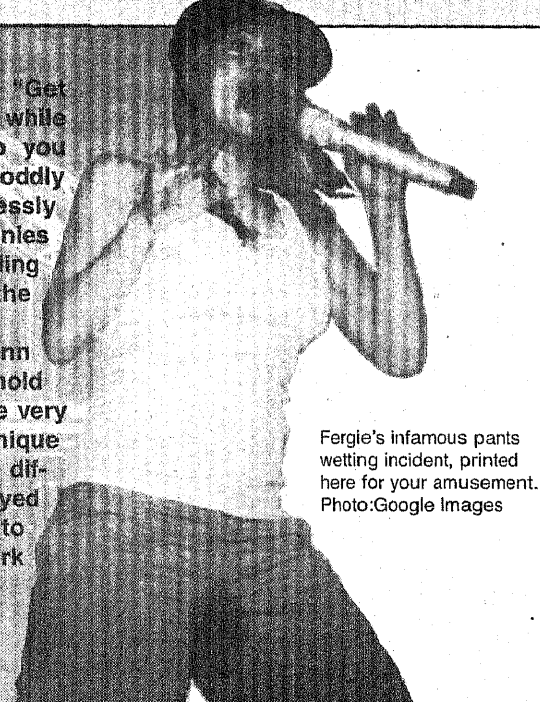
"Loosing My Ground," is an inspiring tale of self-discovery. Fergie emotionally inquires: "Where do I go? What do I do? Who do I turn to? I'm losing my ground. Who am I now? Where does it end? How did it all begin? I'm losing my ground."

"Pedestal" is one the standout tracks on the album. Fergie sings in a childlike girlish voice to the tune of the London Bridge nursery rhyme: "Pedestal is falling down, falling down, falling down."

"Here I Come" samples "Get Ready" by The Temptations and while its captivating enough to keep you singing along, the vocals seem oddly out of place. They are carelessly plopped on top of the harmonies without using any proper blending techniques, which makes the seams awkwardly audible.

Fergie a.k.a. Stacy Ann Ferguson proves that she can hold her own as a solo musician. She very capably produces her own unique brand of pop which is distinctly different than that of The Black Eyed Peas, all the while ensuring not to stray too far from the trademark sound that made her famous.

As Danielle said in the beginning of this show, "Staten Island girls are brutal, but I am one of those girls." Any Staten Islander can tell you that living here is like living in a bubble. If we don't fit a certain cookie cutter mold, we are looked down upon as freaks. Cliques are formed at an early age, and for the ones that don't fit in, we are left with a feeling of isolation from the rest of our peers. I myself have never fit into just one group, and I have my loud mouth to thank for that. The majority of the people I hang out with are people I have met through friends, at parties, or coworkers through my countless jobs. I think we all come to a point in our lives where we (hopefully) finally grow up and realize the petty drama and bull shit that entertained us in the past is just stressful and time consuming.



Fergie's infamous pants wetting incident, printed here for your amusement. Photo: Google Images

Grade: B+

# SPORTS

October 30, 2006

## Dolphins Go Down Fighting

Jennifer Miller

Queens, NY- The seventh-seeded CSI Men's Soccer team lost to the second-seeded Baruch College Bearcats 3-1 Wednesday night at the Metropolitan Oval. The CUNYAC Quarter-Final loss eliminates them for the playoffs.

Despite the loss, the Dolphins played hard for the entire game even with the referee's call always seeming to go against them. Head Coach Vito Veneruso protested one such call in the 64th and the ref issued a red-card without warning, ejecting the Dolphins' coach from the rest of the game. While arguing a red card, Baruch's assistant coach was himself red carded, in addition to one Baruch player. After CSI's goalkeeper caught a shot in midair, the player slammed into him long after the play ended. The ref once again took out his red-card after conferring with the linesman.

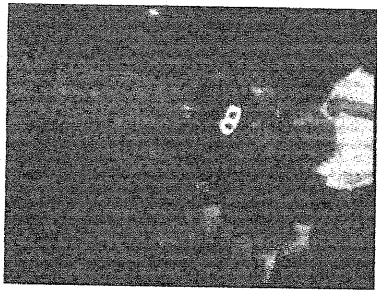
The Dolphins struck first on a goal by Vinnie Imperatrice in the 40th minute. The CSI bench erupted in cheers as they watched the ball roll past the Baruch goalkeeper and the players huddled at midfield to celebrate.

The Bearcats tied the score with under a minute to play in the first-half. David Shin fired a shot through traffic to the near side of the goal, giving CSI's keeper, Ronaldo Btsh, no chance at a

save. "It's a totally different game if they don't score that goal with twenty seconds left," defender Joseph Fassari said. "It took so much out of us. They were all excited and we had our heads down because we wanted to have the lead."

In the second-half, the Bearcats broke the tie on a goal from Rafal Dziekanowski. They would score a third goal at 82:50 on a shot that hit under the crossbar and bounced out.

Btsh played a solid game and the game ended with him totaling thirteen saves.



Mid-fielder Leonardo Arganarez left the game mid-way through the first half with a leg injury. The Dolphins also played without Anthony Rizzo, who was suspended after receiving a red-card in the previous match. "I'm disappointed

in myself because I wasn't allowed to play," he said. "They played awesome. They did the best they could and that's all you can ask for."

"It's really disappointing," Fassari said. "We really had a chance to win."

"Come on guys, smile," Coach Veneruso said to his team on the bus. "That was a good game." He then went to each player and congratulated him on a game well played.

Once the bus returned to CSI, Veneruso once again congratulated his Dolphins for playing hard, despite the adversity they faced for the entire season. Associate Athletic Director David Pizzuto also praised the team on their efforts and encouraged them to keep their GPA's up so they would not have eligibility problems for the 2007 season.

## Baydal Breaks Through

John DePetro

As the two-time defending CUNY Conference women's soccer champion CSI Dolphins prepare for the final stretch run toward the playoffs, Captain Lauren Baydal guarantees, "We are definitely winning CUNY."

A statement like this is commonplace for Baydal. Always confident of her abilities both on and off the soccer field, this little blond-haired firecracker is never short on self-belief or words.

Baydal started playing organized soccer at the age of twelve, a relatively late age to begin. A natural at the sport, her inexperience gave way to her talent. As she gained more and more experience, she was soon on par with the other girls who had played since they were five.

A few years later in high school, Baydal had no trouble making the varsity team at Staten Island Tech. It was here where she first encountered injury. After attempting a header, a player from the opposing team came down low and knocked Baydal's legs out from underneath her. She landed hard and awkwardly on her right knee. "I either strained or tore every ligament in my knee," she said. "I gave it some time to heal but constant knee on knee collisions and just wear and tear kept it from healing fully. Last year I found out that I tore some stuff in my hip caused by my weak knee."

Injuries would follow Baydal throughout the rest of her athletic career. "Right now I'm playing with a strained MCL," said Baydal. "I ripped my knee apart in high school and have never really been healthy since."

Wrapped in her sub-five foot, ninety pound frame beats the heart of a stubborn warrior. Game after game, Baydal typically plays as the smallest player on the field. Bumping elbows and kicking shins with girls often twice her size, she has become accustomed to playing with pain.

Lauren Baydal lives life like she plays soccer, hard. Right now, she balances schoolwork, soccer, an internship at Lifetime Television, and working as a server at an Island restaurant. Still, her scholastic resumé is as impressive as her soccer record.

She has been a member of the Emerging Leaders Program, the Scholastic Athletic Committee, a regular on the Dean's List and the 4.0 List. All while winning MVP honors during last year's CUNYAC playoffs.

The road to CSI success was not an easy one for Baydal. She graduated from Staten Island Technical High School in 2001 and her hard work earned her a scholarship to Pace University.

Her first year at the university was a difficult one. A change in lifestyle, a serious illness and a series of unfortunate miscommunications caused her cumulative GPA to fall just barely below the level required by her scholarship. As a result, she lost her scholarship and left Pace University. "It was disappointing what happened at Pace," she said. "All these things kept happening that were out of my control. But life goes on and so did I."

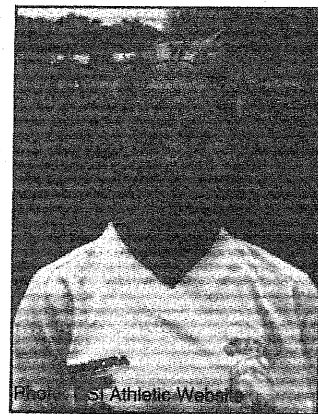


Photo: CSI Athletic Website

"I didn't want to go to CSI," said Baydal. "I thought of it as a dead end." So she went to work for a Manhattan temp agency, but became unhappy with her career prospects. She gritted her teeth and enrolled at CSI. "When I first got here, I hated it. I didn't think I belonged. I was doing well but I just wanted to go to my classes and go home."

A chance encounter with an old teammate changed the course for the rest of her time at CSI. She was persuaded to join the CSI soccer team. "I hadn't played for two years," she said. "Once I started playing again, I fell in love with it all over again. I knew almost everyone on the team. We had either played with or against each other throughout high school and now we were all on the same team."

November 5th is the Hudson Valley Championship game. For Baydal and the rest of the seniors on the Dolphins, this will be the last chance they will ever wear the CSI blue and white. "It's really sad," she said. "I hope we all get together to play in a winter league. We do this because we love it."

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been on, has great chemistry that could produce a successful season. All of the pre-season runs on the track, the weight room workouts, and the captain's practices in the gym, which began at the start of school and ended a few days prior to the first practice, enabled the team to click.

Overall, like every year, the team's ultimate goal is to win a CUNY championship. We know it is feasible with hustle and sacrifice. In addition to the hard work and dedication to the sport, the team wants to have fun as we look for a championship banner.

Staten Island native Robert Mesjasz and me, Michael Jones, from Washington, New Jersey.

After we completed the first real sweat of October, we hustled over to CSI's Great Lawn to participate in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's "Walk for a Cure." "It was fun because it was for a great cause," Heath Dilts, a Junior transfer student said. "It was nice to see all the athletes from the college get involved."

With our first scrimmage only weeks away, the team still has a lot hard work ahead, but this team, unlike others I've

## CSI Basketball Diaries

Michael Jones

Michael Jones, a senior on the basketball team, gives us a first-hand account as the team strives toward a CUNY title. The season kicks off in Boston on November 18 before the Dolphins return to CSI to play their home opener against FDU-Florham on November 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Although the CSI men's basketball team did not officially start practice for the 2006-2007 season until 6:45am on Sunday October 15th, the coaches and returning players have been hard at work since the conclusion of a disappointing (13-12) 2005-2006 campaign. Head Coach Tony Petosa (17th year), an established and well-respected coach in Northeast Division III Basketball, hopes to establish CSI as "a national power" among Division III schools.

The first move toward this goal was the hiring of assistant coach Vinny Mussina. He

started coaching over twenty years ago in a Brooklyn grammar school and steadily worked his way up the ranks to the college level. Coach Mussina -- one of Stephen Marbury's earliest coaches -- has coached Staten Island high school basketball for more than ten years, and he joins third year assistant coach Aaron Goldstein on the staff.

The coaches worked hard this summer, recruiting an excellent class of freshmen that could make an immediate impact this season. Freshmen Christian Montervino, Kyle Yokum, Bobby Crimmins, and Ryan Hennessey have all been impressive through the first week of practice.

In addition to the new recruits, some experienced players return to the team for the upcoming season. Forward Gari Blackett led last year's squad in rebounding, and Sean Weismuller and Jameson Browne both had solid freshman seasons. Also returning from the 2004-2005 Dolphins team, which made the CUNY championship game, are