

THE BANNER

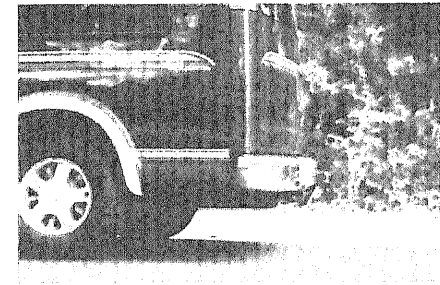
The Official Newspaper of the College of Staten Island
September 17, 2015

Established 1993

Issue # 2



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"Save The Shuttle" Fails to Save Students Money Transportation Fee Added to Student Activity Funds with Complications

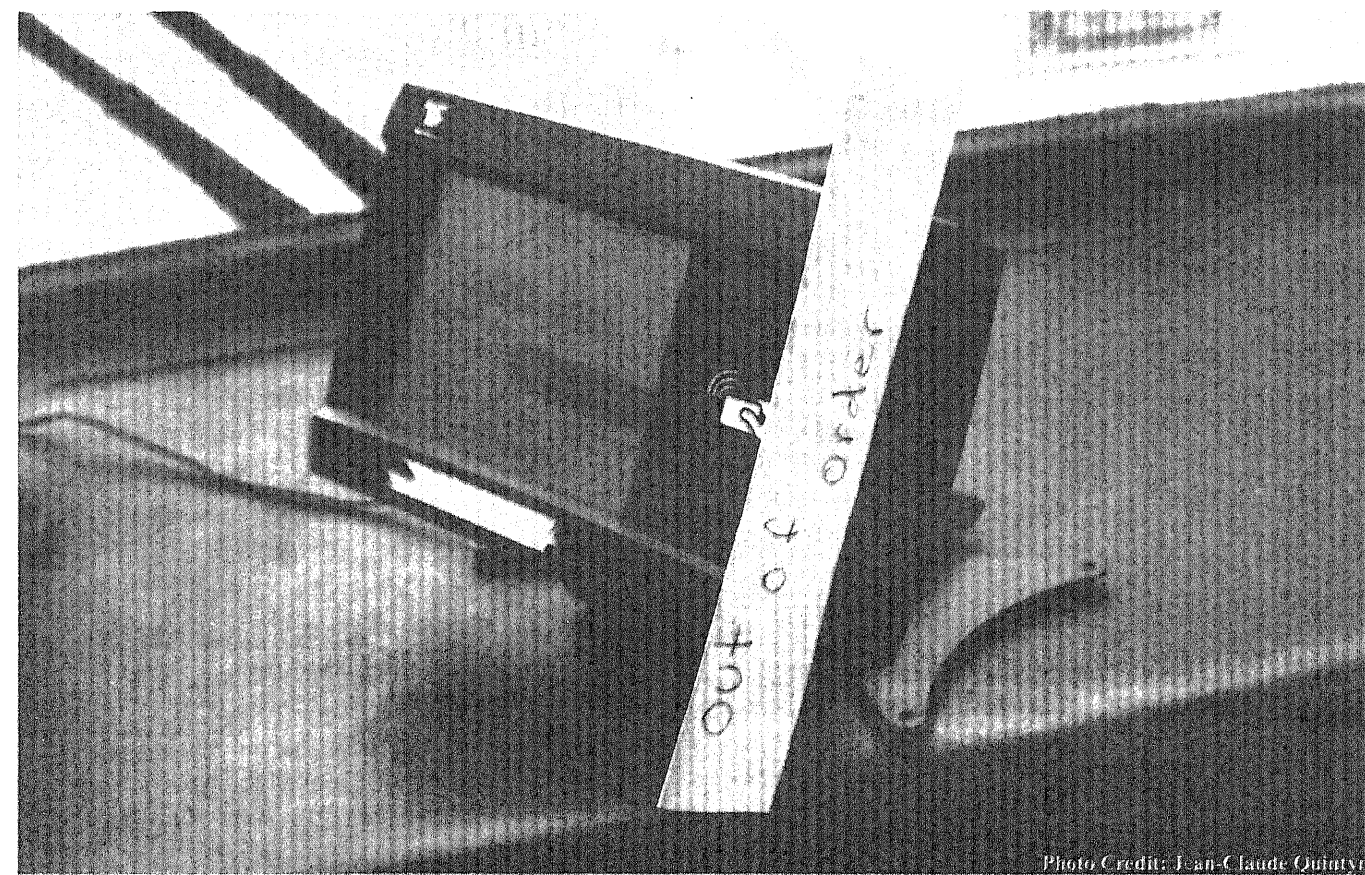


Photo Credit: Jean-Claude Quintyne

A device that allows students to board the Ferry Shuttle and Loop buses after swiping their Dolphin Cards is the latest attempt. Finances and Administration has taken to maintain CSI's million-dollar bus service.

BY VICTORIA PRIOLA

After four years of financial turmoil, CSI turns to students for assistance to support Loop and Ferry Shuttle service.

CSI Student Association added the \$40 Transportation Fee to Student Activity fees, which students pay each semester, to continue funding the \$1.6 million bus service.

"Transportation services are great but they are a luxury," said Ira Persky, Vice President of Finances and Administration. "Some people forget that and assume it's expected."

According to the Bursar, the fee was implemented during the first week of the fall 2015 semester after tuition bills were released.

Minutes from a Student Government meeting on November 6 state that the College received a \$400,000 grant from the

"The Transportation Fee will not cover all expenses but Finances and Administration suggests it's a step in the right direction."

state to keep the buses running.

CSI applied for the same grant in 2014, receiving \$185,000.

Over a year ago, Persky proposed the Transportation Fee, believing it could get CSI out of debt.

SG held several meetings throughout the fall and spring semesters discussing the proposal.

According to the meeting minutes, Senators felt the fee was unfair to students who drive to campus because they already pay \$111 for a parking decal.

And in a meeting in April of last semester, an overwhelming vote in favor of the fee was passed, with three rejections and four abstentions.

"Our SG didn't agree on much this year," said Donald Hudec, SG Coordinator.

"But they all had the student's best interest in mind."

When no alternative options proved to be successful, a petition to implement Persky's plan called "Save the Shuttle" was created and brought to students.

The petition received 2,000 signatures, which were verified by Carol Brower, Director of Student Life, and the rest of her department and received votes from 803 students online—74 percent of all voters—during the 2015 spring SG elections, according to Hudec.

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New Roadway to Alleviate Traffic on Victory Blvd

PROPOSAL FOR CONSTRUCTION ON
CHRISTOPHER LANE AWAITS
APPROVAL

BY LUCIA ROSSI

Councilman Steven Matteo and Staten Island Borough President James Oddo submitted a proposal to the New York State Department of Transportation for the construction of a new roadway through Christopher Lane on July 7.

While the proposal has not been approved yet, the project aims to alleviate traffic on Victory Boulevard.

"This project takes a chaotic, inefficient corridor and improves it by a measurable degree," said Borough President James Oddo in an interview with the Staten Island Advance.

CSI President William J. Fritz also received the proposal and supports the project, believing it will provide a smoother flow for the 15,000 students and 3,000 employees who commute to the campus every day.

"The impetus of this vital project will be supported by the college's Traffic and Transportation Task Force, High Performance Computational Center, and faculty experts," Fritz said.

"I look forward to continuing these discussions in service to our community in order to ultimately provide congestion relief to the 300,000 vehicles that travel this stretch of Victory Boulevard on a weekly basis, as well as the neighborhoods that call it home."

Oddo and Matteo pitched the proposal to extend the lane southward through the Willowbrook Park woodlands and into the campus.

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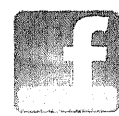
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RE: Staten Island Yankees Go "Game of Thrones"

I think that Lucia Rossi wrote an interesting article about the Game of Thrones event at Staten Island Yankee Stadium, but missed some of the more quotable moments. For instance, when George R.R. Martin made his appearance on the field, the GOT mastermind threatened to "kill another Stark if the Direwolves don't come back." The quote from the CSI worker made it more prevalent to our campus life and also illuminated a good point about the lack of attendance at the stadium.

RE: "The Problem With 'All Lives Matter'"

I read through Jean-Claude Quintyne's article and I agree with the argument presented between the All Lives Matter slogan and the Black Lives Matter slogan. All Lives Matter makes the whole issue into a generality while Black Lives Matter has impact and value. African American lives and events regarding them is a huge glaring issue, one that ALM fails to recognize. Although every person's life should be equal, they unfortunately are not. Who are the victims of police brutality? Who are the people being arrested without probable cause? For the people who understand the message behind BLM, further support and activism is necessary. For those who don't understand, they need to step aside.

Gabriel Davila, COM 438 Student

RE: "New Shortstop Takes Next Step to Bigs"

This article by Jose Rivera is a very

well reported piece. I can tell that the author cares about the subject matter a great deal. What is great about this article is that it makes me want to look up Kyle Holder and his career stats considering I had not heard of him before reading this. Also, this article details how Holder feels about playing for the Yankees organization so it shows a personal reflection on the topic of the person being interviewed. This is very well written and reported article.

RE: "Socialists, Dynastic Candidates, and Longshots, Oh My!"

After reading many articles and watching much coverage about the Republican nominees, including the not-so-humble Donald Trump, it is very refreshing to see some Democratic coverage of many good candidates, including my candidate of choice, Senator Bernie Sanders. With a lot of news coverage in the pockets of wealthy wall street bought politicians, it's good to expose people, particularly the millennials to whom interests liberal candidates most appeal, to some of the Democratic viewpoints of those who oppose socioeconomic inequality, and the wealthiest 1 percent of the country. It makes me proud to be a well informed CUNY student.

RE: "New Trend Wrapping Up Weight Loss"

I was pleasantly surprised to see that The Banner covered this new crazy waist-training fad. I keep seeing it all over Instagram--on the Kardashians' feeds, namely--and I think it's utterly ridiculous--and

fascinating. However, although I loved that you tried the ItWorks! product for yourself (and I cannot believe you actually achieved results) I felt like the article read like the transcript of an infomercial for the product. What are some of the downsides of these waist-trainers? Can they cause long-term damage? Are the results only temporary?
Hilary Shepherd, Senior

RE: "CUNY, SUNY Unions Push Cuomo to Cover Costs"

This was a nice article on an important issue and it was written in a way that kept it interesting to people who may not be normally interested in the topic. The only thing I would change is I would like to see a quote or some information from people who don't support the bill. After reading the article I was wondering if this is such a great bill, why has it stalled for this long and who, besides the Governor, is making this bill take so long to pass. Also why is the Governor taking so long to sign it.

Tommy Gallagher, Senior

RE: "Next Installment of 'Fifty Shades' Goes Deeper"

I am a big fan of this article, especially because I feel this book got so much criticism and hate from the get-go. Like the article stated, it's a reboot which means you're reading the same events through a different perspective, so I'm not sure what everybody else expected out of this book. I personally am a fan of his flashbacks with his mother and his responses to Ana's email. Great review!

Nicole Derosa, COM 438 Student

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BANNER POLITICS
Analyzing Ramos, Trump, and Hispanics

Clash with Celebrated Reporter Further Distances Trump from Sanity

BY CLARITZA QUEZADA

Donald Trump, who leads the polls among Republicans running for the 2016 Presidential election, made another mistake when he argued with Jorge Ramos, one of the most influential Latino reporters in the United States.

During a press conference in Iowa on August 25, Ramos was ejected when he asked the GOP candidate a question regarding his proposal to deport 11 million undocumented immigrants.

Trump refused to let Ramos ask any questions. Growing frustrated, Ramos decided to take matters into his own hands by calling out.

He repeated, "You cannot deport 11 million people. You cannot build a wall for 1,900 miles," referring to comments Trump had made in the past about building a wall that would separate the Mexican-American border.

Trump, irritated, began a shouting match with Ramos. "You do not have the right to ask questions," he told Ramos. "You haven't been called."

In addition, Trump suggested that Ramos should "Go back to Univision."

Ramos was ejected from the press conference. A video surfaced online showing the reporter being harassed and yelled at Trump's security personnel.

Men in black suits are heard mocking him and telling him to "go back to [your] country" and "You don't belong here." Ramos fought back, stating that he was a citizen of the United States.

This is also the first time that Ramos has ever been kicked out of a press conference. Ramos was let back in and was allowed to ask questions.

However, this isn't the first time that Trump and Ramos have clashed.

Ramos has been upset with Trump's comments since his announcement earlier this summer.

On June 16, when Trump announced that he was running for president as a Republican, his unscripted comments on Mexico and South America featured, "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. They're not sending you."

"They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems to us," Trump told a room filled with extras who were paid \$50 to attend.

"They're bringing drugs. They're

bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people."

These comments led to outrage on social media and many businesses broke their ties with the business tycoon.

The real estate mogul lost a handful of influential companies such as Macy's, which dropped his clothing line.

Performers scheduled for Ms. Universe such as J Balvin and Mexico's representative both withdrew from participat-

ing in the televised pageant. the largest minority group in the United States.

Currently, they comprise at least 11 percent of the voting population. If anything, Trump should fight for their vote and make smarter decisions.

After the 2012 election, the GOP commissioned several wise men of the party to create a moratorium white paper on why the Republicans lost the White House.

The white paper, "Building a Winning

include building a wall on the border between Mexico and the States.

Trump has given very few insights into his views on domestic policies and even less on foreign affairs.

Trump's hostility towards Hispanics may turn out to be extremely troubling for the Republican party down the road.

The GOP's attempt to court Hispanic and Latino voters for the 2016 race are the reason that candidates such as Marco Rubio, a Cuban American, and Jeb Bush, who is fluent in Spanish, were championed as early favorites.

Now, according to a CNN/ORC International poll, Trump tops GOP candidates with 30 percent of support from likely primary voters, while Bush is at 9 percent and Rubio has fallen down to 3 percent. Trump's high polling also makes it borderline unethical for news media to not cover or ignore him.

The conversation around immigration policy has also been regressed to the simplistic solution of building a wall, stripping certain immigrants of birthright citizenship, and deportation.

To add to the controversy, Trump's series of derogatory comments have also been directed towards women, giving Democrats a chance to frame the Republican party as a party of older white males.

Latino youth have expressed outrage on social media, putting up memes of Trump and asking questions.

On Twitter, numerous hashtags have been created that questioning Trump's policy positions.

Pundits have been speculating that Trump may have an approach to the campaign similar to Obama's 2008 effort, in that minority youths, this time Hispanics and Latinos, may register and vote at higher rates than usual.

His comments will surely drive more immigrants to the voting polls, helping to avoid the disaster of his becoming our next president.

When asked about the recent conflict, Ramos explained his reasoning behind asking the questions at the conference, stating that:

"When human rights are involved, when immigration rights are involved, when discrimination and racism is involved, we, as reporters, have to take a stand."

Trump has said that some of his plans



Trump insisted that Ramos sit down and tell him "You do not have the right to ask questions," he told Ramos. "You haven't been called."



Ramos was ejected from the press conference. A video surfaced online showing the reporter being harassed and yelled at Trump's security personnel.

4

Former Swim Coach Aims to Sue College Again

Soloviev Claims Racism, Sexism, Age Among Reasons for Termination

BY CLIFFORD MICHEL

An arbitrator has ruled to uphold the November 2011 firing of Oleg Soloviev, a former College of Staten Island swim coach, and has once again rejected his \$25 million lawsuit against the College.

The arbitrator cited the fact that the coach promised Russian student-athletes housing and jobs, including ones as life-guards before entering entered the United States.

"The employer had just cause for termination," wrote Deborah M. Gaines, the arbitrator, in late August.

"The recorded evidence establishes [Soloviev] had a long tenure with the college and an established history of dedication to his duties and athletes," Gaines wrote.

"However, none of these factors can provide sufficient mitigating circumstances, given the magnitude of his dishonesty and misconduct in this case."

In Gaines' recent ruling she put a portion of the blame on CSI for "[failing] to exercise enough oversight" on Soloviev.

A CSI spokesperson contended that the college acted to the best of its ability in the handling of Soloviev and said that administration is content with the arbitrator's ruling.

"The college has always maintained that it has acted in a lawful and just manner, and in the interest of safety for our students and our community members, in regards to this matter," Kenneth Bach, CSI's spokesperson, told the *Staten Island Advance* in a statement.

"We are pleased that the final resolution has been reached in support of our position."

Soloviev told the *Advance* that he will, once again, appeal the decision.

Soloviev's misconduct came to light when CSI President William Fritz alerted the campus community via a December 2013 letter stating that the NCAA was looking into possible violations to the organization's bylaws.

Penalties from the NCAA included a four-year probation placed on CSI and a two-year postseason ban for the Men's swimming team

A few months after the NCAA announced penalties against CSI for Solo-

Speech Pathology Major in the Works at CSI

Linguistics Department Looks to Meet Students Demands

BY VICTORIA PRIOLA

A Speech Pathology program is in the works at CSI with the help of sixty students and professors Jason Bishop and Christina Tortora.

When completed, CSI will be the only institution in Staten Island that offers it.

"Language is a window into how the brain works," said Jason Bishop, Linguistics professor at CSI.

"It was not something that was invented. There is a science behind it."

Creating Speech Pathology as a separate major has been an ongoing project for a year and a half, according to Bishop.

After discussions with the College, a linguistics lab was built in 2S near the Writing center this summer to give students necessary resources to enhance research.

The lab and its equipment cost roughly \$60,000.

Although linguistics is the study of language, it is considered a science. There are currently 60 Linguistics majors at CSI, and the department hopes to hire their third and fourth professors within the next two years.

In the hopes that a separate major for speech students is in the near future, the Linguistics and Speech Sciences Club was created.

Speech student Steve Arriaga is the club's president, and works with Julianne Millen as vice president, Juliana Colon as secretary, and Jessica Spensieri as treasurer.

For a career as a Speech Pathologist, Bishop says that a bachelor's degree is not required. Those who want to pursue a career in speech must receive a Master's degree and complete several certifications.

They can get a head start by having the

option to take graduate school classes at the CUNY Graduate Center in Manhattan.

"With this club, we hope to inform the college community about what linguistics is in hopes of getting more students to major in linguistics," said Arriaga in an interview with The Banner.

"We also plan to provide tutoring and study groups since linguistics courses are small in number and since we're such a condensed group."

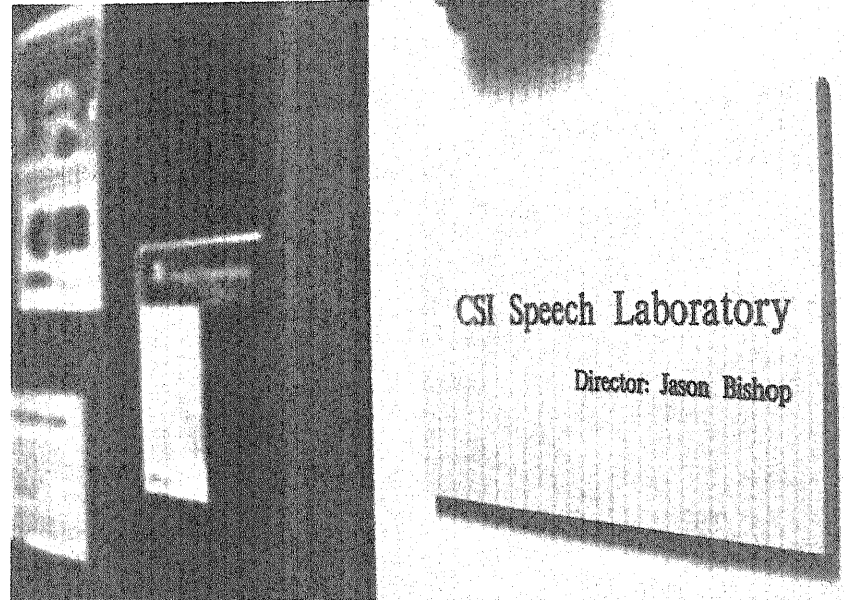
During the summer, the department looked for volunteers to participate in lab research.

According to Bishop, the goal of the speech research is to identify differences in the general population.

They are interested in autism speech because it contains results that fall into many categories of diseases.

Their research will continue throughout the semester as will their need for help from students.

For students interested in helping, Bishop



op says the first step is to reach out.

"The [linguistics] department is helping me by letting me take the classes I need to get where I want in the future," said Spensieri. "Without this program, I wouldn't be doing any of that. It's making my academic career more successful."

The Linguistics and Speech Club's information is unavailable at the moment and members are actively putting together a schedule set to be released soon.

They hope to be chartered by the end of this semester. Arriaga says the club will use their funding to have a speech pathologist visit the club to speak and take questions.

"If you ask questions, you learn how the world works," said Bishop. "The goal is to teach students to approach the world curiously."

For more information about the club, contact Jason Bishop at jason.bishop@csi.cuny.edu or Christina Tortora via email christina.tortora@csi.cuny.edu for more information.

The NCAA's official Notice of Allegations in 2013 rocked CSI Athletics to its core.

The NCAA found that "the Administration never required him to give an accounting of his recruitment activities."

The NCAA also discovered that the coach was recruiting players both electronically and while vacationing abroad.

The association also ruled that CSI indirectly provided funds for the recruited students by lowering swim-lane rates at a private swim club.

Since the Notice of Allegation, Athletics has been placed under direct supervision of the President's Office and President Fritz created a "compliance team."

The team consists of various members of CSI Administration, faculty members, a student representative, and the Athletic Director.

Soloviev, who was director of athletics since 1995, was once highly regarded in the CSI Athletics Department. Soloviev brought the Dolphins to seven CUNYAC titles, earned the honor of CUNY Coach of the Year five times, and brought CSI its first NCAA Division III championship—which was stripped away due to penalties from the NCAA.

view's actions, the former coach filed a \$25 million lawsuit against CSI, alleging that his ethnicity, age, and sex were the reason for his termination.

Soloviev claimed that his replacement received almost double the pay he received when he was first hired and that women

"The college has always maintained that it has acted in a lawful and just manner, and in the interest of safety for our students and our community members, in regards to this matter."

workers also received higher starting salaries.

A Brooklyn federal judge, William F. Kuntz II, dismissed the lawsuit last May, saying that the coach failed to back up any of his claims with coherent evidence.

"Mr. Soloviev has shown no connection between his termination and his gender, race or national origin," Kuntz wrote

"Save the Shuttle Fails Students" Continued from Front Page

The parking decal covers the cost of the office operations, parking lot maintenance, public safety vehicles and the Dolphin Cards system.

According to Persky, the roads on campus were not built to endure what they do on a daily basis.

"No one likes paying for things they don't utilize," said Persky.

"If the 3,000 people that take the Ferry Shuttle every day drove to campus, they'd

make parking very difficult."

Funds from the decal also support paying for snow removal.

Last winter, \$175,000 was spent on snow removal alone.

Administration predicts that, with the help of state funds, roads will be repaired within the next 18 months.

The price of the parking decal has increased within the past year, with funds from that, according to Finances and Administration, going towards the creation of new parking spots, including the 47 new

ones in Lot 4.

"Our parking cost is nothing compared to campuses in New Jersey," said Persky. "You'd be shocked to see what they have to pay."

The Transportation fee is predicted to accumulate \$1.1 million in revenue. It will not cover all expenses but Finances and Administration suggests it's a step in the right direction. When Administration was asked about a backup plan, they stated that the fee would be successful and would improve as time goes on.

"Traffic Alleviation on Victory Blvd" Continued from Front Page

"We believe a new collector road and additional entrance drive to the College of Staten Island can be created adjacent to the southern map line of Victory Boulevard within the bed of existing mapped parkway.

The parkway right-of-way adjoins the campus proper to the west," the letter for the proposal stated.

This indicates that the land is the property of the Department of Transportation's mapped unbuilt highway.

Oddo and Matteo believe this will help quicken the bureaucratic process.

"Government needs to learn how to get out of its own way and complete projects in a much more timely fashion," Otto said.

"It should not take two decades to complete a project that everyone agrees on."

With five pedestrian fatalities from 2008 to 2012 and a speed limit that was dropped to 25 mph as of last June, Victory Boulevard is known as one of the most



Minority Leader Steven Matteo (above) proposed the construction project with S.I. Borough President James Oddo

dangerous roads on Staten Island.

A NYPD officer has been placed to handle traffic during rush hour, the Smart Lights have been added to cut down on speeding, and traffic signs have been added to prevent the blockage of the traffic box in front of the campus.

"The intersection is a problem not only for passing drivers but also for the local Bulls Head community," Matteo expressed.

"The situation is so bad that it's clogging residential streets with cars looking for any way to get around this area, makes some of these blocks dangerous."

The cost of the project has no estimate and no discussions about how it would affect traffic at CSI have taken place.

"This [project] will take cooperation from city, state, agencies and CSI, but this is a very practical improvement to a long-standing problem," said Oddo.



Students Prepare for New Semester of Expenses

End of Summer Brings Beginning of Scholastic Stress

BY RYAN MILLER

While early September offers a final opportunity to celebrate the end of summer with one final "Hurrah," employed students find themselves busy juggling schedules and watching their bank accounts.

A new academic year means new classes, textbooks, and stressful adjustments to class schedules and work hours.

"Once September rolls around I find it nearly impossible to do anything," said Justin Edwardsen, a senior at CSI.

"Being a full-time student means I have to cut back my hours at work, which is especially hard with tuition bills arriving."

Making money during the semester is not a problem specific to Edwardsen, but one that's specific to a number of other CSI students.

And though opportunities for students to find employment at the College, they aren't usually ideal.

"I put in an application in for an on-campus job, but not sure if it's right for me," said John Brooks, a sophomore.

"They try to work around your sched-

"It's a vicious cycle, work and school. It's all about finding balance, but that's much easier said than done for most."

ule, which is great, but as bills come in you're always looking for a way to supplement your income."

Meeting school-related costs are only half the battle. Phone bills, car payments and credit card bills also strike fear into students' hearts.

Without financial aid, a semester at a CUNY institution can run full-time students roughly \$4,000 dollars in tuition. Considering additional expenses like books and supplies, students face \$5,000 in bills over the course of a semester—a span of four months.

Class schedules can compromise a student's ability to make ends meet, but as fall approaches, many of the jobs students held over the summer recede.

Employers seek seasonal help in order to compensate for the busy season and college students are a popular demographic to

market to. As business declines, so does the need for additional help, leaving many students jobless in a quandary.

Even as costs pile up, hitting the books remains the only option for those seeking professional success.

Further complicating the the job market is the experience that employers seek in new hires.

So as students continue to working on elevating their GPA, they simultaneously miss out on valuable opportunities to gain the desired experience.

"This is always the worst time of the year for me," said Edwardsen.

"It's a vicious cycle, work and school. It's all about finding balance, but that's much easier said than done for most."

BANNER LIFESTYLES

Survival Guide For Photographers On Tour

Making a Van a Home Away From Home

BY EMILY ZODA

As a photographer, it's important to carry a camera, a detachable flash, SD cards with plenty of room to shoot away, and a laptop to upload them to later in a hotel room.

Traveling with the band, with my boyfriend as singer and guitarist, it's fun going different places and meeting new people. I'm doing what I love most: photographing live concerts.

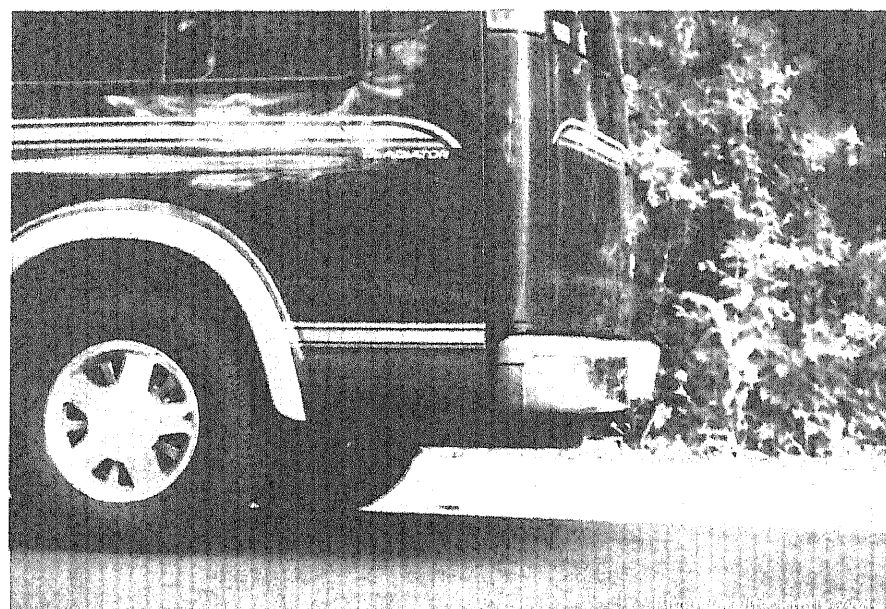
But even in what seems like a perfect setup, you'll need more than just a camera to get you by. Here are some tips to follow if you happen to be a photographer on the road.

Ear plugs: Without these, you'll lose your hearing, an inconvenience for a college student. Some come with a key-chain case (e.g. Original Earpeace Ear Plugs, earpeace.com, \$15) to make it impossible for you to forget them in the hotel room.

Cash: Always have cash on you, even if you're like me and use your card everywhere. Outside of New York, you just never know whether your card will be accepted or if you need change for the merch table.

Cooler: Even though you'll always stop for food, bring a cooler with you to keep water and Gatorade or iced tea so there won't be a need to buy them every place you go. Some refrigerated snacks are good to keep in coolers as well. Just don't get muffins because nobody wants pieces of soggy anything floating in their ice water, a harsh lesson I learned.

Hotels: Do a lot of research on this. Finding hotels when most of your party is under 21 can be tricky because of strict ho-



On tour, in what seems like a perfect setup, you'll need more than just a camera to get you by

tel rules. We lucked out when we stayed at a string of Hampton Inn's we found for cheap on Expedia. Also, there's free breakfast, the most important meal of the day.

Bluetooth speaker: In this instance, we were driving in a 16 year-old van with a busted radio and AC. We decided to invest in a small Bluetooth speaker called the Oontz Angle Plus (Amazon, \$35).

It packs a lot of sound and it has rubber grips on the bottom so it won't slide around. And best of all, it's waterproof. Instead of fumbling over the radio, everyone can connect their phones to the speaker and play their tunes at will. There's also an AUX output (wire not included) for phones or MP3

devices that don't have Bluetooth. A great investment for sure.

Something to do: Being the only girl in the car, I had to find a way to keep myself sane. When conversations of girls, 4chan, and phalluses began, I whipped out a magazine I brought from home. I'd search for more reading material on my tablet, or I would stick my earbuds in and listen to a podcast or two.

We had time to stop at one of the biggest malls in the US, King of Prussia, in Pennsylvania, and while they all flocked to the comic book store or GameStop, I did a little shopping for myself and got a good amount of walking in. Sometimes you need to get away from all the testosterone, especially if you're

going to share a room with all of them later anyway.

Unfortunately, there are times when a show might fall through, leaving some time for flexibility during the week. During our down time, we were in Virginia with plenty of things to do like mini golf, paint-balling, or go-carts. We even bought a whiffle ball and bat to play with in the park by the water, complete with a gorgeous site.

Wawa: Outside of New York you will rarely see a 7-Eleven or bodega around, so Wawa is the best (and only) option.

When you think about the deli sandwiches, coffee, snacks, and sometimes gas at cheaper prices than anywhere else, Wawa doesn't seem too bad an idea for multiple food trips, especially if your hotel is always located within ten minutes of one. Every time.

Workout clothes: All the hotels we stayed at had 24 hour gyms, so I packed a pair of workout clothes and sneakers to sneak in a routine before heading out again. It helps to plug your earphones in and work out all the Wawa cheese steaks you've put in your body.

Business cards: If you're photographing every band on the bill, you want to strike up a conversation and give them one of these and tell them about the wonderful social media world you partake in and where their photos will be displayed.

They may seem like they're not interested at the moment after playing and being hot and sweaty, but they will thank you later.

"Dressing to Impress" Not all It's Cracked Up to Be

The Week I Gave Up Sweatpants

BY VICTORIA PRIOLA

I'm a person who loves the simpler things in life—Netflix, Nutella, and, most of all, wearing sweatpants. And I think I took Drake a bit too seriously when he said "Sweatpants, hair tied, chillin'" with no make-up on/That's when you're the prettiest, I hope that you don't take it wrong."

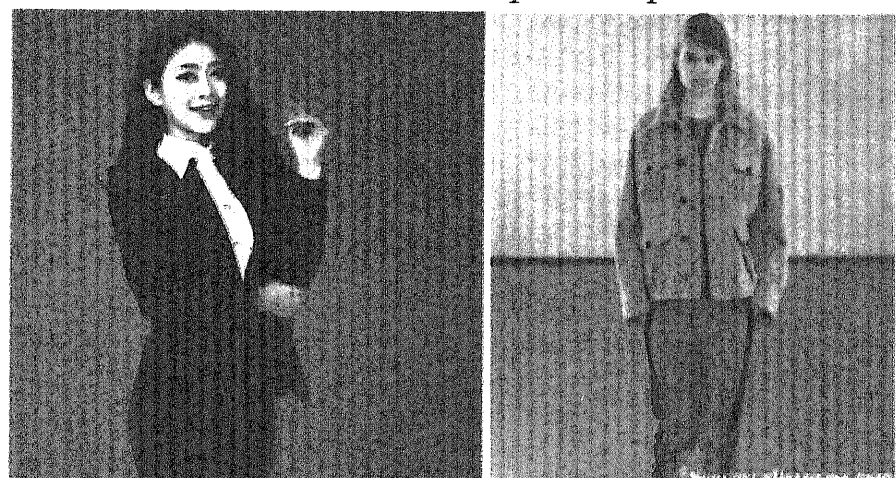
As college students, we're under enough pressure as it is with maintaining a good GPA and deciding what to do with our future.

What we wear throughout this process is practically meaningless, but there are people on campus who don't think so, specifically, women who look effortlessly fashionable and flawless all the time.

I was curious if the way they dress enhances their success. Would taking a little more time to get ready in the morning benefit my life? So, desperately wanting an answer, I decided to take on the challenge to "dress for success" and said a teary goodbye to sweatpants and moccasins for one very long week.

I started out small the first day, wearing jeans, a t-shirt, and flats. I put in my contacts and rocked, semi-decently done, winged eyeliner paired with "Skimp" from the Naked 2 eyeshadow palette. This became my go-to makeup look of the week.

I work at a department store that has an



all-black dress code. Whenever I had to clock in, I decided to focus on makeup and refrain from wearing glasses. Instead of wearing black leggings and a tank top, I stuck to black slacks and black button-ups, matching them with studded earrings and black flats.

My coworker, who's worked with me for the two and a half years I've been there, asked if I was a new hire when I walked into the store on the first day of my experiment. Throughout the day, I noticed my confidence increased because of the makeup and didn't have glasses. People said "Hello" instead of walking right past me.

Not all things were great, though. I was late to every single thing I had to do during the week, mostly because it took me more

than my usual thirty minutes to get ready. I'd spend an embarrassing amount of time picking out what to wear every day and, after the second day, my imagination was fried. It had become clear that after twenty years of loving the simpler things in life, it was a struggle for me to put together a decent outfit.

I didn't know I could hate clothing with a passion until this experiment. Jeans are the bane of my existence. My legs felt like Tilikum at SeaWorld—they were not made for this discomfort and restriction. Walking around campus constantly tugging at my pants and hoping that my butt was not showing each time I sat down was not my idea of a good time. Needless to say, my affair with jeans was short lived.

My acne has always brought my confidence down. When I discovered foundation, I realized that I could distract people's attention from my flaws easily. It was a comfort knowing that makeup allowed me to feel more comfortable around people, but I'm aware that it's only a temporary fix.

I saw a tweet that said, "Give a girl the right pair of shoes and she can rule the world." I think that's garbage. It should say, "Give a girl a brain and she can rule the world. And great taste in shoes."

As a result of my experiment, I've learned that no one cares about what you wear. Half the people I came in contact with during the week had no idea I was doing an experiment until I told them. I did not receive a gold medal for having the best outfit at school, nor did my winged eyeliner save the world—life is just as it was before.

People that don't wear makeup shouldn't feel any less confident than those that do. If you're a crappy person, no amount of foundation can hide that. Wearing sweatpants opposed to a mini skirt doesn't make you any better than you are.

Dress the way you want, be who you want to be and wear sweatpants as much as you can because you never know how much you'll miss them when they're gone!

BANNER LIFESTYLES

Caffeine, Just Like Crack, Is Wack

A Journey to Pry Myself from the Good Stuff

BY CLIFFORD MICHEL

Caffeine. It's one of the few drugs that's socially acceptable to buy, relish, and consume on a daily basis. Caffeine and I have been together since the summer after eighth grade and, even though I knew we were young, we were deeply in love, a love so deep we spent every morning of the next six years together.

She gives me confidence, charisma, and energy. She's something to look forward to when I'm down and something to fall back on when I'm in over my head. But as I rolled into my second year in college, caffeine wanted more out of my life. She didn't just want to spend mornings with me, she wanted to spend afternoons, and sometimes, evenings. So I cut it off—completely.

In early August I decided to go on a full-on caffeine detox. That's right: no green tea, no black tea, no coffee, no Mountain Dew, no frappa-whatevers, or espresso. The idea was crazy, but the challenge seemed exhilarating.

As I woke up on the first day of this challenge, all seemed well.

I made my way downstairs and my mom was brewing the good stuff. "Would you like some?" she asked.

"No thanks, I'm detoxing," I proudly replied.

For most of the day I scrolled through my social media feeds while in bed. "This really isn't that bad," I thought before drifting off to sleep for an unplanned afternoon nap. Oh, how wrong I was. I woke up and immediately noticed that something was different. My forehead seared with hot bursts of pain, the type that wasn't nearly strong enough to make you collapse, but enough to make you hate everything and everyone around you. Detoxing sounded so fun yesterday.

Day two of the detox, somehow, was worse. My body longed for my former lover



Source: Pinterest.com

and wouldn't let me forget about it. I thought distracting myself would be the best option so I headed to the Brooklyn Museum with a friend. I looked at him enviously as he sipped on his iced black tea (I drank iced tea). I felt lethargic and sluggish. It seemed that even being in the company of one of my closest friends wasn't as fun as it would be if caffeine was in the equation.

We made our way through the museum checking out an exhibit on sneaker culture before going to the Egyptian exhibit. That's when it hit me: white, hot, and consistent as well. I was going through caffeine withdrawal again. All of a sudden, blown-up cue cards—containing explanations on why the noses of so many Egyptian statues are smashed—just didn't sound as interesting anymore. It got worse from there, with me getting more irritable. I was grumpy, not only because I lacked energy, but also because I knew the way out was so close and readily

available.

Day three was just as frustrating. I was given several assignments for work and I knew I was moving at a snail's pace when my editor emailed me with a single "???" And I was just about ready to end the whole detox on the fourth day, but to my surprise my headache was practically nonexistent and completely went away with a small-dosage aspirin. I felt like I was back in the saddle: no more headaches meant that my addiction was officially cured, right?

Wrong. Coffee still had the allure of grandeur and an aroma that screamed "all things possible." I was back to enjoying everything I always did, but I still craved the energy boost that seemed to be a quick fix to anything in my life. I decided to make a coffee date with a high school friend who doubles as a low-key health freak, he made it seem like the solution to my problem was simple: find new sources of energy.

That same day we went to buy apples, bananas, oatmeal, and orange juice. Fruits like apples give short half-hour boosts of energy through their natural sugars. And anything that has a decent amount of carbohydrates are easily broken down for your body to use, too.

When he told me about all this, I wanted to smack him over the head with the "Great Book of Coffee" and scream at him like a Jehovah's Witness who realized that the apocalypse is actually coming tonight. He implored me, like all these health freaks do, to "just try it." So I did, and I'd be damned if there wasn't a tingle in my head that kicked in. It was a feeling that I haven't had in a long time: artificial alertness. And, oh my God, it felt great.

I turned to the health freak for advice on how to replace coffee throughout my day. He said to drink green tea and immediately my heart sunk. Green tea contains 25mg of caffeine, nowhere near the amount coffee packs, but it still counted. For all the progress I made it seemed weird that this was my breaking point.

It was day six and something about imagining my smug health freak of a friend being inspired by the wonders of caffeine possessed me to walk into to demand, not ask, for a medium sized iced coffee. Though my detox failed, it saved me from a drug that prevented me from living life on my own terms.

Coffee has become so socially acceptable that many of us fail to realize that grinding your teeth because you couldn't get your hands on a third cup isn't normal.

I'm proud to say that I'm back to drinking one small cup of coffee a day, and I stick to black tea on weekends. Though, with school and work piling up I wouldn't be surprised to find myself back in the sweet loving hands of caffeine.

I can't help it. She just gets me.

Saving for the Season Never Looked So Good

Fierce Fall Make-up on a Budget

BY CLARITZA QUEZADA & BRIELLE SPARACINO

As soon as September rolls around, we go into autopilot and gravitate towards anything fall-related. Beautiful earthy colors, huge scarves, and fierce make-up is scattered on fashionable folks everywhere you go.

What's great about this? You can look fierce without breaking the bank.

Here's a special makeup guide on what to buy this fall and, with it, you can decide whether to splurge or spend on these beauty necessities.

Eyes

Nothing says "well put together" than a good eye look. A messy smoky eye can make the difference between "She looks beautiful" and "Who hit her?"

For fall, dark and subtle metallics will definitely be trendy.

And for students, a smoky eye works any time in bronze and browns, for a fresh look for day classes.

SPLURGE: Brand: Urban Decay, Palette: Naked Smoky, Price: \$54.00, at Ultra Beauty

The perfect choice to splurge would be Urban Decay's "Naked Smoky" palette. It brings 12 beautiful shades such as High and Black Market that can recreate looks for the day and night.

The shades are also pigmented and will last an entire day, which is important when you have plans after your four-hour evening class.

SAVE: Brand: Maybelline, Palette: The Nudes Palette, Price: \$6.76, at Walmart

For less than a fifth of the price of Naked Smoky, you can grab the Nudes Palette by Maybelline at any drug store.

It has a similar color range to the Naked Palette collection, but you can use this palette for a day look that's sweet and simple.

For a more striking look, you can easily dab some darker shades on your eye-lids.

Lips

Doing your lips the right way can move your beauty meter from zero to 100 instantly. Having lips that make a statement never goes out of style. As a college student, you can throw on some jeans, a white t-shirt, and dab of lipstick which creates a look that suggests you've got it together, when in reality you were just being lazy.

To intensify the look, you can use the "Kylie Jenner" lip technique, which features a matte lip liner and a lighter color in the middle of your lip.

Focus on darker colors such as deep reds, burgundies, and plums. Purple has recently become very popular.

SPLURGE: Brand: MAC, Name: Sin,

Price: \$17, at Bloomingdale's

MAC Cosmetics are known for their wide array of lipstick colors that are smooth and heavily pigmented. Sin was discontinued for a bit but after high demand, it was brought back, and better than ever.

Sin's deep burgundy tone not only stays intact for hours but will compliment any outfit by giving it an edgier feel.

SAVE: Brand: Wet N' Wild, Name: Cherry Bomb, Price: \$1.99, at Rite Aid

Wet N' Wild's Cherry Bomb is a great alternative to Sin.

Overall, Wet N' Wild lipsticks have enough pigment to get you through the day after two or three applications.

The consistency is also smooth, which makes it easier to use and adds shine without the worry of adding lip gloss.

Eyeliner

When applied correctly it, can either work miracles or make you late to class after ten attempts of making it perfect.

A simple cat eye can go a long way and give you that casual, yet striking look that you need.

SPLURGE: Brand: Benefit, Product:

They're Real Pushup Liner, Price: \$24, at Ultra Beauty

The They're Real Line was well known for a mascara that promised to give you fuller lashes that look "real."

After some years, it has become a favorite until then their eyeliner came around. It features a retractable pen that has a gel finish. It helps make a perfect cat eye with its angled tip.

If you're feeling adventurous, you can try it in any of the other colors, including brown, blue, and dark purple.

The formula for both of these products is amazing because of how long it stays on. The hidden blessing is how hard it is to take off.

SAVE: Brand: Revlon, Product: ColorStay Liquid Liner, Price: \$6.39, at Target

Revlon's ColorStay Liquid Liner is a bit different from the They're Real Pushup Liner because it's a liquid liner, which are more difficult to use.

However, once you get the hang of it, it glides smoothly and the texture is great. It's supposed to last you an entire day and won't come off when you're rubbing your eyes between long lectures.

Overall, beauty is all about having that confidence within. Know that you can rock anything and still be fabulous, even if you wake up late for class.

BANNER ARTS

"Fear The Walking Dead" Eats the Hearts of Millions

Fans Hope "Walking Dead" Prequel Picks Up the Pace

BY LUCIA ROSSI

The highly anticipated "Fear the Walking Dead" broke the cable television record for a series premiere on August 23 with 10.1 million viewers. Clearly, people don't fear the walking dead, they love it.

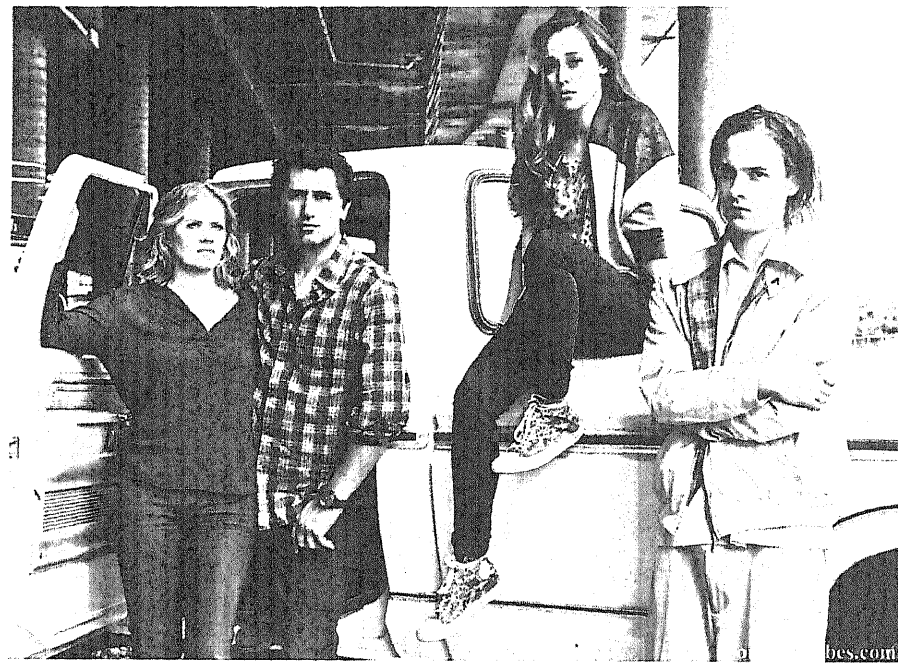
With only two episodes out, the show has gotten worldwide attention. This is no surprise since many of its predecessor's elements and cinematography are present in this prequel.

The show is made by "The Walking Dead" creators Robert Kirkman and Dave Erickson.

AMC already approved the pilot in March with a two-season commitment. The first season will have six episodes and the second season will have fifteen episodes.

In case you didn't catch the premiere, the show takes place in L.A. and focuses on a dysfunctional family—Madison Clark, a high school guidance counselor, her boyfriend and English teacher Travis Manawa, her straight-A student Alicia, and her drug addict brother Nick—experiencing the start of the zombie apocalypse.

The most common thing you will hear people say about the first episode is that it is "slow." They aren't wrong, but it is the tension and the anxiety that puts you on the edge of your seat. Things are more calm in the beginning because when the apocalypse begins, it spreads fast, so the writers take advantage



With only two episodes out, the show has gotten worldwide attention, no surprise since many of its predecessor's elements and cinematography are present in this prequel

of the calm before the storm. It was strange watching people discover what was going on. It took people a while to figure out the truth and how to kill the "infected."

The zombies still look human because their bodies are fresh, opposed to Rick Grimes' time, where they're more decomposed.

Tobias is a very interesting character because he saw the apocalypse coming before a lot of people did. He's funny, though he

doesn't try to be because people should listen to him, he's the smart one who is always prepared, yet no one gives him the time of day because he's an awkward, unattractive, and weak high school kid.

It's refreshing to see a dysfunctional family go through the apocalypse together because there are outside factors that need to be considered, like what happened to Nick's infected drug buddy? Did Alicia's boyfriend eat his parents? Will Travis bring his ex-wife and son back to Madison? Will Nick quit be-

ing a junkie? Probably not.

Despite the slow pace of the first episode, the second definitely improved and picked up the slack.

It brought back those familiar exciting moments where anything can happen, just like in "TWD."

By the second episode, there really is no answer for the group's questioning what's happening and will it get better. It's just "How do we prepare and how do we survive?"

Madison, as the lead, experiences that pivotal, life-changing moment of killing her first walker.

She realizes there is no going back and that she must protect her family. So, she goes against her morals and does what she has to do, much like Rick Grimes.

Things escalate quickly and episode three will only accent that. The only issue people seem to have with the two episodes is that the Walkers killed or encountered by the main characters so far have all been black.

There were three black men who got infected, witnessed by the main characters. Some may say this is a coincidence and others might be offended because of the idea that it adds to the stereotype of "black characters dying first" in the horror genre.

Take it as you will, but as the zombie outbreak continues, many will die, anyway. Valar morghulis, right? Hopefully, it's not the main characters.

Finding a Safe Haven in a Country that Wants You Dead

"No Escape" Offers Tips on Best Way to Survive a Rebellion

BY MATTHEW MCKENNA

With Oscar season quickly approaching, we are left with one last film that can excite audiences at every moment.

"No Escape" keeps viewers on the edge of their seats, not knowing what to anticipate.

John Erick Dowdle, who also directed thrillers "Devil" and "Quarantine," shows his skills by hiring an A-list cast, illustrating a good story, and manipulating a unique foreign location.

Jack Dwyer, played by Owen Wilson, is assigned a new position that requires him to move to Southeast Asia.

As they get ready to start a new journey, they get caught in a rebellion by criminals who kill foreigners without hesitation.

With only one goal in mind, Jack must take his family to safety before they are killed.

In this film, the theme is as clear as water in a river.

It suggests that if you were caught in a chaotic situation and with your family, what lengths would you go to keep them out of harm's way?

Jack and his family are almost in the clear until one of the rebels spots him and warns the others.

Unwilling to cooperate, Jack is left with

the only one option: kill him.

He does so brutally, and his wife Annie, played by Lake Bell, watches in shock as she has never seen this side of her husband.

What makes this film enjoyable is not just the anticipation, but how believable the characters are.

Even the film's darker moments, there are ones that are lighter, where the family relaxes a little bit or reflect on moments they hold dear.

It's interesting to see Owen Wilson in a movie where he doesn't play his usual witty slacker or hopeless romantic.

His performance will have us all hoping that he gets out alive, along with his family.

Pierce Brosnan's character, Hammond, brings the most humor into the movie with jokes to ease the family's tension.

Brosnan also injects a little James Bond into the movie when he needs to kick butt.

Lake Bell and her on-screen daughters also give great performances.

Their fear is believable and also gives the movie some cheery moments.

What could have been fixed about the film is explaining why the people of the country are rebelling earlier instead of explaining it at the end.

Also, it would have been good if the film



was a little longer. The pacing of the film was good but it could have been longer.

If you're a fan of Owen Wilson or look-

ing for a movie that can keep you excited, "No Escape" is worth the money.

BANNER ARTS

Netflix Documentary Does the Remarkable

What Happens When A Question is Answered Incorrectly

BY JÉAN-CLAUDE QUINTYNE

Questions should be answered correctly if they're asked, aren't they? And if they're asked, and morphed into the title of a film, shouldn't the film, the moment the reel begins its violent, two hour spinning-spell, supply an answer and utilize the remaining time to provide evidence for its question with the most visually gripping shots and aurally stimulating sound it can, making viewers forget the simplicity of the question?

Liz Garbus' Netflix documentary "What Happened, Miss Simone?" which illustrates the rise and "fall" of Nina Simone, the singer-songwriter and civil rights activist, is a film that doesn't answer its question.

Though, that's not completely correct. In its attempt, the film does something remarkable: It answers its question incorrectly.

The piece suggests that Simone's manic depression is "what happened" to her, which isn't revealed until the third act of the film. As high praise and discussion of Simone's artistic genius shifts from love, confusion, and conclusion, with interviewees reflecting on their memories of the singer throughout their interactions with her over the course of her career, they articulate their experiences with Simone as her episodes got increasingly worse.

Simone is painted, after the hype of her marriage to Andrew Stroud sours, for close to an hour as a "monster"—accompanied by



short sequences of unflattering photos of the star—and an entitled, pretentious, "sex fiend" before the ill-placed reveal.

Her daughter, Lisa Simone, talks about her confusion as to why her mother went from loving to aggressive as the stress upon the singer increased. Nina found solace in using her voice as a weapon to strengthen the civil rights movement in an effective, emotional, and powerful way to spread the message.

So passionate was she about fighting for civil rights that she only played songs that dealt explicitly with it, making it hard for her to secure shows and airtime on the radio.

That, accompanied with her money-hungry abusive husband increased her stress, and

(likely) triggered a higher level of intensity of her episodes—something that, because of the timing of the "reveal," made interviewees seem oblivious to her depression.

Perhaps Garbus intended to put viewers directly into Simone's life—for the singer didn't know about her disease and struggled to make sense of her reactions to the times and her pain—which is the only justifiable excuse for when her manic depression is revealed, a framing device that mirrors Simone's life.

Still, it's odd to blame her downfall on that.

And it's difficult to ignore the bizarre nature of the reveal, for it can be labeled as a last-minute shock aimed to elicit sympathy

that's supposed to undo an hour's-worth of confusion. Greater shock would have manifested should it have been said the latter-day Simone was actually an imposter, controlled by aliens, or an ill-programmed hologram. But to place all the weight of the abuse and turmoil the genius pianist faced for her entire life upon her mental disorder illustrates how the placement of particular information can topple an otherwise carefully constructed film.

Increasingly puzzling is the presence of Simone's ex-husband, Andrew Stroud, whose presence in the film is quite disturbing: He gets an opportunity to speak ill of his former wife, trying to convince viewers that his time with Simone was just as confusing as watching her struggle with manic depression—he says she was influenced by civil rights activists, calling her a "terrorist" and, in cringe-worthy fashion, tries to justify the beatings, abuse, and mental and emotional exhaustion he contributed to Simone's life.

The tone and pace of the film is just as brooding and dark as Simone's singing voice, which, before touched by the pain and anger she channeled through it as a result of racism and the civil rights movement, still highlighted emotions that manifest a depth that reached an unimaginable place.

While not enough time is dedicated to focusing on Nina's art, fragments of interviews with her, and clips of her songs remind us of her power, strength, and genius as an artist.

DC Comic Pilots Leaked Online After Comic Con Previews

"Lucifer" and "Supergirl" Scrutinized by Sharp Fans

BY LUCIA ROSSI

At San Diego Comic Con this year, there was a screening for the first full episode of both Fox's "Lucifer" and CBS's "Supergirl," both of which were leaked online.

Although "Lucifer" doesn't air until 2016 and "Supergirl" doesn't air until October 26 of this year, you may want to get yourself acquainted with what's to come.

"Lucifer" is a loose adaptation of the comic book series "The Sandman" by Neil Gaiman and published by DC Comics.

The story centers on Lucifer Morningstar, who, bored and unhappy with being the lord of Hell, decides to abandon his throne and live in L.A., where he owns Lux, his nightclub.

He has all different kinds of interactions with humans, angels, and demons. When one of his former employees is murdered, he decides to get involved by using his god-given powers to get justice.

Continuing his search for justice, he becomes an unlikely partner to the LAPD homicide detective Chloe Dancer, who happens to be immune to his charms.

Because Fox is portraying Satan as a "good guy," the American Family Association launched a petition to cancel the show, which got about 133,000 signatures. The One

Million Moms organization, also petitioning "Lucifer," has about 27,500 signatures on their petition.

Gaiman responded to protests on his Tumblr with, "Ah. It seems like only yesterday (but it was 1991) that the 'Concerned Mothers of America' announced that they were boycotting 'Sandman' because it contained lesbian, gay, bi and trans characters. I wonder if they noticed it didn't work last time, either..." Clearly, he is not worried about the show's safety.

And he shouldn't be. The show is witty, sexy, and violent, characteristics similar to shows like "Game of Thrones." I'm not saying it is on that level, but it has very attractive qualities that prove to be dangerous, much like the Devil himself.

Lucifer messes with humans, he has powers that reveal our true selves and our sins, as well as this literal irresistibility with women. Tom Ellis plays the role well because he is cocky, fearless, and has an hypnotic accent.

My main concern: Why does Satan care about helping humans and solving murders? One would think he would hold more of a grudge against humans for being "God's favorites."

Let's pray that the show doesn't recreate "Twilight" with the whole my-powers-don't-work-on-you-I-think-I-love-you scenario be-

tween Lucifer and Chloe Dancer.

"Supergirl" is another DC Comic adaptation by Greg Berlanti who also created and produced "Arrow" and "The Flash."

Kara Zor-El or Kara Danvers, is Superman's biological cousin and one of the last surviving Kryptonians.

She was sent to Earth to protect her cousin, but got lost in space and arrived when he no longer needed help.

So, instead of hiding her powers, Kara decides to use them to fight for the greater good.

If you watch the first episode, you will notice that the pace is very quick. Maybe they were trying to make up for the snail pace of "Smallville," but she gets her costume, stops a disaster, reveals her secret, and tells her history all in one episode.

It is also revealed that her love interest "friend-zoned" her and she doesn't know how to fight or use her powers properly.

Early on, it's illustrated that she has a long way to go when it comes to growing out of her cousin's shadow.

And speaking of shadows, that is actually all that's seen of Superman: his shadow. If you didn't like "Man of Steel" because of how dark it is, then know comfortingly that "Supergirl" is the complete opposite.

It's fun, light-hearted, and modern, but it

is also really cliché. Kara works for a publication (like her cousin), has a mean boss, and has a villain that's misogynist.

The main issue with the show is not just how cliché and predictable it is, it is how it tries so hard to be feminist that it makes it anti-feminist.

You have to watch to fully understand, but, in the preview Kara is offended for being called "Supergirl" instead of "Superwoman" and her boss tries to re-define the word and take it back to make it strong and empowering. Semantics doesn't work like that.

Saying "if you perceive the word 'girl' as anything less than excellent, isn't the real problem you?" No! In fact, forcing a woman to accept a derogatory term for herself doesn't redefine it and doesn't make you feminist. Can derogatory terms get redefined? Yes. Amber Rose wrote an entire book redefining the term "bad bitch."

It can happen, but not in the way they try to do it in the show.

Then the villain constantly belittles Kara for being a woman and trying to fight, practically asking her to make him a sandwich.

Overall, I would give "Supergirl" another chance because it has a lot of potential. "Lucifer" has many questions that need to be answered, but I will wait impatiently until 2016.

BANNER OPINIONS

How An Instagram Filter Got Accused of Racism

Examining Nylon's "Lark" Controversy

BY DENNISE DEJESUS

Is filtering a picture racist?

As we progress in society, one should question why this is an issue. Our definition of beauty constantly changes.

One method of these changes find themselves in the edited photos we see on billboards and magazines, photos that suggest their subject is the epitome of ultimate beauty. The edits are often focused on altering one's skin color or weight, and, as a result, receive waves of backlash.

In early August, I created my own wave when my favorite Instagrammer found a problem with this notion. Jenny, who operates under the handle @shelovesdresses, criticized Nylon Magazine's use of her photo on their shop Instagram page @nylonshop.

She was pictured on the shop's account in a product shirt with the caption "Praying for My Haters." Jenny is a Filipino-Chinese American activist for feminism and human rights.

The photo was reposted on the shop account, allegedly filtered with the popular Instagram filter Lark. Instagram feeds exploded, prompting Jenny to urge her followers to petition that the filtered photo be taken down.

I first wondered why this was a big deal. As a normal bystander and often on the Internet, using a filter on an app like Instagram is second nature. If one wanted to enhance a photo, it can all be done in seconds, with one of the 20-plus filters available. But as I read responses to @shelovesdresses's Instagram, I



The re-posted pictures now do not contain any filters

began understanding why this was a big deal.

Jenny's outrage with Nylon was that the filter lightened her skin. Users tested the photo with the filter but found that it did not do what Jenny suggested and that her photo could have instead been photo-shopped.

Curious, I decided to test the filter myself. Taking a screen shot of the original, I tested the photo with the Lark filter. Though the filter lightened her skin, it didn't resemble the edit in question.

Other filters brightened Jenny's face more than Lark did, but the discoloration did not match the photo either. Though Lark came the closest, I concluded that another program was used.

It took days before Nylon released an

apology. Along with the release of the apology, Nylon released an article called "Are Instagram Filters Racist? Are We Making it Worse by Using One?" The article was the "general apology" to Jenny from the company.

Though the article explained how vintage filters were considered racist due to their low-quality nature in the 1970s, it did not fit the aesthetic of what the company tried to explain. Nylon claimed to use a universal filter for every photo in order to fit a certain theme. But the article seemed to want a person's opinion, rather than explain the situation completely. The article also referenced the apology released by Katherine Martinez of Nylon Shop, which was listed in the official

Instagram account.

"It pains me to think that you felt this way. We put all of our photos through one of several Instagram filters (in this case it was Lark) to unify the overall look and feel of our feed when #regramming from other accounts—often celebrating fans of ours.

Most Instagram filters tend to blow things out in a "vintage" fashion and if you'll notice it is the entire image (t-shirt included) [that] appears lighter. We have now enacted a policy not to put anyone's reposted images through filters so as not to lead to any misconceptions."

When I first read the apology, I felt it lacked sincerity. When Martinez wrote in the beginning of the letter, "as a woman of color myself," it was as if it screamed "sympathy." I scoffed at the idea that they would actually get rid of the photo, assuming that they would not keep their word. Usually companies would keep a front and become shady as the controversy dies.

But looking at the featured updated posts on the account, Jenny's criticism was answered with Nylon's response. The re-posted pictures now do not contain any filters whatsoever. I could honestly commend Nylon for keeping its word. But, regarding how Jenny's issue was handled, it was not great on the company's part.

Despite the unsolicited use of a photo, the company seems to be taking a step towards handling future incidents and keeping each image as close to the original as possible.

nothing like their usual work. It's practically a heavy metal album that deals with depression, drug abuse, corruption and suicide.

The band continued to create art the way they wanted to and had complete control of their music.

Surprisingly, their next album went back to their first in terms of sound and lyrics. Underclass Hero, discussed political corruption, society, broken families, and departure.

Having the talent to write about breakups and being rebellious teenagers to follow it up with songs about government evils, broken homes and absent parents should be looked at as very mature development.

Die-hard fans should embrace what their childhood band writes about today because, like them, we grew up and can only sing and write about the same subject matter for so long before it gets old.

To consider yourself a die-hard fan and simultaneously slam your favorite artist because he or she experiments with different formulas is actually childish.

Whether we fight to not become casualties of society or deal with our personal demons, this music will always be here for us. As we get older, it will still be here, just with a different message.

But their third album, Chuck, sounds

Examining the Maturation of Punk Rock

"Dr. Said My Mom Should've Had an Abortion"

BY ROBERT LAROSA

Whether we want to accept it or not, we change over time. We learn and grow, slowly becoming more of who we want to be in the future.

We can look to the past and remember what used to be, but ultimately that's not the way we travel anymore.

A major change I've noticed comes from the music I grew up listening to.

In the late 1990s and early 2000s, with a diverse group of artists topping the charts, it was punk that struck a chord in youth all over the world.

Bands like Blink 182, Sum 41, Good Charlotte, and Fall Out Boy quickly became the voice of young, rebellious kids.

Two bands that completely changed in sound, tone, and feel easily have to be Blink 182 and Sum 41.

From their early records to their latest releases, they each sound like different bands, perhaps even different genres.

Their maturation is well documented in their lyrics and messages. Something not unusual, however, is the backlash they received from "hardcore" fans.

The more I see news of these bands com-

ing back with new tour dates, the more I see fans stating that they "stopped being good" before a member left, or that their new style is bad because it isn't the same it was when they broke onto the scene.

Musicians evolve and aim for uncharted territory, not trying to put out albums that sound the same.

Musicians should be able to bend their work and experiment because that's what naturally happens to people, let alone artists over time. True music needs to evolve.

A band like Blink 182 and the word "maturity" in the same sentence comes as a stretch but comparing their early and later works is astounding.

In the late 1990s, the group wrote about getting rejected by girls, masturbation, bestiality, bathroom humor, and middle class suburban life.

Once they entered the mainstream, they wrote more seriously, but kept their unique sense of humor. Songs like "What's My Age Again," "Dammit" and "Anthem Part II" all tell stories of growing up and experiencing life on one's own terms.

"Anthem Part II" serves as a great example of this because it breaks the mold of mom and dad holding back the kids.

They explain that parents, teachers, and the people in charge (corporate leaders and politicians) have all failed us and "If we're fucked up, you're to blame."

As Blink got more popular they sung more about serious relationships, cheating relationships, the meaning of life, and adulthood.

They also had a sound that leaned towards the alternative genre. So, a band that started off singing about having sex with your dog ends up writing some of the most poetic music about maturity and adulthood. Go figure.

Sum 41 is a completely different breed of animal in the rock scene because every album sounds completely different and without a doubt shows more maturity than Blink 182.

Sum 41 had its own sense of humor, but never went as far as Blink. They wrote about skating, conformity in society, rebellion, and relationships on their debut All Killer No Filler.

However, their follow-up album, "Does This Look Infected?" featured content that was much heavier than its predecessor's in terms of lyrics, which were similar to their first album.

But their third album, Chuck, sounds

SEX AND THE ISLAND

The Night I Almost Became a Sexual Hypocrite

I Never Could Throw Stones

BY SAMUEL STEPNEY

I was stationed at the outdoor bar at my job when noticed a couple getting pretty lewd in the corner of the bar. One of my closest friends sat at the other end, so I thought we should make fun of them.

The moment I described the situation to him, I realized that this guy was fingering her, due to his all-too-familiar arm movements.

Intensifying the action, this gentleman removed his hand and sucked on three of his fingers. I assumed they were inside of her. My friend and I cringed.

Matters got worse when the girl took his hand and sucked on the same set of fingers. I didn't know what to do when, then, I noticed she was missing a few teeth.

When I retold this story to my friends, one of them called me out and said, "You've done way worse."

I laughed because I didn't even have to think about it too long to realize that he was right. And I actually knew that was the reason why I didn't say anything to the couple: Deep down I knew that I used to be a nasty ass motherfucker, too. Whenever I dwell on that fact, there's always one night that sticks out.

It was a beautiful Saturday night in spring of 2012 as I made my way to the city to link with the boys before we traveled to the club we promoted at. I thought about how the night might play out. I could have fun, get drunk, and maybe leave with something nice, or I could just not get admitted, since I was 19.

When I arrived I heard a girl's voice yell, "SAM!" Confused, I turned around and smiled when I saw her face. It was a girl I met the week before.

She had to be 5'6 since she was close to my height and she wore some kind of white shirt with a very small black skirt. She had an athletic body, accented with porcelain skin. She also had these piercing blue eyes that I can still vividly see to this day.

My delayed reaction to seeing her led to a change in her body language and slightly jokingly she said, "You better remember me!" I replied, half-joking, "I do! It just takes a couple seconds to distinguish between all the tall white girls I meet every weekend." Quickly she responded, smiling, "Oh, but I'm sure they don't all hook up with you as well."

It was when she mentioned that detail that I remembered her name (lets call her Ari). Over the course of an hour, she said

"She told me to hurry up and finish in her mouth, which was good because spitters are quitters."

some things, I said some things. I made her laugh, and we progressively got drunk.

The DJ played reggae, so I pulled her close to dance and at that moment she wrapped her arms around my neck and said while looking straight into my eyes, "I thought about you a little bit this week." I asked, "What about me?" and she said, "Your lips."

"I guess they weren't that good if you thought about them a little bit," I laughed. Without a beat she replied, "Maybe I need a reminder." I gave her one.

When we stopped I noticed that she slightly bit her lip after and I could see her face flush red, which changed my ideas about

how the night was going to end.

We found our way to a corner where we cared less and less about being subtle.

As her breathing got heavier she became more aggressive and I made sure to reciprocate each one of her advances. When she grabbed my face, I pulled her hair, when she put her hands up my shirt and clawed my back, I pulled her leg up and grabbed her ass.

Ari told me to slap it and when I did she moaned and I found myself debating whether or not I should calm down or she how fit she was...I chose the latter.

So while her leg was up I inched my fingers toward her lace thong and as I made my way downtown she raised her leg higher. When I got to my destination, I couldn't help but notice that she had been ready for a while.

When I pulled her thong to the side and put my fingers inside of her she inserted her hand down my pants and told me not to stop and started to bite my ear, a dangerous move to make with me.

I listened to her, but as her moans became more audible, my intoxicated brain figured that club security will probably not be cool with this.

I said to her, "Maybe we should calm down unless you live close." She told me that she lived in queens and she came with her friends and I explained my Staten Island situation.

After a few seconds of silence she took me to a bathroom downstairs. It was (by club

standards) a pretty large single bathroom and it was just as hot in there as the rest of the club. I thank god it didn't smell bad.

As soon as the door was locked she attacked and as soon as we kissed, she unbuckled my pants.

When she pulled it out she squatted down and looked up at me and said softly, "Don't worry, I'm going to make this classy." It took everything in me to keep a straight face. She was very good at what she did and with all of the anticipation from earlier I almost finished when she started. I told myself that was no way to rep Shaolin so I did my breathing techniques to calm down a little bit.

When she came back up she took off her thong and asked if I had protection, I responded, "Nah, do you?" She had none either.

There was a short pause, then a knock at the door with a girl yelling "Hurry up!" Ari asked if I was clean, and eager to make bad decisions I casually said, "Yeah."

"Okay," she said and bent over the sink, pulling her skirt up. I'm positive she waxed because I could not even see a hint of hair. She ordered me to make her scream, which I did until the knocks at the door became more frequent.

She told me to hurry up and finish in her mouth which was good because spitters are quitters. As we left the bathroom there were a number of people waiting, including one girl who yelled, "Really!" I just smiled and tried to move quickly to avoid all interactions with the bathroom line.

We talked for the rest of the evening and as we parted ways, she told me to hit her up.

The next time I saw her was two weeks after the club. She slapped me for not calling her.

Today's Dating Trends Shed Light on Age Misconceptions

Is Age Really Just A Number?

BY LOREN TRAPANESE

In the fun-filled world of dating we are told of all kinds of rules and guidelines that should be followed in order to find "the one." What may be right for you may not be right for others—especially when it comes to age.

Age in relationships is this taboo number that we heavily scrutinize, considering it highly important, ultimately causing conflicting emotions.

"Society holds a negative stigma regarding age differences, which causes people to obsess over it," says Annette Szproch of EliteDaily.com. "That is why when we start developing feelings for people outside of our age brackets, we think our feelings are wrong."

Women have the tendency to place men into two categories when it comes to maturity: Younger men are immature and lack commitment, while older men are bastions of stability and responsibility. It is not uncommon to think this way either, because the more you date, the more you realize what exactly it is you are looking for in a partner.

After surveying a handful of women on

what traits they look for in a guy, the perfect man was created, he must have a sense of humor, be respectful, established, intelligent, responsible, confident, loyal, compassionate, sensitive, and a "man's man." Step up your game guys.

While some strongly believe that, "age is but a number," and that the "heart wants what it wants," others firmly believe that a connection is more meaningful than a number. Like the cliché, you can't put a time limit on love, well, what about you can't put a number on love?

Different age groups hold different opinions when it comes to "age-appropriate" dating. Women in their middle to late-twenties don't seem to hold age as being important. "I want to say no, that age doesn't matter, but from my experience being single I realize I connected more with someone who is significantly older," says Robyn Collins, who's 24.

"Younger men seem to be afraid of the idea of having to add someone into the equation of future plans."

Women in their thirties believe the total opposite than women in their twenties. "With age comes maturity" is a fallacy that has di-

minished. In fact, it turns out that it is your experiences that bring about the level of maturity both men and women carry.

"Of course age matters, especially when it comes down to compatibility," says Ryan T, 43. "I can never see myself dating a girl in her twenties, it isn't relatable—they're too busy taking selfies."

Ironically enough, it doesn't seem to be just about looks anymore. Dissimilar generations consider a myriad of things when it comes down to whom they date. The older you get, the more common it is to hear that age plays a large role. Yes, it isn't always the case, and there are some extreme cases (cough), like R Kelly and Aaliyah.

When sex gets involved, age is significant. The younger guys, 19-29, are a little more experimental when it comes to playtime.

However, older men, 30-50, have way more experience and are fully confident. They've been around a few times, so they know exactly how to take care of a woman in bed. Those are big factors to consider, ladies.

"Mentally, age doesn't matter but physically it does," says Betty Scali, 67. "My mind

still thinks young and I'd like to do certain things but my body doesn't let me."

Sexual demographics also have certain preferences when it comes to dating someone older or younger. Age being just a number, a more than common phrase, travels quite far and does in fact hold to contrasting standards.

"Definitely age matters, but it does depend on lifestyle," says David T, 36. "In the gay lifestyle, age and beauty are much more important than anything else, it sounds shallow but at 30, you're considered an 'old man.'"

Staying true to the typical idea of what it means to have expectations, some guys below the age of 24 aren't fully into the concept of what it means to be in a committed relationship.

Therefore, expectations can fall flat, but men above the age of 27 enjoy the act of dating and having someone to come home to.

"As far as relationships go, it can get complicated," says Jonathan Powell, writer for LDSliving.com.

"Age signifies so much more than just a number: it can reflect your maturity, your stage in life, and your experience."

SPORTS

MLB Heats Up as Postseason Approaches

New Yorkers Cheer As Mets and Yanks Push for First

BY NICK CERASO

The National League

With 25 games remaining in the regular season the Mets, at 76-61, lead the second place Washington Nationals by five games in the National League East.

On July 31 the Mets acquired Yoenis Cespedes and have been 23-11 since, leading the National League runs scored during that time. During that span, he's batting .311, with 13 home runs, 31 RBIs, and 24 extra-base hits.

The biggest problem for the Mets is how many more innings Matt Harvey will pitch before being shut down.

Harvey is coming back from Tommy John surgery after missing all of the 2014 season. Harvey has thrown 166.1 innings and all signs show that he won't go over 200.

The Mets will look to go with a six-man rotation the rest of the season to begin putting the brakes on Harvey. The starters include the young Jacob DeGrom, Noah Syndergaard, and Steve Matz.

Only eight of the Mets' remaining 25 games are against teams with a record of .500 or better, including five against the Nationals and three against the Yankees. Six are home games.

The Mets have played incredible at Citi Field, as they are 45-24 at home, which is fifth best in the MLB.

Their next two games are on the road against the Nats, after winning the first of the series on Labor Day.

The Nationals were the favorite to win the World Series before the season started.

But they have been plagued by injuries all season.

And since the beginning of August, the Nationals are 17-19, finding themselves in two must-win games against the Mets.

The Nationals only have five more games against teams with a record of .500 or better, three of which will be played at Citi Field at the end of the season.

In the NL Central, the St. Louis Cardinals, at 87-50, hold the best record in baseball and look to win the division for the third consecutive season.

Despite losing Adam Wainwright for the year, the Cardinals starting pitching hasn't missed a beat as they have an ERA of 2.77.

But it's not just the Cardinals doing well in the Central, as the Pittsburgh Pirates, at 81-55 and Chicago Cubs, at 79-57 hold the next two best records in the League.

The Pirates are 5.5 games behind the Cardinals and look to head to the postseason by taking the Wild Card for the third straight season.

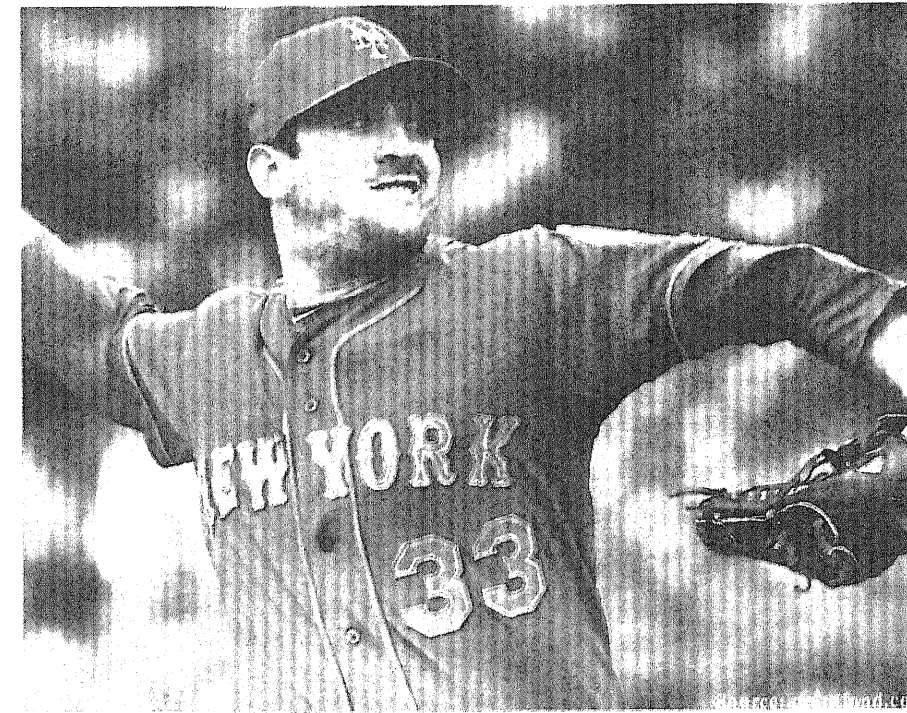
The Cubs currently hold an 8.5 game lead over the Nationals and a 9.0 game lead over the defending World Series Champion San Francisco Giants.

Unless a major collapse by either team, the Wild Card will feature the Pirates and Cubs, with the winner playing the Cardinals.

The Los Angeles Dodgers hold an 8.5 game lead over the Giants in the West.

"I hope we're panicking a little bit," said last year's National League MVP and Cy Young winner Clayton Kershaw.

"I think panic's a good thing, to a certain



The biggest problem for the Mets is how many more innings Matt Harvey will pitch before being shut down

extent."

Since Kershaw said that, the Dodgers have gone 12-2, and with teammate Zack Greinke, it will be tough for the Giants to catch the Dodgers.

The American League

The Yankees are a half game behind the Toronto Blue Jays for the American League East and lead the Wild Card by 5.0 games over the Texas Rangers.

The Yanks, who look to make the playoffs for the first time in two years, have been carried this season by Alex Rodriguez who missed all of 2014 season due to suspension. Rodriguez, now 40 years old, is batting .256 with 29 homers and 77 RBI.

The Yankees have 10 of their remaining 26 games against teams .500 or better, seven of the 10 games against the first place Blue Jays, with four games against Toronto in mid-September.

The Bombers are planning to shut down starting pitcher Nathan Eovaldi for the next two weeks who's suffering from elbow inflammation. Eovaldi, who is 14-3 with a 4.20 ERA, leads the Yankees in wins.

The Blue Jays, before the trade deadline, acquired all-star starting pitcher David Price and shortstop Troy Tulowitzki.

The moves have proved successful, as Toronto leads the division after going 21-6 in August and 25-8 since August 1.

The Blue Jays will only play three games outside of the division for the rest of the season.

The Blue Jays have been lead by Josh Donaldson, who's batting .306 with 37 home runs, 115 RBI and 107 runs scored. He leads the MLB in RBI and runs, and is third in the league in home runs.

In the AL Central, last year's American League Champion Kansas City Royals are on the same path this season as they have the best record in the American League. The Royals, at 82-55, lead the Minnesota Twins by 11 games.

While the Twins have surprised most people and only trail the wild card by a game and a half, the Royals have had a commanding lead over the division all season.

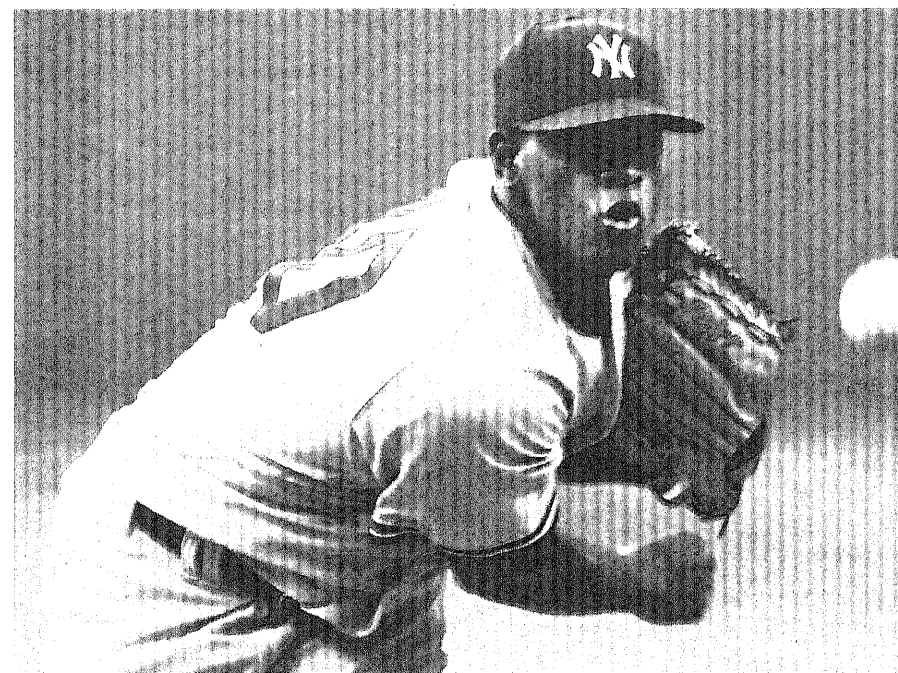
The Royals acquired starting pitcher Johnny Cueto and ultimate utility player Ben Zobrist.

The Royals are hoping to end the regular season healthy, as two of their outfielders, Alex Rios and reliever Kelvin Herrera, have chicken pox.

In the West, the Houston Astros lead by two games over the Rangers and five and half over the Los Angeles Angels.

The Astros have already won more games this year than in 2014. The Astros have been lead by AL CY favorite Dallas Keuchel 17-6 with a 2.29 ERA and 185 strikeouts. They're looking for their first division title after moving to the AL in 2013.

The Mets and Yankees both are trying to reach the playoffs. The last time the Mets made it to the postseason was in 2006, which was the last time both New York teams were in the playoffs at the same time.



Luis Severino, who made his Major League debut on August 5, has been nothing short of spectacular for the Bombers