

THE BANNER

Will You Speak Out?

BY SUNDAS NAZIR
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

When someone tells you to speak out for what you believe in, what do you think? You would expect to hear all about the grips and concerns of what the average person is thinking. This idea has now been launched into CSI's newest groundbreaking publication "Speak Out". Editor in chief, Nelida Tolentino has introduced the idea of a publication that invites students of the College of Staten Island to contribute works of literature and share their experiences. Students may talk about their lives, ask questions, and reveal information about everything a college student worries about.

Professor Matt Brim, the faculty advisor, says "Speak Out" will offer "visibility for queer students in CSI. It will show CSI that LGBT people exist at this college and that we are human."

Many students are often harassed, for that reason, staff members' names will remain confidential. "I wanted a new publication, one that would be contentious and unlike the

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PHOTO BY: ABRAHAM HAMDAN

**GETTING THE JOB DONE
PROFESIONALLY!**

Health Care Reform Passed

BY ALI SARFARAZ
CONTRIBUTOR

Health care reform has been a fight many presidents have failed to achieve for a very long time. After long grueling months for President Obama and his administration they finally achieved something not even former President Bill Clinton wanted to do and that was passing health care reform. After months of

ance until the age of 26. By far the best aspect of the bill is that states will be creating a market place called "exchanges" this will give the people more options if they are looking to buy an individual policy if they cannot afford insurance or they earn too much money to receive Medicaid.

Of course with every bill there are pros and cons. One of the biggest problems that some Americans have with this

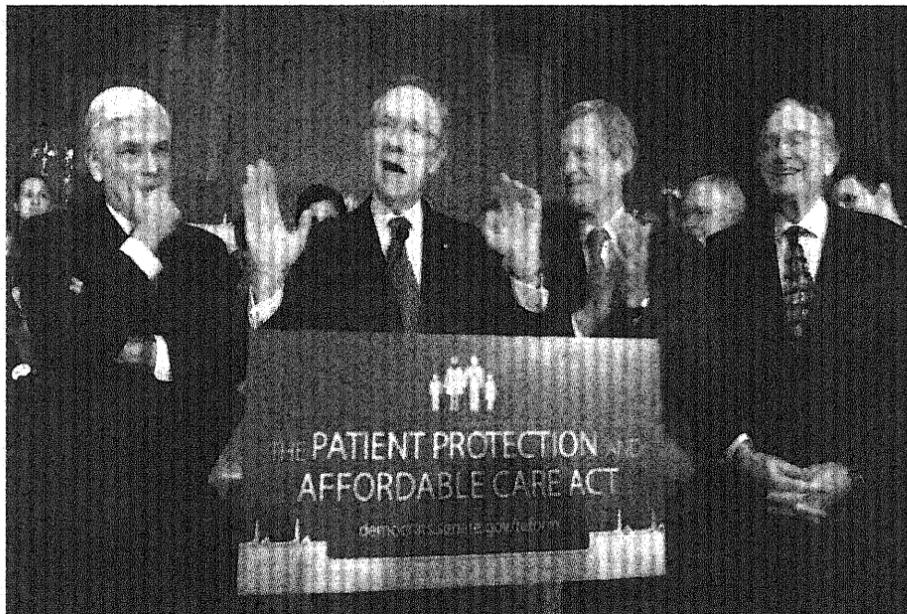


Photo by: photos.upi.com

Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-CT, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-NV, Sen. Max Baucus, D-MT, and Sen. Tom Harkin, D-IA, (L to R)

violent protesting by people who opposed health care reform and right wingers slamming Obama for his excessive spending the democrats finally stepped up and delivered. The passing of this bill could single handedly give democrats another chance to stay in office for 2012.

On March 23rd the bill was signed by the president ensuring over 30 million Americans would now have access to health care. As vice president Joe Biden introduced Mr. Obama to address the nation after the historical passing of the bill he said "We pushed back on the undue influence of special interests." He would continue on to say "We didn't give in to mistrust or to cynicism or to fear. Instead, we proved that we are still a people capable of doing big things." By signing this reform rules and regulations that people claimed to be unfair were fixed such as the issue with pre existing conditions. Insurances as of now cannot deny anyone treatment or coverage due to pre existing conditions. Companies now cannot drop their patients when they have kept their policy current. Also Americans who have lower incomes can purchase subsidized insurances. For college students there is some sort of moral victory for them as well as they will be able to stay under their parents insur-

bill is the fact that the American government is enforcing all citizens to have health care. Many people are opposed to having the government force them to protect their bodies. The consequences for not getting insurance will result to a hefty fine which will increase year by year. The other major concern is the one that republicans and others have been ranting about since the start of this health care debate and that is the cost. The fear is that this bill costs too much money and Americans do not need to be more indebt with the current state of the economy.

Regardless of which side anyone was on March 23rd was a historical day and also a very emotional one. As democrats in the east room of the white house cheered and celebrated many people were still against the bill in fact there have been recent cases where politicians who have voted for and against the bill have received death threats. In fact minority whip leader Eric Cantor's life was in danger when someone shot a bullet through the window of his office. Many politicians mostly republicans decided to file a law suit against the newly signed bill. 12 states submitted law suits against health care

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Being a Polished Professional is the Goal

BY ABRAHAM HAMDAN
CONTRIBUTOR

An event that took place two years ago had to be resurfaced due to reluctant students. On a hot 76 degrees spring afternoon from 1:30 - 3:30 the event was held at the College of Staten Island. An idea that was discussed in December made its way to April 8th. The name of the event was "Clothes the Deal - Dressing for Success." This event was a CLUE certified and VELA event. It was sponsored by the Career and Scholarship Center and the CSI Marketing Association. The event was located in building 1P and set up in the Atrium outside of the Marlene Springer Concert Hall. The event offers students the opportunity to learn how to dress for success. With a few mishaps the show would turn out smooth.

A runway stage was set up under the glass roof in between the East and West lounges of the Center of the Arts building. Admission was free as were the finger foods. The refreshments included cookies, cheese and crackers, mini cold cut sandwiches, fruits, and drinks. The theme color for the event was blue and silver. Blue chairs surrounded the runway like a fashion show and blue and silver balloons were tied beautifully around the chairs and on tables with a big silver star balloon bursting through the top. People were settling in to the music of DJ Tiesto and a taste hip-hop. The show would consist of sixteen models, eight of which were faculty and staff members. Paul Bobb, Gloria Gracia, and Robert Kee to name a few faculty and staff models that participated. It was an important event for the future of our students, but it also presented the chance for our students and faculty to bond and work together. For example, there was a moment when Robert Kee was helping one of the student models fix his tie. Sammy Kwok, Isabella Cardona, and Nicholas Bentivegna are some names of the student models who participated. I approached Sam Kwok before the show to gather his feelings on the modeling and he said, "I don't have any experience in modeling, but they were short one person, so I agreed to model."

The show started on time as people

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Health Care Reform Bill Passed

BY KANIKA KHANNA
ADP EDITOR

Health care reform is signed into law, resulting in mixed reactions from politicians and the American people

After months of drafting and debating, health care legislation was passed, much to the satisfaction of the Obama administration.

President Obama explained the urgency of passing legislation last January, stating, "We still need health insurance reform. I didn't choose to tackle this issue to get some legislative victory under my belt. And by now it should be fairly obvious that I didn't take on health care because it was good politics. I took on health care because of the stories I've heard from Americans with pre-existing conditions whose lives depend on getting coverage; patients who've been denied coverage; families—even

those with insurance—who are just one illness away from financial ruin." Reform has found support in several politicians and American citizens; the bill proposed by the House of Representatives earned the endorsement of the AARP and the American Medical Association as well.

Despite the insistence of the administration, many members of Congress remain disappointed with the signing of the bill. Representative John Boehner told The New York Times "This is a somber day for the American people. By signing this bill, President Obama is abandoning our founding principle that government governs best when it governs closest to the people." Indeed, many prominent Republicans, including Senator John McCain of Arizona, have made vows to repeal the new legislation as soon as possible. Additionally, the resulting legislation seems unsettling to proponents of health care reform; physician and former chairman of the Democratic National Committee Howard

Dean called the Senate's draft of the bill "an insurance company's dream". Much confusion remains regarding the actual contents of the new law. The reform provides coverage for 32 million more Americans and expands Medicare, too.

Insurance companies will no longer be able to deny coverage to individuals with pre-existing conditions or drop current policyholders. The legislation also makes purchases of health care coverage mandatory by 2016, or face financial penalties. Small businesses will be able to utilize exchanges in order to purchase insurance; businesses with more than 50 employees will be required to provide medical coverage, or be fined accordingly. Children will be able to maintain coverage through their parents' plans up to the age of 26.

Federal subsidies will also be made more available; illegal immigrants will not have access to these funds. All actions resulting in the passage of this law will take effect over the next ten years. In addition to providing health care reform, the law also supplies education reforms; student loans,

such as the Pell Grant, will be expanded over time as well.

While one can consider whether the reform will be effective or not, one can also question the new law's strength in swaying upcoming elections. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid held favorable views of the bill, and now faces reelection and backlash in the state of Nevada. Senator John McCain also tackles reelection this November, and his opposition to reform may hold weight throughout his campaign. Locally, Representative Michael McMahon will be seeking a second term; he voted in opposition of health care reform. Nevertheless, even those politicians not campaigning this year have been subject to criticism. Representative Anthony Weiner, a well-known proponent of health care reform, has received threatening letters for his support of the bill. The benefits the bill will offer continues to be speculated—by both politicians and the American people.

Polish President Killed in Plane Crash

BY KANIKA KHANNA
ADP EDITOR

President Lech Kaczynski, other officials' deaths send country into mourning

While traveling to Russia to honor the memory of Polish officers from World War II, a jet plane crashed, killing 97 passengers, including Polish President Lech Kaczynski, his wife Maria, Aleksander Szczyglo, the head of the National Security Office, Jerzy Szmajdzinski, the deputy parliament speaker, Andrzej Kremer, the deputy foreign minister, and Gen. Franciszek Gagor, the army chief of staff. The crash was reported to be the result of inclement weather; air traffic controllers attempted to divert the plane to another airport due to thick fog, CNN reports. Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin stated, "As our first priority, we must establish the causes of this tragedy. As a second priority, we must do everything in our power to assist the families and relatives of the deceased."

Polish citizens have come together in this period of mourning, commenting on the sudden and tragic loss of many important leaders. Magdalena Hendrysiak told CNN, "There is going to



Photo by: bgsportal.blogspot.com

be a huge gap in public life in Poland. The most important people are dead." Others echoed similar sentiments, such as Ryszard Figurski. "It's a national tragedy," he conveyed to The New York Times. "Apart from their official positions, it is also simply the loss of so many lives." Indeed, the death toll alone cites feelings of grief among the Polish population. Furthermore, in a grim twist of fate, the crash occurred in the same area where Soviet forces massacred Polish officials 70 years ago.

In order to account for several now vacant governmental positions, elections will take place within the next 60 days. Nevertheless, a NATO official and member of the European Union explained to Reuters, "the crash should not pose any serious threat to the political and economic stability of Poland." Indeed, while the role of the president in Poland is not

merely ornamental, the prime minister and the cabinet ministers maintain the majority of the government operation, thus not drastically affecting the state of the nation's affairs. "Continuity is assured in ways that would not necessarily be assured in the case of the death of the U.S. president," Tomas Valasek from the Center for European Reform noted to CNN.

President Barack Obama released a statement acknowledging the passing of President Kaczynski. "President Kaczynski was a distinguished statesman who played a key role in the Solidarity movement, and he was widely admired in the United States as a leader dedicated to advancing freedom and human dignity." While Poland continues to grieve, investigations continue to rule out any other causes of the plane crash.

Join The Banner!

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

Newspaper and writing experience are not necessary.

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

Submit your articles to 1C-228, or email them to: The.BANNER.CSI@gmail.com.

"Being a Polished Professional is the Goal"
Continued from the front page

crowded around the runway and Joan DiMeo-Lyons would start it up. Lyons is the Internship Coordinator at the Career and Scholarship Center. She began the show with a wonderful speech about students and their future careers. Lyons acknowledges, "One of the reasons for having the event is to get students ready for their careers." I spoke with Lyons after the show and she added, "I found students weren't dressing properly for interviews." After her speech concluded the faculty and staff would model first. Christopher Carbone would rotate the microphone back and forth with Lyons each adding a brief biography of each model while they walk the runway. In addition to the excitement, a prize was given to any individual in the event who pointed out the common error in the attire dressed by the models.

Recruiter and author Jill DeSena-Shook was a guest speaker. She is the author of Just Tell Me How to Get Hired. DeSena came up to the podium looking polished and professional. She awarded our ears with a very intellectual and inspiring speech about dressing for success, although there was a technical problem with her microphone during the speech which caused it to stop working. For a few minutes DeSena had to speak without a microphone until the technicians finally got it working again. Students should know things at CSI aren't 100% and how could we host an event without a little of an embarrassment to show for. I was privileged enough to speak with DeSena after the event came to an end. DeSena sent her book to a vast amount of colleges, but

only six responded. And CSI was one of them. DeSena said, "Other schools were like we don't need your help." However, CSI took the step to reach out to her. DeSena added with excitement, "I'm going to tell other colleges to do this; they had a runway and everything."

The student models would walk the runway after DeSena's speech. The clothes worn by the students were supplied to them by Annie sez and Men's Warehouse. Ramona who supplied the Annie sez clothing notes, "The students were great and fun to work with." Carmen Zeng would get the biggest ovation from the crowd. Throughout the event the audience was very active and excited. The crowd did not have any problems cheering for their fellow students and faculty members. Guests participated kindly and effectively. This event was a great opportunity for students to learn how to dress and be successful, because if you don't look the part you can't move forward and succeed. The event would end with a raffle. Students who signed their names before entering would receive a ticket with a number on it. If their number was called they would receive a copy of Just Tell Me How to Get Hired autographed by DeSena. It took a lot of time to put this event together, but Lyons found a way to make it all happen. Her ability to reach out to different clubs and organizations made a hot day in April feel worth my while.

Internship Opportunities @ The Banner

The Banner is now offering internships to CSI students. Internships take place for one semester and offer opportunities to learn about Journalism and New Media. Through these internships students will become involved in the operation and production of The Banner. Interns will work a minimum of (10) hours per week. Depending on the type of internship students will learn about and assist in blogging, correspondence, editing, fact-checking, graphic design, layout & production, photography, reporting, web design, etc.

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A Class Act!

BY BRIAN GONZALEZ
EDITOR IN CHIEF

If you read the Banner then you'll notice we don't have a consistent group of writers. We are made up of a few editors who provide most of the content for each issue of the Banner. Therefore the rest of the content that fills each page is provided by newswires and other students. In particular a lot of contributions are made by English and Communications students. It is here where we find some of our potential editors, staff, and/or regular contributors. So writing articles that may be published in the Banner are just stepping stones in helping these students to develop their writing skills and their voice to inform the public on newsworthy events.

Here at the College of Staten Island they are a number of courses that are offered to help develop writing skills and you don't have to necessarily be an English or Communications major to build these skills. We have students who work with us that are not either of the majors just mentioned and have been valuable in informing students about newsworthy stories that have an impact on students and the campus.

One such student whom I feel exemplifies this wrote a story about the impact of not recycling and waste have on a localized environment. This article I believe is the cause of many of the blue recycling receptacles that we see all around campus. A major point that we can take from the studies that this student used in their article was that the availability of such receptacles was one of the

main factors which led to an increase of student and faculty recycling. So because they're are many of these bins around and they are accessible perhaps it wouldn't be surprising to find out that the campus may have had a spike in how much it recycles plastics and cans.

Another example of where a story that a student wrote had an impact on the campus was written a few years ago in 2006. This story was about Andrea Batista who was a student that worked her way up from earning her GED to eventually graduating with two degrees from CSI. However this was only part of the story. The impact of her passing due to chronic asthma affected many people and the departments she was involved with. Last Fall the new Reading Room in the modern languages department was dedicated in her honor. Andrea will be remembered and they're people who will continue to tell her story and encourage students not to give up.

At the end of the day it's not so much about finding the right thing to write about, but how well you tell people about it. If people can feel that they were informed and that they could relate to a story then the writer has done thier job. This is an endless process where we learn something new and try to incorporate that into our work. One of the things I believe a writer should realize is that they are not perfect. Neither is the craft of writing, but with enough consideration and skill one can tell a story that stays with you beyond the life of the story itself.

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The Banner on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/thebannercsi>



The Banner on Facebook: Search for 'The Banner'

BANNER BRIEFS

A Roundup of CSI News

CSI Student Receives Prestigious Scholarship to Study in China

Recently, International Business student, Ain Richardson, was bestowed some recognition and encouragement in pursuing her studies. Ms. Richardson was awarded a travel grant through the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program to study in China during the Spring 2010 term.

The Gilman program offers grants for undergraduate students of limited financial means to pursue studies abroad. Ideally, the organization aims to support students who have been traditionally underrepresented in study abroad programs, including students with high financial need, students in underrepresented fields such as the sciences and engineering, students with diverse ethnic backgrounds, and students with disabilities. To be eligible, an applicant must be receiving a Federal Pell Grant, and plan to study abroad for at least four weeks in one country during the fall, spring, or winter terms. (Summer-only programs are not eligible.)

CSITODAY.NET

"Simpsons" Writer/Producer to Visit Campus

A bit of The Simpsons comes to Staten Island on Monday, April 19 as Mike Reiss brings his 20 years of experience as a writer and producer for the show to the CSI Center for the Arts Recital Hall from 12:30pm to 2:00pm.

Reiss will provide a unique insider's view of the popular show, including rare video segments from The Simpsons and The Critic. He will also discuss how The Simpsons was almost canceled before it debuted, share trivia about the program, and tell stories about dealing with censors and celebrity guests. In addition, Reiss will examine the current state of television and where he sees it going. Attendees will also have the opportunity to ask this television veteran, who has also written for The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson and It's Garry Shandling's Show, questions at the end of the presentation.

This event, which will be introduced by CSI Assistant Professor of English Ava Chin, is sponsored by Operation 3-Legged Dolphin and Caesura, and the English and Media Culture departments. After this free presentation, which is open to the public, Reiss will meet privately in a seminar-style roundtable discussion with CSI students from the student humor and literary magazines, Operation 3-Legged Dolphin and Caesura.

CSITODAY.NET

Stupid Inventor by Zachary Snyder

SOME OF THE BATHROOMS AT CSI ONLY GO ON WHEN THEY DETECT MOVEMENT IN THE ROOM...

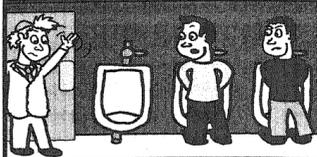


SO I'VE GOTTEN INTO THE HABIT OF WAVING MY HAND WHENEVER I WALK IN TO TURN THEM ON...



http://www.StupidInventor.com

EVEN WHEN THE BATHROOM ISN'T EMPTY...



CSI Students Awarded Scholarships through HACU

BY DR. GEOFFREY HEMPILL
CSITODAY.NET

College of Staten Island undergraduates Marybeth Melendez and Ismael Gonzalez are the proud winners of scholarships offered by The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), an organization representing nearly 450 colleges and universities committed to Hispanic higher education success in the United States, Puerto Rico, Latin America, Spain, and Portugal. Supported by corporate sponsors such as Lockheed Martin and GM, HACU offers multiple scholarships, for which students from member institutions across the country may apply.

"I congratulate Marybeth Melendez and Ismael Gonzalez for earning this well-deserved accolade in their respective fields of Psychology/Sociology and Mechanical Engineering. Ms. Melendez and Mr. Gonzalez are the College's first winners of HACU scholarships, and we couldn't be more proud," commented Caryl Watkins, Director of the Career and Scholarship Center at CSI.

Marybeth M. Melendez, the oldest of

three children, was raised in the tight-knit and culturally rich community of Spanish Harlem where, to this day, her pride and roots still lie. Following high school graduation, Ms. Melendez was employed in the legal field. In the late 1990s, after the birth of her children, Ms. Melendez began to rapidly lose her sight due to a genetic disorder known as Retinitis Pigmentosa, a progressive disease that destroys the retinal muscle of the eye rendering those afflicted with blindness. Ms. Melendez's illness forced her to retire from her job in a law firm in order to focus on raising her children as a visually impaired parent. Thereafter, her vision began to quickly deteriorate, and she struggled to find a balance between parenting, surviving, and going blind. She became involved with the Martial Arts, where, as a student, competitor, and instructor of Tae Kwon Do and Judo, she began to find the balance, peace, and strength to go forward in life. Currently a full-time student completing Bachelor's degrees in Psychology and Sociology with a Minor concentration in Disability Studies, Ms. Melendez hopes to pursue a career as a Clinical

Psychologist.

The HACU award should go a long way toward helping Ms. Melendez realize her goals, as she notes: "The HACU Scholarship was both a blessing and an honor. It gave me the opportunity to maximize my education, as it not only covered the cost of my tuition for the Winter Session, but also the costs of my textbooks and supplies. I was fortunate enough to purchase a digital recorder and a talking scientific calculator, both of which are the much-needed tools that a blind student, such as myself, uses to be successful in the classroom. I am honored, blessed, and thankful that I was selected to receive this award."

Ismael Gonzalez is a recent immigrant to the United States. Mr. Gonzalez grew up in Cuenca, Ecuador. In late 2006, he received the opportunity to come to New York, and shortly thereafter began taking classes at the College of Staten Island. Mr. Gonzalez is a full-time student in the Mechanical Engineering program. His eventual career goal is to work on designing computer hardware components.

ALPHA Club Hosts Red Cross Presentation on Haiti, Presents Contribution to Relief Effort

BY CSITODAY.NET

Last week, ALPHA Club members, as well as representatives of the CSI Office of Disability Services and Office of Student Life, hosted a presentation by Denise Bloise, Director of the Brooklyn and Staten Island Chapter of the American Red Cross, not only to present Ms. Bloise with over \$1,000 that students had collected for Haitian relief, but also to discuss the current Red Cross efforts in Haiti, and encourage CSI students to get involved to help others in need.

As for the student relief efforts, back in the cold and snowy days of February, members of the ALPHA (Academics, Leadership, Public Service, Humility, and Acceptance) Club (formerly known as the Organization of Unique Individuals) mobilized CSI students,

staff, and faculty members, as well as Staten Island businesses, in a two-day effort to raise urgently needed funds to assist victims of the Haitian earthquake that devastated the island nation on January 12, 2010.

The event's host, Christopher Cruz Cullari, Interim Director of the Office of Disability Services, underscoring the importance of service, noted that the February fundraiser was an example of "good promoting good." The club's effort assisted the people of Haiti, and it also brought together people at CSI and in the surrounding community. Further, the fundraiser's success brought the Red Cross to campus and is now inspiring people to do further good.

ALPHA Club members Marybeth Melendez and Kelyn Potes discussed the reasons for the fundraiser, and the

success that they achieved, despite the challenging weather.

Debi Kee, Associate Director of Student Life, commended the ALPHA Club for their efforts and provided other examples of how students can volunteer their time.

The keynote speaker, Ms. Bloise, presented facts and statistics regarding the Red Cross's massive relief efforts in Haiti and presented examples of what typical monetary donations will provide. She also mentioned that many Haitian Americans from New York City volunteered to go to the stricken island to provide crucial translation services to help Red Cross representatives better help those in need. The presentation concluded with a brief video outlining the services that the Red Cross offers local citizens who have encountered disasters and other adversities.

"Health Care Reform Passed"
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reform their main goal is to challenge why Americans are forced to buy health insurance and questioning if this is constitutionally justifiable. Florida state attorney general Bill McCollum stated "This bipartisan effort by attorney general around the country should put the federal government on notice that we will not tolerate the constitutional rights of our citizens and the sovereignty of our states to be trampled on." For the next few months the public will see a major push and pull between both major political parties as republicans will look to shoot down this bill through the legal system. While democrats will try and pay no mind as their goal will be to expand this bill in the future and add possibly a public option which has been a big topic of discussion for the past few months.

"Will You Speak Out?"
Continued from the front page

other magazines that remain stacked, students will want to read it," said Tolentino when asked how she got the idea. In particular, the magazines of 60s and 70s that cater to queer life were controversial, thus, people were unaware of them. Tolentino, with the willpower to increase awareness on queer community hopes to eradicate homophobia.

Fernando Guzman, assistant editor, said, "Staten Island is very conservative. However, CSI is a very liberal college and there are a lot of gay students. "Speak Out" is not only for gays, lesbians, transgenders and bisexuals but also straights. This is one of the few campuses where students can be themselves," said Guzman. "Everyone seems to feel the need to judge someone but one needs to look in the mirror before being judgmental," said Tolentino.

Jessica Ramos will run the "Advice Column," in which she will cover a wide range of topics ranging from love, hate, equality, and friendship. June 30th is the expected release date of the first issue. In this issue two of Ramos's pieces will be featured. "One is about hate crimes and solutions to help heal the LGBT community that endure these crimes. The second is an advice column about the do's and don'ts for coming out of the closet," said Ramos. This particular section will offer guidelines and support for people who are unsure of how to approach the topic.

Additionally, there will be a Speak Up section that will cater to parents who want to share their experience with their children. They can also advise other parents. The Entertainment sec-

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Transfer Applicants Increase 77.4 Percent as CUNY Draws, Retains More Students

BY CUNY.EDU

More students are coming to The City University of New York — and staying — than at any point in its 163-year history. Soaring admissions, a remarkable 77.4 percent surge of transfer students into the University, a dramatic increase in student retention rates and other benefits of several years of reforms instituted during the past decade are driving University enrollment gains.

The burgeoning, and challenging, influx of students — including high achievers, suburbanites, community college students and career changers — resoundingly confirms that strengthened standards, expanded academic programs and the University's reputation for academic quality and value are not only attracting more students than ever in a tough, competitive economy, but keeping them at CUNY.

Transfer applications have risen by 77.4 percent for students from non-CUNY colleges, public and private. As of early spring, 16,137 students had applied for transfer to the University, compared with 9,093 for the same period in 2009.

The University is also retaining its students in greater numbers. In the years since higher academic standards were adopted for baccalaureate programs, the one-year retention rate for first-time freshmen has risen nearly five percent at five senior colleges — Baruch, Brooklyn, City, Hunter and Queens. "Retention is starting to go up very, very dramatically at the University and it is very much a tribute to the reforms that this University has taken on in the past few years," Chancellor Matthew Goldstein said in his report to the Board of Trustees. "Obviously," he added, "once retention is up very significantly, we will see graduation rates increasing right behind them."

With fewer students leaving and more likely to stay to complete their degrees, the University is serving more students, and more high academic achievers, than at any point in its 163-year history. Applications from high academic achievers were up by more than 12 percent, and there was a very significant increase in applicants who graduated from high school earlier than this year indicating that prior-year graduates, presumably including many seeking new careers, are looking to return to college. In addition, newly expanded summer and winter sessions are seeing 15- to 20-percent increases as students seek to stay on track academically. Since 1999, senior college enrollment overall has risen 28 percent and community college enrollment is up 45 percent. Fall 2009's record 259,507 shattered previous records of the late-1960s Open Admissions era.

Transfer students from private college

students are coming in highest numbers from St. John's University, Touro College, New York University, Monroe College, Bard College, Pace University, New York Institute of Technology and ASA Institute. The transfer applications from students at community colleges are coming in highest numbers from Nassau Community College, Suffolk County Community College, Westchester Community College, Rockland Community College and Orange County Community College. Suburban applications are up, with the highest increases from suburban community colleges, followed closely by SUNY Stony Brook.

With so many students racing to CUNY, and all other trends pointing to a continuation of rising enrollments, the University is also turning its attention to the flip side of success: making sure that campus resources are not strained by the explosion of students and that academic quality is maintained. Chancellor Goldstein welcomed the record enrollments, which he attributed "largely to the burnishing of the University's reputation among colleges and universities," as well as to "people coming to shore up their skills in a very, very difficult economy." But in remarks to the Trustees on Feb. 23, he expressed concern that "we will be able to maintain the level of academic experience our students deserve to receive." His administration, he said, was "monitoring our campus activities very closely," working with the college presidents on enrollment and hiring decisions to make sure academic resources and student services are maintained.

"We want to make sure that we make this University available to students who want to learn, but we don't want to dilute the experience," Goldstein said. "It's a delicate task ... but one that we will continue to take, obviously, very seriously."

That balancing act is likely to continue as more students flock to CUNY's doors, more surge through and more stay in the system.

Interest in the community colleges, already stretching to their limits to accommodate their highest enrollments in history, is up dramatically. The number of students whose first choice is a community college, soared 75 percent compared with the same point last year, according to the latest data.

Retention of motivated, high-achieving community college students is very much on the University's agenda, and there have been moves to identify such students and offer more opportunities for them at CUNY. An example is the CUNY Pipeline program, which encourages and prepares research-oriented students for graduate school. The program's conference in February included, for the first time, selected community college students who pre-

pared and discussed their own sophisticated research projects and attended a variety of workshops concerned with preparing for and acclimating to graduate school.

CUNY Pipeline Coordinator Brenda Henry-Offor noted that on a visit to Queensborough Community College last year, "I was surprised to see the level of [student] research. It was just astounding. ... These students can go on to graduate programs and be anything they want."

Queensborough Chemistry Department Chair Paris Svoronos, a member of the CUNY Pipeline Steering Committee, said, "A lot of community college students are immigrants, so their English is poor, but their science background is excellent. So they can do all this work in chemistry, math and physics.

"You don't want to lose these students when they graduate, for instance, from Queensborough," professor Svoronos said. "We lose a lot of students to Stony Brook, Binghamton, to Buffalo. There is no reason why they should go there, and not come to CUNY, get their bachelor's at Hunter or Queens College or Staten Island, and then eventually continue with a master's and Ph.D."

The University is also focusing on ways to better prepare future students. The number of first-time freshmen enrolling in CUNY schools from New York City public high schools rose sharply during the seven-year period from 2002 to 2009 — an increase of 91.4 percent in the community colleges, 36.4 percent in the senior colleges and 57.1 percent in total. Now, CUNY and the New York City Department of Education are engaged in an ongoing partnership to align the two public systems so that city public school students are not only better prepared for college but capable of succeeding once they get there.

The University's College Now program already has some 20,000 city high school students taking college-level courses. But with the DOE graduating more high school students, the two education systems are sharing information about the city high schools' curricula, student test scores and other data. The idea of this partnership, the College Readiness and Success Working Group, is to make the two systems — DOE's and CUNY's — more transparent and to align them to make sure high school students get the coursework and advisement they need, said Senior University Dean for Academic Affairs John Mogulescu.

"The goal is to get students coming in better prepared, college ready, and being able to do college work and succeed," Dean Mogulescu said of the working group.

The Real Clash of the Titans?

BY SPENCER BOLLETTIERI
STAFF WRITER

It was a bright and sunny day 140 million years ago, as two colossal giants came face to face across the Jurassic plains. In one corner stands Barosaurus, towering at a full 86 feet in length she towers high above the competition as she steps in to protect her child. Meanwhile in the other corner stands allosaurus, a set of jaws with an attitude, standing a full 28 ft in length and weighing a full 2.3 tons, he stands in position as he attempts to run off with his next meal, the barosaurus' baby who now retreats to the protection of his mother. After having exchanged a bitter warning composed of hisses and snarls, the fight suddenly begins as the Mama Barosaurus rears up on her massive back legs, casting a shadow over the prehistoric landscape and as she stands tall showing off her massive size and power, the Allosaurus can't help but watch in astonishment as she threatens to crush him with a force of 20 metric tons.

This is perhaps one of the most famous scenes portrayed in the field of paleontology and currently stands as perhaps one of the American Museum of Natural History's most famous and iconic exhibits, greeting hundreds of visitors every day in the main lobby. But how accurate is this meeting? Could an interaction between predator and prey have happened like this? Well it is no secret that dinosaurs fought amongst each other like the animals of today. They were believed to have fought over territory, mates and even their own lives. And with

fossils like the famous "fighting dinosaurs" recovered from the ancient sands of Mongolia, it can be safely said that to some extent fighting did constitute a part of their lives. But how they defended themselves is still up for debate. The dinosaur was a creature refined and perfected from millions of years of evolution and as their kind changed and evolved with the Mesozoic era, many of them developed a series of interesting and unusual defenses. Some wielded spikes, others utilized claws and now fossilized evidence suggests some of them may have even used venom. But still to this day, it is still being argued amongst scientists how our two combatants would have fought. Allosaurus currently is believed to have made use of its powerful jaws, which at this point is believed to have been able to separate large chunks of flesh from its prey which included animals such as the armor clad stegosaurus. Meanwhile animals such as the Barosaurus are believed to have only one defense, its tremendous size. Towering over the world in which it lived, it seemed to be the elephant of its day. With thick mountains of flesh and an earth shattering size, it was made to look intimidating, like an animal that can easily crush all those who oppose it. However it is because of its tremendous size and weight, scientists say that it was almost impossible for the barosaurus to rear up. And to do so would shift its center of gravity so that it'd collapse under its own weight. Also considering that fossil records show little to no stress placed on the forelimbs, it'd probably be safe to

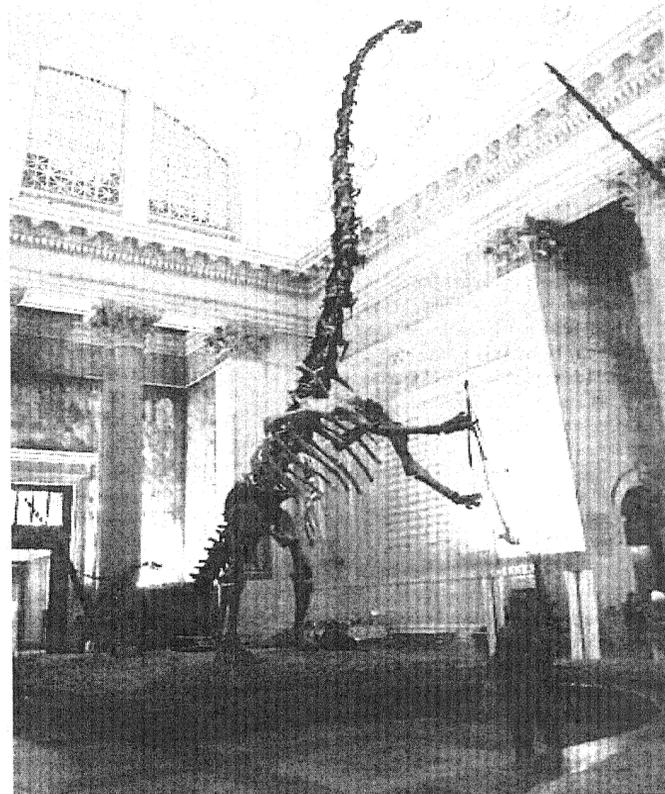


Photo from:

assume they wouldn't rear up to protect themselves.

But could an interaction between an Allosaurus and Barosaurus have taken place? Well though the Museum of Natural History officially lists their exhibit as "product of human imagination", meant to represent the might and majesty of nature, some still believe that it may have been a real scenario. After all fossilized bones of similar animals have been found with allosaur teeth marks and it is believed like some mod-

ern crocodiles allosaurs may have teamed up to take on prey numerous times their own size.

Though whether it really happened or not one thing is for certain, the clash of these two creatures has inspired countless over the years and will continue to inspire countless generations as they gather to wonder at these two marvels of nature and gaze at their primal beauty and majesty as they stand immortalized in the center of the AMNH's main lobby.

But Adobe's decision to add the iPhone and iPad to its risk factors is awfully telling. Steve Jobs has made it clear that his company is waging a war against Flash. And as Adobe points out, the more ubiquitous the iPhone and iPad become, the greater the chance that Flash will lose some of its market share online. That, it seems, is what's making Adobe run a little scared.

In a blog post written in January after Apple announced the iPad, Adobe made it clear that it wasn't happy that Apple had left Flash out of its tablet equation. Adobe group manager Adrian Ludwig said at the time that "there's something important missing from Apple's approach to connecting consumers to content" on the iPad.

"It looks like Apple is continuing to impose restrictions on their devices that limit both content publishers and consumers," Ludwig wrote at the time.

Of course, Apple doesn't agree. During a question-and-answer session following the announcement of iPhone OS 4.0, Apple CEO Steve Jobs was asked if the software would support Flash. His answer was succinct and telling of his company's relationship with Adobe.

"Uh, no."

Do you have something to write about? Has any of the stories written in the Banner helped to inform you? Or has it not informed you? Let us know what you think. You can send your comments and concerns to us by sending an e-mail to: the.BANNER.csi@gmail.com

Or you can drop off a copy in our mailbox on campus in 1C-207.

Adobe admits it's worried about iPhone, iPad

BY DON REISINGER
CNET.COM

Adobe might be putting a brave face on for its battle against Apple, but the company quietly admitted in its latest quarterly filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission that if Apple continues to block Flash from both the iPhone and iPad, it could be facing some trouble.

"To the extent new releases of operating systems or other third-party products, platforms or devices, such as the Apple iPhone or iPad, make it more difficult for our products to perform, and our customers are persuaded to use alternative

technologies, our business could be harmed," the company wrote in its Risk Factors section of the 10-Q filing. Bloomberg first reported news of the filing.

It should be noted that Risk Factors don't necessarily mean that Adobe's business is being hurt by any potential issue. The Risk Factors section of an SEC filing is meant to inform investors that there are certain market conditions that, depending on the outcome, could have a negative effect on a company's bottom line. Sometimes those risk factors are extremely specific and likely to happen, while other times, they can be very broad and unlikely to occur.

Toyota: A Legacy of Quality in Question

BY THOMAS BRIGANDI
CO-MANAGING EDITOR

For decades, Toyota vehicles have become a symbol of quality, safety and cost efficiency. However, the events that have been recently unfolding around the automotive giant Toyota have rocked that company to its core. Toyota has had a massive recall due the sudden-acceleration and other mechanical problems that have been occurring in many of its vehicles. This brings up a pressing question: how did Toyota, a company held in high esteem, become entangled in such a great mess?

This is a multifaceted question which can be traced back mainly to cost cutting measures that have taken place as a result of a rapid global expansion and an effort to grow profitability by cutting costs.

According to the piece, "The Humbling of Toyota" in BusinessWeek,

"As grave as the current troubles are, they are symptomatic of a larger problem at Toyota: It got carried away chasing high-speed growth, market share, and productivity gains year in and year out. All that slowly dulled the commitment to quality embedded in Toyota's corporate culture." This statement essentially depicts what happened with Toyota. Like every other business on the planet, Toyota's main goal is to increase the bottom line, and in doing so they gradually decreased the quality of their vehicles in order to cut expenses. It is mainly due to this reason that Toyota's reputation as being a better choice than other car brands, particularly brands from Detroit, has been tarnished.

Additionally, the problems facing Toyota do not seem like they are going to be going away any time soon. According to that same article from BusinessWeek, "At last count, the company faced 109 class actions and 32 individual cases filed in courts in the U.S. and Canada. (In a

well-publicized incident on Mar. 8, the owner of a 2008 Prius lost control of his car on a California interstate highway and had to be rescued by police.)" The legal ramifications due to injuries and deaths from the mechanical failures will no doubt continue for a long time going forward.

Even though these events are quite depressing due to the injuries and fatalities that have happened as a result of mechanical failures, these legal ramifications are a financial non-event for the company compared to the amount of lost sales that it has and will have as a result of its now tarnished image.

Moreover, the primary reason why Toyota is in this debacle is the lack of quality of its vehicles. However, this lack of quality stems from the problems associated with rapid growth that the company saw during the time leading up to the financial crisis of 2008. According to BusinessWeek, "A credit bubble and soaring home prices in the U.S. had Americans

buying Camrys and Lexus SUVs in droves. Toyota raked in \$55 billion in operating income during its fiscal years running from 2006 to 2008. Shares traded in Tokyo (Toyota also has stock listed in New York and London) shot up 112% from mid-2005 to February of 2007." ("The Humbling of Toyota", March 11th) Thus, it is apparent that the position that Toyota is in now has been affected by numerous variables, from economic growth globally to cost cutting measures.

Consequently, Toyota has obliged to fix the sudden-acceleration problems and other quality deficiencies that have plagued many of its models. In an effort to win back customers, Toyota is now offering incentives such as low-interest loans and other promotions. However, the unfortunate events that have unfolded around Toyota over the past few months will serve as a poignant point of reference to any company that puts cost effectiveness over quality.

Thomas Brigandi is a Macaulay Honors student and is majoring in Finance and Accounting. He also is a Registered Securities Representative. He currently holds the Series 7 and Series 63 Securities Licenses.

Goodbye America, Hello China? Think again

BY BERND DEBUSMANN
REUTERS.COM

For the growing number of Americans who see China heading for inevitable global dominance, nudging aside the United States, a brief walk down memory lane helps put long-term predictions into perspective.

Not so long ago, Japan was seen as the next (economic) number 1. American executives studied the 14 management principles of The Toyota Way, developed by the automobile manufacturer that grew into the world's biggest car maker and is now recalling millions of defective vehicles.

Between the mid-1980s and early 1990s, books with titles such as Trading Places - How We Are Giving Our Future to Japan and How to Reclaim It (by Clyde Prestowitz) were required reading in Washington. Learned panelists expounded on the wondrous efficiency of "Japan Inc."

A glut of "Amazing Japan" books, Chicago Tribune writer Ronald Yates noted in 1987, hammered home the same theme: Japanese technology is superior, Japanese management is better, Japanese products are unrivaled,

Chinese and 38 percent for American. In a Pew poll a few months earlier, 44 percent saw China as the world's leading economic power and just 27 percent named the United States.

That was a remarkable reversal of opinion from early 2008, when 41 percent told Pew pollsters they thought the U.S. was the world's top economic power and 30 percent named China. That shift probably says more about the sour mood of Americans very slowly emerging from a painful recession than about facts.

China the world's leading economic power? Its economy is less than a third of that of the U.S. Its GDP per head is one fourteenth of the U.S., roughly half that of Kazakhstan, according to the World Bank. About a quarter of the world's economic output is produced by the United States, whose population is less than a fourth of China's 1.3 billion.

So there's a very long way to catch up for a country beset by a variety of Third World problems, from lack of paved roads in many rural areas to water pollution so severe that 700 million people have to drink contaminated water every day, according to the World Bank.

China enthusiasts made much of statistics early in the year that the country had overtaken Germany as the world's largest exporter in 2009. Along with many of the figures cited to show China's relentless long march to superpowerdom, it gives an incomplete picture.

In February, a poll by the Washington Post and ABC, asked whether the 21st century would be more American or more Chinese. In terms of overall influence on world affairs, 43 percent opted for

panies from imported components, not the fruit of brilliant Chinese innovation. Similar to the maquiladora assembly plants on the Mexican side of the U.S.-Mexico border, such factories provide jobs but don't do much for the economic well-being of the average citizen.

And the fast economic growth of the past (eight percent plus, year after year) that has so impressed many American analysts is bound to run into a giant obstacle for which there is no solution in sight. Nicholas Eberstadt, a Harvard demographer, has long warned that China is facing a surge of citizens aged over 60 for which the Communist-run system is not prepared. By 2050, according to estimates by the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), China will have more than 438 million people over 60 and 100 million over 80.

It is an unusual phenomenon, a country growing old before it grows rich, and it has consequences that go beyond retirement policy. China's rapid ageing, a consequence of the government's one-child policy, "threatens to impose a rising burden on the young, slow economic and living standard growth and become a socially destabilizing force," said a CSIS report last year.

Without a solution to that problem, "it is difficult to envision a prosperous, long-term future for China."

So, here's a word of advice for Americans fretting about their country's standing in relation to China: Relax.

A large proportion of those exports, three quarters by some accounts, are products assembled for international com-

Long Distance Relationships Do Not Last

BY NADINE AMIR
CONTRIBUTOR

I have learned the hard way that long distance relationships do not last. After wasting countless minutes of my time and receiving a nice high phone bill at the end of each month, it took me about 8 months to realize this was not going to end the way I wanted it to. Now, I am usually the realist when it comes to these things, but for some reason, my naturally pessimistic self had hope this relationship would work.

Mark was the best man at my cousins wedding and right away he grabbed my attention, mostly because he liked to draw attention to himself. My first impression of him was influenced by the rest of my family's worry that he would make a mockery of his speech and the wedding. Fortunately he proved everyone wrong, and had everyone laughing by the end of his speech. I found him obnoxious but also quite charming at the same time. You could tell just by looking at him that he felt hon-

ored to be part of the wedding party. Mark, who was only 23 at the time was tall, skinny and had a Mohawk like haircut. After talking to him for a while, I learned he has a girlfriend, who was sitting at the next table. He would follow me outside every time I would go for a cigarette even though he did not smoke. He told me about his plans to go traveling to Thailand and Australia. I was intrigued by his excitement to go away and find adventure.

A few months had passed and Mark was still in Thailand and I had decided to move to London, where he and my cousins lived, for a few months. I was only there for a few weeks when I heard that Mark was returning to London because he had spent all of his money. We were surrounded by the same people almost every weekend and we quickly picked up where we had left off at the wedding. We had become good friends. He was back together with the girlfriend that he had left to go to Thailand. I did not think much of it though because I

was not interested in him in that way. I enjoyed being flirty friends. Although he was back together with her, she was hardly ever out with him. This made me assume that this relationship was not going to last. We grew fond of one another and despite the fact that he has a girlfriend, there was an undeniable attraction between us. Everyone told me to stay away from him, but I couldn't help but want to be in his company. I should have assumed that if he was out hanging out with me while having a girlfriend, he would do it to me too.

We started seeing each other on and off secretly for a few months. Yes, I felt a little guilty but I couldn't help myself. During the times we wouldn't speak or see each other, he would tell me "he wanted to try to work things out with his girlfriend because he didn't want to throw away three years with her". So I gave him his space and did my own thing with other people. This went on for almost 8 months.

A week before I was meant come back home to New York, he broke up with his girlfriend. It was too late, I was going home. After I went home, we continued to speak daily whether it be on the phone or over the internet. We started a long distance relationship. This

also made me very angry. Why couldn't he break up with her when I was there? I did not understand. It was no longer a fling for either one of us. We developed real feelings for each other. We would plan our days around speaking to each other. I didn't realize how annoying and frustrating long distance relationships were.

He came to New York along with my cousins and a few of his friends for my 21st birthday. It was a great weekend, but it was sad knowing he was going to have to leave. After he left, we spoke everyday and he even spoke about moving here for a while. As time went on, we spoke less and less and plans started to change. We both came to the realization that this was not going to work out no matter how much we wanted it to. All of a sudden the roles were reversed and he was telling me that he was just being realistic. I couldn't believe myself actually. What was I thinking? How could this guy that cheated on his girlfriend of three years be faithful to me, when I live in another country? The answer is easy. He couldn't.

Is Age Really just a Number?

BY STEPHANIE WHELAN
CONTRIBUTOR

I've only had one serious relationship in my life. It was with a boy who was the same age as me. At the time I was a teenager so I didn't expect it to last forever. We broke up two weeks before my twentieth birthday.

I found myself to be attracted to older men and after my experience with my ex-boyfriend who acted extremely immature during our breakup, this had become more prevalent. I started dating other guys here and there. It was fun and I was happy dating not being tied down. I didn't want to be in another relationship any time soon.

Then I met Paul. We would hang out once or twice a week. I never bothered to ask him his age and he never bothered to ask me. It wasn't like we were going to be serious.

We became friends and for about month or so and we were going out and one night he told me, "I have something I have to tell you, I have a 5 year old son and I used to be married, I just thought you should know." Then as I sipped my sangria I asked him, "Well how old are you?" To my surprise he replied, "I'm 41."

Shocked from the answer I spat my wine all over the table. He didn't look a day over 34. "Do you know how old I am?" I asked him. "No, I thought you were about 27" he said. "27? Hal I'm only 20. I shouldn't even be drinking this sangria." I said.

We talked for a little while and agreed that neither of us wanted something serious. He had just gone through a divorce and I was still young, single, and ready to mingle. We both decided that we would just continue doing what we were doing and not let it effect us. Things worked out well for four months, but the longer it went on the more I found myself seeing more of Paul.

Two months later I wasn't dating anyone else and was only seeing Paul. The summer had rolled around and I had booked a trip back home to visit my family for six weeks. I thought this would be good time to take a break from each other. I kept telling myself that, "it wasn't like we were going to commit. So it would be good for both of us to take a break." While I was in England I called him a few times. Each time we chatted for about 10 minutes and that was it. Oddly enough I ended up missed him. I figured that I was just missing the sex and brushed off the fact that I missed him.

When I returned I called him and he invited me to his apartment the next day. Before I went to his place I had dinner and a few drinks with a girlfriend. I got to his place and we had barely said hello

before we started ripping each other's clothes off. We didn't even make it past the kitchen before we were having sex. I guess he had missed it too. We spent the night together at his place. This somehow reassured me that it was still nothing serious and we were both just in it for the nookie.

The next day we went out to lunch. I told him stories of my trip back home and he seemed to be in another world. He sat across from me with his chin resting on his fist just gazing and smiling. "Boy, I really missed you." He said to me. "I missed you too" I said abruptly and carried on with my drunken tales. "No like I reeeeeeally missed you, I'm so happy you came back to me." I hadn't come back to him at all; I had come back to my life which he just happened to be a part of. "Ok" I said, thinking nothing really of it. "We need to talk" he said. "You know I care about you a lot, and after my divorce, I never thought I would feel like this about any one again. I've been fighting this for a while, and then you going to England just made realize I want to take a chance. I haven't dated anyone else for a while and I don't want to. I only want you."

Oh Jesus. This man just basically proclaimed his love for me. It was never supposed to be like this, why did he have to go and ruin everything. Although a relationship was so not what I wanted and especially with someone double my age, the truth was I had been fighting the feelings too. Sometimes, you can't

help but find love even if that's the last thing you want. The thoughts were running so quickly through my mind. He never wants to get married again and I don't believe in marriage, he doesn't want another child and I don't want any. I doubt he's ever going to trade me in for younger model, maybe this could actually work.

"I feel the same." I said "It's not what I intended on but I've been fighting it too. So where do we go from here?" "Nowhere" he replied. "We just keep doing what we've been doing, except now I can call you my girl" "Ok I'm cool with that."

And that was the end of it. We have been together ever since. A relationship and one with someone double my age was not something I had had in mind for my future but it seems to be working out. Me and Paul have been together for almost four years. We have our problems just like any other couple but we love each other and that's all that really matters. I never envisioned that this would be my life, but something's in life just occur. The age gap doesn't even affect us. Most of the time, I feel like I'm the forty something one in the relationship. I was never a believer, I was always the first person to laugh at the old geezers with their young hot wives and judge the woman as a gold digger, now people are probably doing that to me. But it doesn't matter because now, I honestly believe age really is just a number.

Shallow Viewpoint, for a Shallow Club Scene

BY JUSTIN SARACHIK
CO-MANAGING EDITOR

The nineties were a tumultuous time for the whole club scene. With humanities culture shock of the club kid movement running ramped through the New York City nightlife, atrocities like "Tunnel" and "the Lighthouse" fed the fuel. For in these clubs was a festering cesspool of drug addicted, adrenaline hopped up junkies looking for an escape from reality. This was a place where the crazier the better became the everyday. This was where kids can dress like babies, or monsters, or whatever their hearts desire was. The scene was scary; as one insane act tried to out do another. With a cult like leader such as Michael Alig guiding his troops of abominations, there seemed to be no hope for today's generation. But alas, we come to the year 2009 where things have greatly changed...perhaps for the worse.

Places like the Lighthouse catered to no particular person. Anybody could walk in and find what they were looking for. These clubs were about being you and finding some inner beast and unleashing it. Eccentricity was encouraged, while being normal was strange. Flip back to 2009 and this is not the case. In today's world mediocrity and lack of creativity is praised. Everyone wants to be like the person next to them. Guys strive to be the "cool guy" until there is no cool guy, just a bunch of dudes who look like clones. Stepping

into a club is like transporting into some strange realm where monotony, self-indulgence, and looking alike prevail.

It's amazing to see clubs geared for a certain group of people. One club is for a hip-hop crowd, while another is for a techno crowd. Still other clubs are just for upper class, while a few cater to the artsy. Girls waiting online are checked out up and down to make sure their measurements and "hotness" factor are to club standards. The most attractive get in for free, the moderate looking get in for half, while the "not so much" get the boot. The looks checklist doesn't normally apply for guys, who conveniently have to shell out paper to get their way in. Groups of club goers are turned down or leave because unfortunately their friends did not meet the standards of the particular club. Who's to say that bouncers know what true beauty is anyway? They are just a bunch of goons standing by a door making judgments of every living thing that walks. Shamefully for some, these same meatheads are preventing them from getting lost in a trance of sweaty grinding and an alcohol littered night out with friends.

If you are lucky enough to get in past the bouncers and ticket booth, just ahead lies the coat check. After dishing out some more cash just for a place to hold your coat, on comes maybe the first section of many dance floors. Here is where you encounter the pulsing ambience of the DJ. Right away you'll know if you like

his music, and if you don't you're at loss anyway. The bass is turned up so loud that dancing is almost a robotic instinct as guidos fist pump, and girls twirl and bump on men and woman alike. Sexual orientation doesn't matter as girls to dance up on each other in a club setting.

Next is the VIP section where only the hottest girls and richest guys or lucky by association get in. Here is where you'll find leather couches and a bar swelling with drinks. A girl walks around telling the guys that it's her birthday and she is rewarded with free drinks all night. With drinks being about fifteen bucks a pop, she shares the drinks with her "less fortunate" friends. An outpouring of cranberry vodka and Long Island ice tea's make up the alcohol diet of the girls at the bar, while the men go for shots of hard liquor or specially mixed cocktails.

The liquid courage gives the guys balls of steel, as they hit on anything that moves whether knockout or creature of the night. In all reality it's mostly the beer goggles talking as they lean in for unsuccessful kisses or failed attempts at number exchanging. While some hit the jackpot, others get bruised egos by girls that actually have some self-respect.

Then there's always the room on the side or beginning where everyone is an equal. The DJ is playing hip-hop, as the crowd jives to the latest top 40 hits in a crowded claustrophobic room. The smell of body odor, booze, and Aqua DiGiò cologne infiltrates the senses all the while getting blasted by the noise, and blinded by the spotlights flashing through the dark. Oddly enough through the mountains of people and all the dancing, the temperature remains quite comfortable. Maybe the ultra enhanced or flooded

senses are not noticing the changes with so much going on, especially the things happening under their noses.

A stark difference between now and the nineties is that the drugs go unnoticed if they are even present at all. Perhaps the people are buying it before they get there, or are just really discrete about it. It seems more likely that the vice of choice these days is alcohol anyway. It makes you wonder, how many of these people in here are even of legal drinking age? The owners don't really care; it's all about making that "dollar dollar bill". The people are the consumers and the club is the product. Without the selling of drugs and having so many inside promoters, the owners will take whatever money they get to quell their pockets.

It's clearly evident that the obscene nature of the nineties club scene did little to destroy the future stake of profits to be made in New York City nightlife. Even with the economy plummeting it's astounding to see people going out and having a great time. Funny how young adults are so stingy with money, but they have no problem dropping a couple hundred on some drinks every Friday night. You have to ask yourself, where will this lead to? What's going to be the next big movement? The club kids are out, the party gangster movement is in progress, what now? Perhaps the answer lies within one of the out of the ordinary people standing amongst the polos, gelled hair, fake tans, and revealing miniskirts. They are just standing there taking it all in looking for their niche, and formulating the next big thing. Give it another ten years and maybe this article will be irrelevant, but for now...welcome to the club era.

Album Review: "Coheed and Cambria - Year of the Black Rainbow"

BY TERRI CAPUTO
CONTRIBUTOR

On April 14, 2010, Coheed and Cambria will release their new album, Year of the Black Rainbow. The album is the fifth and final installment in The Amory Wars, a sequence of stories written by singer and guitarist Claudio Sanchez. Coheed goes considerably darker on this album than on previous ones. Their new sound is apparent on songs like "Guns of Summer," which has a more psychedelic and progressive feel to it. "The Broken" and "Here We Are Juggernaut" remain true to the sound previous records have

had, and both are single worthy.

An acoustic guitar is present throughout "Pearl of the Stars" which is done rather tastefully and is the softest track on the album. "Far" is another soft track, and with lyrics like, "So, whatever this is, this thing that now I've become / you hate it so much, you keep on running from it," the song is somewhat bone chilling. "World of Lines" allows drummer Chris Pennie to show off his chops, and is my personal favorite on the CD. The fast guitars and the vocals are what make the track one to watch out for.



Photo from: en.wikipedia.org

Track Listing

1. One
2. The Broken
3. Guns of Summer
4. Here We Are Juggernaut
5. Far
6. The Shattered Symphony
7. World of Lines
8. Made Out of Nothing
9. Pearl of the Stars
10. In the Flame of Error
11. When Skeletons Live
12. The Black Rainbow

If you are not a die-hard Coheed fan you most likely would not be able to tell one song on this album from another. As someone who does not listen to the band religiously, the remainder of the album sounds like it blends together in a way. I feel this is a consistency on their earlier albums as well. It is not an attack on the band

all together, but I do think they could be a bit more original at times.

Overall, this album is a decent effort from Coheed and Cambria, and if you were a fan beforehand, Year of the Black Rainbow will not disappoint.

Sky High Sounds, Ground Low Sales: A Critique of Depeche Mode's Newest Album

BY CARA REHBEIN
CONTRIBUTOR

In April 2009 the haunting and electrifying "Sounds of the Universe" was released into the mainstream media, as Depeche Mode fans were stricken with anticipation for their newest synthpop CD. It had been four years since the legendary English rockers had delivered any work, and followers of the band were growing impatient with them. When finally released, a slew of mediocre reviews and disappointing comments spread across the Internet, tainting the band's name and reputation. Lacking the traditional profundity in the lyrics and the complex, melodious structure common amongst their previous eleven albums, "Sounds of the Universe" was, more or less, a flop—a downright disappointment.

Composed of thirteen songs and one single, "Wrong," DM ineffectively experimented with changing their musical style to reflect traditional rock, rather than the new-age electro-synth that originally boasted them into the public eye. Starting the song with thunderous "Wrong's," the guitars raved and the singer, David Gahan, softened his voice, chanting the first lyrics: "I was born with the wrong sign, in the wrong house, with the wrong ascendancy."

Expressing how everything about the single's narrator was completely "wrong," the song is electronically up-tempo, despite its pessimistic lyrics. Charting #24 in the UK's billboard for one week, the number quickly tuned off the radios and evaporated into the universe.

In their mid-2005 album "Playing the Angel," the piece "Precious" reached number four on the UK billboards, and #23 on the US modern rock charts, making it a far greater success than "Wrong." With a chorus emphasizing a harsh break-up, Gahan croons with a sonorous, detached tone: "things get damaged/ things get broken/ I thought we'd manage/ but words left unspoken/ left us so brittle/ there was so little left to give." Despite the popularity of "Playing the Angel" compared to that of "Sounds of the Universe," both LP's were evolutions for the band.

Known for their "indie," intelligent lyrics and creepy, Tim Burton like imagery, DM began to shift their rhythmic style, interweaving more pop musicality in their songs. Their newest albums were, in many respects, more mainstream than their first ten. "Exciter," a record released in May 2001, was down-tempo and romantic—an icon amongst independent alternative music fans. "Goodnight Lovers," one of four

singles from the CD, is vocally and lyrically driven, as Gahan whispers in the chorus "when you're born a lover, you're born to suffer, like all soul sisters and soul brothers." A lesser known but equally as intense track from this Bjork-produced album, "I am You," hums with low, seductive beats, complimenting the opening words: "You have bound my heart with subtle chains/ so much pleasure that it feels like pain/ so entwined now that we can't shake free/ I am you and you are me."

Compared to their 2001 release, "Sounds of the Universe" focuses more on transcendental, "space-case" ideas rather than covering complex, emotional states. "In Chains," a nearly seven minute song with few lyrics, was placed as the introductory number for the album. With a creaking, minute long horror-movie opening, both Martin Gore (the writer and guitarist) and David Gahan unravel the song in a ghostly tone, singing, "the way you move, has got me yearning/ the way you move, has left me burning/ I know you know what you're doing to me/ I know you know my hands will never be free/ I know what it's like to be in chains." Though not making it as a single, the track held the potential of becoming one if the lyrics were more

varied and the beginning trope was condensed. "Fragile tension," listed number four on the CD, was considered a lesser single than "Wrong," yet dealt with profound concepts—an attribute rare amongst billboard hits of any genre. Telling The Guardian that "Fragile Tension is 'a very cynical song about wanting to fill a gaping hole but not knowing what to fill it with,'" Gahan, in a whim of self-reflection, goes on to explain that "sometimes the idea of having a hole to feed [is] a figment of my imagination when I'm actually fine." Reviewers of the album were not as appreciative nor absorbed the supposed introspection of the work like the singer did. Rolling Stone magazine gave the LP a 2.5 out of 5, while "Popmatters," a respected webzine, graded it a five out of ten, complaining that DM "...tempt us with a strong first half and then dump us in a collection of tossed off B-sides." In a more positive review, "Allmusic" gave it a four out of five, voicing, "Sounds of the Universe is a grower, relying on a few listens to fully take effect."

Entertainment Weekly suggested, "Depeche Mode still sounded genuinely inspired," though fans seem all but that. Despite their most recent flop, however, DM fans stick faithfully by the band's side—rocking out to older albums, wearing tethered logo patches on denim jackets, writing the band's initials in permanent ink on beaten school bags, tattooing themselves with old CD art. And they always will, because Depeche Mode is a part of who they are.

Ready For More

BY KENNETH MURPHY
CONTRIBUTOR

There have been many great albums from the hip hop generation that continues to be played on our favorite radio stations and in our favorite clubs. One album that proves just that is Ready To Die by the Notorious B.I.G. This album was the first installment to many likely hits from the artist. Since its debut on September 13, 1994 when I was only 6, there is a unique musical trend that took place during that time. Hip Hop was at its best. Lyrics that were intelligently cohered on 16 bars were meaningful and genuine. The album later reached platinum and much more recognition. In the 1996 Grammy Awards it was nominated for Best Rap Solo Performance. Among the albums other accomplishments, it has proven to be a topic to be discussed since its debut.

Ready To Die was a much anticipat-

ed album that many fans and hip hop lovers waited patiently for. For a rapper trying to make it in the music industry, this was finally a sign for Christopher Wallace that all the hard work had paid off. This album was a personal journal that he chose to share with the listener through all the heartache and headache which led him to that point. The song titles were enough for any music lover to understand the struggles and tribulation of a black man growing up in a society where the odds were against him. Every song chosen to be put on the album stems on a different aspect of his life. His feelings on females, the game in which was part of his past, the day to day life he experienced while growing up in Brooklyn, thoughts on death, enemies who may want to harm him, and including the interludes all are what can be seen as a personal autobiography that Biggie Smalls finally gets to show people. This album was dedicated to people before the fame, during the fame and after the fame.

One More Chance featured a different side of the artist that was dedicated to the female listeners. Even though the lyrics were somewhat explicit, the raw and detailed persona that he portrays is what type of man he was. His personality was easy to understand,

"Like you one day and if things are all good then next day, then Mami we can roll together." This song also explains why the artist had a number of different women around him that he chose to like. The constant reminder of the chorus One More Chance was a way for Biggie Smalls to attract females with his charm and the common notion what one man can do, he can do better than all the rest. The same theme could be seen in the song Big Poppa. The overly smooth tune of the song compliments the rhythmic lyrics that somehow seduce the listener into the same dialogue. The way seduction and being a little playful is used to attract women in the lyrics are impressive and could be used in any players manual on how to obtain a woman.

Juicy was a major hit that added an old school beat with a new school twist. A sample from the song Juicy Fruit by Mtume was used to bring out the lyrics that would tell Christopher Wallace's story. Even in his opening statements, Biggie Smalls calls out all the people who didn't believe in him. Challenging those who said he would never amount to anything but a common statistic of other young black adults in the area in which he lived. Appreciation for the beginning of the song Juicy and its

lyrics are what drew listeners in because it was a story that was well-known by others. Making it in an industry that was harder than the day to day task of selling drugs are dreams that were common for black men in his area. Being able to compare with a person who has experienced the same complicated life, and then word the lyrics in a way that can leave the listener in awe, is a skill that Christopher Wallace mastered.

Anyone can rap and later on become a famous artist but the true task is being able to have something more to say than the regular topics of females, money, and cars. The Ready To Die album has just that pushing the limits of the changing times and continuing to be a hip hop classical masterpiece. From all teachers that told him that he would never amount to anything to all the people who called the police on him when he was trying to make a better a life for his family are what fueled him to reach for more. Christopher Wallace became better than the rest, used the negative to fuel positive, and did it all while creating a lyrically genius album called Ready To Die.

BANNER OPINION

I'm Just Sayin'...

BY DAVID GINSBERG
STAFF WRITER

- Brackets be damned; March Madness is living up to its name. We're only heading into the Sweet 16, but this year's tournament is easily the most entertaining NCAA tournament in years. The upsets, fantastic finishes, and overall parity of this year's tournament has trumped the fact that a lot of big name schools have been eliminated (Kansas, Georgetown, Villanova) or did not even make the tournament (UCLA, Miami, North Carolina). Lower seeds such as Northern Iowa, Saint Mary's, Washington, and Cornell have been thrust into the public eye and are the sentimental favorites for most people. The Sweet 16 has a great balance of underdogs, your usual list of favorites (Kentucky, Duke, Syracuse), and solid teams capable of beating anybody at any time. Sure, all of our brackets might be sitting atop a garbage heap right now, but in a way it's a little liberating, isn't it? Feel free to root for the underdogs against the top tier teams. In 2006, George Mason won the hearts of everybody when they made their amazing push to the Final Four as an eleven seed. This year, we have the ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth seeded teams headed to the Sweet 16. It really isn't that inconceivable that one of these teams can sneak into the Final Four and make things just a little more intriguing. In the meantime, let's just sit

back and hope that the next few rounds are even half as exciting as the first two rounds have been. If so, we'll be in for even more fireworks.

- Ben Roethlisberger needs to stay away from college bars. Seriously. Maybe "Big Ben" (what an appropriate nickname) feels the need to pick up where Pacman Jones, Matt Jones, Michael Vick, and Plaxico Burress left off, but when Roger Goodell (the NFL Commissioner) schedules a meeting with you and possibly considers suspending you for part of the season, maybe you should consider getting your act together for you and your team. The city of Pittsburgh is already disappointed enough that their team missed the playoffs; don't force them to witness Charlie Batch starting opening day for their team. Nobody deserves that.

- One of the most overlooked sports stories is the Uconn Women's team setting a division one record with a 71-game winning streak. Between March Madness, the NBA and NHL playoffs quickly approaching, and the start of baseball spring training, this story got lost in the shuffle. The Uconn Women are still looking to win the national title, but the winning streak they have going on is downright ridiculous and deserves some acknowledgement.

- Although the odds of it happening now have diminished, how great would it be if Terrell Owens ended up signing in Cincinnati and ended up playing with Chad Ochocinco? HBO would be forced to follow the Bengals again for their Hard Knocks series, wouldn't they? Instead, Cincinnati chose the

boring (and stupid) route and signed Antonio Bryant to a \$28 million contract; A very smart move considering Bryant's massive decline last season due to tearing cartilage in his knee, which hindered him all season. Just watching Carson Palmer talking to Owens and Ochocinco on the sidelines after a miscommunication would have been worth every penny of Owens' contract.

Damn it.

- Why are some people so thrilled that the Jets signed LaDanian Tomlinson when they could have brought back Thomas Jones for the same amount of money? Jones rushed for 1400 yards last season which seems to be forgotten because of Shonn Greene's amazing playoff performance. Tomlinson, on the other hand, felt the need to fall to the turf every time he approached the line of scrimmage. The trade off makes no sense at all. It's a clear decline in talent and with the Jets not saving any money by signing LT, you have to question their motives for this move.

- So, Brady Quinn got traded to the Broncos for Peyton Hillis and a couple of low round picks. My, how the might have fallen. Remember when people were completely shocked that Quinn fell to the 22nd pick of the draft when he was considered to be a top five-ten pick? Well, apparently the Browns are trying to forget all about that as well. The Browns also let Derek Anderson sign with the Cardinals where he will compete with another disappointment, Matt Leinart for the starting job. What's the good news for Browns fans? They'll get a top 3 pick in next year's

draft with newly signed Jake Delhomme leading the way.

- Hal Steinbrenner is a moron. Steinbrenner's 'no contract extension negotiations' policy in regards to Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera, and Joe Girardi is moronic. Jeter and Mo have been the faces of the most beloved/hated franchise in all of sports for the last decade and a half and Girardi just managed the Yankees to their first championship in nearly a decade. It's time to break precedent, at least when it comes to Jeter, Mo, and Girardi.

- The Minnesota Twins have finally decided to open their tight wallets for Joe Mauer to the tune of \$184 million over 8 years. The Twins didn't really have a choice or else their fan base would have rioted, but they better continue to spend a little money to acquire enough talent to put around Mauer so the Twins can be a legitimate contender. They've gone this far, they shouldn't stop now.

- Mark Jackson on LeBron James: "I can understand teams clearing up cap space so they can try to get him." Really, M-k? Really? That's quite an astute observation there.

I'm just sayin'...

SEND YOUR OPINIONS OR
LETTERS TO:
the.BANNER.csi@gmail.com

Do online friends influence drinking habits?

BY ELIZABETH ARMSTRONG
MOORE
CNET.COM

Think you're not molded by family and friends? Think again. A Harvard University researcher who analyzed data from the Framingham Heart Study—tracking various habits of 12,067 people for 32 years—concludes that a person's social network plays a major role in determining one's level of alcohol consumption. (The study appears this week in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.)

"We've found that the influence of your friends and people you have connections with can affect your health just as much as your family history or your genetic background [can]," says Nicholas Christakis, professor of medi-

directly connected to a friend who drinks heavily, and 36 percent more likely if connected to a friend of a friend who does. This impact extends to three degrees of separation, but seems to have more to do with connections to heavy drinkers than to any other kind. Christakis suggests that the effect of these networks on personal health makes the case for identifying social networks to better eliminate "obstacles to abstaining." Since online social networks enable us to more easily identify who we know, even to specific degrees, and since they are today such a part of most people's social interactions, it's time to study whether these connections play the same role as the offline ones he studied.

Christakis, who is also author of the book "Connected: The Surprising Power of Our Social Networks and How They Change Us," found that a person is 50 percent more likely to drink heavily if

BANNER SPORTS

DOLPHIN SWIMMERS RETURN PROUD FROM HEAVY COMPETITION AT NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

BY CSIDOLPHINS.COM

The best of the best go to the NCAA Division III Championships. The College of Staten Island sent there three finest swimmers to Minneapolis for the Championships held at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center where the competition proved to be close.

Beginning on Wednesday afternoon, Nikolay Shevchenko and Vlad Romanov took off in the 200 IM preliminaries. Shevchenko placed 23rd with a time of 1:53.75 while Romanov hit at 1:55.44 to take 35th place, both however, did not proceed to the finals. Next up was Pavel Buyanov in the 50 Freestyle prelims where he placed 45th with a time of 21.84. The junior swimmer didn't make it to the finals by under one second.

Thursday's competition saw Nikolay Shevchenko finish 32nd in the 100 Butterfly preliminary. The three time championship participant finished with a time of 50.98 but the time was not good enough to make it to the final round. So how tight was the competition? The first place winner completed at a time of 47.58, that's just about 3 seconds between the 1st and 32nd spot!

Friday's competition started with 200 Butterfly preliminary swim for Shevchenko. He placed 17th with a time of 1:53.19. Again, Shevchenko's time

was not enough to make it to the finals. Next up, was Vlad Romanov in the 200 Backstroke prelim where he finished in 16th place with a time of 50.83. Though he didn't make it to the championship round he broke his own CSI school record. Buyanov followed in the 100 Breaststroke prelim finishing 7th with a time of 56.19 and qualifying himself for the finals. Despite his fine performance, Buyanov was not able to defend his championship title, finishing 4th in the finals with a time of 55.27. The first place winner completed with a time of 54.70. Buyanov still holds the record in the all time 100 Yard Breaststroke record with a time of 54.27 set last season.

On the last day of swim, Romanov took flight in the 200 Backstroke prelim swim where he placed 8th with a time of 1:49.57, capturing a spot in the championship round later that day. In the 200 Breaststroke preliminaries, Buyanov touched in at 2:03.54 ranking 11th and for the second time this trip, advancing to the finals. Prepared for his first final showing, Romanov sped to 8th place with a time of 1:50.62. Buyanov completed the 200 Breaststroke consolation finals in a 9th place completion with a time of 2:01.51.

As a three man team, the College of Staten Island finished with 38 points placing them in 21st place out of 61 teams.

JOHN JAY GETS BETTER OF CSI IN LAST OF A THREE-GAME SET

BY CSIDOLPHINS.COM

The College of Staten Island men's baseball team failed to complete a three-game CUNYAC sweep over John Jay College, as the host Bloodhounds retired the Dolphins by a 5-2 count at American Legion Field in Brooklyn this afternoon to complete their weekend three-game set. The loss pulled CSI down to 17-7 overall and 5-1 in the CUNYAC, while Bloodhounds raised their records to 6-21, 4-5, respectively.

After beating the Bloodhounds in a pair yesterday by a combined 29-7 score, the Dolphins seemed poised to extend their perfect CUNYAC record this afternoon, but it was not to be, as the John Jay duo of Alex Rodriguez and Hector Class on the mound hushed the Dolphins bats for a majority of the game.

John Jay was crisp at the dish as well, getting out to an early 2-0 lead in the first

inning thanks to a RBI singles by Benjamin Biero and Jason Witten off of CSI starter Nick Tingos, who gave up eight hits in the first two innings only to give up three over the last 4.1 innings he pitched.

CSI got even in the second when a Thomas DeWaters single plated Matt Otting and Mark Glennerster, but the Bloodhounds broke off another pair of runs in their second inning turn, highlighted by a Perez triple, who later scored as well.

After that, the John Jay performance on the mound took care of business, allowing no runs the rest of the way on three hits. CSI was outhit, 11-6, after scattering a total of 37 hits in the double-header yesterday.

CSI will return to action on Tuesday at the CSI Baseball Complex, when they host Manhattanville College for a single game under the lights at 6:30pm.

CSI BASEBALL BLITZES BY KINGS POINT, 15-3

BY CSIDOLPHINS.COM

The College of Staten Island men's baseball squad got back in the win column on Wednesday, blowing by the United States Merchant Marine Academy by a 15-3 count in non-conference action played in Kings Point, New York. The win lifted the Dolphins to a 15-6 overall mark, while the Mariners dipped to 5-13.

CSI had its foot on the gas pedal from the first inning and never looked back, scoring four runs in the first frame before USMMA could take their first cuts. Four straight singles led off the inning, with CSI's Pat Gale and Tom DiPietro's counting for RBI's. Following an error, Joe Cassano stroked a two-RBI single to conclude the big inning.

In the second frame Steve Hession and Devon DiCasoli led off with singles and were later plated via a pair of sac flies from Henry Roman and Gale.

USMMA scored a pair of runs off of CSI reliever Jeff Pontebbi in the third inning to bring USMMA to within 6-2, but then CSI ripped off another nine runs in the next two innings. RBI-doubles by Gale and Cory Sullivan

highlighted the fourth inning damage, while RBI singles by Gale and Cassano and a two-RBI double by DiPietro did the damage in the fifth.

CSI squandered a run in the ninth, but by the then the visitors took a 15-3 win back home to Staten Island, making the Dolphins winners of 9 of their last 10 games. Richard Anderson garnered the win, throwing a single relief inning, while USMMA was plagued by errors, committed eight on the afternoon.

Joe Cassano enjoyed a monster outing, going 4-for-6 with 4 RBI and a run scored. Roman, Gale, and Hession each had three hits for the Dolphins, who had 19 overall.

CSI will be back to conference action this weekend, playing two of a three-game set with John Jay College on Saturday at 12 Noon at the CSI Baseball Complex.

Spring Sports Schedule

Baseball

4/13/2010
Manhattanville College
CSI Baseball Complex 6:30 pm

4/14/2010
William Paterson University
CSI Baseball Complex 4:00 pm

4/15/2010
St. Joseph's College- Brooklyn
CSI Baseball Complex 4:00 pm

4/17/2010
CCNY
CSI Baseball Complex 12:00 pm

4/21/2010
Mount St. Mary
CSI Baseball Complex 6:00 pm

4/24/2010
Baruch College
CSI Baseball Complex 12:00 pm

Softball

4/17/2010
Baruch College
CSI Softball Complex 12:00 pm

4/18/2010
Lehman College
CSI Softball Complex 12:00 pm

4/22/2010
Farmingdale State College
CSI Softball Complex 3:30 pm

4/25/2010
St. Joseph's College- Brooklyn
CSI Softball Complex 12:00 pm

4/29/2010
New Jersey City University
CSI Softball Complex 4:00 pm