

THE BANNER

April 16, 2007

CSI's Education Department Up For Crucial Review

BY STEFANIE PLUST
STAFF WRITER

CSI will undergo a secondary review of its Education department by the Washington D.C. based National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) this December. If the department does not fulfill what it previously lacked in the recent testing, it will have three years to get up to par or face possible shut down.

NCATE only granted CSI's school of education provisional accreditation in October of 2005. Among the six categories of criteria that needed to be met for full accreditation, the department fell short in one category, "assessment system and unit evaluation." In a recent letter to the editor to the Staten Island Advance, CSI President Marlene Springer clarified that "assessment system and evaluation focuses on the analysis of student performance and not the performance itself." The other standards CSI passed were faculty qualifications, candidates' knowledge and skills, field experiences, clinical practices, resources, and diversity.

It is a New York State requirement that the state board of regents or an external bureau such as NCATE must accredit all schools that teach education. When full accreditation is acquired it is in effect for seven years. When only a provisional accreditation is granted it must be reviewed after two years.

Robert Huber, a CSI spokesman, is confident the department will not have an issue gaining full accreditation in December. "We're well in the process of remedying the situation, it's a matter of collecting data and applying it," said Huber.

The Education Department will only be re-tested on the area that it fell short; if it should pass, it will immediately be granted full accreditation. Failing, however, does not necessarily mean a department shut down. CSI can submit a "corrective action plan" which will state its plans for improvement. This plan will have to be submitted to the state commissioner of education, and if approved, the school will have three years to actualize it. According to the State Education Department no other suspensions would be implemented, meaning that CSI could continue to render degrees as usual.

CSI has trained teachers in virtual-

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Let There Be Light

CUNY Capital Project Gets CSI \$17 Million

BY MICHAEL COHEN
STAFF WRITER

A \$17 million project to trench up and fix the inadequate underground lighting conduit system, which has caused frequent electrical shortages, will not begin for three years.

When the campus was given to CSI, almost twenty years ago, the builders installed faulty PVC pipes, unable to sustain weathering. Not only did the builders cheap out on the pipes, but they also failed to bury them deep enough.

The cheaper, plastic PVP pipes, as opposed to the metal pipes that they should have used, have cracked and let water seep inside. According to an email from Tom Tyburczy, "Water freezes during the winter and

thaws this time of year creating the shorts."

The campus has no history of violent attacks at night, but students feel that the campus should still be well lit. "I get outa my music class at class 9:35," said Norma Chia, "sometimes the whole strip is dark."

The strip that Chia referred to stretches from the library to the campus center, and can seem eerie late at night with no lights. "I'm not scared," Chia said, "I usually walk with friends and classmates, but just because it's a safe campus doesn't mean we should have to walk around in the dark."

"The lighting situation on campus is terrible," said Alex Proto, the vice

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Food For Thought

Cafeteria Guilty of Health Violations

BY ANNMARIE COSTELLA
CO-MANAGING EDITOR

CSI's cafeteria racked up numerous health violations after the New York City Department of Health performed a surprise inspection on March 21. The minor infractions were not enough to warrant an immediate shutdown. The problems were corrected over the course of the Spring Break recess when the cafeteria is normally closed. There were no reports of spoiled food or mold and the administration assures all students that cafeteria food is safe for consumption.

"This is part of the process that

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From Beginner to Veteran: A Tennis Tale

CSI Athletic Dept.



CSI tennis player Soumitri Seshadri plays in his third season for the Dolphins.

BY JENNIFER MILLER
SPORTS EDITOR

Dolphins student-athlete Soumitri Seshadri joined the men's tennis team in his sophomore year, as soon as he realized CSI had a team.

Now in his third year on the team, Seshadri, a senior, tries to balance his workload while still giving as much as he can to his commitment with the team. The Engineering major has been recognized by the CSI Athletic Department each year he has competed for the school because of his high GPA. Seshadri feels that tennis is more than just a physical sport. "It's a mind game," he said.

The 6'0 athlete started playing

competitive tennis in 1999 when he entered New Dorp High School.

"I was really a rookie when I started out in ninth grade," he said. "I didn't know what tennis was all about so I just picked up on it."

Seshadri was not only new to high school and tennis, he was new to the country. Born in India, he came to Staten Island just before he entered high school.

"I was playing cricket when I was in India so it was a similar motion," he said of beginning his tennis career. "Plus there were rackets lying around in my old house so I picked them up

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Putting the "U" Back in Community

BY JOAN SEGUIN
STAFF WRITER

With all of the clubs and opportunities available at CSI, few students are taking advantage of what the university has to offer.

The Staten Island Project (SIP), whose Associate Director is CSI Political Science Professor Richard Flanagan, created The Staten Island Social Capital Community Benchmark Study to investigate how Staten Islanders felt about their community such as their neighbors, friends, political organizations, and other factors that shape their society. Their findings were presented at the conference "Building Community on Staten Island in the 21st Century" on April 13, 2007, in the Recital Hall in the Center for the Arts.

President Springer welcomed those in attendance saying that holding this conference is, "one of the many ways the college can make a contribution to the community." She also broke news that CSI would be acquiring a super-computer within the next week that will be a, "major resource not only for New York City, but the whole region."

The survey uncovered that 18-34 year old college students are more dis-

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The N-Word 101

JonAlex Asperti

On March 1st New York City passed a symbolic law banning the use of the N-Word unless used in a historical significance. The ban is purely figurative and there aren't any official efforts to enforce or police the ban. Apparently the measure began because of an L.A. Nightclub incident where Michael Richards (Cosmo Kramer) used the n-word a multitude of times during his act; unbeknownst to him, a camera phone was filming.

The public definition of the n-word used today can have slight variations, but is generally reserved as a physical, social, and cultural identification tool. Depending on one's connotation and complexion the word can convey completely different meanings from anywhere in the emotional spectrum. Unwritten social norms govern the word "nigger" and incorrectly assign its social identification to those that have "a noticeable drop of black blood;" a double standard is created and disallows those outside of the nigger identification from using the word. Thus for the first time in American history, white middle class begins to feel ostracized.

In a literal sense, the word nigger suffers from a lack of widespread definition and understanding. The word incorrectly gains an assigned skin tone from similar words such as Negroid and Negro, both correct scientific identifications for persons of noticeable African descent. Negroid originates from a human classification method separating homo-sapiens into categories based on skull design; the Negroid, Mongoloid, and Caucasoid respectively represent persons of descent from Sub-Saharan Africa, North-Eastern Asia, and finally European/Middle Eastern descent. Innocently enough, the word Negro is a Spanish adjective that seeks to define a subject as "black in color." Of course, this subject doesn't have to be a living being and can be used to describe anything, much like how we would define our shoes, car, or pen as black.

One could infer that if the n-word only rooted from a neutral classification of skin tone, then the massive controversy regarding the usage wouldn't even be a factor. Though, over the evolution of language, the negative connotation of the n-word stems from a like word: "Niggard." According to Oxford's English Dictionary "The [n-]word was initially used as a neutral term, and only began to acquire a derogatory connotation from the mid 18th century onwards [...] for coincidence of the word in some dialects with Niggard."

Unlike the words Negroid and Negro, Niggard isn't attached to any specific skin tone, race, gender, handicap, sexual affiliation or otherwise; instead the word can

be used as either a noun or an adjective to describe.

From these word origins one can easily see how a regional emphasis of specific sounds can create a hybrid singular word to accompany a broad range of definitions; both positive and negative but sadly transposed to a secular mass in society.

Relatively recently, the n-word has become re-defined amongst the predominantly black rap/hip-hop community as an acknowledgment of similar status in society and less about one's skin tone. A declaration of being a fellow 'nigga' is considered as a notion of positive acceptance and likewise should be regarded as a compliment. Rap groups such as N.W.A. (Niggaz With Attitudes) helped influence millions of American Black youths around the country in the early 90's with their usage and implication of the word.

Likewise, newer rap/hip-hop artists coined the terminology and helped distribute the re-defined n-word much in a similar manner to that of spreading local slang to a wider mainstream audience. Although, unlike most slang, spread via rap/hip-hop, the word "niggas" flipped connotation and unwritten rules of usage put a large percentage of the population into a strange predicament. Most notably, White America as opposed to other prominent races, such as Latinos or Asians.

From here one must investigate his own personal beliefs to answer if it's all right to make mention of the n-word; and furthermore, to what degree? Can all persons say "Nigger" in any environment and still feel socially correct? Or is it only those who are "Black?" Traditionally we, as a society, have deemed those "Black" as withholding "a noticeable drop of black blood," but even those with the lightest of skin pigments can trace back their DNA to that of early mothers believed to originate from savannas in Africa. Through using this understanding, one cannot help but see the superficial inaccuracies in defining one's race. One could further infer that all persons share in another major race, as we are all of relative similar origins. In addition, society must never forget that in our exclusion of a specific section, or race of persons from accomplishing anything in society, even a slight hindrance of vocabulary; we are in fact ironically practicing racism.

In all actuality, if we as a society wish to accommodate all persons as equal regardless of their specific characteristics we can either begin a futile hunt of offending n-word users, or we can educate the masses as to why the word exists as the entity it has become, hence educational rehabilitation over pointless pursuits.

IRAQIS WANT U.S. OUT

Lucie Lauria

The U.S. attacked and conquered Bagdad four years ago. The then overthrown Iraqi president Saddam Hussein has been executed, but Iraq, ferociously tossed about amidst ethnic and religious turmoil, is still far from peace. Thousands of protesting Iraqis called for instant withdrawal of U.S. occupation troops. The demonstrators, summoned by a radical cleric Moktada al-Sadr, arrived at the Shiite holy city of Najaf on the fourth anniversary of the U.S. occupation.

"No, no to America, yes, yes to Moktada," thousands of protesting Iraqi men and youths, marching through Najaf, shouted. The public disorder forced the government to drop the national holiday on April 9 and to rule out the automobile traffic for 24 hours.

A group of Sunni clerics accepted the invitation from the Shiites to take part in the demonstration. If Sunnis and Shiites unite in their resistance against the invaders, the U.S. military will be in a big trouble. Sadr seems to be the right person to piece together such a unified front. The U.S. officials claim that Sadr,

who accuses the U.S. of responsibility for the neverending spiral of violence in Iraq, left for Iran, but Sadr's people and Teheran deny it.



Sadr's militia fought against the Americans in 2004 in Shiite towns south of Bagdad. Since then Sadr has acquired a leading role on the Iraqi political resistance scene. He prompts the Iraqi citizens to demonstrate in the streets against the U.S. occupation.

The U.S. maintains currently 150,000 troops in Iraq, and 3,288 U.S. soldiers have been killed in the war since the March 2003 attack on Iraq, according to the recent statistics.

In addition to Bush's order to send 22,000 more troops to Iraq, American soldiers will have to serve 15 months instead of a year, Defense Secretary Robert Gates announced.

While the Iraqi government repeatedly maintains that it wishes the U.S. military to remain in the country, Sadr called upon his allies to intensify their fight against the invaders. Will Iraq make the dream of transnational oil and financial corporations come true and split into several bickering states?

Guatemala Hosts IDB Conference

Amelia Mendizabal

Guatemala was host to the Inter-American Development Bank annual conference. While Guatemala is usually filled with security at tourist spots, the IDB made the government go completely on high alert what with all the heads of international banks roaming the streets at all hours of the night. Conferences were closed to the public, but I managed to sneak into an all day conference on business and entrepreneurship. Okay, I didn't sneak in, just so happen that it was open to the public. All I had to do was ask and get an all day pass. The conference's main topic and what seemed to be reiterated by most speakers was the importance of big business on social advancement and civic issues in Latin America. Without the support of multi-

corporations, entrepreneurship and small business can not advance and are unable to compete on a micro or macro level. IDB has numerous projects in Latin America and the Caribbean to promote competitiveness and reduce poverty; their website is filled with ongoing efforts in the region.



Health Violations

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goes on," indicated Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Robert Huber. "We always strive for excellence and perfection. This is an opportunity for us to improve. Very few people get 100% on every test they take."

According to Huber, the violations included: loose ceiling and wall tiles, a small leak in a sink pipe, absence of a thermometer in a reach-in refrigerator, the presence of fruit flies, a broken soap dispenser, absence of a shatterproof casing for a single light bulb, carbon dioxide tanks not properly secured, upside down storage of the plasticware, and slicing of some food at 8 degrees warmer than mandated by city regulations.

"I buy my lunch almost every day from the cafeteria in the Campus Center," said Vice President for Student Affairs, Carol Jackson. "Both the food and its preparation are of high quality. Though I haven't tried it myself, I hear the pizza's great."

Many students do not share the administration's enthusiasm for the cafeteria cuisine. "I've eaten cafeteria food on multiple occasions and found it to be of a somewhat lousy quality," said Education major, Michael Gualtieri, 22. "I understand that the violations weren't too extreme but they should keep it up to the health code standards all the time."

Student, Ashley Hurwitz, 19, says she's not surprised about the violations. "It doesn't seem like the cleanest place," she said. "The sandwiches and pizza aren't bad, but I've tried food from the dinner menu that was so disgusting, I wouldn't feed it to my dog."

The Department of Health became interested in investigating the cafeteria conditions at CSI after they received an anonymous complaint that a worker had been handling food while wearing only one protective glove. Inspectors did not find evidence of this practice during their investigation.

On April 11, inspectors returned to CSI and discovered additional violations. According to Huber, these included: the absence of test kit to determine if a proper amount of sanitizing agent was being released into the dishwashing cycle, and the preparation of some food at temperatures that did not meet city regulations. The administration indicated that these problems have also been rectified.

"I think the cafeteria food is very good," said Huber. "We are very proud of the service. I eat there almost everyday. CSI places the highest value on the health of its students, staff and faculty and value the high-quality of its food service."

Tennis

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and it just came to me naturally."

After a recent match, Seshadri reflected on his time with the team. "The tennis team is a very friendly thing," he said. "It's a really friendly environment. People pump up each other and support you. I'm gonna miss it when I graduate."

The winter weather took a toll on the tennis player's game and he spoke about the problems playing in bad weather. "The cold was annoying because it slows down your reflexes and slows down your actual movement," he said. "You get really rusty and you have to learn to play with the cold."

Windy conditions affect the outcome of a match and can frustrate a player. "The wind is annoying because it throws

SIP

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connected from the community compared to other age groups. Also, they tend to be more distrustful of society, and individuals born after 1976 tend to reject public political service, but are open to volunteerism.

Professor Flanagan presented the findings of the SIP, which he hoped would, "spark dialogue about the meaning of community on Staten Island. Blood things flow from a vibrant community." He also stated that Staten Island is "lagging behind" the nation when it comes to issues of community engagement. However, the borough is unique in the fact that its population has, "more diverse friendships than most Americans."

Reasons for Staten Islanders lack of social involvement include obligations to work and family, lack of information provided, problems with transportation, and a feeling that they lack efficacy.

Marchi noted that remedies for this lack of civic participation must take into account the size and population of the borough in order for them to be feasible. In addition, he stressed the need for bipartisan support in the endeavor.

On hand to hear the results of the survey were CSI President Marlene Springer, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost David Podell, Vice President for College Advancement Richard Truitt, and Associate Dean for Student Affairs Michael Daniels, along with numerous other individuals from the faculty and administration. Notable guests included Council Member Michael McMahon and former New York State Senator John J. Marchi, for whom one of CSI's buildings is named.

More information on the SIP can be found by contacting the Center Director, Mirella Affron, or Center Associate Director Richard Flanagan, or by visiting the Project's website at www.sipindicators.com.

Lights

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president of student government. "The path between 3S and 6S is pitch black," said Proto. "It can get so dark that I can barely see several feet in front of me. I'm not scared but some of my female friends have told me that they are afraid to walk alone. We definitely need some major improvements with the lighting on campus."

Major improvements are coming but not soon and the solution has not come easily. Structural guru and CSI professor, Ralph Giordano once walked around the entire campus and made a report of specific problem areas. Like most faculty, Giordano has been aware of the recurring lighting problems for years. Unlike most faculty, Giordano took action. He reported his analysis of the problematic light posts and "low bid construction", but like a piano player in a warehouse, no one paid much attention.

"It's spaghetti down there," Giordano said, referring to all the underground wiring on campus. "You can't just stick a backhoe in the ground and dig. It's an expensive project and there are a lot of complexities to the issue."

"A couple of years ago we addressed the issue," said Bob Huber CSI's public relations representative. "There was a time in which if one light went out it was like a string of Christmas light bulbs, a whole line of lights would go out. We've corrected that now so that if there is a short only one light goes out."

After waiting years to fix the outdoor campus lighting, CSI only has to wait three more years. "The budgeting process happens in an organized organic and prioritized fashion," said Huber, "\$17 million has been set aside to dig up the conduit system and install new lighting throughout the campus."

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The Banner Responds to WSIA

WSIA is pleased with the FCC's decision to grant our application for renewal of our broadcast license, but we were disappointed with the Banner's coverage of this notable event. In particular, the headline and final sentence declaring the station's reaction to the decision to be "screw you" to those who challenged the renewal was both inaccurate and damaging. Nowhere in this piece was this phrase attributed to any member of WSIA; the implication is that this is the sentiment of the entire station. "Screw you" is not the official position of WSIA. Likewise, the assertion that the "staff of the radio station believes it was a personal vendetta from a former member" is inaccurate, and the lack of attribution suggests this position to be official. Had the Banner approached me for comment for this story, I would have made these points clear.

Later, the story states Chief Engineer John Ladley mailed files to Samantha Zito. This is also inaccurate. In truth, Mr. Ladley was not present when Ms. Zito visited the station, nor was he involved in any discussions regarding providing her with documents. Again, the Banner did not follow up with Mr. Ladley to confirm this statement.

Officially, WSIA is pleased with the FCC's decision, and has taken steps to address the sole point the FCC found to be substantial - access to the station's Public File. WSIA disagrees with the remaining claims presented by the petitioners, but recognizes the right of any community member to voice concerns regarding the station.

WSIA is licensed by the FCC to serve the public interest, and responds to criticism it receives from the public with the utmost seriousness. The Banner's suggestion to the contrary does a great disservice to WSIA and its members.

- Philip Masciantonio
General Manager, WSIA-FM

In response to the letter from Mr. Masciantonio, The Banner would like to comment on his disappointment with the use of "screw you" on the deck and in the kicker. The Banner did not imply, or intend to imply, that the statement was made by WSIA collectively. In fact, the unattributed kicker quote, "Screw you David Sheer and Carl Sabantino," was made by a student/WSIA trainee. The Deck was meant to imply the opinion of this person as a future part of WSIA and not a present member.

As for the comment that the "staff of the radio station believes it was a personal vendetta from a former member," being inaccurate, The Banner reported on November 13, 2006 that in the official response to the original petition, CSI claimed "[t]he Petition to Deny is frivolous, insubstantial, premised on irrelevant and/or false allegations of fact, and the petition was filed in bad faith, as part of an attempt by the Petitioner to wrest control of WSIA from the College for the private benefit of the organization of the Petitioner, one Carl Sabantino." This indeed implies that the comment is not only the stance of WSIA, but of the entire college.

As for the last concern regarding Chief Engineer John Ladley's involvement with mailing Samantha Zito the public files, The Banner never stated that he was present when Mrs. Zito visited. Ms. Zito, who has no ties with CSI or WSIA, asked for files from students who did not know the proper procedures for access to public files. The FCC judgment stated that CSI Vice President Carol Jackson told John Ladley to mail Ms. Zito the files.

The information in the article was not negative towards WSIA. We are proud that WSIA's license was renewed and look forward to working with them to expand their news department.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH THREATENED AT CSI

On March 30, 2007 several dozen copies of Third Rail, the political-arts journal of the College of Staten Island (CSI) were stolen from their rack and dumped in a nearby garbage can less than thirty minutes after they had been distributed. This was the first of at least two such incidents. Since then, approximately 550 copies of the issue have been dumped or destroyed at a cost of \$1.49 per copy totaling in an \$819.50 loss in the CSI Student Activity Fee. Copies have disappeared from several places in the Campus Center (1C) as well as the Performing Arts Pavilion (1P), the South Administration Building (1A) and the North Administration Building (2A). It was made clear that the copies were being dumped, and in effect stolen, when approximately seventy-five copies were discovered in a trashcan just outside the entrance to the Campus Center near the Green Dolphin Lounge by Ilya Geller, the former Vice President of Student Government. The editor-in-chief of the publication, P. Melissa Fisher, notified Associate Director of Student Life, Gregory Brown, immediately following the discovery of the theft of the first distribution. The losses have taken place during spring break when the student population on campus is particularly

low but the full staff and administration are still present. The known incidents occurred between 12:00 pm and 5:00 pm on business days between March 30, 2007 and April 5, 2007, and might have been caught on security cameras, but the footage has not yet been reviewed at this time. Gene Martinez, CSI Director of Public Safety, has promised to review the footage.

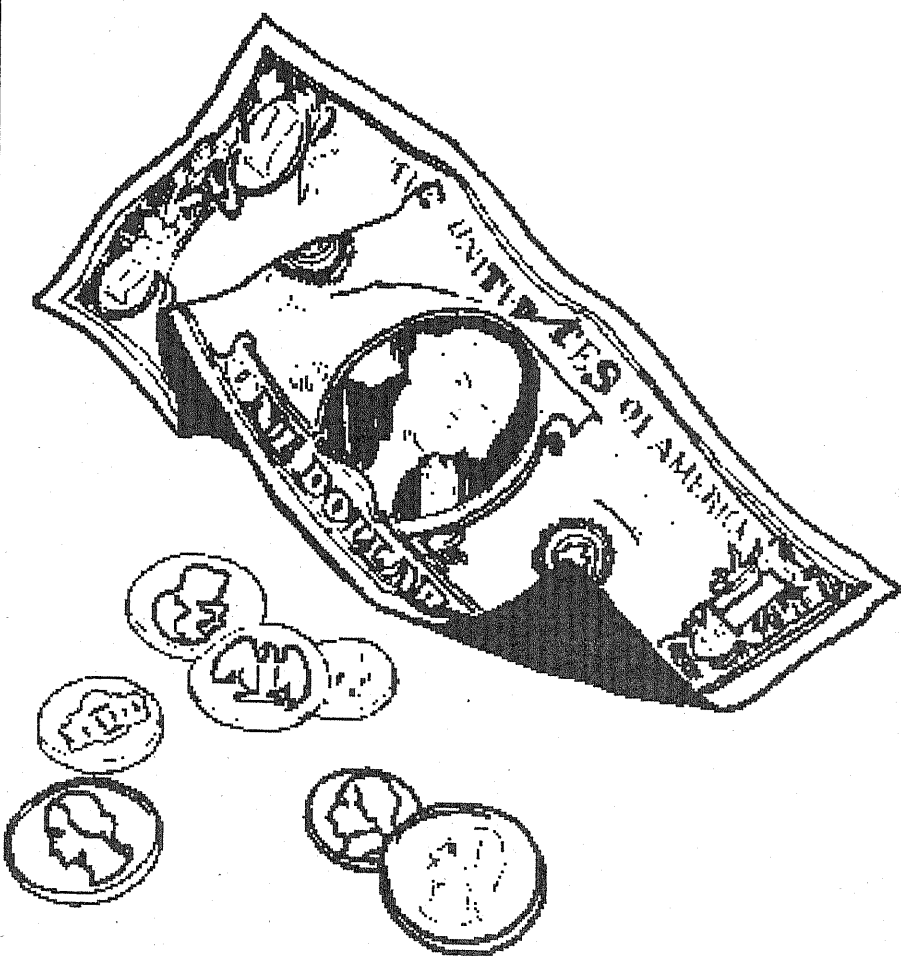
Fisher said of the incident, "Third Rail prides itself on being a champion of the First Amendment, and the entire staff is deeply saddened by this violation of our right to free speech. We look forward to the day that we can see those responsible for this prosecuted to the full extent of the law."

The Student Press Law Center (SPLC) indicates that the actions of dumping copies of a student publication, even if it is free to the college community, is a crime; some of the "possible charges include: larceny, petty theft, criminal mischief or destruction of property," (SPLC). If convicted, those involved are subject to the all legal ramifications of those infractions. Third Rail intends to contact the SPLC for support within the week.

-Third Rail

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Spring Broke?



Yep, you're a Dollar Menunnaire.



EDITOR'S NOTE

Is Spring Break really over? Say it isn't so. While some went on vacation, most of us stayed home, worked, and even wrote a paper or two. I, however, opted for the not-so-sunny, and forever windy grounds of CSI, as I made my way to the Banner office to work in an attempt to redesign the newspaper's layout. However, I'd like to address a certain anonymous phone call I received on March 29th. This concerned caller felt the need to vent his frustration over an article ("Vending Machine Bandit Attacks, Injures Officers") which appeared in the March 12th issue of The Banner. Informing me of what it means to be a journalist, the caller then suggested that facts given to us by Bob Huber, CSI's Director of Marketing and Public Relations, did not offer the entire story. So with Spring Break inches from me, I politely thanked the caller for his anonymous phone call and left.

A few days later I began to receive e-mails and phone calls from reporters who were not able to contact certain members of the administration for reasons unbeknownst to any of us. It is more than understandable that the high-ups have tight schedules, but this is not a new or recent problem. After a while, the same handful of sources who are willing to speak to us, and who do understand that a connection with the student body needs to be made, becomes bland and repetitive.

The Banner serves two purposes: to get students involved with CSI events, and to familiarize students with the campus, which include staff, faculty, and the administration. And so as the previous Editor-in-Chief David Maltz asked, and as I am asking the administration now, please make yourselves available to us, even if it is for five minutes.

Education Dept

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ly every school on Staten Island and in hundreds across the country. "Our board pass rate is higher than that of Columbia's," said Huber. "The most recent board pass statistics were 99% on the Liberal Arts section and 100% on the Teacher Education section."

The general student body seemed surprised by the decision and some were even unaware of it. "It's a pretty thorough department, I'm really surprised that it was criticized at all. I had no idea," said English Writing major/Education minor, Rachael Albanese. English majors with a minor in education are generally training for secondary education.

CSI granted 150 baccalaureate degrees in education and 235 master's degrees in education last year alone. "From what I heard even before I came here, if you're are going to study education you should do it at CSI," said Writing major, Education minor Jenny Zajac.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: And the Search Goes On

Why is it taking so long to find a replacement for CSI's President Marlene Springer? You would think, with the large campus and student body, people would be jumping at the job. What did Springer tell the Chancellor about the job she's leaving? Can't be much; I'm still waiting to meet her. In fact, has anyone seen President Springer on campus as of late? This would be a nice time to meet all the students who never interacted with the outgoing President.

Russell Manley

The thought of any current member of the campus becoming president of this campus has both pros and cons. A new person without ties to this campus will not know how CSI works, however, they won't have to deal with being mired by any current campus-wide moods.

Donald Vroome

Look no further- I am the new president of the College of Staten Island. You don't have to show up to class as long as you do the work. Fridays off, meaning you can shake that booty until 6 in the morning on Thursday night. Don't wanna take gym, no problem. New Apple computers for all the computer labs. Free food, everyone, coffee's on me. You know you gonna love me.

Jihane Tamri

Re: License Renewed

It's good that WSIA got its license renewed. WSIA gives students who are interested in pursuing a career in broadcasting an excellent opportunity to get first-hand experience working in a radio station.

Anthony Pierno

Shouldn't the radio station have paperwork available to prove the allegations against them to be false? It seems more like a problem with management and bad organization. All necessary information regarding Federal Regulations should readily be available for review if a problem should arise. My solution to this matter is buying a filing cabinet.

Stasi Tyburski

Re: Bob Huber, The Answer Man

I thought overall it was a good article. The profile was well structured in that it was informative, light-hearted, and at times funny. My only gripe is that given the subject matter, a few of the quotations seemed misplaced.

Ron Levy

Re: Sex and the Island

I completely agree with Nicole when she

says that a priest shouldn't tell her what to do with her body. The church should shut its mouth and let women do what they want to do. And gay people should have the right to marry. After all, most priests turn out that way.

Nicole Tumbarello

Wow, so many issues that would make the nuns at Catholic school shake. At my Catholic school you would be lucky if they didn't think you were possessed. But I got to tell you, I think all Catholic school girls have gone "crazy" with the same belief. Maybe it's because they are constantly bombarded with the idea that the Catholic way is the only way.

Toniann Ferrara

When the only sex education taught in schools is the "abstinence only" method it creates an entire population who, when they do have sex (NOT if they do), will not have the necessary knowledge to protect themselves from unwanted pregnancies, STDs, AIDS, etc. Giving out free condoms doesn't promote teens having sex; it gives the ones who are having sex a way to save their lives as well as their partners.

Emily Carletto

You've addressed interesting concepts in this article. I agree with Catholic school teachers shunning the act of intercourse. I believe "the pill" is being widely abused by teenage girls; it's nice to see these subjects addressed.

Joe Epifoni

Being a Catholic school girl myself, I have to agree with 100% of what Nicole wrote in her article. Gay people aren't supposed to wed because the Bible teaches that the purpose of marriage is procreation. NEWS FLASH - I don't see anything in the Bible that says, "Thou shall let holy men touch little boys." This is the year 2007; people have become smarter and more realistic. As for birth control, I'm all for it. I'm sure overpopulation and death by malnourishment kind of falls under the commandment, "Thou shall not kill." Time to change with the times!!

Toniann Clano

Re: Adjunct in Junctions with Multiple Functions

Although I enjoyed the title of this piece, I feel it is a blatant rip off of a song featured on the TV show School House Rock. Who does Carlo Montagnino think he's fooling? Not me, and certainly not the American public. I do find that the article was well written and interesting. I loved the last line, "continued on page 9."

Michael Bongiorno

I am glad to see that someone recognized Randi Cecchine. She is one of my favorite "professors." I took her for CIN 11 and to be honest, I hated the fact that I had to take this class. Then, not long after the first few days of class, she made me love it. If you take her, tell her that you're on INFJ, she'll love you.

Katie LoGatto

Re: Ask Someone Who Cares

This article is hilarious. There should be something like this in every paper. You are the man. Dick Hertz gets me every time. I never heard Joy Schlick before but because of you it'll now be appearing on many attendance sheets in CSI classes.

Matt Maseo

Wonderfully done. What a great section for the paper. It makes me laugh every time I read it. The play on words with the names are hilarious. I'm sure every reader will have a laugh.

Mohammad Hamad

This part of The Banner is hilarious. People are always asking for advice and this is the perfect twist on all the seriousness. It's a great way to break up all the hard news.

Stephanie Palmieri

In this hectic atmosphere of homework, tests, and boring teachers, this article helps to lighten the load by bringing a bit of humor. Thanks for providing that source of laughter.

Sunny Tate

Re: Spreading the Word, Not the Disease

I am glad that Joan Seguin addressed an important issue as HPV. Many do not understand the possible effects of this widespread STD, which can include cervical cancer. Despite the fact that many are in opposition to the Gardasil vaccine, I think it is a great new vaccine that could potentially help many women avoid the risk of catching this serious disease.

Alexandra Porto

Re: SG President, AJ Ramphal, Responds

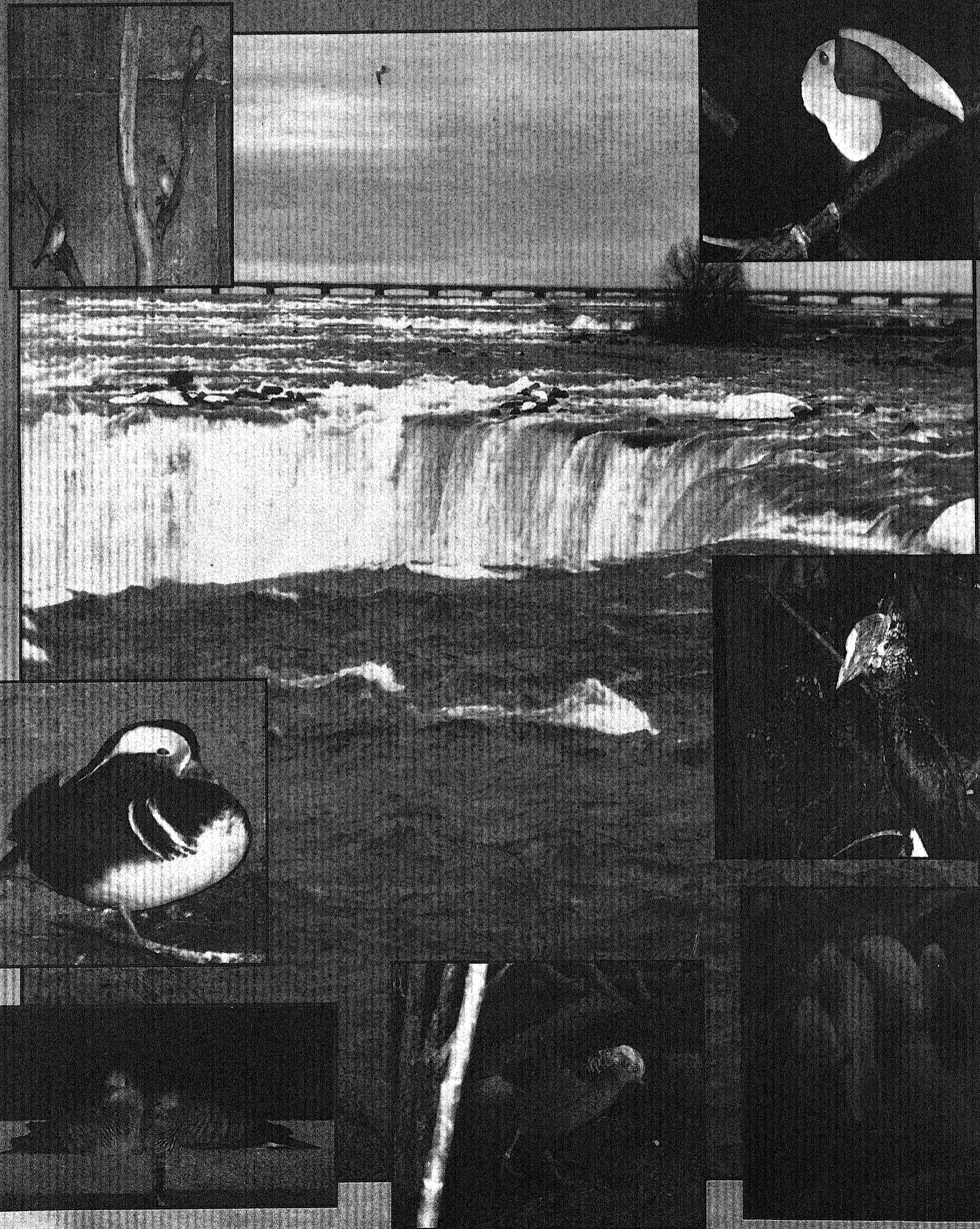
Flags don't make a model UN program. Spend money on better things like making better pizza in the cafeteria. Man, that stuff sucks so bad. It's really disappointing. Pizza isn't hard. Model UNs are.

Carlo Montagnero

SPRING BREAK: Niagara Falls

Photos: Kevin S.P. Mamakas

Forget Drunk College Chicks, *The Banner* Caught Kevin Goin' Wild!!!



The City of
Niagara Falls
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Population
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Visitor Information
Dial 710 AM

St. Catharines Museum
Welland Canals Centre
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada

Sailing Distances of Ports from LOCK 3
1 nautical mile (nm)=1.15 statute miles=1.85 km

LAKE ONTARIO, Port Weller
4 nm (6 mi. or 9 km)

Port Colborne, LAKE ERIE
18 nm (21 mi. or 33 km)

29 Toronto Buffalo 37

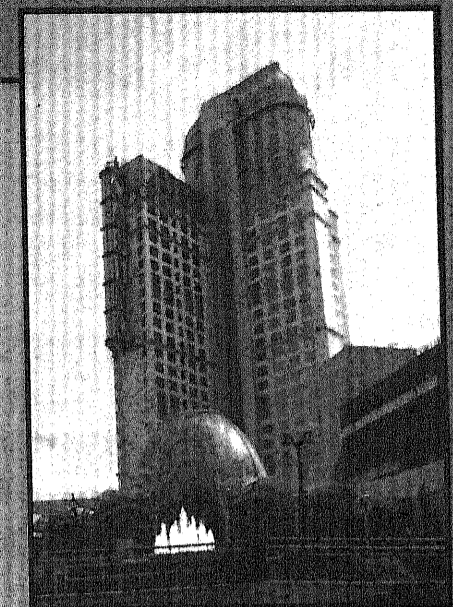
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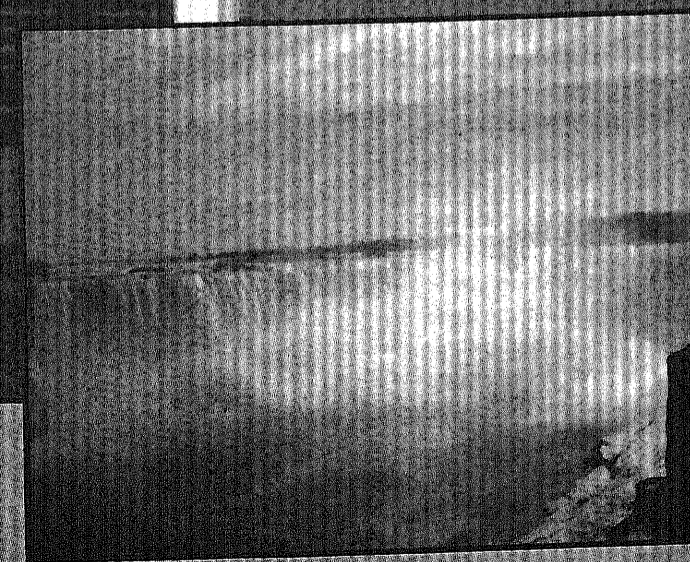
5656 Rio de Janeiro Thunder Bay 755

10536 Singapore Chicago 782
(VIA SUZ CANAL)

11569 Melbourne New York City 478
(VIA NIAGARA CANAL) (VIA ERIE CANAL)

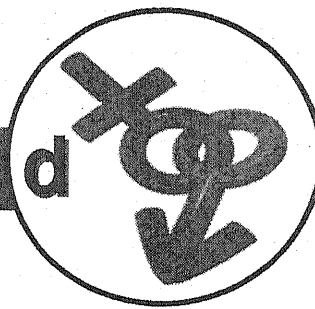


What will the next ship's destination be?
Updated information is posted
daily in the Welland Canals Centre
during Canal Season.



Se

Nicole Bonelli's



Hit and Run Relationships

When it comes to causing accidents on the road or in the bedroom men get off to demolition derbies and running from the crime scene.

Men are good at a lot of things. Breaking up is not one of them. When a woman wants to break up with a man, she will at least send him a text message to tell him that she is seeing his best friend. It's all very straight forward and to the point. Men on the other hand have this weird aversion to endings that don't end with "Happily Ever After". They would rather put the relationship in cruise control, allowing it to crash and burn on its own. A man can't be bothered with an "over sensitive" drunk girl calling him every name in the book as she tries to drink the pain away. He is bored. He wants out. Hasta la vista baby!

It's time to take a painful trip down memory lane. I was fifteen years old the first time a guy broke up with me. He called me up, gave me the "let's be friends" speech, and I was left on the other line as Niagara Falls streamed down from my eyes and snot dripped out of my nose. Years have passed, and I have left my young and stupid days behind me... only to become older and more stupid. In more recent years, a date left me stranded in an Uptown Manhattan Chinese restaurant just because I wouldn't let him eat out. A friend called her boyfriend and found out he was once again dating his ex-girlfriend. And when things were getting serious with another friend's relationship, she was introduced to the family... and his other girlfriend.

I'm not alone. Anyone with a vagina and an ounce of their soul left has played one too many games of Where's Asshole? The love fest may have lasted long enough to get through a box of condoms or even outlasted a Costco size jar of lube. They may have shared Gotta Have It heart attack from Cold Stone, or custody of

Bubbles, the shit throwing monkey. Either way, it doesn't matter. For some reason, men think it is none of our business when it comes to a break up. (OK, ok, some women might do the same thing. But then again, some women have ended up on Girls Gone Wild).

For the most part, women can sense when a break up is brewing. And any woman with a fire lit under her ass will try to get the man to plead guilty as charged. When it comes to the word "discuss," the average male would rather hear you about your abrupt decision to go on a celibate kick. Your blood pressure will rise as he stares blankly at your nonexistent cleavage. You grow the balls that have shriveled up in his pants to finally ask him: What the heck is going on? He pretends you are imagining the whole thing. You feel crazy, and you are... for staying with this asshole.

Some men admit to being more afraid of confrontation than marriage. Sometimes big girls do cry, and the opposite sex doesn't know how to deal with it. We'll bond with a box of Kleenex while watching The Notebook, (I've never actually seen it, but I heard it's a real tearjerker). And yes, any guy would cry if he was bleeding from his penis once a month. What they don't understand is that we aren't crying over them, we are crying because now we have to do an extra five hundred sit ups every night before we get naked in front of someone new.

Now ladies, don't lose all hope, because there is still a rare breed of men out there who actually have hearts that aren't made entirely out of ice. This is the kind of guy who is most likely a Good Will Ambassador, and most importantly gets along with his mother. He'll use the all the lines you have heard before: "I'm not ready to make a commitment. I don't have time to be the boyfriend who has time to love

you." It amazes me how guys can tell me what I want and need. But right before you are about to throw yourself over The Brooklyn Bridge, you will hear the words that make all women optimistic: "I hope we can be friends one day". There is a 99.9% chance that he is lying, but hey, he possibly saved you from committing suicide.

Most "men" however, think that even making a phone call to end a relationship is just putting salt on the wound. They want to know, "What's the point?" The point is we don't care if they are going barhopping with the guys on the weekend, or if they choose to get a lap dance from a class act stripper with a third nipple. But, we do care when the all you can eat special from Red Lobster is not what made him sick... it was having to spend yet another night with a woman that in his eyes, has lost her flavor. In their minds, they believe that if they just close their eyes, everything will go away. They may try to imitate stunts from Jackass, but when it comes to their fear of confrontation, they are cowards.

Amazingly, we go back to these "dating terrorist". We still try to connect, and of course they push us away. Then when they are with their friends, they'll say things like: "What, do I have to spell it out for her?" or "She just doesn't get it." It's not that we don't get it, after weeks of not leaving the house because we might miss his call that we never receive - we get it. But, we would like to feel like more than another chick you banged just so you can brag about it. We are left in the dark, until it is too late to rescue what is left of our bruised egos.

You can spot a woman whose relationship is about to sink faster than The Titanic. She'll most likely pick up on bad habits that surprisingly haven't killed her yet. Cigarette prices might have increased, but so have the odds of getting

lung cancer. Fluffy might have decided to lick an electrical socket for breakfast, but this fierce feline still can't compete with her hair styles. And after rear ending the car in front of her, she'll realize that even Geico can't save her relationship.

So this is what happens: you'll try to hold onto whatever amount of sanity you have left. Your friends will be forced to change their phone numbers because they can't deal with you calling at all hours of the day/night to ask, "He is acting so distant, I know the sex is great... so why haven't I seen him?" When he finally isn't "too busy" to make time for you, he'll make you an offer you can refuse. This time it will be different though. This time it's a test from the D.R.S.G. (Doomed Relationship Support Group) to determine whether or not great sex can make your man realize how GREAT you really are. Oh, and he probably wants to pick up the sweatshirt he lent you the prior week. But let's be realistic, if sex was this bad ass superhero, there would be no wars or starving children in third world countries for Madonna to adopt. No superhero, not even Captain America can fight off The Lone Ranger as he disappears into the night with your broken heart and your favorite pair of panties.

You won't eat, you won't sleep, and when you aren't sleeping you will spend most of your time hiding under your blankets because you're convinced that it's the only place where you can't get hurt. Pain will soon develop into anger, so he shouldn't be that surprised when you leave his sweatshirt outside during a thunderstorm. Thunder precedes sunlight, so suck it up already. Things could always be worse, you could be a prostitute. Mold might be the true scent of revenge, but as the spin cycle on your washer machine repairs his damaged goods, you'll come to realize that Downy is the true scent of maturity.

bian, though — not before a sambuca anyway."

Winehouse, 23, an English Jew from Southgate, North London, began her professional singing career at the tender age of 16. Since then she has received several awards including the 2007 BRIT Award for Best British Female Solo Artist and Best British Album. Winehouse's success is bittersweet. She is a favorite target for the British press who often publicizes her raucous behavior. In addition to her penchant for drinking, Winehouse has admitted to being manic-depressive, but refuses to take medication. Most recently she lost quite a bit of weight after the tabloids commented about her size. "A little bit of anorexia, a little bit of bulimia," she said. "I'm not totally OK now but I don't think any woman is."

Back to Black is a fun and interesting album, but does have its low points. The ballads "Love is a Losing Game" and "Just Friends," are boring, sappy and cliché. In this case, however, the good outweighs the bad and Back to Black is worth a listen.

Grade: B-

Jones, its better. Winehouse belts out: "What kind of fuckery is this? You made me miss the Slick Rick gig. You thought I didn't love you when I did. Can't believe you played me out like that." There are rumors that the song is about rapper Nasir "Nas" Jones.

Back to Black, is a deeply moving and emotional love song. Winehouse croons: "He left no time to regret, kept his dick wet, with the same old safe bet. Me and my head high, and my tears dry, get on without my guy."

Winehouse's appearance is unlike anything you would expect. She sports several piercings and often teases her hair into a 1950s beehive. Winehouse also has several tattoos of naked women on her arms. When asked about her choice of skin art, Winehouse indicated: I like pin-up girls. I'm more of a boy than a girl. I'm not a les-



Amy Winehouse: Retro Soul with Modern Flair

BY ANNMARIE COSTELLA
CO-MANAGING EDITOR

We've seen it before. Mix ultra old school jazz and soul with modern slag or profanity and you've instantly created a new hit. Blu Cantrell tried it in 2001 with her single "Hit em' up style," and Nelly McKay gave it a shot on her album "Get Away from Me," so what makes Amy Winehouse anything more than a passing novelty? Simple. She has a truly captivating voice that can best be described as a blend between Sarah Vaughn and Macy Gray. Winehouse says she has been influenced by The Supremes, Dinah Washington, The Shangri Las, and even Elvis Presley.

Back to Black is the follow-up to her 2003 debut album Frank. It contains a set of ten soulful melodies and one appalling and completely out of place remix featuring

Ghostface Killah. The album's first US single: "You know I'm No Good," a light pop tune about infidelity managed to crack the billboard 100 at #90 and climbed to #18 in the UK.

The most unique and interesting track on the album "Rehab," is inspired by Winehouse's own fondness for alcohol and her refusal to check into rehab even after her management company tried to force her into going. It is refreshing to hear Winehouse's humorous take on her own vices. She sings: "They tried to make me go to rehab I said no no no. Yes I've been black and when I come back no no no. I ain't got the time and if my daddy thinks I'm fine. They tried to make me go to rehab I won't go to go."

The standout track on the album is definitely Me and Mr. Jones, which is not a cover of the Billy Paul classic Me and Mrs.

A Short Guide to the Killswitch Engage Record Collection

BY CHRIS BONO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Killswitch Engage isn't your typical metal band and this unique difference is what sets the band apart from everyone else. Since 1998 Boston's Killswitch Engage have become one of the most recognizable bands in the metal scene. After ripping their name from an X-Files episode, the band formed in 1998 with frontman Jesse Leach. The band has combined screaming vocals and metal riffs with a barrage of melodic, emotional choruses. The musical arsenal is guitarists Adam Dutkiewicz, Joel Stroetzel, bassist Mike D'Antonio and drummer Justin Foley. Leach's lyrics stray from the metal norm and are filled with hope and the belief that there is always an answer. "The Element of One" off their first album, 2002's Alive or Just Breathing seems like a prayer in song. Its lyrics are laced with religious overtones and the belief that in God there is rejuvenation. Leach sings the lyrics, "Breathe me in, I am eternal." Metal bands never had the audacity to sing about God over such heavy music, but Killswitch Engage masterfully succeed at this

new approach.

All of their records are produced solidly by lead guitarist Adam Dutkiewicz. Adam D, the backbone of the band, has produced albums from the likes of U2 to Underoath. He is a musical genius and his ear for music is uncanny. Every band that hires him suddenly releases a breakthrough record. The music isn't very difficult, but the way Adam constructs and arranges the parts is what gives the music the trademark Killswitch sound. The Killswitch song formula is a slow introduction, followed by the moshy breakdown to the inevitable chugging guitar fade out. Sonically, the band excels and the guitarists fill all their songs with guitar squeals and harmonics. The sounds are amazing and it almost sounds like they're slaughtering pigs. The perfect execution of these sounds will make any headbanger smile and enjoy the band even more.

Killswitch is currently fronted by Howard Jones, formerly of Blood Has Been Shed. His voice is a lot more powerful than Leach's, but they each have their positives and negatives. Jones joined the band prior to the

release of 2004's The End of Heartache. A powerhouse of breakdowns, soaring melodies, and the gospel-like voice of Howard Jones, The End of Heartache propelled Killswitch even further into metal success. The title track was even released on the soundtrack to the zombie-flick Resident Evil. Killswitch was soon appearing all over television with their video for their first single, "Rose of Sharyn." A vein-popping, guitar driven, straight-forward metal song with power-ballad lyrics. Jones has continued with Leach's lyrical quest for metal with a heart and "Rose of Sharyn" is the pinnacle of this method. The song is about the loss of a loved one and the opposing forces of heavy music and soft lyrics are what make this song so beautiful. Jones sings, "It won't be long, we'll meet again. The rising sun will always speak your name." The visuals of the video also parallel the theme of the song and follows the band playing in a field and all the trees are bleeding.

The End of Heartache is their most accessible album for metal fans who are interested in discovering a different take on the metal scene. Its

opener "A Bid Farewell" is bashing and catchy all at once and forces you to move your head. About 20 seconds in you are introduced to Jones' high-pitched scream and that sets the pace for the rest of the album. Closing with "Hope is Not Lost," a song about perseverance and overcoming what seems like the impossible, The End of Heartache is a solid album. The album should occupy a place in every metal or hardcore fan's record collection.

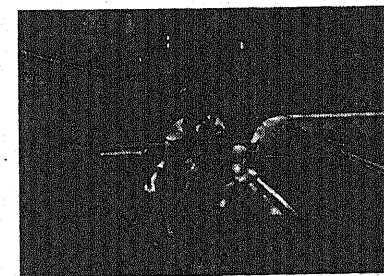
Currently, Killswitch Engage is on tour promoting their newest album As Daylight Dies. An album screaming to end the war and all the unnecessary violence that presently invades our world. The title track, "Daylight Dies" is filled with an abundance of allusions to death and destruction. Jones' sings, "How much blood must be shed? Hear their cries, don't wait till daylight dies." The band is saying do what you can now before there is no more light and no more time. How many innocent people must be killed in the war? They are by no means becoming a political band, they just have a message and hopefully people will listen: "Hear their cries, don't wait TO BUY daylight dies."

BANNER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Evolution of the Turtle

BY DOMINIC FIDUCCIA
STAFF WRITER

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles are back. They've been in plenty of videogames over the years, which have either been based on the original or current cartoon shows. Their last few games haven't been that great (in fact they've been down right terrible). After so many years as being the sole Turtle game developer, Konami is no longer in charge of the Turtles' videogame adventures. French developer Ubisoft won the rights to make the Turtles' movie tie-in game. While most gamers tend to avoid movie tie-in games for the simple reason that they are almost always terrible, there are those that still buy them. Still, there is the promise that this game will be different since it does feature the Turtles. After all, both Batman Begins and the Spider-Man movie games have been pretty good, why not TMNT? Since there are a few different offerings, this review will look at all the different Turtle games that are being released featuring Leonardo, Donatello, Raphael, and Michaelangelo.

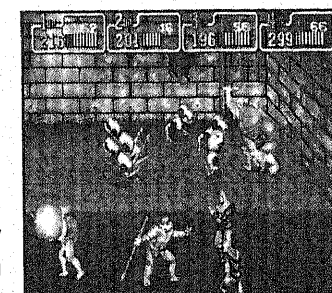


cal movie tie-in game. The bad news is the game is still mediocre and the graphics are nothing to brag about. Also, the gameplay can be frustrating at times (you can blame the game's bad camera controls for that). The real problem with TMNT is the genre. Ubisoft decided not to

make the game an action game or a fighting game, but instead a platformer. You read that right: TMNT is a platformer. The gameplay's platformer elements are very similar to Ubisoft's Prince of Persia series. While that doesn't make the game bad, the problem is fans of the Turtles' adventures are more used to the game being action oriented. You do have to give Ubisoft credit for having a special flashback level where you face the Turtles' arch-nemesis The Shredder (who's not in the movie).

TMNT (Ubisoft) - Game Boy Advance

So how well does the 2-D handheld version of the game hold up? Pretty well, actually. This action title almost lives up to the classic early 1990's Konami Turtle games as you choose one of your favorite Turtles and have another as a back-up to perform special attacks to help you out. Also, the game features



TMNT (Ubisoft) - Xbox 360, PS3, PS2, GCN, PSP

There's good news and bad news to report on TMNT. The good news: it's not as bad as the terrible Turtle games that Konami has offered in the past few years. Also, it's not as bad as the typi-

an RPG element where you'll be able to acquire special items to upgrade your character. The game also features tight gameplay and well-animated 2-D environments. Sadly, the boss battles feel generic compared to the classic Turtle villains of the original cartoon show.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: The Arcade Game (Konami) - Xbox Live Arcade

Finally, one of the greatest arcade games of all-time has come to the Xbox Live Arcade. While Konami may not be behind the latest Turtle game, they didn't want to miss out on the pizza party as they are offering fans the chance to re-live the experience of playing this arcade gem. Based on the original cartoon show, this game let's you choose your favorite Turtle to save April and Splinter from their arch-nemesis, The Shredder. Along the way you'll face-off against various villains from the cartoon including the unique multi-color Foot Soldiers. What made this game great was the ability of the player to actually pick their favorite Ninja Turtle and battling along side your friends. With the Xbox Live Arcade you'll be able to experience that feeling all over again. Now if only

Konami would include The Simpsons and X-Men for Xbox Live Arcade. That would be a truly great gaming experience!

FROM THE PRODUCERS OF "THE SIXTH SENSE" AND CO-WRITER OF "BATMAN BEGINS"

THE INVISIBLE

HOW DO YOU SOLVE A MURDER WHEN THE VICTIM IS YOU?

IN THEATRES APRIL 27

GTU ADVENTURES

BY ENRIQUE INOCENTE

Part 1



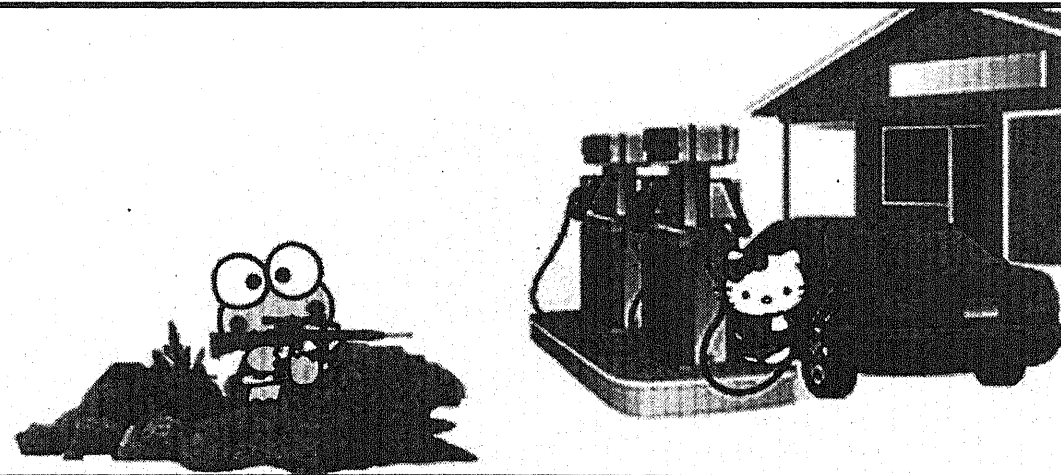
GTU ADVENTURES

BY ENRIQUE INOCENTE

Part 2



Goodbye Kitty



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IT'S OUR SEASON NOW!

BY CHRIS OLIVIERI
STAFF WRITER

It began to rain as we sat in a crowded car trying to exit the congested Shea Stadium parking lot. My friend Dave sat to my right as my windshield wipers were the soundtrack to a depressing drive home.



We were fortunate enough to score tickets to game seven, the deciding game of the NLCS. We were fortunate enough to be on hand to witness Mets outfielder Endy Chavez make one of the most fantastic catches in playoff history. Our good fortune eluded us when Mets slugger Carlos Beltran watched as a wicked curveball slammed into the mitt of Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina, shutting the book on the Mets 2006 campaign.

This is the life of a Met fan. The beauty of baseball is that there is always next year. Did the devastating loss stop us from attending the next possible game at the stadium six months later? Not a chance! The Mets had won the division after all. The opportunity to be present as they unveiled the pennant was too good to pass up.

We purchased our tickets online and waited for the team to return to New York as they had opened the season on the road on April 1st in St. Louis. The three game series re-matched them against their NLCS nemesis Cardinals. With pride on the line the Mets swept the series. After a quick stop in Atlanta, the Mets headed back home.

On Monday April 9th at 10 a.m. Dave and I set out to celebrate the team's return. Although it was cold, we made excellent time getting to the stadium and found parking almost immediately. Right away it seemed that our good fortune had returned just in time for the new season.

The Philadelphia Phillies, who short-stop Jimmy Rollins boldly identified as the team to beat in the 2007 season, stood in the way of the Mets' first home victory of the season. His comment did not go over well with the fans of the defending division champion Mets and they looked for a win.

One of the most memorable parts of the day was when players were announced before the start of the game. Fans expressed support of their favorite players by cheering loudly when their names were called. Like most fans, Dave

I Wish Everyday Could Be Like Opening Day

BY JOHN DEPETRO
STAFF WRITER

So few things in the world create a feeling of promise and hope in the world to all.

The first cries of a newborn child. Finally receiving your degree. Opening day.

This year, I am lucky enough to experience all three. The birth of my nephew in March and the culmination of my undergrad career later in May both pale in comparison to my experience in The Bronx on April 2nd for this was my very first Opening Day.

Ever since the final out of the World Series last October, baseball fans across the nation have had a fever.

And the only prescription is more baseball.

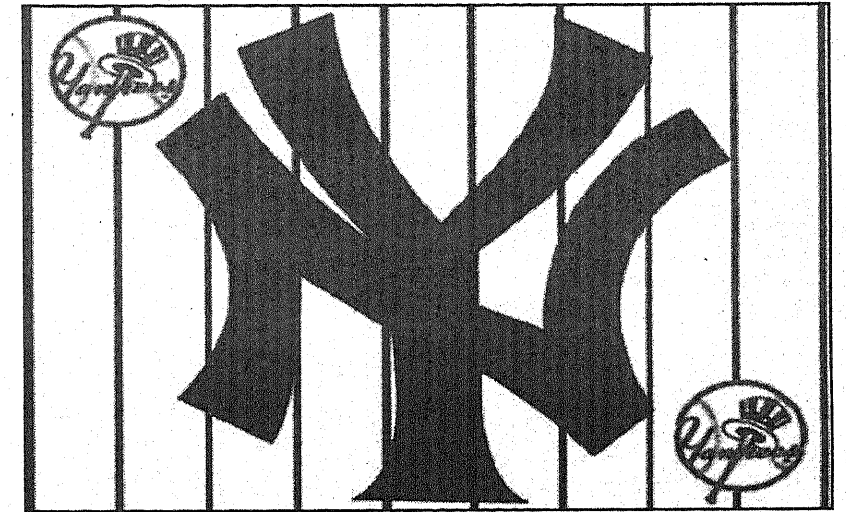
The 2007 Yankee schedule begins against the MLB juggernaut Tampa Bay Devil Rays - the only team in Major League history to never finish a season above last place. They could have been playing the Bad News Bears and still would have drawn 56,000 fans to the park for opening day.

We started our trek to Yankee Stadium to see the Bronx Bombers where the Baby Bombers play - at the Richmond County Stadium parking lot near the Staten Island Ferry. The fever was already swelling.

The 10:30 a.m. ferry was full of Yankee fans adorned in their white and navy-blue garb. There were even a few pink caps floating around (pink Yankee wear is only acceptable on women fellows).

Next was the legendary 4 train, a right of passage for anyone who would call themselves a Yankee fan. Even the scent of body odor that usually fills the subway line was trumped by the aroma of a possible 27th World Championship in New York.

Even though it was cloudy, cold and wet, April 2nd was a beautiful day as we walked through the tunnel leading to the left field bleachers. The grass was green, the balls were white like pearls



BANNER SPORTS

and the seats were covered in a fresh coat of Yankee blue paint that would make the Dutch Boy proud.

My feet and my eyes aside, at this point my stomach was about to take charge.

For a moment, I stood at the wall overlooking the Yankee bullpen and Monument Park. The memory of over one hundred years of Yankee history was just below my feet and the promise of the future just in front of my eyes.

The first stadium hot dog was plump as its juices dripped down and its hot steam rose. The ketchup was sweet and the mustard spicy. It was the best tasting meal I've had since last summer. Worth every penny of the \$19 spent on two dogs and two 20 oz. Cokes.

The excitement of opening day was brought down for an emotional first pitch ceremony by former Yankee Cory Lidle's widow and son. Earlier in October, Lidle was killed in a plane accident over the Lower Eastside of Manhattan when his plane crashed into a high-rise apartment building.

After eyes were dried, the cheers began as our beloved Bombers took the field for the first time in what seemed like an eternity. Light bulbs flashed on digital cameras while Yankee starting pitcher Carl Pavano threw the first pitch of the year, officially kicking off the season. You could hear fans in the right field bleachers as they chanted the Yankee

roll call.

Cheers and chant quickly turned to boos and grumbles as the always teetering Alex Rodriguez committed the first error in this very young season when a lazy fly ball in foul territory hung a right and left A-Rod out to dry.

This would not be the last Yankee error of the day. However, this error would both elicit the most reaction from fans and have the least impact on the game. Errors by Josh Phelps and the infallible Yankee Captain Derek Jeter led to two Devil Ray runs.

The highlight for me came in the 8th inning as A-Rod effectively closed the game out with a two-run homerun when the thousands of fans in attendance once again changed their minds and decided to root for Rodriguez and bring him out of the dugout again for a curtain-call.

I got to witness three future Hall of Famers do what they do best - Derek Jeter knocked a clutch two-run base hit, A-Rod clubbed one out of the park and Mariano Rivera struck out the side in the 9th.

You can keep your NFL Kickoff and the promise of cold weather to come. I'll take the warmth of spring and the boys of summer everyday of the week.

All and all, Opening Day 2007 was a great day with the Yankees winning 9-5.

continued from pg 12

and 6-0. Jillany Iqbal added to the Dolphins success when he beat Ahmed Attia by scores of 7-5 and 6-1.

The victory created excitement among most of the players after the matches finished.

"As a team we are very united," Mendis emphasized. He stressed the importance of team unity as well as the coaching and the overall program.

Excited for the team's victory but upset about his own performance Soumitri Seshadri explained that he had some major problems dealing with the weather.

"Today the conditions were not really suitable to play tennis," he said after the match. "However, for me personally I didn't adapt to it very well. I was out of my rhythm so I had a lot of missed hits."

Dolphins head coach Paul Ricciardi described the play of his team

as a "halfway point." He explained that his team was "on the right step towards the second half."

CSI hoped the momentum they gained from the win over Lehman could continue into the next week of matches. "Next week is pivotal for us," Ricciardi said. "We have three conference matches in the next week."

The Dolphins have had only had three conference matches up until that point so by the end of the following week the amount of conference matches the Dolphins have played will have doubled.

With the day's matches completed, the team discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the day, the possibility of grabbing a bite to eat, and remained jubilant until they left the tennis center. Sandhun Mendis summed up the attitude of the team after the match saying, "Hopefully we can do some damage against the CUNYs."

SPORTS

April 16, 2007

Dolphins Drowned in a Sea of Runs

Pioneer Bats, Pitching Woes Sink CSI

BY JOHN DEPETRO
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, April 3, the William Paterson University Pioneers came to the CSI Baseball Complex and embarrassed the Dolphins in a 26-4 drubbing.

A three run homerun by Paterson 3rd baseman Jon Marzella in the top of the first put the Dolphins behind right away and CSI never got back in the game. Over the next eight innings, Paterson pounded out 20 more hits and piled on 23 more runs.

Eleven of thirteen Pioneer batters knocked base hits and all scored.

Aside from the parade of runners around the bases courtesy of the Pioneers, the story was the lack of control by the Dolphin pitchers. Ten walks, ten wild pitches and two hit batters stymied any chance the Dolphins' hitters may have had to get themselves back in the game.

As cold as it was on this windy, sub-50 degree day, the Dolphins were able to work themselves into a frenzy prior to and during pregame lineup intros to Metallica's metal classic "Battery."

CSI sophomore starting pitcher Stephen Mojica took the hill and got off to a fast start by retiring the first two Pioneers he faced. And then things began to go downhill from there. A single by the Pioneers' Don Rienertsen followed by another from Mike Guadango set the stage for a towering blast over the left field wall by Marzella.

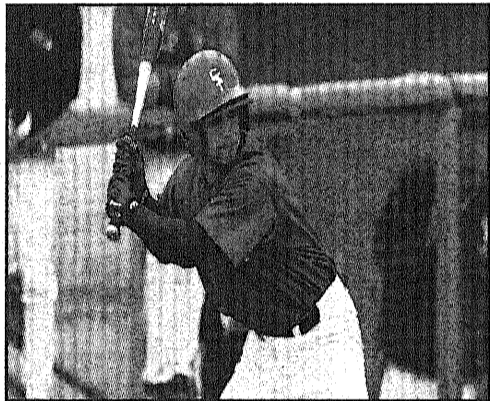
Despite putting the first two men on in the top of the second, Mojica was able to work himself out of trouble. But the third inning would be his last as he was

unable to record a single out in the fourth. And that's when the merry-go-round of Dolphin pitchers began.

In all, seven CSI hurlers combined to finish the nine-inning contest in a shade under three hours.

The Dolphin offense and defense was just as inept as its pitching. CSI managed only nine hits. Not a terribly low number normally, but dwarfed by the 23 Paterson tallied. Defensively, CSI committed five errors.

The loss dropped the Dolphin season record to 4-9. The Dolphins will host the College of Mt. St. Vincent on April 18, City College of New York on April 22 and The College of New Jersey on April 23.



CSI infielder Glennerster tries to get his team back in the game. Photo: CSI Athletic Dept

Men's Tennis Breaks Losing Streak

BY CHRIS OLIVIERI
STAFF WRITER

APRIL 6 - Freezing temperatures, heavy winds and snow flurries are not ideal conditions for an outdoor tennis match. These were the extra obstacles the Dolphins needed to overcome in order to break a four-game losing streak dating back to March 29th.

The Dolphins' opponent for the match, the Lehman College Lightning, had come into the heated tennis center at CSI on a three-game winning streak. The Dolphins snapped their four-game losing streak with a 6-3 win.

"The snow was getting in my eyes out there," Jim Walsh, a freshman, could be overheard saying after his first match.

In doubles play the Dolphins started the day taking two out of three matches against the Lightning. Kevin Williams and Sandhun Mendis defeated Lehman's Mark Peart and Yongda Leung by a score of 8-3. The victory improved the duo to 3-2 for the season. Gregory Leal, Jr. and Anton Vilinskiy also defeated their Lehman opponents, Ahmed Attia and Rabiera Hansraj, by a score of 8-2. The Dolphins lost an 8-2 match-up of Soumitri Seshadri and Jim Walsh against Lehman's Raul Santana and Ryan Magsin. This was the only defeat that they would taste in doubles play as the Dolphins went on to win their other two doubles matches.

"It was quite windy but I handled the wind," explained senior Sandhun Mendis after his doubles match. "It's not

about who made the best shot...it's about who handled the wind." Apparently delighted about his first victory of the day, Mendis was all smiles seemingly unphased by the wind or cold.

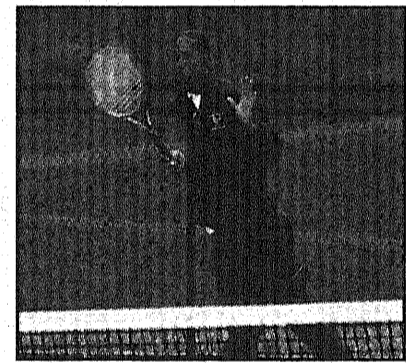
Lehman players seemed to have trouble adapting to the weather as many of them took every opportunity to retreat into the heated tennis center. The players took turns watching what they could see of their teammates' matches through a small window in the door.

When doubles play concluded the teams took a short break before moving on to singles action where CSI solidified their victory. Soumitri Seshadri fell to Lehman's Raul Santana by scores of 6-

2 and 6-1 and Jim Walsh lost to Lighting Ryan Mabsino with scores of 4-6, 6-3, and 10-7.

CSI bounced back and took victories in their last four matches. Anton Vilinskiy defeated Lehman's

Mark Peart by scores of 6-2 and 6-3. Kevin Williams defeated Kingzang Tobgay by scores of 6-1 and 6-0. Sandhun Mendis took his match against Rabiedra Hansraj also by scores of 6-1



Kevin Williams defeated Lehman's Kingzang Tobgay 6-1, 6-0. CSI Athletics Dept

Continued on page 11

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