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Como Named Clinical Nurse Specialist by the NACNS

CARLO ALAIMO

June M. Como, Lecturer of Nursing at the College of Staten Island, has received the Clinical Nurse Specialist of the Year award from the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (NACNS).

The award recognizes NACNS members for their outstanding professional achievements as Clinical Nurse Specialist Educators. Professor Como will be officially recognized at the NACNS annual awards luncheon on Friday, March 11 in Baltimore.

Professor Como, who began her nursing career at CSI (she was a member of the final class of Staten Island Community College) said that she was "extremely excited and very humbled," when she was nominated by Dr. Margaret Lunney of CSI's Nursing Department.

"Teaching is an important component of my life," commented Como. "Being able to guide my graduate students toward their practice as CNSs in Advanced-Practice Nursing, assisting them in providing the highest level of evidenced-based patient-focused care, and implementing system-level changes in their respective health care settings is wonderfully fulfilling."

Professor Como's list of accomplishments is long and impressive, but perhaps none is more impressive than her work during 9/11 setting up a nurses' health care and first aid center at the Staten Island Homeport. She spent nearly three months organizing health care coverage for personnel at Ground Zero.

Professor Como is also the co-director of the CSI High-Fidelity Simulation Center where her students use mannequins to simulate real clinical circumstances. The mannequins have heart rates, blood pressure, and working lungs. "It is important that students experience a level of patient care in a safe environment where mistakes are not as costly," she said.

"Como's dedication to the Staten Island community and to the development of CNS students through technology and leadership training is what helps set her apart from other members of her field. Como is a true leader in her field and the members of the CSI community are proud to call her their own," CSI Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. William Fritz commented.

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Schulman Named Distinguished Professor



The Board of Trustees of The City University of New York has appointed CSI English Professor Sarah Schulman as Distinguished Professor.

DR. WILLIAM FRITZ AND TERRY MARES

The Board of Trustees of The City University of New York has approved the appointment of Professor Sarah Schulman as Distinguished Professor. Professor Schulman is a tenured Full Professor in the Department of English and has been at CSI and CUNY since 1999. She made significant contributions across disciplines at national and international levels. Her work has made an invaluable impact in creative writing, theater, film, and, not least of all, gay and lesbian culture. Her art and politi-

cal practices are known for their integrated multi-mediated approaches.

Commenting on her appointment, Schulman said, "This is, of course, a life-changing moment of recognition for me, and I am especially proud as a second-generation product of New York City public schools. My mother grew up in Brownsville/East New York, attended Thomas Jefferson High School, and was in the first class of women at City College in 1949, when women had to have higher GPAs than men to be admitted. I went to Hunter High School and to Hunter College,

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College Student Chases Her Dreams

MICHELLE GONZALEZ

Ten years from now, Jadel Rowe hopes to be the next Stacey London. In the meantime, she is taking all the necessary steps to transcend the high fashion media consultant. At twenty years old, Jadel is just one year shy of graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Corporate Communications. Upon entering CSI in August of 2008, Jadel has kept her eye on the prize and continues to focus on earning her degree. To depict just how eager she is to enter the fashion world, she said "I dream of the day that I receive my diploma, it couldn't come any sooner!"

Just six months ago, Jadel was an ordinary student, balancing a retail position with her academic career. After hours of surfing the web for fashion internships, Jadel was given

the opportunity to interview with five public relations companies. After many interviews, Jadel was offered four positions. Now that she had her options open, Jadel was able to make the decision that best accommodated her aspirations.

The self-proclaimed overachiever accepted a Spring Internship with Panthere Communications, a public relations firm in lower Manhattan that caters to many clientele in the fashion industry. Jadel could not have been happier with a firm that specializes in fashion as she lives by her motto "Fashion is my Passion!" She showed the relation between public relations and fashion when she said, "Public relations gives an individual the opportunity to network with interesting sources and people; Fashion public relations

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Local Music Maven Hopes To Make Airwaves

20 year old WSIA radio intern
aspires to be notable DJ

LIANNA RODRIGUEZ

While most young girls were playing with Barbies, Anna Tardogno, was pretending to be a disc jockey with her karaoke machine.

"I would play my favorite cassettes and talk into the microphone," she said. The 20 year-old Staten Island native didn't always know what she wanted to do with her life. She always loved music, but her family advised her that a profession in the music industry wasn't realistic.

So she contemplated a career as a kindergarten teacher, but soon realized that working with children was not her forte. She took a filmmaking course at CSI and thoroughly enjoyed it, but once again it wasn't her *raison d'être*. Eventually she found her true calling when she came across a flyer at the CSI campus center. The campus radio station, WSIA, was looking for volunteers. Anna quickly applied for the position and was selected to begin her internship last December.

Her position at the station mainly consists of general clerical duties such as filing as well as monitoring songs for profanity. The procedure is simple. Her supervisor hands her a play list of songs to review. She then categorizes them into four types: up-tempo, mid-

tempo, mellow, and dirty. Dirty is the lowest on the scale and songs labeled "dirty" are

barred from playing on air. The station can face heavy penalties if they don't abide by the FCC's rules. "I don't understand the point in censoring swear words because we all cuss in our daily lives," Anna said. "You can bleep out a cuss, but we still know what they're [the artist] trying to say."

The self-professed music junkie enjoys most musical genres. But her all time favorite decade of music is the 90s and genre is alternative. Pearl Jam, Hole, and Nirvana are some of her favorite bands. She detests most mainstream artists except Katy Perry. "Justin Bieber and Ke\$ha sound exactly the same to me," she said. Her very first concert was, Rusted Root, an alternative band from Pittsburgh. Their song "Send Me on My

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Taxes the Cost of Living in a Civilized Society.

MICHAEL MILEY

If ever there was an under rated statement, it has to be American's hate taxes. For some reason it's stuck in our heads that taxes are obscenely high and need to be dropped. Taxes in the US haven't been this low for anyone especially for the very wealthy in a long time.

It's funny when people talk about how taxes (especially for the wealthy) are too high, meanwhile to flashback to America's "Golden Age" the 50s, the tax rate on the highest earners was 90%. The current tax rate is less than half of that. Really this doesn't deserve any more discussion, since if you think right now American's pay too much in taxes you are woefully misinformed. Read up on how the tax system actually work, since this obsession with lower taxes carries a very steep price that many of us don't perceive. For example the looming budget cuts across the board for every level of government that is going to impact everyone, especially CUNY students where most of the budget comes from city, state and federal government subsidies.

"There is also the fact that unlike counterparts in Western Europe or Canada, the average citizen doesn't see more of the tax dollars used for them, like in a Universal Healthcare or education program."

As many people may or may not be aware, up until 1976 attending a CUNY school, cost nothing- it was free to all students. But 1976 was a year of deep debt for the City of New York, so they added tuition. Tuition has gone up ever since, and it's sad to say it will never go down. Unless of course NYPIRG in its many campaigns can keep it from being raised or get rid of it entirely. And since rates never really come down much like every other fee from parking tickets to ATM fees, they only ever increase since they offer easy money for the system. However, let's return to 1976 again for a moment- it was only the budget crisis of the mid seventies that caused the creation of a tuition. This was of course the famous year that unselected President Gerald Ford told New York City to go to hell, according to the New York Daily News. What's odd, funny and sad all at the same time is that it was free to go to a CUNY school in the middle of the Great Depression, but not in a minor recession of the mid 1970s.

It's important to bring this up because it is in the mid-1970s that we start to see the growing mania against regulations and taxes

start gaining momentum. You see what the government today has, not a budget problem, what Federal, State and local governments have today are, revenue problems. Instead of being too high, they are too low across the board. Now this may upset many people, too

"Everyone's all for education until they realize they have to pay for it. This is of course a favorite tactic of Republicans, to pass a socially beneficial program but not fund it."

many people get physically ill at the mere suggestion that taxes need to be raised. But as stated in the title, taxes serve an important place in our lives; they are the fee American's all pay in order to live in a civilized society. So many people just take all the benefits the country gives from paying taxes for granted, that they get dismissed often. There is also the fact that unlike counterparts in Western Europe or Canada, the average citizen doesn't see more of the tax dollars used for them, like in a Universal Healthcare or education program. Even here as the meager social safety net is slowly dismantled, there are plenty of things that taxes pay for that are essential to every one. For example: public education, such as the College of Staten Island and other CUNY and State schools across the country as well as primary and secondary education, the maintenance of roads, bridges, tunnels and various other infrastructure, police and military protection, a stable court system, fire protection, the removal of sewage and trash, the social safety net including programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, food stamps, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration, to

"City and State budgets being the worst to face the chopping block, from reducing Medicare and Medicaid benefits as well as Social Security to increasing the age one can apply for it. School budgets are being cut, teachers, cops fire fighters are being fired and CUNY is facing massive cuts while enrollment is at an all time high."

name two specific agencies funded by Federal taxes.

These are all things that citizens can get behind. Don't you enjoy being able to bite into food, or take something for a headache and have the reassurance that it will not kill you. But American's hate actually funding these things. Everyone's all for education until they realize they have to pay for it. This

is of course a favorite tactic of Republicans, to pass a socially beneficial program but not fund it. Medicare part D is the most recent type to come to mind. There is still a lingering question, why do so many resent paying taxes. For the very wealthy, pure greed can

"...up until 1976 attending a CUNY school, cost nothing- it was free to all students. But 1976 was a year of deep debt for the City of New York, so they added tuition. Tuition has gone up ever since, and it's sad to say it will never go down."

suffice as an answer. What of the "average" American? Why support programs that are actively harming, directly? It can be explained by the fact since 1980 the average wage has either declined or stagnated while cost of living has continued to rise. The major effects of this have been some of what alleviated by easy access to credit, so that people have been able to limp along. Along with the fact that when the country goes through rough economic times, it tends to cut down on our spending. "We" go out to eat less, see less movies, buy less things. This of course causes "us" to spiral since the economy is based off of endless consuming. So while America can cut down it's spending of it's shrinking wage, people can't cut down how much goes to pay taxes.

There is also the fact that many American's really don't understand how the tax code works. For example lets say that taxes for someone who makes upward of 250,000 dollars is 60%. Then lets say you make 250,010 dollars a year. Now it would not be out of the ordinary for the average person to think that you would end up paying 150,006 dollars in taxes. But that is not how the tax system works. You pay your income tax in brackets, meaning that if the tax rate for 0-10,000 dollars is 10 percent and 15 for 10-20,000 and so on your pay for the percent up to that level. To

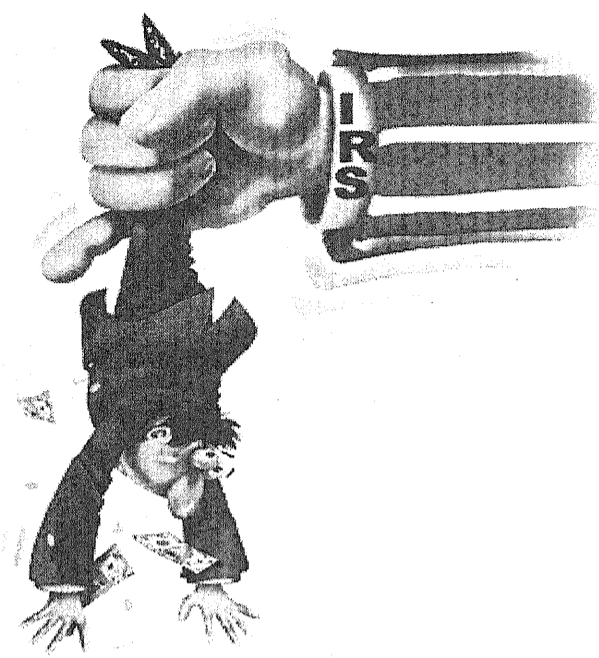


Photo from: efitrends.com

If you owe it then they want it! Taxes!

return to our example of the person making

"It's funny when people talk about how taxes (especially for the wealthy) are too high, meanwhile to flashback to America's "Golden Age" the 50s, the tax rate on the highest earners was 90%."

250,010 dollars, at a tax rate for 60 percent for all income above 250,000 you would only pay six dollars on that and then the regular taxes. The IRS even has charts one can use to simply drop their income in to find out how much they owe in taxes, sans of course any deductions.

American's find themselves facing sever austerity measures. City and State budgets being the worst to face the chopping block, from reducing Medicare and Medicaid benefits as well as Social Security to increasing the age one can apply for it. School budgets are being cut, teachers, cops fire fighters are being fired and CUNY is facing massive cuts while enrollment is at an all time high. The solution isn't more budget cuts; sometimes budget cuts can be good, like cutting the massively bloated military budget. The country has gone beyond cutting the unneeded fat from the budgets and now they are trimming away muscle and bone. They can return taxes to the level they were under Clinton, and maybe just a few percentage points higher and the deficit problem would be solved. It is important to remember that wages need to rise again to match cost of living or no matter what they will still have a hemorrhaging system.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: "Sex And Another College"

I liked this article and I can really relate to it. I don't believe it is safe to have one-night stands at a school you attend or even in your own neighborhood. I think Claire is wrong for doing so and her actions may affect her reputation - that's even if she cares.

Egypt Collins

Re: "CSI: Easy To Get In Hard To Leave"

I agree with this article on all points as I am facing the same predicament. I am not able to graduate this year because I am missing a class and do not fulfill all the degree requirements. It is very frustrating and the situation needs to be improved so students are able to graduate on time and with their class as opposed to spending another semester and prolonging the inevitable.

Lucille Farjan-Narcisse

Re: "The Knicks are not a Finished Product Yet"

The Knicks are good but they are not that good. I feel they are missing that one piece that will put them over the top. That piece is a consistent rebounder, and an inside defender. The Knicks give up entirely too many points because of easy dunks and layups. Until they solve that problem the Knicks will remain mediocre.

Jeremy Pasker

Re: "Why Is Twitter Important?"

The Twitter article was great. I'm glad someone else realizes that your every move isn't interesting news. Self-absorbed people continuously find the urge to write their t.v. listing for the day. I do agree that it is an excellent way to gain acknowledgement in for professional matters.

Justine Renneker

Re: "CPE Says Sayonara, Stressed Out Students Rejoice"

I am glad to see that CUNY has decided to eliminate the CPE. Besides being costly, I agree with you pointing out that it is completely irrelevant. Because the CPE is an exam closely similar to a Regents exam, I don't understand how it would give credit to college education in the first place. I personally felt it did nothing but confirm the fact that we, as college students, are capable of being enrolled in a college accredited program. I am glad they have done away with the exam although it is unfortunate that I spent hours a year taking it.

Michelle Gogarty

Re: "More Class Time Equals More Free Time"

I found this article helpful because being a Journalism Major at CSI, I find that most COM Classes meet late in the evening. With the flexibility of the classes next semester comes in handy especially living in Queens. It opens up more choices for me now. If I didn't even read this piece I wouldn't even know it's happening.

Stephanie John

Re: "Sex And Another College"

I think your described the scenes as real as they can possibly get for the reader. I've never visited other Universities, but I've heard such similar stories. It just shows how many girls get sucked in to the frat guys and their sweet talking in order to get into her pants.

Gina Fabbriatore

Re: "Going Green 2"

I am writing this piece to advise you and your staff members at the Banner that I think you created a very boring eyesore...I am referring to pages 4 and 5 dated December 13th 2010. These 2 pages are excruciatingly boring and extremely bland. My eyes were assaulted by too many words and too little in the way of pictures. Personally, I would more than likely skip reading these 2 pages for this reason.

Marilyn Williams

Re: "CPE Says Sayonara, Stressed out Students Rejoice"

When I read the title of this piece alone, my jaw dropped. As a Senior who missed a chance last semester to take the CPE, I was very thrilled to know that I would not have to take the dreaded exam again! And to think that this was such a critical exam that determined whether or not a student would proceed to the next level this just feels like another weight lifted off of my shoulders and I am enthralled...

Sadet Rowe

Re: "Why Is Twitter Important?"

I Completely agreed with Justin Sarachik's view of Twitter. At first I thought that Twitter was just another pointless social networking site, too. Just another way for people to talk endlessly about themselves and stalk their friends all day via the internet. But now I realize that it does help bands, celebrities, writers, photographers, etc network their material and spread the word faster. Its also good that "updates" on Twitter are only allowed a certain number of characters so people can't just prattle on and on and lose a reader's interest. Just the facts are communicated and if I'm interested I click on the link and read more. The article completely summed up

my feelings on Twitter and I enjoyed it.

Anna Tardogno

Re: "Going Green 2"

It's true the amount of money spent a year not only on tuition but transportation is out of this world! \$104 on an unlimited 30-day metrocard is bad enough on a day with poor weather. Some can argue that those who live within a reasonable distance of the campus should bike or rollerblade here. Only problem is with the crazy driving you see on this island...

Rebecca Daniels

Re: "Sex And Another College"

This article seemed to be too much like an X-rated novel that an author Zane would write. When the girl described how Peter's lips crossed her right shoulder felt a little to specific. I also didn't enjoy how Greek life is portrayed. If you're going to somehow bash Greek life have something positive to also say. Not all Greek life is about partying and drinking. There is also fundraising & philanthropic work included to. Next time focus on more of the positive aspects.

Kenyetta Oliver

Re: "More Class Time Equals More Free Time"

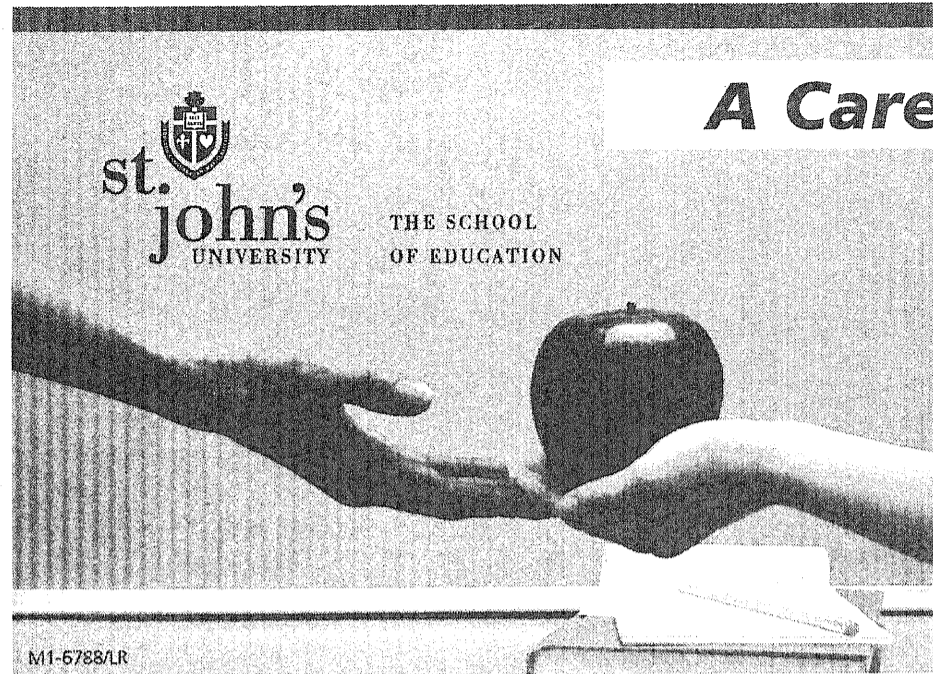
I feel that this article regarding the option of longer classes is definitely a surfacing situation on campus. While the article itself doesn't contain the best grammar, it still shows a resolution to a large problem. However, I think more could have been said concerning students traveling from homes that requires them to pay a toll or even others whose schedule takes a toll on their wallets seeing as gas prices aren't exactly at an all time low.

Patrick Fleming

Re: "CPE Says Sayonara, Stressed Out Students Rejoice"

At last, finally, they get rid of that pointless exam! I took it last year, having to work around my mid-term schedule to attend the prep classes. I didn't really understand why it was implemented as a degree requirement, but I knew if I didn't take it, I would be in a whole heap of trouble. Well all of that is behind me now, and though I'm mad as hell that I essentially took it for no reason, I'm glad no one else will have to suffer through a pointless exam again. I look forward to an article on the new ways CUNY is going to measure our collegiate merit, and at the same time... I'm not.

Marlena Moore



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"College Student Chases Her Dreams"
Continued from the front page

does that and more. Not only do you get to meet talented people, but in fashion, you get to see their talents showcased."

Jadel supports her decision in choosing Panthere Communications over the other Public Relations companies when she explains not only what she can offer a company, but what a company can offer her. In most of the interviews she had been on informed that she would only be shadowing marketing associates and sales representatives. Panthere offered Jadel a perfect balance between understanding both administrative and hands on work. Her duties include dealing with the press, tracking clothing, organizing the showroom for model castings, and of course, attending fashion shows and events. It is clear to see that with such a broad range of responsibilities, she is well on her way to exceeding Mrs. Stacey London herself.

Besides catching a sporadic shut-eye, she continues to be career driven on a daily basis. The culmination of her efforts, studies, and hard work is to be a proud owner of an established fashion public relations firm, but Jadel is well aware that big rewards have high costs. Her biggest challenge as an ambitious college student has been balancing her current workload all while she works toward a larger than life career. But the optimistic "fashionista" reinforced her balancing act when she said, "I have learned that prioritizing is the key to accomplishment."

What priority takes precedence over all you might ask? Fashion. She started with watching runway shows from the luxury of her own home. She then used televised shows as an inspiration to design her own pieces, and now, before she adds a bachelor's degree to her list of accomplishments, Jadel Rowe loves every minute as a fashion public relations intern in the city that never sleeps. Such a burning desire to enter the fashion world might have been pre-destined for her, but Jadel Rowe proudly said "Ever since I was in the seventh grade, I knew that my life would be surrounded by fashion somehow, somehow. I always knew from that very young age that this is what I loved and dreamed about, and now I'm going after that dream."

"Local Music Maven Hopes To Make Airwaves"
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Way" has been featured in several films such as Ice Age and Matilda. She continues to scope out concerts and music festivals as much as she can. Her all time favorite film is Almost Famous - a film about a young boy who travels with an up and coming band despite his mother's unfavorable feelings towards music. "It's an inspirational and relatable film," she said. "Who knows? Maybe someday I'll write for Rolling Stone Magazine."

"Schulman Named Distinguished Professor"
Continued from the front page

where I studied with Audre Lorde, an experience that has enriched me all my life. But really what is most meaningful for me about this promotion is that writing about Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered people and people with AIDS, is finally being recognized as an organic and fundamental part of American Arts and Letters."

Professor Schulman has published prolifically during her career: nine novels, four works of non-fiction, and one play. Her work has been translated into nine languages and has been included in scores of anthologies. She has produced more than a dozen plays in theaters and

"Como Named Clinical Nurse Specialist by the NACNS"
Continued from the front page

Como began her teaching career as a Critical Care Instructor at Methodist Hospital and has been teaching at CSI since 1992. She is the recipient of a number of awards and grants, earning tens of thousands of dollars as the Principal Investigator (PI) for several projects that use different aspects of technology to assist students in acquiring the critical thinking traits and skills in the nursing diagnosis, care, and evaluation of patients, families, and communities. She has published several articles in health care journals such as the International Journal of Human Caring and Holistic Nursing Practice. Her doctoral focus is on health literacy, medication adherence, and health outcomes in patients with heart failure.

The NACNS was founded in 1995 to

Volunteering at the radio station has its perks. She gets to discover new bands and artists. Most recently she reviewed Less than Jake, a ska/punk band based in Florida. She hopes it'll lead to more internships, specifically one at 101.9 RXP - A NYC alternative rock station, or a nifty position at Sirius Radio where her favorite shock jock, Howard Stern hosts his own show.

Recently Anna had a sit-in with a DJ at W5IA. At the sit-in the DJ taught Anna the ropes of working at a radio station. She learned how to switch from one song to the

next and how to go off-air. When Anna is not at the radio station, she's usually hanging out with friends and constantly updating her iPod play list. "My friends are constantly approaching me for music when they're about to throw a party," she said. "I'm their advisor when it comes to good party music."

In the mean time, Anna is looking forward to the remainder of the semester and taking a "radio production" class in the fall. "Music is my life," she said. "I know someday I'll be sitting behind the mic and broadcasting my own show. I can't wait."

other performance venues. Her work in the arts has gained her Fulbright and Guggenheim Fellowships. This past year, her co-authored screenplay, The Owls, premiered at the prestigious Berlin Film Festival. As a journalist, her work has appeared in The New York Times, The Guardian of London, The Nation, The Village Voice, Mother Jones, Interview, The Progressive, American Theater, Millennium Film Journal, and others.

Professor Schulman's many contributions dedicated to the cultural and political spheres of LGBTQ arts and ideas were recently honored with the David R. Kessler Lecture and Award in LGBTQ Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center. This past year Professor

enhance and promote the valuable contributions of clinical nurse specialists to the health care industry. Members are highly influential in the nursing industry. They aid in the development of CNS education standards and support state-specific legislative initiatives.

The Nursing program at CSI is one of the College's longest-running programs, dating back to the 1960s when CSI was known as Staten Island Community College. Today, the Department has grown into one of CSI's flagship programs, offering Master's and Nurse Specialist degrees. CSI nursing graduates are employed in a variety of institutions throughout the city.

Schulman was also appointed to the Advisory Council of the Harvard Kennedy School, Carr Center for Human Rights and Social Movements.

"I have had some extraordinary students here at CSI," Schulman added, "who I believe in and who deserve to advance and become leaders of our community and country. I worry that our most gifted students are not always getting the opportunities that they deserve and I hope that, as a teacher, I can relate to each of my students as an individual, both of us working to form a distinct partnership in learning, so that whatever they bring to the table can be recognized and enhanced by our collaboration."

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The Economic Impacts of Egypt's Regime Change

THOMAS BRIGANDI

With the recent departure of Egypt's former President Hosni Mubarak from power, it is clear that there will be changes in the way business is conducted in Egypt. Under Mubarak, the average Egyptian citizen faced a difficult task of achieving economic security due to relatively high unemployment, political corruption, and most unfortunately, rampant poverty.

In fact, according to the CIA World Factbook, an estimated 20% of Egyptians live below the poverty line. Due to this reason is why many Egyptians took to the streets to protest the Mubarak government, whom they felt was not giving them a fair chance to attain economic security. More importantly, the main complaint of many protesters about the Egyptian government under Mubarak was that it should have been doing more to provide decent living conditions free of immense poverty which many

Egyptians faced.

With historical hindsight, it is evident most revolutions are ignited when the economic situation in a specific country produces hardships for a significant percentage of the citizens of the country. The American Revolution, the French Revolution, and most recently, the overthrowing of Mubarak, are all connected by a common thread because in all three instances the economic situation was claimed to be the main catalyst which pushed people to revolt and overthrow a government they felt wasn't doing a good job protecting their interests.

At the height of the revolt, close to one billion dollars in outflows were leaving Egypt on a daily basis, the Egyptian Pound was losing value quickly, and credit rating agencies downgraded the debt of Egypt on fears the country might slip into chaos if the revolts got violent. However, with the stepping down of Mubarak, the short term economic situation has calmed down as banks

and other businesses have started to reopen. With that being said, it is still safe to say that the long term effects of the resignation of President Mubarak will not be completely realized for some time.

According to the article "Egypt economy faces rocky road after protests" from Reuters:

"Egypt's economy was worth an estimated \$217 billion last year, half of oil giant Saudi Arabia, and relies on foreign investments, tourism and fees from the Suez Canal. A month before the protests erupted on January 25, analysts polled by Reuters had expected growth of 5.4 percent in the fiscal year ending in June, second in the Gulf Arab region only to Qatar. The government had forecast 6 percent expansion. While banks and some shops are reopening, tourists -- who account for between 5 and 11 percent of economic output -- are still shunning the popular holiday hub, making the growth predictions look optimistic."

Moreover, according to the same article from Reuters, "Lower private consumption, which accounts for around 70 percent of GDP, a drop in foreign investments and higher unemployment are also expected to

hurt [Egypt's] economic performance. Although Mubarak's promise of a double-digit salary raise for public sector workers will now likely be scrapped, the transitional government is likely to keep up spending. Lower taxes, higher subsidies and pressures to give more money to unemployed may also undermine the crude oil-importer's fiscal health, with the budget gap likely to balloon toward 10 percent of GDP this year."

Although the situation might seem like a daunting task to overcome, many experts believe that if a consensus is worked out and a beneficial transition from the military to a democratic civilian government comes to fruition, it seems likely Egypt will have a fighting chance to relinquish its staggering poverty rate and take its place as a developing democracy with a growing emerging economy.

Thomas Brigandi is a Macaulay Honors student. Additionally, he is a frequent contributor to the investing website SeekingAlpha. He also is a Registered Securities Representative. He currently holds the Series 7 and Series 63 Securities Licenses.

CES 2011: A lookback into the future of electronics

ANDREW DILORENZO

It's not just about VCRs anymore.

One of my biggest dreams, besides being the little boy who gave "Mean Joe" Green his Coca-Cola bottle in that infamous Super Bowl advertisement, is to fly out to Nevada and spend a few days at the Consumer Electronics Show, which is where the latest and greatest gadgets are released and about 140,000 attendees get to use those demos and have that experience with them before the general public does.

Last year, the CES debuted 3-D televisions that allow you to connect to the internet, Apple's latest submission into the tablet world, named the iPad, many different e-book readers, and video game software that lets you become the controller. The iPad was a huge success, the cable channel ESPN debuted a 3-D simulcast of their sports games and shows; Android has been proved as a viable competitor and a possible "iPhone killer"; and Kinect for Xbox 360 was one of the big sellers this past holiday season.

So, what will the smart people of the gadget world come out with now that everybody, including Brian Gonzalez, will be buzzing about on their facebook and twitter accounts? Here are five different gadget trends I have compiled that will take us into the future of 2011 and let's everyone know that we are past VCRs and Discman players.

1) Tablets Revolt!
Tablets were big last year, but compa-

nies were mostly showing off underdeveloped prototypes. This has changed because of the iPad's huge success last year, and now countless companies will attempt to make their splash in this market and become true competitors to Apple's popular device.

The top tablet to watch for this year is Motorola's Android tablet, which will be the first device to run the Android 3.0 OS, called "Honeycomb." It's not the only Android tablet that will make its debut this week either. We expect a 10.1-inch tablet from Toshiba and an 8-inch device from Vizio.

While Android will dominate the tablet market this year, we do expect to see some Windows-based tablets. Finally, while we don't expect it to be present at CES, watch out for discussion surrounding the PalmPad, HP and Palm's unannounced webOS tablet device.

2) Video Games become 3 dimensional
Sony, Microsoft and Nintendo will all have a presence at this year's show. Nintendo, which normally skips CES, will be doing private demos of the Nintendo 3DS, which according to their website, is going to have 3 dimensional effects without the need of special glasses.

Sony and Microsoft on the other hand will be showcasing their motion controllers, the PlayStation Move and the Xbox Kinect. Both devices are selling like hotcakes and we expect to see previews of future games that will utilize their respective motion controls. And of course, there will be a lot of game accessory manufacturers at the show, launching new peripherals for our favorite

gaming devices.

3) Everything is Connected

"Connected" will be a big buzzword at this year's CES. It starts with the cars: Ford, Toyota, BMW and others will have a big presence at this year's show as they showcase their Internet technologies, including OnStar and FORD Sync

Connected TVs will also be big once again. They've had a year to mature, and thanks to Apple and Google debuting their own TV service and the Roku for making Netflix viewing more easily, the market for Internet-enabled TVs have never been bigger. Expect to see this year more manufacturers producing more televisions that let you watch someone play Plinko as you play it on games.com.

And, yes, we will finally see what Thomas Brigandi has wanted for many years: an Internet-enabled washer machine. Before you know it, refrigerators and a Span contained will be your golden ticket into the World Wide Web.

4) 4G makes its debut

LTE (Long Term Evolution), the best-known type of 4G network, will be a big selling point at this year's CES. Verizon will be holding numerous press conferences during the event just to unveil details about its 4G network, but expect a lot of 4G devices to be unveiled as well, following the success of the HTC Evo 4G.

One such device to be on the lookout for is the HTC Thunderbolt, which will have the distinction of being the first LTE phone on the Verizon network. It's a 4.3-inch monster of a phone, but specs were not released at the time of print.

Other devices to watch for: The HTC Evo Shift 4G, the LG Optimus 2X and even Motorola's Android Honeycomb tablet, which will also feature 4G connectivity.

Finally, number 5: Android & CES vs. Apple & iOS

Have you spotted an underlying theme for this year's show? People will say CES 2011 is all about tablets, but while they will be prevalent, the real star of this year's show will be Google Android.

Android tablets. Android phones. Android appliances?! There will be so many devices running on Android at this year's CES that you're going to need an actual android (like Data from Star Trek: the Next Generation) to help keep track of it all.

Hundreds of companies have latched themselves onto Android, some so much so that their fate will be tied to the operating system's market performance. It's the only credible counterweight to Apple and iOS. The \$300+ billion company will be casting a shadow on this year's show thanks to the imminent release of the Verizon iPhone and the iPad 2. It wouldn't surprise us if Apple announced one of its famous press events this week just to take the steam out of this year's show.

Apple is the reason why everyone's going gaga over Android and why everyone is so invested in the Google ecosystem. Without Android, Apple could steamroll over CES. It's a testament to just how powerful Apple has become.

Andrew DiLorenzo is a retail consultant for RadioShack and the creator of unsubliminal messages. Check out more of his stuff at his blog: unsubliminalmessages.wordpress.com

BANNER LIFESTYLES

Oscar's Fashion Race is heating Up

LEEOR BRONIS

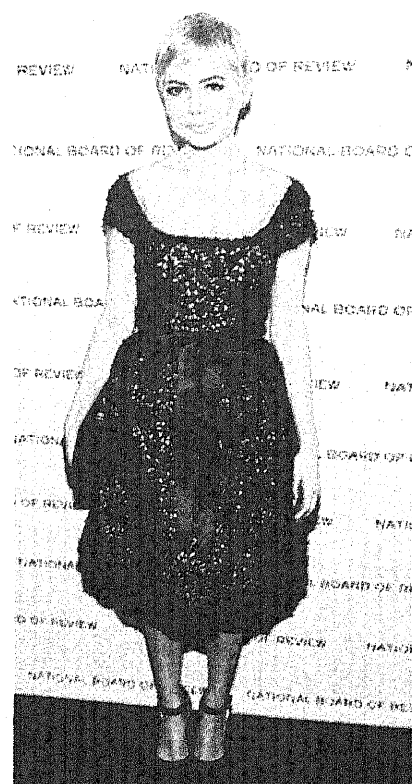
It's that time of year again, where Hollywood's most glamorous stars step out for a night of champagne, awards and seriously fierce fashion. This year's nominees for best actress and best supporting actress must dress their best to ensure they will not end up on the dreaded worst dressed list.

With the right accessories, hair and make-up, any one of these options would be suitable for an A-list nominee. You can find out what your favorite stars wore when the Academy Awards air on ABC, February 27th.

What the stars could be wearing on their big night out.

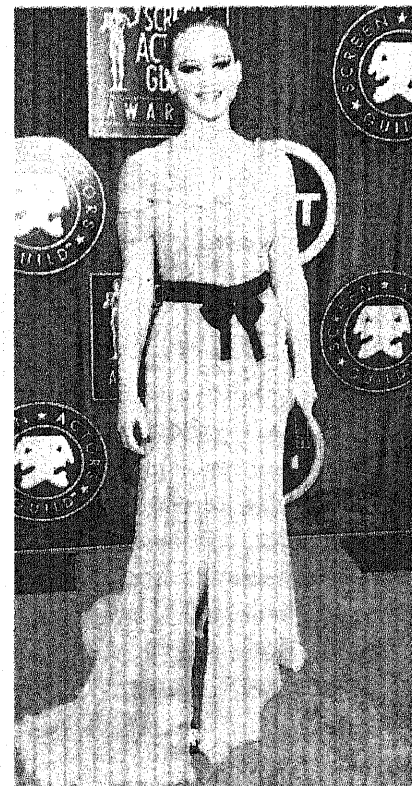
After her outfit was voted worst dressed at this year's Golden Globes, everyone will be wondering what best actress nominee, Michelle Williams, will be wearing to the Oscars.

Williams needs to choose sleek, elegant designers such as Donna Karen and Elie Saab if she wants to be considered a fashion contender on the red carpet.

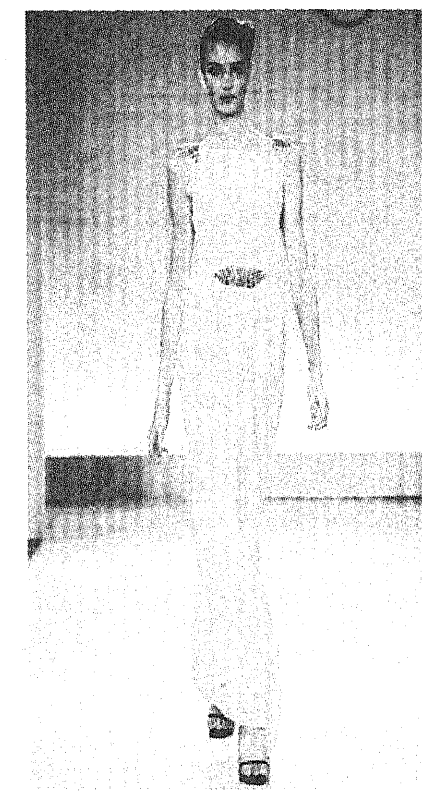


Left, Donna Karen dress, Pre Fall 2011. Right, Elie Saab dress, Spring 2011 Couture.

Nominated in the best actress category for the first time for her performance in Winters Bone, Jennifer Lawrence may be a newcomer but she is proving she is a fashion contender. Her choices of candy colored dresses and asymmetrical designs have made her a favorite among designers such as Oscar De la Renta and Louis Vuitton.



Left, Oscar De la Renta dress, Spring 2011 Ready-to-Wear. Right, Monique Lhuillier dress, Spring 2011 Ready-to-Wear.



Left, Jean Paul Gaultier dress, Spring 2011 couture. Right, Collette Dinnigan dress, Spring 2010 Ready-to-Wear.

The pressure is on for Natalie Portman, who is the favorite to win best actress for her performance in Black Swan. The pregnant actress has been choosing gowns that accentuate her growing baby bump; however, she needs to choose designs that are most flattering to her petite frame.



Left, Elie Saab dress, Spring 2011 Couture. Right, Donna Karen dress, spring 2011 Ready-to-Wear.

Nominated in the best supporting actress category this year for her performance in The Fighter, Amy Adams favors sexy and form fitting silhouettes that show off her post baby curves.



Left, Yves Saint Laurent Spring 2011 Ready-to-Wear. Right, Chanel Spring 2011 Couture.

Nicole Kidman has always been daring on the red carpet. Choosing styles by edgy designers such as Balenciaga and Christian Dior have made Kidman a major style icon. She dresses purely for fashion and it is expected that this year's Oscars will be no different.

SEX AND THE ISLAND

A Roman Affair

What happens when vacation sex turns into genuine feelings?

LEEOR BRONIS

There are times in a young woman's life where she seriously questions the reality of her situation. I was twenty years old, standing outside the Coliseum on New Year's Eve and I was about to kiss the sexiest man I had ever met in the most romantic city in the world. If this was reality, I thought, that was something I could get used to.

"You do realize your prince charming is going to be on a plane to Cairo in about seven hours," Jenny, my best friend and travel buddy for my winter break getaway said.

"I know," I exclaimed. "But you have to admit, this is just like Audrey Hepburn in Roman Holiday."

"See that's your problem," Jenny screamed over sounds of live music, fireworks and obnoxious Italian natives. "You don't want to be in love, you want to be in love in a movie."

Jenny did have a point. The whole scenario was a bit cinematic. In the four days since I met Sean, an Australian archaeologist working in Cairo, our courtship played out like scenes that were straight out of a Fellini film. Our days consisted of sipping cappuccinos in Piazza Navona, long walks along the Tiber River, eating Gelato in St. Peters square and two AM cab rides to fancy roman restaurants and clubs. Then there the days were we did nothing but have hot sex in a sweaty hostel room while our friends were off getting lost on the streets of Rome.

American Idol Revamped

MARISSA PESSOLANO

America's favorite talent show is back with its tenth season, bringing a new panel of judges and changes to the shows format in attempts to achieve a "fresh new look." So far, American Idol has been exhibiting dominance, as it has greatly surpassed the competition, while staying on pace with ratings from its previous seasons. Many people have embraced the changes, but despite the success, the "New Idol" has been receiving its share of criticism.

With the departure of Simon Cowell, Kara DioGuardi, and Ellen DeGeneres, season 10 began with the announcement of the new panel of judges. In front of a concert hall of fans, Idol veteran, Randy Jackson, Jennifer Lopez, and Steven Tyler, were

When on vacation you can trust no one, especially yourself. I am not the type of girl to run off to foreign countries and have romantic interludes with men I know I will never see again. However, I had to admit, I was enjoying the effects this vacation was having on my sexual attitude. Suddenly every inhibition that I once harbored in the bedroom was released.

What is it about a city like Rome that can suddenly make a person feel so sexual? Perhaps it's the fact that we know this certain person will be going back to wherever they came from and all that will be left with are the memories of truly amazing vacation sex. But what if this was about more than just a physical or hormonal attraction? I couldn't help but wonder, at what point does a passionate dalliance with a stranger become about more than just sex? After the coliseum we came back to the bar that was attached to our hostel. It proved to be the perfect spot to meet fellow backpackers from all over the world who were looking for two things, beer and sex.

"You know you're the first American girl I've ever been with," Sean admitted as he handed me my fifth glass of champagne.

"Oh, I doubt that," I said as I watched Jenny hook up with the Danish bartender. "I'm sure there are young female tourists in Cairo who are just looking for a charming archaeologist like yourself."

"Not quite I'm afraid," Sean admitted half jokingly. "It's just me, 23 sweaty men and a desert."

"Does this generally work for you?" I asked.

"What?"

revealed as the new faces of the show. Although the season has just begun, it seems as if the judges are taking a more positive direction. There is an all around positive energy towards all of the contestants especially Lopez and the difficulties she has had with saying "no." Steven Tyler has lightened the mood providing some amusement, however, there have been a few questionable moments where he has hit on young contestants. Randy Jackson, on the other hand, seems to be taking a more serious approach reducing the use of the terms "dawg" and "mad," perhaps trying to be "the new Simon." Nevertheless, the introduction of this new trio has been successful so far, although Simon's wit, expressions, and comments are greatly missed.

The audition stage has been noticeably different and for some people, this comes as a disappointment. Unlike previous seasons, less time has been spent on the bad singers and people with get-ups. Most of

"This self deprecating, lonely desert man, just-me-and-a-camel thing?"

"Why? Is it turning you on?" he asked as he slipped his hand into the back of my shirt.

"Maybe a little," I admitted.

"That's what I thought," he said as he downed his bottle of Fosters. "Now, can we get out of here already?"

We walked the four flights of stairs up to Sean's room when I realized this was the last night we would sleep together. As I entered the tiny, 40 Euros a night hostel room, I felt Sean's hands wrap around my body. As he pulled me close and began to kiss me I felt a difference in the passion of his kiss. It was intense and powerful. It was as if somehow we both understood that this week had been a once in a lifetime experience and after this night it was going to be over. That night we didn't just have sex, we made love.

When he walked me back to my room later on that night we were both silent. There were so many things I wished I could say to him, but there was no use. In a few hours he would be halfway around the world and we would be distant memories to each other. After a few minutes of excruciating silence, he finally spoke.

"I wish I didn't have to get on this plane," he said.

"I thought all Australians fly by Emu," I said jokingly.

"She's in the shop," he said as we both burst out with laughter.

"Well, it was really nice meeting you," I

said reluctantly.

He pushed a loose strand of hair way from my face and kissed me one last time. I looked him in the eyes, gave him a warm smile and went inside. There were no more words to be said.

Two days later Jenny and I boarded a train to Paris, the next stop on our European trail. We were so excited to get there that we hardly even noticed the fishy smell or the tiny compartment we were sharing with four grimy Italian men.

"Hey, are you O.K.?" Jenny asked as we jammed our suitcases into the tiny over head bins.

"You know why I think Audrey Hepburn fell in love with Gregory Peck?" I asked. "It's because she never slept with him. Sex ruins everything."

"I know you like this person but you only knew him for a week," Jenny said half annoyed. "Stop living like you're in some kind of a movie. Life is not ever going to look the way you want it to."

Jenny was right. I was never looking for my soul mate on this trip. I was looking for an adventure and if nothing else Sean was exactly that, a wonderful adventure.

"As I recall, Audrey and that writer guy didn't even end up together at the end," Jenny said as we watched Italy gradually disappear in the window. "So there, it's exactly like the movie and now you can be happy."

If you have any questions or need relationship advice, or just a comment in general, email the sex columnist at the.Banner.csi@gmail.com

some footage from this new living arrangement. The ideas of the finalists having to promote themselves as artists and putting together an award show caliber performance have been tossed around, but these new aspects have yet to be confirmed.

As the weeks progress, viewers will get a deeper look into the "new" Idol and be able to better formulate their opinions on the changes. As for now, the current ratings and fan response to the show thus far, makes it look as if American Idol will continue to be successful and a must-see in many households.

The formatting after the audition stage has been revamped as well. The top 24 round has been omitted, and the elimination process will be sped up greatly, narrowing it down to the top 10 or 12 finalists. The theme weeks will also be getting a makeover, as contestants will be able to sing a song from a specific decade or a broader category. There have even been talks that original songs will be permitted. In addition, the finalist will be living in an "idol mansion" and the audience may see

BANNER ARTS

Do dolphins really have three legs?

"Is that your penis as a third leg or are you just happy to see me?"

ANDREW DILORENZO

What does a dolphin with a third leg, a former 2008 Presidential candidate from Alaska who transforms into the Incredible Hulk, the Sarlacc from The Empire Strikes Back, and me have in common? The answer is not Charlie Sheen, but you're close. All of those different examples are just some of the reasons why Operation Three Legged Dolphin, the upstart humor magazine that skewers popular culture and figureheads of the College of Staten Island, is extremely popular with the masses of students. Now having completed their fourth issue, I had the opportunity to chat with the two main characters behind the magazine: the former editor-in-chief, Michael Young, and his right hand man and artist extraordinaire, David DiLillo, who answered some questions for me, including their reasoning why they sent-up a certain social network movie and how many students request to have themselves become part of the O3LD history.

Andrew DiLorenzo: Congratulations to the both of you on the fourth installment. The consensus on the campus is that everyone loved it. So how does it feel to be at the fourth issue already? Is it surreal? Did you see the publication catching on so well with the mass public and starting a cult favorite for some?

Mike Young: It's definitely surreal to be talking about O3LD with you in January 2011, upon publication of our fourth issue. We conceived of this humor magazine in Fall 2007, when we were sophomores, so we've grown up and matured along with it. When Dave and I graduated last May, we were unsure as to what was going to happen with O3LD. At this transitional point, we were no longer CSI students, and lost a good number of staff, who had gone on to do other things. Plus, we had told our main story arc, which played out over Issues 1-3. So what happened was, my brother, Matt, and Ed Peppe, a talented illustrator on staff, started distributing copies of O3LD at the start of the Fall 2010 semester. People started to ask me if they could contribute to the magazine, acting under the assumption it was still continuing. At the same time, Ed showed me some great ideas he had for the layout, which included an official logo and typeface and a more professional design scheme. I figured, "We've got the funding, and enough people on board to make this happen. Let's produce

an O3LD4!" Around this time, we were kicking around ideas for the main story, until one day we saw "The Social Network" in theaters. We saw some surprising parallels to the creative history behind O3LD, and immediately our parody, and our issue, was in motion. I could never have pictured the metamorphosis this magazine would have gone through over the years, and the form it would take from where we started, but each issue has its own challenges, identity, and learning curve. It's a joy to create. I'm incredibly grateful people have responded positively and have been so supportive.

David DiLillo: I agree with Mike on that question. It is a bit surreal to have recently helped complete the fourth issue of O3LD, but not so much when I really take stock of the time that goes by outside of this creative outline of mine and ours. A saying I like to frequently invoke is that it feels like it should. To be honest the third issue hit me like a ton of bricks because it also brought with it the end of my undergraduate program. This issue, as wacky and ridiculous and irreverent as it is, and what we hope to work on in the near future, actually feels like very stable aspects of my recent life. And of course! - it's always refreshing to add on new fans to what is already our respectable core base. I've noticed certain individuals enjoy different facets of each issue, and I'm proud to be able to have a large and growing back catalog of humor encompassed by our issues that can win new hearts. I'm definitely with Mike on the unique clay each issue is molded with and the challenges each bring to the table, but that is the fun.

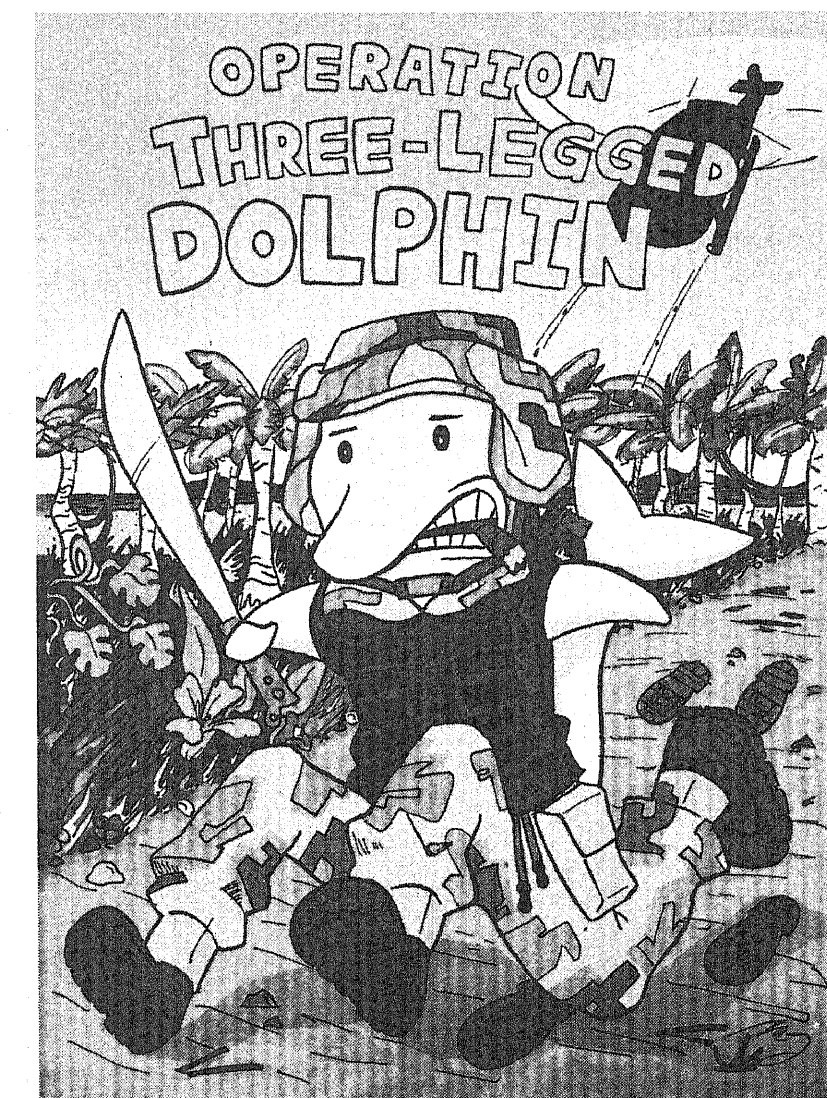
AD: You have served as the publication's editor in chief for three issues. You must have had ideas on the table that were just too horrible to print? Do you remember some of those that you can share?

MY: I've seen a lot of things cross the table during my time with this magazine. This past issue, we had to edit out a joke about God performing fellatio from our MK Platypus II "extreme advertisement." It made us laugh, but we had to draw the line somewhere. For the most part, we try to censor as little as possible.

AD: What would you say is some of the magazine's biggest influences? your influences?

DD: In terms of that, I take my influences from individuals' senses of humor that I highly respect and admire - certain musicians, pundits, etc. Basically, if it's sardonic, dry, or dark, I'm all over it.

MY: I was a kid who never went a day with-



O3LD

out reading the newspaper comics, up until college. So that's a big part of my humor. I also used to watch a lot of animated sitcoms and movies, you know, things we all like. Right now I'm reading a lot more graphic novels. I'm coming to the end of the Scott Pilgrim series, which is the best comic book I've read in a long time. I like the fun visuals, outlandish humor, and strong characterization. I'm inspired to write a graphic novel.

AD: As another semester commences at the College, what can readers look forward to in Issue 5? Anything you can give to us as a sneak peek?

MY: The exciting news is we'll be starting this semester with the creation of our first

O3LD blog. We also have some new promotional items, like t-shirts and hats that are on their way. On the blog we aim to have a step-by-step creation of Issue 5, with concept artwork and updates, so fans don't have to wait months for O3LD happenings until they receive the finished product. As for Issue 5 itself, I've never felt this motivated to work on the magazine. This is most likely the last one Dave and I will work on, so we want to go out on a high note. We're continuing to look for ways to get new people on board and keep O3LD fresh and interesting. When I first started I had to explain to the CSI Publications Board why what we were doing was different, and why we couldn't

just submit to an existing publication. I had to explain that there wasn't a humor magazine at CSI, and there was a niche we were looking to fill.

AD: The publication is known for transforming real life people into their cartoon versions. How many people a day would you say came up to you and asked to be transformed into a cartoon?

MY: Ever since we put up the cartoon Facebook defaults, I've been getting lots of requests from people asking to be cartoonized. I love placing people's cartoon selves in the magazine as a way of getting them featured and involved. It's fun when readers are flipping through and recognize the people they know.

AD: Finally, what is some advice you can pass onto students who are interested in starting up their own endeavor?

MY: My advice to students who want to start up their own publication is to have a clear vision for what you want the magazine to be, and have a talented and committed group of people who are willing to work on it. Finally, to be also professional and timely with their publication, since students are investing their resources into it.

Operation Three Legged Dolphin, issue 4, is currently distributed throughout many of the buildings at CSI.

BANNER OPINIONS

Let us have light

MICHAEL MILEY

It is a well-known fact to anyone that has ever taken a night class or been on campus past 5pm in winter that the lighting on campus leaves much to be desired to say the least. It's not just that the lights are dim in spots (which are numerous) but it is also that many lights are blown out as well.

We are three weeks or so into the Spring semester and every light pole in the courtyard of the English Building (2S) as well as the sidewalk lighting on either side of it, is out. Now complaining about lighting on campus maybe viewed as nit picky, but lighting does go a long way towards the feeling and illusion of safety and security. The FBI has done studies that show

that proper street lighting actually goes along way towards decreasing crime in a given area. Now CSI isn't a crime-ridden neighborhood, but with a student body of over 12,000, statistically speaking minor crimes must occur. It is in a way a psychological blanket when it is dark. If no one can see me, no one can say I did something wrong and I won't be punished or exposed. So when you shine a light into that dark where one lurks in the shadows, that blanket is stripped away and one is laid bare for the entire world. This is one of the greatest deterrents, the fear that one might be seen committing a crime.

I'm not arguing that this happens on CSI. I'm frequently here till well into the night and have never had a problem that

did not entail anything beyond impaired vision. Yet we can see the fear is there. Public Safety does offer to escort people from buildings to various parking lots after dark but the best solution to offering the female students of CSI as well as anyone else the reassurance of safety is of course to improve the lighting

Improving the lighting on campus of course is an expensive prospect. There are many lamps that would either need to be upgraded or replaced in addition to the cost of blubs et cetera. Now for the longest time I thought it would be a good idea for the campus to switch to LED lighting. They are much brighter than the average halogen street lamp as well as at least thirty percent more efficient so they would save the school money on electricity in the long run. They do have the draw back of being expensive and right now with massive

budget cuts coming, the likely hood that there will be extra money to overhaul the entire system does not look very bright. There is good news to be had though. I'm apparently not the only person on campus to have realized the benefit and value of LED lighting. If you go down at night between 2S and 3S on the corner that leads down the diagonal walkway going towards 1P, there is one light fixture that has had LED's installed. It is noticeable now much brighter the light is for a large radius around the pole. I do hope that this is a sign that in the near future the school will be working towards replacing all the lights or at least the streetlights on campus so that we the student body can actually see where were walking at night.

Blowing smoke off your campus

"Does CUNY have the right to take your butt away?" (pun intended)

ANDREW DILORENZO

It's 6:20 pm. You're a student at CSI that just came from your hardest midterm that you have ever taken. You know you bombed it and to make you feel better, you decide to take out that carton of cigarettes you bought this morning from the local Hess Express. You light up that cigarette and as you start to puff and feel better, there's a Public Safety officer in front of you, telling you to put the cigarette out. Once you do, that same Public Safety officer gives you a fine with your name on it and a reason of violation: smoking on campus. This is not a cruel joke I am making up just so I can have an article printed about myself, but this is actually becoming a reality by September of 2012. Once that comes, students of any CUNY campus will not be able to smoke anywhere while in attendance. The reason this is happening is because CUNY is putting a lot of hard earned money they rob from students' everyday into a new campus: the CUNY School of Public Health. In a statement released both by CUNY chancellor Matthew Goldstein and board chairperson Benno Schmidt, "CUNY has an opportunity—and a responsibility—to set appropriate standards as an example for universities seeking to protect the health of their students and employees." They are right about

this. They have an opportunity: to rob the students of more money and the freedom to smoke. Students have their vices, and smoking is one of them. If a student has nerves and they get scared or stressed after a horrible test in a class, they need to use that vice to calm them down. CUNY has the nerve to take cigarettes away from the thousands of students who pay 2600.00 in tuition, 400.00 in textbooks, and 10.00 in cigarettes is wrong, especially if that student is taking three classes back to back because CUNY does not know how to open up more sections for classes that students need. And if they are going to implement fines, that's bullshit. You're robbing poor students of their money they don't even had, just because a bunch of bigwigs decided to play doctor and screw over tons of students and tell them "you can't smoke anywhere because people get sick." There is a warning on cigarette packages that describes the risks of smoking, and the students know that. I disagree with you a lot, CUNY, and for now students, take advantage of smoking on campus and stand up for your free rights and tell the administration at CUNY that this is not a war camp and taking away smoking is like taking away you're right to free speech. They can't control you, even if you're on their campus.

Da Bannah or 'Sincurly' yours, Anonymous

The following was a letter written to the Banner at the end of the Fall 2010 semester. On the next page we have responses from editors & staff who either chose to name themselves or remain anonymous. These reflect individual opinions and not the opinions of the Banner as a whole.

December 15, 2010

Dear Banner staff,

Upon reading the *Banner* masthead contained in issue #4, I see that the staff includes an editor-in-chief, a managing editor, and a copy editor. Upon reading the rest of the issue, however, I see no evidence of any of these positions. The quality of writing is sub-par; each article contains several grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors. The writers should be ashamed of themselves for presenting articles in such poor condition.

A previous issue of the *Banner* featured an article by Professor Conti that was extremely offensive and completely inappropriate for a college newspaper. I do not remember the specifics of the article, but I recall being struck by the racist undertone as Professor Conti described the concert he attended. Submitting an article spanning over two pages from notes from a faculty member's iPhone is NOT a fine example of journalism. This is a **student** paper, and the *Banner* has no business including such an article.

As the "Official Newspaper of the College of Staten Island," the *Banner* has the responsibility to present student writing of the highest quality. If this is in fact the highest quality writing of CSI students, then I am embarrassed to attend this college. However, I prefer to believe that this is not the highest quality writing, and this is merely an example of lazy, careless work.

Anonymous

BRIAN GONZALEZ

I won't be as kind as my colleagues in my response. It's good to know that you have the capacity to write criticism, but let's see how well you can take it. For starters when writing a letter the first paragraph is supposed to be indented which you obviously have failed to do. Next you refer to us as 'the *Banner*', when if you actually read a copy of the issue we are clearly 'The *Banner*.' I'm curious as to what point the paper's name changed? For that matter the ability to capitalize one letter?

Upon further reading I find that you made a number factual errors that if you simply took the time to inquire about then perhaps I wouldn't be writing this. I'll address each one in order they appear in your letter. First you claim that, "The quality writing is sub-par; each article contains several grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors. The writers should be ashamed of themselves for presenting articles in such poor condition." In the red inked issue that you delivered with this letter would suggest otherwise. One article in particular was only marked by you with three corrections while another contained five corrections, and other one with nine. I think that you should check yourself before making such finite statements. However, on a more serious note the writing is done by students and staff on The *Banner*. All of us are students at CSI who are learning the craft of Journalism, which means that there will be mistakes made that for the most part will be grammatical, punctual, spelling, and stylistic. This is why we are students who are studying to learn the craft of Journalism and Writing. If we got it right the first time would we need to attend college. Also the editors have as much blame as the writers though I speak for myself. We're supposed to catch as many mistakes as possible and correct them, but of the many challenges we face, finding students who are willing to join our staff voluntarily and help edit is one of them. This means we have less experienced staff to edit and train new staff. At the end of the day we don't get paid to produce "The *Banner*." I'm also pretty sure you don't see the campus beyond 10pm, but some of us are here up to 1 am sometimes 2 am to work on an issue. I respect all of my staff and appreciate their hard work and I will back them up 100%. I digress.

Second you claim that the piece submitted, "by Professor Conti was extremely offensive and completely inappropriate for a college newspaper..." and that "Submitting an article spanning over two pages from notes from a faculty member's iPhone is NOT a fine example of journalism. This is a student paper, and the *Banner* has no business including such an article." You are correct in stating that "The *Banner*" is a student newspaper, yet you overlook that it's also the "College" newspaper meaning that Adjuncts, Faculty, Professors, and Students can submit articles. Simply put, if you don't like it then don't read it. That is your choice. However at the end of the day you do not get to choose what goes into every issue so deal with it.

"Super Bowl XLV And The Future Of The NFL"
Continued from page 12

by the CBA labor battle between the owners and players.

The Draft has a host of potential 1st rounder's, with LSU corner Patrick Peterson, Auburn defensive tackle Nick Fairley, and Clemson defensive end Da'Quan Bowers as the possible 1st overall pick in the draft. Teams like the Panthers, Broncos and Bills will be hard pressed to look at the players. Even teams such as the Giants, Jets, Patriots, Steelers and Colts will look to improve positions currently held by either aging players

Responses to Anonymous

JAMES KINGSLEY

We are glad to see that there are people who read the *Banner*. While I am a writer who is a journalism major, I accept the criticism because I realize that it comes with the job. I honestly am not concerned with criticism from someone who chooses to be anonymous. However, I don't see as to why this letter was written anonymously. Everyone is entitled to their opinion and they should own up to it instead of hiding behind anonymity.

Many of the articles in the *Banner* are written by fellow students who are taking classes in journalism and are learning how to write news stories. If you believe that the writing is 'lazy' as you claim, then instead of whining about it, perhaps you can do something productive like helping us out. I think you need to learn what actually goes into the production of an issue. There are many things that you fail to consider in your criticism, like the number of staff that we have, the fact that this is a student operated newspaper; meaning that we still have classes. Lastly, we are not *The New York Times*. The fact that we attend CSI means that we are students who are learning and that we'll make many mistakes.

For future reference while I welcome any and all opinions, I'd prefer to see criticism from a person not an anti-Scientology member!

Third you claim that, "as the "Official Newspaper of the College of Staten Island," the *Banner* has the responsibility to present student writing of the highest quality." I don't know exactly where this is printed within the issues of "The *Banner*" or in our constitution. Perhaps you're mistaking an ideal for a purpose. However the main purpose of Journalism is the following, "The central purpose of journalism is to provide citizens with accurate and reliable information they need to function in a free society. This encompasses myriad roles—helping define community, creating common language and common knowledge, identifying a community's goals, heroes and villains, and pushing people beyond complacency. This purpose also involves other requirements, such as being entertaining, serving as watchdog and offering voice to the voiceless." I fail to see anything mentioning the quality of writing. This is why we have editors, fact checkers, ect. You may want to actually check out the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism to get a better understanding as perhaps the previous excerpt may not be to your satisfaction.

Lastly you claim that, "If this is in fact the highest

JUSTIN SARACHIK

Dear Anonymous,

First and foremost I would like to thank you for your honesty concerning the issue. I would like to note that everything we do in life takes hard work. A publication is a difficult thing to run when you have four people doing the work a full team should be doing. Like you, we have lives, classes and jobs to attend to. This semester we have more dedicated staff members and are going to do our best to shape this paper up.

Another thing I would like to note is, most of our submissions come from the journalism department of our school, and not us. This is what school is for, to learn. One of the best things The *Banner* has to offer, is the chance for writing "newbies" and people fresh to journalism, a first look at their name in print. It's this first time experience that makes a lot of people interested and come back. All we are here to do is spark that interest, and create something awesome. To sit there and completely destroy someone's article would defeat the purpose. Yes, we let some things go, but at least the writer will come back and learn and work on getting better. Lastly, I would like to extend an open hand for you to join The *Banner*.

If you have so much time to edit our publication, you should do it in the office and credit for it! Maybe you can even grace us with your writing skills and bring us to the level of *The Times*. I know Brian and I will be graduating this semester and the staff would love the help. Maybe we can go on now and get real jobs that pay because of all the "free" and hard work we put in at The *Banner*. Yes, the "the" gets italicized too. You messed that up in your letter. We aren't all perfect, but now that we taught you something, come teach us.

quality writing of CSI students, then I am embarrassed to attend this college. However, I prefer to believe that this is not the highest quality writing, and this is merely an example of lazy, careless work." If that is the case then I'm embarrassed to attend this college as well, but probably not for the same reason as you. My embarrassment of attending this college would stem from the fact that people that are as pretentious, pompous, and petty as you are allowed to study here and be a potential classmate.

However given the fact you took the time to read The *Banner*, find mistakes, show concern, and voice your opinion despite the anonymity leads me to believe that you are not as bad as you make yourself sound. That perhaps if given the opportunity to see what really goes into producing an issue, and understanding the many difficulties that publications on campus face you might actually think differently. I invite you to attend a meeting or stop by during office hours to voice your opinion in person and give some constructive criticism instead of complaining about the problems you can help make this newspaper something you can be proud of.

or inept players in their systems.

Outside coach and player changes, this offseason has already been rocked by off the field problems starting with the stabbing of Redskins wide receiver and kick returner, Brandon Banks. This was a result of an altercation in Washington D.C that has left him hospitalized. Also, road rage has hit Albert Haynesworth, along with a drunken driving incident that has plagued the Raiders, Michael Bush.

Much more news and controversy will continue to arise before the hopeful start of the 2011-2012 season. Problems has arose

with a possible strike, as the CBA is set to expire in March and there are plenty of problems that need to be solved in order to get a new one hammered out. If there is a strike, more than 700 free agents and many other employees will not be able to cash in on contracts until a new CBA is signed and work. If a strike is avoided however, then fans and players can expect an 18 game schedule and incoming rookies will face the rookie salary cap.

The fans and the teams are thinking positively, looking ahead to another successful season of football. The New York Jets are

already revved up, as Rex Ryan has recently made another guarantee by stating, "next year we will win it all." The now defending Super Bowl champs are also preparing to return as a major threat, giving an extension to Super Bowl winning architect, Ted Thomson.

Everything is currently being handled and addressed assuming that there will not be a lockout. Nevertheless, whichever way the outcome goes, the NFL will be different next season.

BANNER SPORTS

A New Brand of Basketball

JAMES MARDIKOS

The crowd rose in anticipation as guard Dale Taranto sped down the court off a turnover Monday night against York College. He then baited the lone York defender toward him and that anticipation of the crowd hit a climax and erupted along with the Dolphin bench when Taranto hit teammate Louis Valdes with a perfect behind the back pass for a layup that was worthy of the SportsCenter Top 10.

It's been that kind of excitement filled season for the Dolphins. Buzzer beaters-triple overtimes, improbable comebacks, stellar individual performances, blown leads, up-tempo offensive play.

The 2010-2011 version of the CSI Men's Basketball team have left no aspects of excitement unturned. An astounding ten games this season have been decided by five points or less. Three of those games went into overtime including a thrilling triple overtime contest against Baruch a month ago that consisted of three buzzer beating shots, two of which were made by Junior transfer Point Guard T.J. Tibbs. He not only sunk a three at the buzzer in the second OT to send it to the third, he finished the job by hitting a jumper at the buzzer of the third OT to give CSI the 109-107 win. "I feel comfortable in that position (taking the big shot)" Tibbs said "because my teammates give me all the confidence in the world in those spots".

Another star from the triple overtime affair was Freshman sensation Bloochy Magloire who tallied 19 points and 13 rebounds in the wild affair. "Hands down it was the best game I have ever been a part of," said Magloire "the best part about it was we never gave up, even when the odds were against us."

The odds were surely stacked against the Dolphins late in that second overtime. Before Tibbs hit the game tying three in the second

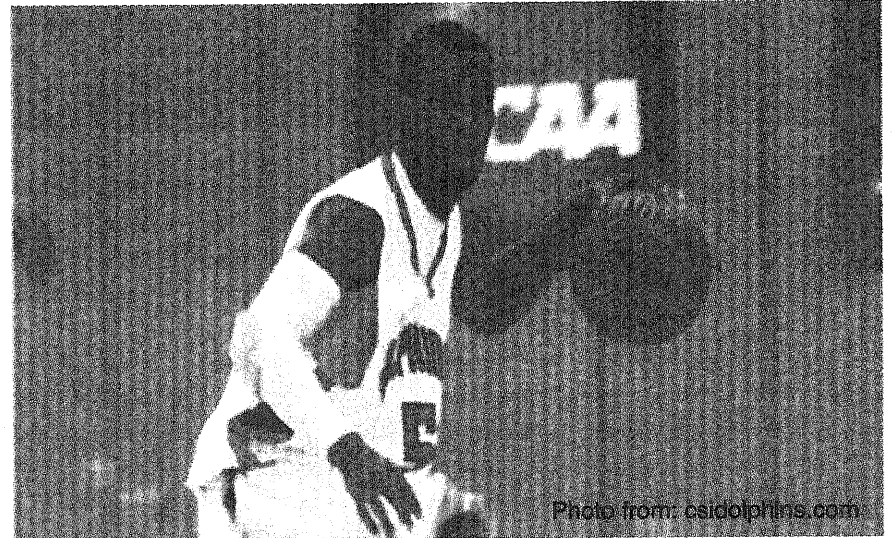
overtime of that game, the Dolphins seemed doomed down by five with under a minute to play. Playing with four fouls Tibbs re-entered the game from the bench and promptly hit a three to cut the lead to two. After Baruch converted one of two free throws the lead was back to three and as time expired Tibbs nailed the tying three to send it to the third OT. "I'm sure it's good for the fans, but I'd rather win a game easily for once," Tibbs said with a smirk.

Tibbs and Magloire have been a vital part to the revival of the Dolphins Basketball program. They have fit in admirably with the holdovers Taranto and reigning CUNY player of the year Junior Forward Jordan Young.

The transition of playing together was extremely smooth for Tibbs and Taranto since the two of them played together at St. Peters High School. "Being able to play with Tibbs again makes things a lot easier for me because it frees me up to have more freedom on the court, he's a great point guard" Taranto said. Tibbs is the elder statesmen having graduated in 2006 while Taranto 2007, however ironically, eligibility wise Tibbs is a Junior because of previous transfers, while Taranto is now the Senior. "It's great to be playing with Dale again," said Tibbs "we have a great chemistry and we play well together".

For Magloire it has been a special opportunity for him as a Freshman to be exposed to the leadership and talents of Young, Taranto and Tibbs. "It's definitely a great feeling knowing I have experienced players to look up to" Magloire said "I learn a lot from them and they give me support and the confidence to become a better player

With the incoming additions at the beginning of the year, it led Coach Tony Petosa to install a new motion oriented offense with an emphasis on pushing the ball to gain easy points on the transition. "We love to push the



Dolphins Point Guard T.J. Tibbs holding it down on the court!

ball and put pressure on the D" Tibbs said.

It isn't just the duo who is heavily involved in the new offense. The Senior, Taranto is seen routinely flying up and down the court with the basketball, and the offense has also allowed shooters such as fellow Freshman Louis Valdes to thrive from behind the three point line. "We like to run because we have a lot of athleticism and shooters along with the inside presence of Jordan (Young)" Magloire said.

The more exciting version of basketball this season at CSI has caught the attention of commentators. The crowds at home games are noticeably larger and intense than that of seasons past. The veterans Taranto and Young have definitely taken notice, "absolutely a big difference from the past two years" said Young. "There is definitely more intensity in the stands this year" Taranto said, "the team feeds off the crowd and it makes us play harder".

After the rousing 14-4 start which included an undefeated 9-0 beginning to the CUNY schedule, the team hit a rut which has seen the Dolphins drop three in a row including shocking losses to CUNY cellar dweller City Tech and York College who the Dolphins handled soundly by 25 in their first meeting. "We are just going to take it day by

day and learn from these three tough losses and mistakes" said the captain Young, "each practice is going to be more important from now to the end." Tibbs sighted the team's defense as an aspect that will need improvement, "we have to just stay confident and improve on the defensive end, our goal wasn't to go undefeated in the CUNY it was to win it which is still very possible".

The outlook worked as the team rebounded last Wednesday night winning yet another close game, this time 77-74 over Megar Evers which allowed the Dolphins to clinch the top seed in the upcoming CUNYAC Conference Tournament.

The ultimate goal of course for any CUNY athletics team is to win their respective CUNY Conference Tournament and advance to the D3 NCAA Tournament.

"The goal every year is to win the CUNY" said Taranto, "this year with the group of guys we have on the team, we have a really good opportunity".

The Dolphins finish up their regular season schedule with two tilts at home on Friday 2/11 at 5:30 pm against Brooklyn College and on Tuesday 2/15 against St. Joseph's College.

Super Bowl XLV and the Future of the NFL

JAMES KINGSLEY & MARISSA PESSOLANO

This years Super Bowl pegged the Pittsburgh Steelers against the Green Bay Packers, closing out the 2010-2011 season. The offseason is now well underway as deals, changes, and controversy are already arising. The teams are currently taking steps to improve, preparing for the 2011-2012 season, that is, if a strike doesn't deprive America of its favorite sport.

In the big game, the Steelers' secondary was exposed and the Packers soundly took advantage. Using the spread offense, the

Packers were able to defeat a team that was once known to have the top defense in football. With Aaron Rodgers in the shotgun, the Packers had either 3 or 4 receivers one side and 1 or 2 on the other. This tactic separated the Steelers weak corners, enabling the Packer receivers to dominate them. A late fumble by Pittsburgh running back Rashard Mendenhall, led to the Packers kicking a field goal that gave them the 31-25 lead. A huge stop late in the 4th quarter gave the Packers the win spoiling the Steelers chances for a record 7th title.

This years Super Bowl was a success, but it was not without controversy, starting

off with Christina Aguilera getting the words wrong to the National Anthem. The biggest problem however, was the 400 fans that bought seats to the Super Bowl, but were unable to get seats. This situation has since been solved by the NFL, presenting the ticket holders with two options. The first is being reimbursed \$2,400, triple the face value of a ticket, and a ticket to next years Super Bowl, or ticker holders could opt for the second option of a ticket to any Super Bowl of their choice with round trip airfare and accommodations provided by the NFL.

The offseason has begun, with the coaching carousel already busy. Ron Rivera has been named the new Panthers coach, John Fox the new Broncos coach, Jason Garrett and Leslie Frazier given full reign over the Cowboys and Vikings, and Pat Shurmur the new coach of the Browns. In addition, Jeff

Fisher the last remaining, longest tenured coach, left the Titans and making Mike Munchak the new coach. Further coaching changes include Al Saunders replacing Tom Cable as the Raiders coach, and Jim Harbaugh stepping in as the new 49ers head coach. In terms of free agency, there is plenty to go around.

The recently released Shaun Rodgers, formerly of the Lions and Browns, has met with the Redskins and is discussing possible future plans. Another marquee free agent that had been released by the Raiders is cornerback, Nnamdi Asomugha, whom is rumored to want to go to NY and pair up with Darrelle Revis, or head to San Francisco to play with the 49ers. Both are two of the many players that will be affected