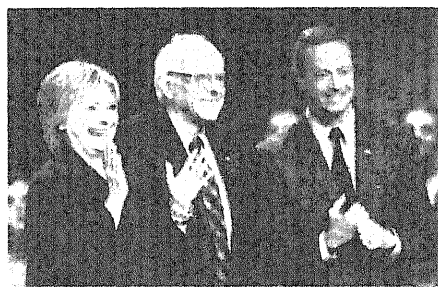


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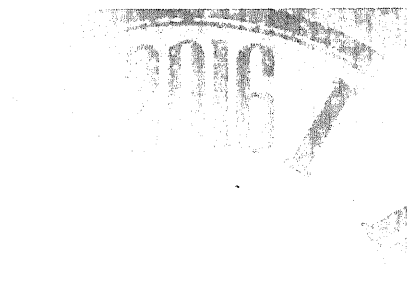
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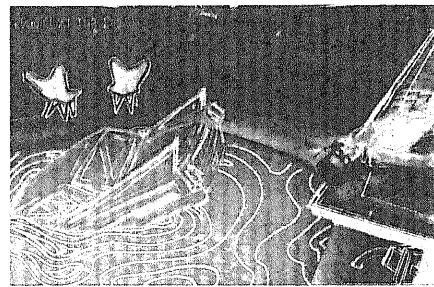
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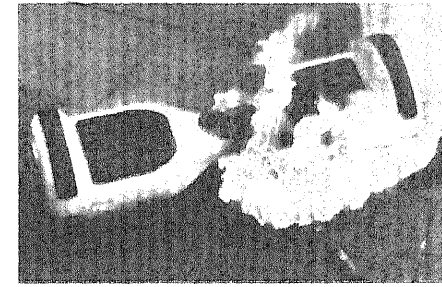
Relevant Democrats in 2016 Race - Page 2



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The Dangers of Hoverboards - Page 2

Gov, Mayor Play Political Football with \$500 M. in CUNY Funds *Cuomo Wants de Blasio and City to Cover Proposed Cuts*



Governor Andrew Cuomo presenting his budget and legislative priorities in Albany

BY CLIFFORD MICHEL

It's all fun and games until the fight lands in your backyard.

Governor Andrew Cuomo said that he wants to cut state funding for CUNY by \$485 million and aims to make the city pay for the difference of the budget.

The proposal promises to be the next chapter in the feud between Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio, who have been quarreling with each other since June.

Their relationship has soured as the two

have fought over how to fund the MTA, mayoral control of city schools, and real estate issues.

If neither the city nor the state reach an agreement, it is very possible that CUNY could face a steep budget cut.

Cuomo, who made the announcement during his State of the State address, aims to use some of the savings to put forward a one-time infusion of \$240 million to fund expired contracts with CUNY professors and staff, who haven't received a raise in more than six

years.

While the budget will continue to be debated and negotiated for the next five months in the state Legislature, it is unclear if Cuomo's administration has plans for the \$485 million that they may end up saving in the upcoming year.

During his budget address, the governor did layout lofty plans to combat homelessness, build supportive housing, and paid

Continued on Page 5

Resident Attacked Outside of Dolphin Cove, Assailant Never Found *Changes in Guest Policy Followed the Brutal Incident*

BY CLIFFORD MICHEL

Adamh Barnett, a CSI student and resident at Dolphin Cove, was attacked by an unknown assailant on November 15. His attacker beat him with a bat around 11:30pm resulting in fractures on his face, head, and skull, the *New York Daily News* reported.

Several students told the Banner that the assailant was looking for someone riding a hoverboard and wearing a gray hoodie; Barnett happened to fit that description.

Barnett was taken to Richmond University Medical Center, where he threw up blood, according to his brother, Ebrima Barnett.

"At that point I started crying because I didn't even know the condition he was in," Ebrima told the Staten Island Advance. "All these thoughts started to rush through my head, I just didn't know how to deal with that."

Residents told the Banner that Dolphin Cove has an issue with non-residents sneaking in. The students said that desk assistants do not frequently fail to ask students to show their IDs, which are different from the average CSI student's ID.

Barnett told the *Daily News* that he partially blamed campus security for the attack,

saying that all guests are supposed to be screened when they enter the campus.

"Nonresidents were not allowed on campus and only one entrance was open. His attackers would have had to go through the entrance, which is manned by a security guard," the *News* reported. "He said the guard should have checked IDs and barred the group."

"Barnett added that most outdoor lights on campus were off, which he said is normal at night," the report continued.

CSI, approached by the *News* and the

Continued on Page 4

Winter Courses Are a Mixed Bag, Students Say

STUDENTS DISCUSS THE PROS AND CONS OF TAKING A WINTER COURSE

BY EMILY ZODA

As the snow falls on us, so does winter intersession at CSI. The time of year where most people are tucked away on their precious winter break, others are studying for a passing grade.

Starting in January, just after New Year's, students begin their winter classes. Students often take winter classes to make up for failing or withdrawing from their class in the fall semester.

Others take an extra class during winter when they've loaded up their spring semester, in order to graduate on time.

CSI's website for winter session promises "more course offerings, convenient schedules, affordable tuition."

But the process is not always that easy.

"Financial aid didn't cover the cost of my class," said CSI student Domenico Buono. "I had to pay for the class out of pocket."

According to CSI's website, very limited financial aid is available for those who wish to take winter classes. One should consult a financial aid advisor before registering to make sure they'll receive enough aid.

And if you're working to pay out of pocket for your classes, these classes are Monday through Thursday every week during a set time, making it an inconvenience for many to work their usual hours.

Buono, who has a full time job and goes to school full time, admits his schedule is inconvenient.

Buono said that his class is in the middle of the afternoon when he could be working.

On the other hand, it's more convenient

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As Primaries Near, Candidates Kick Into High Gear

An Update on the Relevant 2016 Candidates

BY CLIFFORD MICHEL

Now that 2016 is here, we can stop saying "the road to 2016," especially since the Iowa caucuses are less than a month away. The state of both the Democratic field and the Republican field has changed dramatically in the past few weeks.

Attacks have become more pointed as each candidate hopes to draw the most people to their caucus on February 1.

Here's a rundown of each candidate's political standing as of now:

Hillary Clinton, former Secretary of State

On a January 17 debate hosted by the Congressional Black Caucus in South Carolina, Hillary Clinton took her most pointed jabs at her rival, Senator Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont), thus far.

Clinton has avoided this style of political theater ever since she entered the race, choosing to take the high road and refusing to even mentioning Sanders by name.

Even when she was criticized by Sanders in the three previous Democratic debates, Clinton still opted for the high road, making measured and calm rebuttals.

All of that went out of the window the day before Martin Luther King Jr. day. Clinton went for the jugular and ripped Sanders on his poor voting record on guns, lofty goals for health care reform, and the lack of details

in his tax plan.

"[He] voted against the Brady Bill five times," she said. "He voted for what we call the 'Charleston Loophole.' He voted for immunity for gunmakers and sellers, which the NRA (National Rifle Association) said was the most important piece of gun legislation in 20 years...He voted to let guns go onto Amtrak, go into national parks. He voted against doing research to figure out how we can save lives."

Another note is Clinton's decision to clothe herself in the legacy of President Barack Obama. In the last debate, Clinton hailed the Affordable Care Act, the country's economic recovery, and foreign policy achievements as benchmarks that she'd like to build on.

"We finally have a path to universal health care. We have accomplished so much already," Clinton pleaded. "I do not want to see the Republicans repeal it, and I don't want see us start over again."

Almost all of Clinton's actions are indicative of one fact: Sanders is catching up with her in the polls.

A Quinnipiac University poll released on January 12 showed Sanders at 49%, Clinton at 44%, and O'Malley at 5% in Iowa.

Other polls in the past already showed Sanders ahead in New Hampshire.

Bernie Sanders, Independent Senator of Vermont

Bernie Sanders forced the often on-message Sanders into defensive mode several times during the debate.

Sanders cited his "D-" rating from the NRA and dodged a sly attack from Clinton, where she suggested that Sanders simply wanted to tear up the Affordable Care Act.

"No one is tearing this up. We're going to go forward," Sanders said.

"What a Medicare for All program does is finally provide in this country health care for every man, woman, and child, as a right," Sanders continued.

It's also worth noting that Sanders liberal ambitions and cadence won rounds of applause (just as much as Clinton's if not more) and laughs from the audience as well.

Trump vs. Cruz vs. the Establishment

As Senator Ted Cruz (R-Texas) has risen to the forefront of Iowa polls, he and Donald Trump have been trading blows as each of them gun for the top spot in the Iowa caucuses.

Trump—who was chiefly responsible for raising false allegations that President Obama wasn't born in the United States—has brought up questions about Ted Cruz's ability to be president, given that he was born in Canada.

The question hasn't gone away, with everyone from TV pundits to constitutional law professors weighing in on the matter.

"You can't have a nominee who's going

to be subject to being thrown out as the nominee," Trump told attendees at a New Hampshire rally, according to CNN. "You just can't do it. So you gotta make that decision, folks."

Cruz has responded with calm and poise to the attacks, though the debate still lingers.

"The Internet has all sorts of fevered swamp theories, but the facts are simple," Cruz told CNN's Jake Tapper. "My mom was born in Wilmington, Delaware. She was an American citizen by birth. She's been an American citizen all 81 years of her life. She's never been a citizen of any other place."

Trump also attacked Cruz's unpopularity in Congress due to his alienation of both party's leadership (i.e. his causing of a government shutdown in 2013).

"Look, the truth is, he's a nasty guy," Trump told ABC's "This Week." "Nobody likes him. Nobody in Congress likes him. Nobody likes him anywhere once they get to know him. He's a very—he's got an edge that's not good. You can't make deals with people like that and it's not a good thing. It's not a good thing for the country. Very nasty guy."

Meanwhile, establishment candidates such as New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, Senator Marco Rubio (R-Florida), and Ohio Governor John Kasich have all been struggling to remain relevant.

But after the Iowa's caucus results are in, anything and everything is up in the air.

Ben Carson Lost Support from Conservatives and Staff

The Former GOP Frontrunner Has Fallen in Recent Polls

BY GABRIEL DAVILA

Most candidates worry about a significant drop in polls, Ben Carson did not express much concern while his popularity dropped to 11 percent.

In an interview with CNN back in December, Carson said "When people were asking me when I was polling at the top spot was I excited, I said no, because polls go up and down, and I will say that now, I think you will see them continue to rise...very few people can sustain the kinds of attacks I have and still be at this level, so that tells you that there is a strong base of support."

The considerable drop in popularity did not occur at random. After the Paris bombings on November 13, Carson made remarks which displayed his lack of foreign policy knowledge. He said that the Chinese were a part of militaristic moves in Syria, which was debunked, and could not name any countries that could join together against the ISIL.

Texas Senator, Ted Cruz, benefitted from Carson's lack of knowledge. Ted Cruz said in an interview with Fox, "President Obama and Hillary Clinton's idea that we should bring tens of thousands of Syrian Muslim refugees to America: it is nothing less than lunacy. The US should not allow jihadists to come back to America using US passports to murder innocent men and women."

Ted Cruz's stance on the terrorism issue brought him momentum, currently at 18 per-



cent in South Carolina, taking Ben Carson's previous second place position in polls. Like Carson, Cruz keeps his eye on the conservative party where a majority of his votes come from. If Cruz broadens his focus towards semi-conservative voters, he could gather more support to rival Donald Trump.

Carson also lost his communications director, Doug Watts, and campaign manager, Barry Bennett. The reason behind why Doug Watts and Barry Bennett left was because of discord between them and Carson's business advisor, Armstrong Williams.

"I called Ben this morning...and explained to him the root of the problem is that you told me Armstrong is not involved in the

campaign but he clearly is," Bennett said to the Daily Mail on December 31st. "My frustration level is boiling over so I told him I think it's best that I leave."

According to The Hill, Armstrong Williams has been known to step in as Carson's enforcer when the presidential candidate would rather eschew confrontation. Williams describes himself as a business partner and close friend to Carson. After the loss, Carson has a few plans to boost his position in polls.

According to MSNBC, Carson plans on a partnership with Christian rock band, Casting Crowns, as well as Growing Pains actor Kirk Cameron to boost his standing with evangelical voters.

Carson's campaign focuses on the conservative party, such as evangelists in South Carolina and Iowa, explaining why he travels back and forth between both states while avoiding New Hampshire due to its more modern perspective.

In an article by Politico, Ben Carson made a stop in Staten Island and spoke to a crowd at the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel. "I was in New York for some meetings and I said, 'Can't we go to Staten Island? Because a lot of people would like that.'"

Visiting Staten Island was not an accidental decision. Staten Island is known for being the most conservative borough in New York and is more than likely to vote Republican.

Carson could also promote his latest book "A More Perfect Union: What We the People Can Do to Reclaim Our Constitutional Liberties," another method to garner support from conservative voters and students who read and became inspired by his other book "Gifted Hands."

The Iowa Caucus begins on February 1 and Carson cannot afford a hefty loss. Bustle reported that over 17,000 precincts such as schools and churches, people gather statewide to discuss candidates.

Whichever candidates have the most votes moves to the county convention, the congressional district convention, and finally, the state convention in June.

"Winter Session" Continued from Front Page

for students living on campus. At that point it's only a matter of getting the class you need.

Pablo Llerena, a CSI junior and biology major, planned on taking a class with a professor he knew he'd like.

"[Yes], it was a physics class I wanted to take with a specific professor," said Llerena. "But it was close[d] on the same day when registration was open."

Because the classes are only three weeks long, they run every day except for Friday and usually have an average time of about three hours per class.

Since there is significantly less time during intersession, professors jam pack all course material into those three weeks and wish their students luck on the final to get the grade.

Being that many student aren't willing to sacrifice one's winter break, attendance in winter courses aren't very high.

The small class sizes are supposed to help the class move quickly through lessons and along with longer class time it allows for time to go back to things others might need extra time on without hindering the entire class.

"...In the case of my professor, he's making the material as simple as possible," said Buono. "There's no fluff and filler to the the lectures, the professor works us at a good pace and is willing to go back and work on problems one person may not understand."

It's understandable to say that for people who want to get a degree on time, or faster, they're bound to be more focused in this intense environment of learning.

"Being that we are paying out of pocket for summer and winter sessions, there's a sense of urgency to understand and really absorb and know the material," said Buono.

Depending on the course you need and your financial situation, taking extra class or two in between semesters can help get a different classroom experience and on track to graduation.

Tips for Prospective Winter Session Students

* Library opens at 9am and closes at 10pm on weekdays. The building is open from 112pm to 10pm on the weekends

* The cafeteria in the campus center closes at 2pm

* The ferry shuttle departs from the campus and the Saint George ferry every half hour

"Resident Attack" Continued from Front Page

Advance, said that they were working with the NYPD, but didn't comment on public safety's response.

"The College administration and Office of Public Safety are working closely with the NYPD during their active and ongoing investigation and cannot comment further," Ken Bach, CSI's spokesperson, told the Advance. "The College urges anyone with knowledge of the incident to speak with the NYPD to assist with their identification of the alleged perpetrator."

"We remain committed to working with students, faculty and staff to ensure the safety of CSI's campus," the statement read.

Bach did not respond to a request for comment from the Banner.

The attack sent shockwaves throughout Dolphin Cove's community of some 450 students. Dozens of students posted on a Facebook group page called "CSI GROUP PAGE," offering their support.

"My boy Adamh will pull through," one post read.

Dolphin Cove's management implemented a ban on guests a little over a week after the incident took place, arguing that students we're breaking the guest policy too often.

In order to provide a supportive academic environment for all residents leading up to and through the final exam period, all resident guest privileges are being...," wrote

CUNYfirst Makes Its Way to the App Store

Newly Launched "MeFirst" Avoids Shortcomings From CUNYfirst

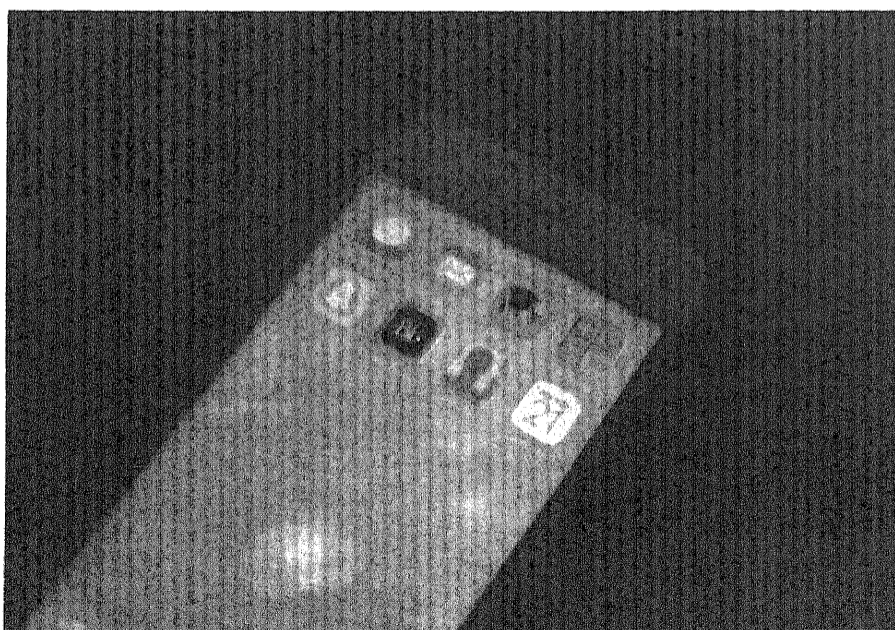
BY CLIFFORD MICHEL

After the stress of finals week, an app for CUNYfirst titled "MeFirst" quietly made its way onto the app store, surprisingly fulfilling its promise of providing a smooth and painless access to CUNYfirst on any iPhone device.

MeFirst is a surprising change of pace from CUNYfirst, notorious around CUNY campuses for its difficult navigation and frequent crashes.

"I appreciate it," said Hakeem Beckless, who only downloaded the app when the Banner asked him questions about it. "These are things I skip over because the web version is beyond clunky."

After logging into the app using your



MeFirst on an iPhone



Barnett points to the areas of his head where he was hit.

McKala Accettura, Dolphin Cove's General Manager, to all Dolphin Cove residents.

"There have been a number of violations of the Dolphin Cove Guest Policy and this temporary suspension will create an environment more conducive to student success," the email continued.

Dolphin Cove also updated their guest policy, tightening some of the language and most notably requiring that "each resident is allowed to sign in one guest at a time," according to an email sent from staff to Dolphin Cove residents.

Interviews with students who live in Dol-

phin Cove indicate that many believe that it was in response to Barnett's attack.

Management told students that the mandate to ban guests came directly from CSI President William Fritz.

Barnett's attack was the second high profile incident to hit Dolphin Cove this year.

In late September a guest at the residence hall, Clive Wallace, made a threat online to residents who complained about his behavior and had resulted in him getting escorted out of the dormitories.

Wallace was arrested.

through list of every grade you've ever received at CSI.

The "Balance & ID" section keeps tally of your CSI finances, presenting your tuition balance, pending financial aid, and your EMPLID.

While the app is in its infancy and remains largely unknown by many in the CUNY community, some students who spoke to the Banner gave an enthusiastic thumbs up to the app

"I'm the first to say that anything in CSI or CUNY sucks," said George Hernandez, a freshman at CSI and an undeclared major. "But I actually use this thing pretty often now."

Some students, referring to horrible mishaps on their CUNYfirst accounts, said they were hesitant to try out the app.

"CUNYfirst crashes at the worst time for me," said Monika Pollaski, a sophomore at CSI. "One time I was registering for a class and it just crashed. I opened it back up an hour later and the class is full. So I'll take a pass on the app."

The "More" section boasts a few useful tools such as a GPA Estimator, a calendar, an option to apply to graduation, and even make payments. But it opens a web browser within the app to accomplish these tasks and the bad formatting of CUNYfirst returns.

Currently, the app is only available on iOS. A version for Android will be released in Fall 2016.

"Cuomo Cuts CUNY Funding" Continued from Front Page

family leave.

Cuomo's administration wants the city to "pay a share of financial support that aligns with the City's participation in the governance of CUNY," according to a briefing given to reporters. (This refers to the five of the 17 CUNY Board of Trustee members that the city appoints; the state appoints 10).

Mary Beth Labate, the state's budget director, said that the city can handle the additional costs (the state is also asking the city to cover increases in Medicaid costs).

"When you look at the puts and takes in this budget, the city continues to be a winner. We looked long and hard at the city's finances," Labate told POLITICO New York. "They're in excellent, excellent shape. ... We're not doing anything that we think is not sustainable."

Mayor de Blasio told reporters the day after Cuomo's announcement that the cuts "will be harmful for New York City" and later saying that the city would fight those cuts "by any means necessary."

While the city has a surplus upwards of



Governor Andrew Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio have been openly feuding for months

\$900 million, the city's Independent Budget Office has said that the additional revenue has been put aside to address future budget gaps, POLITICO New York reported.

"For New York City, I think this is one of the worst budgets that it's seen in a long time," Maria Doulis, a budget analyst at the Citizens' Budget Commission, told the news outlet.

Mayor de Blasio's caution, CUNY Chancellor James Milliken was supportive of the Cuomo announcement, citing the immediate need for a new contract for CUNY professors, which he has called the university's "highest priority."

"While this suggested change appears to be budget neutral to CUNY over the long term, it would come with a much-needed in-

Staten Island Media Group Keeping Digital Tabs on News Trends

A Look into How SILive Connects Communities

BY RYAN MILLER

Three is the magic number when it comes to identifying a news trend, but the digital era has helped us redefine this standard with access to more complex data than just how many stories follow a specific topic.

The role of the public's voice has been diminished in determining what news is circulated by their local outlet, but most are unaware of how they still affect the local news climate everyday.

All it takes is just a few clicks.

"We have a software called Omniture that tracks almost any quantitative vane imaginable," said Staten Island Media Group Sports Editor Joe D'Amadio.

"The amount of information that we're presented on an every day basis is staggering. The system computes not only how many people link to a specific page, but where they're linking from and how often they're linking to one story as opposed to another."

Technological innovations have seen our world evolve into a more digital and mobile consumer space. In order to keep up with the ever changing news landscape, primarily print publications like the Staten Island Advance have been forced online.

Since 1980, subscriptions to the Staten Island Advance have plummeted from nearly 750,000 to where they stand now at approximately 300,000.

This sharp decline is evidence of the outlet's audience moving primarily to an online



Reporters in the Staten Island Advance's newsroom

space, where their activity is more easily tracked.

"The digital footprint left behind by every visitor to SILive.com tells a story," said Staten Island Media Group Digital Operations employee Caroline Jastremski.

"There's very little guess work anymore in determining what articles are most prevalent to our readers. We're only ever a few clicks away from compiling charts and graphs which explicitly tell us what's hot and what's not amongst our readers."

Staten Island Media Group's use of advanced software still doesn't dictate what

events happen in our community, but it is an essential tool in determining what's worth continual coverage.

Hyper locality plays a major role in Staten Island news trends, as many of the Island's inhabitants allude to a "small town" mentality for the city of just under 500,000.

New York City's smallest borough is even further compartmentalized into neighborhoods, each with a unique identity and news specific to the area.

"When something happens in Tottenville, naturally the highest concentration of visitors to that exact web page is going to

vestment that would contribute to settling our long overdue labor contracts," said Milliken. "This recognition of the need for additional funding for our faculty and staff is vitally important."

As questions piled up about the plan, Cuomo and his surrogates put blame on CUNY for not cutting back on excess when the state asked them to do so last year.

"We called for SUNY and CUNY to work together to come up with a plan to consolidate back office functions and administrative services to avoid the obvious duplication in facility administration and back office functions," Dani Lever, a Cuomo spokesperson told several news outlets in a statement. "That call fell on deaf ears and no significant savings were offered."

"This is unacceptable. Our goal is to reduce bureaucratic costs and target more funds to the classroom and faculty—we're still working without a contract," Lever continued

"...The premise is to put all stakeholders at the table with a target savings number and to develop the reforms and efficiencies to reach that cost."

come from the South Shore," said Jastremski.

"We often see geographical patterns in page visitation and try to capitalize on that by offering advanced searches online by neighborhood. We still also try to localize news for print subscribers who receive special editions for their area a few times a week."

Despite the mass migration to an online medium, the pressing issues in our community have remained the same for decades.

Crime and drugs still dominate the front-page headlines while events distinct to the Island (high school sports, business features, local celebrity rumblings) comprise the remainder of the content.

A trend is defined as the general direction in which something is developing or changing and with a plethora of info coming across the wire daily, it's nearly impossible to forecast a trend far into the future.

No matter what new trends may arise, or what old ones may recourse, media outlets are well equipped to handle this inevitable change.

"Omniture coupled with other software we have allows us to more tightly monitor every situation in order to see how our readers respond to the coverage," said D'Amadio.

"Regardless of situation, we know we'll always be able to cater exactly to our audiences desires," he said.

"What more could either side of the news ask for?"

BANNER LIFESTYLES

16 Things to Do Before the Class of 2016 Says Goodbye

The CSI Senior Bucket List to a Memorable Last Year of College

BY VICTORIA PRIOLA

And just like that, four years have come and gone. Graduation lands on June 2 this year, which means there are five months between CSI seniors and freedom. Before you burn your scantrons and start pre-gaming for the endless list of graduation parties that you'll be invited to, take some time to reminisce about the college you've grown to either love or hate.

1.) **Before you say farewell, sit on the benches near the trees in front of building 1C for a while.** This area is a slice of Washington Square Park heaven and a great way to strike up conversation with a friend. The background and lighting makes for a great "last hurrah" Instagram photo-op.

2.) **Who needs MoMa when we have our local art gallery on campus?**

3.) **See a movie in the screening room, located on the second floor of 1C, during your break.** CAB works all year long to get these films to campus, the least you can do is sit and watch one when you get the chance.

Some of them are fresh out of the cinema, which saves you the trouble of buying an overpriced movie ticket with overpriced popcorn. The dates, times, and titles of the movies shown are listed outside of the presentation room in 1C.

4.) **Spend an afternoon looking at the section of the library curated specifically for books published by CSI professors.**

Who knows? You may have a biology professor with a serious passion for yoga. Do your best to open your mind to knowledge this semester.

5.) **Hit up the gym and the pool in the recreational center in 1R. There's**

"Whether it was the college you loved to hate, or a place you called home; it will always have a special place in your heart."

an Olympic sized pool just waiting to be swam in. The open swim hours are listed in the rec center's office.

6.) **If being active isn't your thing, take a seat and attend a CSI basketball home game.** We may have gotten the short end of the stick when it comes to going to typical college football games, but CUNY students manage just fine.

For a schedule on when you can publicly show your Dolphin pride, go to CSIDolphins.com.

7.) **Take a walk in Willowbrook Park in between classes.** When the summer comes around, the carousel comes on and can make for a great afternoon with friends.

8.) **CSI's Observatory holds stargazing nights for students in astronomy classes to complete labs, but all students are welcome.** The Astronomy department runs these events at night to look at planets that are visible from Earth during the evening.

The observatory is located next to the track by the dorms. It's a small building where Professor Irving Robbins and his assistants take students one by one up stairs and in front of a huge telescope. You'd be amazed what can fit in such a tiny space. The wait

will be long but it is definitely worth the visit. The observatory will be open once a week, according to the CSI website and the times are posted at <http://csivc.csi.cuny.edu/supernova7/files/>.

9.) **Play some tennis in the courts directly next to the dorms.** You don't have to be a Serena Williams, but it is great exercise and something to take advantage of.

10.) **Go to the free yoga classes held in 1R.** Getting your zen on will come in handy when all your friends are talking about their graduate school applications, and you're debating on taking a year off to backpack through Europe.

All kidding aside, you may actually find some solace in these hour-long sessions taught by CSI professors. Don't knock it till you try it.

11.) **Take advantage of the free New York Times subscription on campus because it will cost you an arm and a leg later**

on in life.

12.) **Have a coffee at the Cyber Café in 1L.** It's no "Central Perk" from "Friends," but it'll do.

13.) **Spend an afternoon gazing at the fountains in front, and in back of, 1P.**

14.) **Join a club you've always wanted to join but never had the courage to your freshman year.** There's so many new clubs on campus and no better time to join is now. Spend some time doing what you want to do.

145) **Buy a school sweater from the bookstore in 1C.** It's a bit of an investment but you will regret not having one in the future.

You went through four years of hell, the least you can do is treat yourself to a comfy piece of clothing.

16.) **Make sure you let people who helped get you where you are now know how much you appreciate them.** CSI may be difficult to deal with at times but we all know those select few professors or advisors who made our time here worthwhile.

Wherever life takes you after graduation, there's no denying that you're time at CSI will be something to remember.

Whether it was the college you loved to hate, or a place you called home; it will always have a special place in your heart.

It's also probably going to be a lot easier than graduate school, so live while you're young and not jaded.

It's a New Year, Time for a New Outlook

Making 2016 a Year of Success, Rather Than Year of Regret

BY BRIELLE SPARACINO

2016 has finally arrived, which means the phrase "new year, new me" will emerge from the mouths of teenage hopefuls and Facebook moms once again.

It's great that many people are set on becoming better versions of themselves but there are certain things that should be taken into consideration to ensure that this year is actually progressive and enjoyable.

The first step to having a successful year is to practice self-love. This includes accepting yourself as you are; flaws and all. If you're having trouble accepting a certain aspect of your physical appearance, attempt to turn it into something you're proud of.

Ladies, and gentlemen, look in the mirror and give yourself positive reassurance when you wake up in the morning. If you feel that you need a slight attitude adjustment, make a conscious effort to be kinder and have a more optimistic outlook on challenging situations.

Self-love also includes taking any jealousy you may have obtained over the previous year and leaving it in the past. Try to work on becoming more confident with yourself, instead of holding grudges against others.

If you feel that you're already confident enough, try maintaining that level of confidence all throughout 2016.

The second step to having a great year is

to put yourself first. Self love is on the same spectrum as this, but slightly different. Putting yourself first can involve eliminating any toxic influences that have entered your life, whether they're in reference to certain individuals or situations.

Of course, it's not always easy to remove some people from your life, especially if family is involved in your bad vibes. You can always try to limit your contact with them as much as possible.

Attempt to surround yourself with individuals who are full of positive energy. The ones who bring out the best parts of you are the ones worth keeping. Even if you end up being put in a difficult situation this year, you'll have these people to depend on to keep your spirits up.

The third step to having a fulfilling year is to enjoy things in moderation. This applies to that chocolate cake you've been thinking about all weekend, those one-of-a-kind pair of shoes you've been eyeing in the store window for months, and especially that three-day winter ski-trip you may not get a chance to do ever again.

It's smart to save your money for expenses that are essential to your future but it's not bad to spend your money and enjoy things in moderation as long as it doesn't become an addicting habit.

The last, and very important, step, is to

set short term goals throughout the year opposed to long term goals at the beginning of the year.

"Self-love also includes taking any jealousy you may have obtained over the previous year and leaving it in the past."

Short term goals are much easier to plan and stick to, whereas long term goals involve a lot more work than you probably realize. For example, setting small goals like "I will study for my exam over the course of three days instead of doing it the night before," or "This week, I will set thirty minutes aside each day to exercise" will help you feel more accomplished and successful, which will increase your confidence and all around happiness.

Setting long term goals like "I plan on losing fifty pounds by mid-July," or to quit smoking cigarettes are not completely impossible, but require a ton of hard work and loads of willpower. New year resolutions can lead to a complete lifestyle change and that process takes time.

If you don't see instant results, you may begin to feel like you'll never truly accomplish your goal, and therefore believe that you've failed. Be patient with yourself and you'll be amazed at what you can accom-

plish.

Setting career goals are another important thing to do. For instance, if you believe that you deserve a raise at your current job, offer to perform extra tasks within your workplace. Do this by helping out a coworker, making an exceptional sale, or offering to stay an extra hour when your store is busy. You'll be sure to get the attention of your superiors, and have better rapport in the workplace.

Another easy career goal to focus on this year is to be more productive and organized within your personal workspace. Taking baby steps like planning certain tasks in advance and finishing an important project way ahead of its due date will leave you with a clear head as well as a sense of accomplishment at the end of each day.

Investing in a monthly planner to write deadlines and important dates in is seriously recommended.

Making mental notes can leave your brain cluttered and you'll ultimately forget more than you remember.

There is so much potential for 2016 to be a fabulous year, but don't forget that your experience is what you make of it.

Keep the aforementioned steps in mind as often as possible. If you work hard and extend your kindness towards others, you'll get to where you want to be without a doubt.

BANNER LIFESTYLES

An Amateur's Guide to the World of MAC Makeup

The Perfect Starter Kit to Unleash Your Inner Makeup Artist

BY LUCIA ROSSI

What better way to spend your holiday cash and gift cards than on one of the most prestigious and desirable makeup brands, MAC?

I tend to bypass those intimidating black displays because of the price and lack of experience with the brand, but Santa blessed me with the chance to start creating my first collection.

I didn't want a penny to go to waste so I did some digging to find the most popular, long-lasting, and best quality products for myself and my makeup clients.

I decided to steer away from most face products because of mixed reviews on the internet. Some say their foundations were cakey and caused acne breakouts while others saw it as a savior for hiding imperfections. Results were a hit or miss with mascaras as well. Every person is different so anything involving your skin needs to be tested properly.

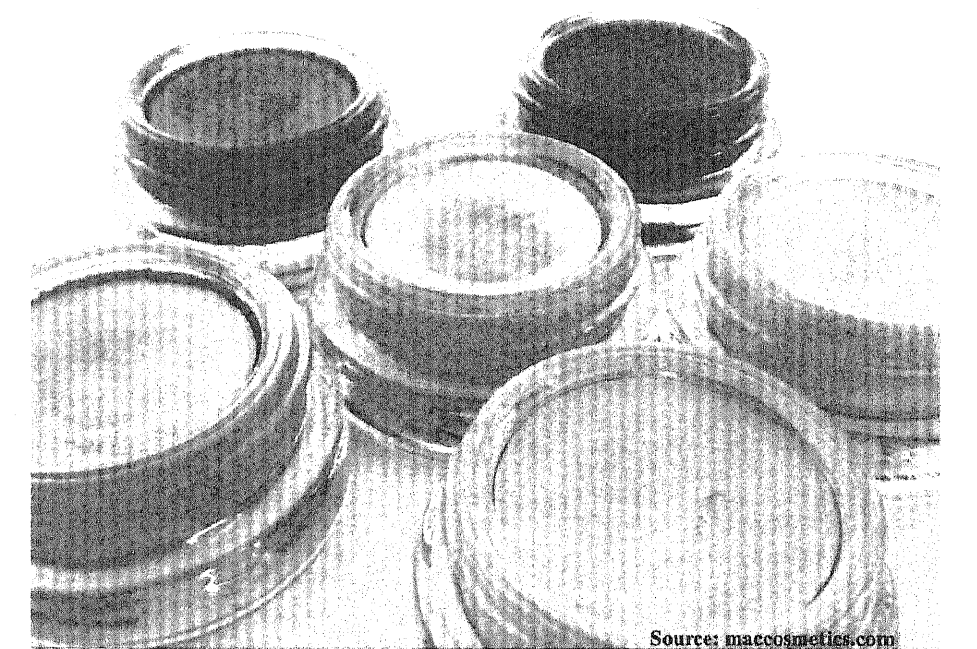
assistance in finding your color match.

MAC's Paint Pot (\$22) may be my favorite on this list for its versatility, blend-ability, and strength. It's so hard to find a good eyeshadow primer these days. After relying on Urban Decay's Primer Potion for years, I've finally moved on. The paint pot however is meant to be a cream eyeshadow but ends up being an awesome primer.

The cream acts as a concealer that covers veins and darkness and it doesn't crease on the lids. The eyeshadows are easily blended over it and it makes the look last for hours. The most popular shades are Soft Ochre and Painterly, which go great with fair skin types.

Your cat-eye will be on point with MAC's Fluidline in Blacktrack (\$16.50). This gel liner can be applied easily with a small, thin, precision brush for simple dip and stroke action. It's waterproof, smudge-proof, and comes in many inviting colors and finishes.

It can even be used on your brows or as



Source: maccosmetics.com

slow-baked powder gives your skin a radiant glow without looking too sparkly.

OK, let's talk lips. Many have praised MAC's Prep + Prime Lip (\$16.50) for hydrating and protecting their lips from MAC lipsticks that tend to be drying. This product

with their lip liner counterpart or mix it up. MAC's most highly recommended lip pencil (\$16.50) is in the shade Spice. If you're more of a lip gloss girl, then go for MAC's Tinted Lipglass (\$15) in the shade Nymphette, their most beloved color.

"Think of this as inspiration for what clients typically like on themselves as well."

minimizes feathering and conditions the lips so products can go on and stay on comfortably. It's a solid twist-up that should set for a little while before applying lip color. Basically, it's a must-have.

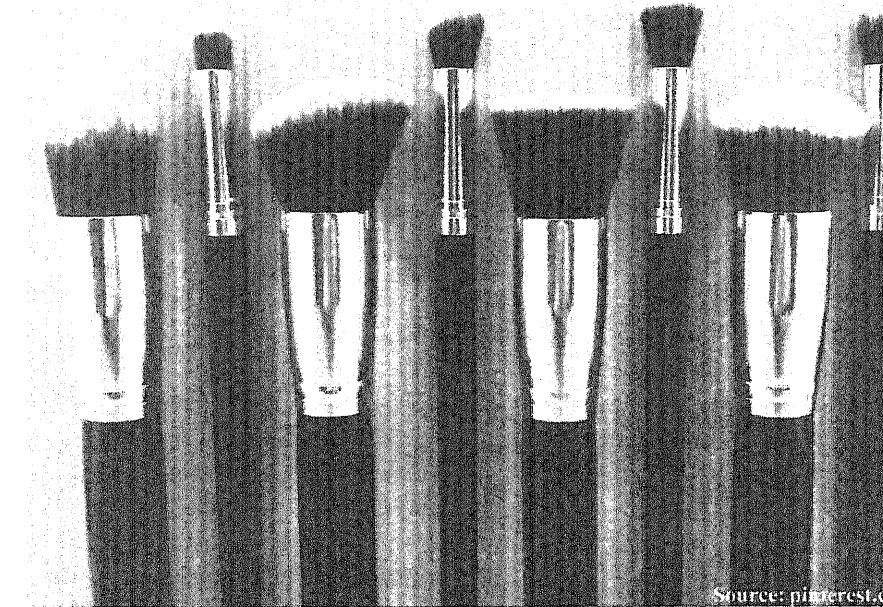
MAC lipsticks (\$17) are notorious, especially their most celebrated red shade, Ruby Woo. This is an iconic shade that is MAC's number one best-seller. If you would rather have nude lips, go for the shades Crème D'Nude or Myth. If you want the Kylie Jenner mauve lips, try Velvet Teddy or Whirl. If you want lipsticks with more action, there's the bright pink Candy Yum-Yum, the bold purple Heroine, or the dark burgundy Diva.

You can pair up your favorite shade

If you really love makeup and want to step up your quality game, there's no better place to start than here. I'm not just saying you should buy all of these products just because everyone else did, but look for the reasons why they purchased them. Experiment with those standards when applying it to what you like.

Think of this as inspiration for what clients typically like on themselves as well. MAC is not a brand you have this one-night stand with and you're done, it's too expensive for that. This is a brand you take in small doses in your long beautiful relationship. It's a process that goes along in time.

We all have to start somewhere.



Source: pinterest.com

There were two popular face products I gave into, MAC Prep + Prime Fix+ Finishing Mist (\$22) and the MAC Pro Longwear Concealer (\$21).

MAC's Fix+ spray is no joke. It makes your face feel fresh, creates a smooth, non-cakey foundation application, and helps to make your makeup smudge-proof, as well as give you a dewy finish. You can even spray your brush before applying to make the color more opaque, and to give it a more long-lasting and natural look.

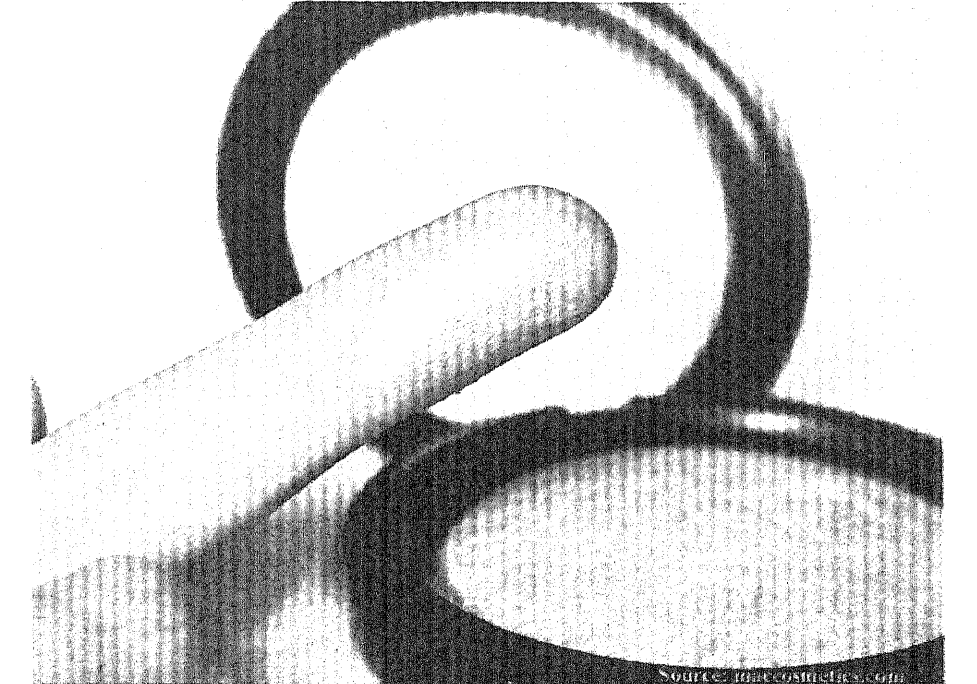
I've seen so many beauty gurus on YouTube use MAC's Pro Longwear Concealer (\$21) for covering up blemishes or contouring. You could even mix it with a moisturizer and create your own BB cream or foundation. The formula for this product is lightweight, long-lasting, gives medium to full coverage, and has a natural matte finish. It comes in 15 different shades, although the most purchased are NC25 and NC30. You should always ask a MAC associate for as-

an eyeshadow if you're in a bind. If eye pencils are more your style, try MAC's Eye Kohl (\$16.50) in the shades, Teddy or Smolder.

If you want your eyebrows on fleck and need a change from your usual Anastasia Beverly Hills Brow Wiz, then look no further than MAC's 'Eye Brows' Brow Definer (\$16.50). Their most trendy shade, Spiked, will bold out your brows with filled-in arches made with hair-like strokes. It's self-sharpening, which is definitely a plus.

Since the summer, makeup lovers everywhere have been all about strobing, or just highlighting. While I was considering adding MAC's Strobe Cream (\$33) to the list because of its potency against dull skin, I quickly changed my mind due to many reviewers complaining that it caused acne if used too often.

One product that you can depend on as a highlighter would be the MAC Mineralize Skinfinish (\$32). It's most favored shade, Soft & Gentle, is a classic. This soft and



Source: maccosmetics.com

BANNER ARTS

Death of a Bachelor: Panic! at the Disco's One Man Album

Oldies Inspired Pop Rock with Falsetto Sound

BY LUCIA ROSSI

Panic! at the Disco has evolved with every album release and has reached the end of its rope with their fifth album "Death of a Bachelor," released on January 15, 2016.

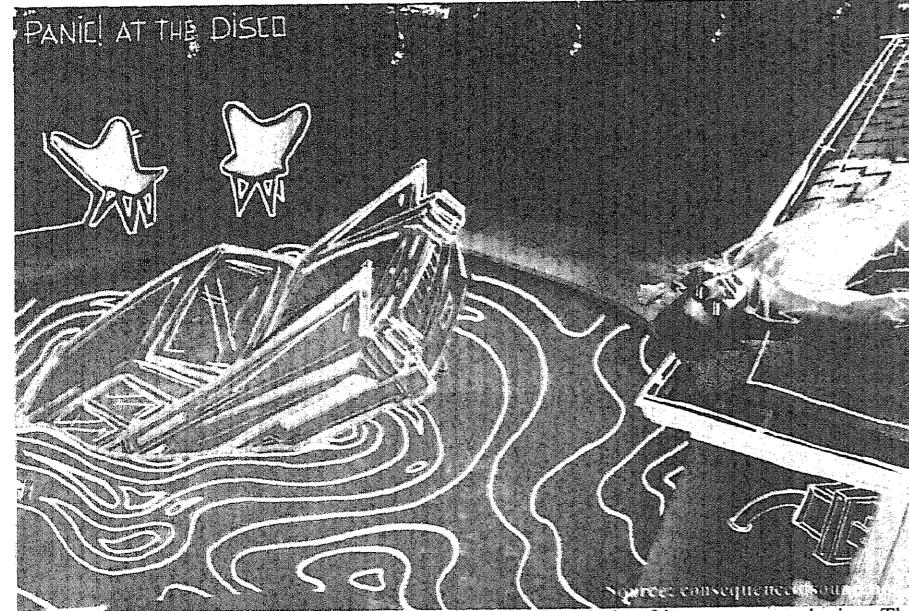
The struggle is certainly real when the only member is Brendon Urie who composes, writes, sings, and plays every instrument in the band. So instead of going solo, Urie chooses to continue on as kind of a one man band.

Urie pulls through however, by throwing in interesting genre mixes, a homage to Frank Sinatra, and songs about the bitter sweetness of letting go of singlehood and entering a married life. It's a follow up to their fourth album "Too Weird to Live, Too Rare to Die!" You can see the transition of the albums from watching the music video of "This is Gospel" right into "Emperor's New Clothes."

Urie continues to blend hip-hop, jazz, rock and pop in this album successfully because it was complimented by his powerhouse voice. Although, some songs are repetitive and similar in their styles and beats. The use of horns was definitely apparent and taken advantage of in many of the songs.

"Death of a Bachelor" has two songs that allude to Frank Sinatra because Urie stated on social media that, "I attach his music to so many memories." He also admitted that, "even in the few songs that don't sound remotely similar to any of his music, I still felt his influence in the writing and the need to relate so personally to each song."

The two songs that reflect Sinatra's style and memory with Urie's emo yet flirty touch are "Impossible Year," and "Death of a Bachelor."



olor."

The song "Death of a Bachelor" has familiar notes of Sinatra's deep voice but this pop-like, cheerful beat that shows this great connection between classic and modern. The song represents the bitter sweetness of leaving behind the single partying lifestyle for the "happily ever after" of married life. This is especially shown in the lyrics, "A lifetime of laughter at the expense of the death of a bachelor." This song has possibly the most beautiful high notes in the entire album.

"Impossible Year" however, is the saddest Sinatra-like song you have ever heard. It's like a New Year's celebration with severe depression. Even though it got really emo, it was still classical and soothing. It even had a

short interlude of just trumpets playing. The song was sadly short as well, and describes a year in a quite horrible relationship.

"Death of a Bachelor" as an album was lyrically inspired by Urie's wife Sarah and his lifestyle with being a newlywed man, which is so different from how it used to be for him. The song "Hallelujah" struck me as a song about living a life of partying but then realizing it's time to settle down and change. The music represents this through a religious lens and wouldn't be complete without a church choir.

"Golden Days" also seemed to fit into his theme because it talks about looking back into the past but the "golden days" are the ones you spend growing with the one you

love. "We'll stay drunk, We'll stay tan, let the love remain," sang Urie in the song.

"Victorious" and "Don't Threaten Me With a Good Time," are definitely your party tracks. "Victorious" is very addictive and fun with rhymes that could replay in your head for what feels like forever. "Don't Threaten Me With a Good Time," is interesting because it has the guitar riff from the B-52's "Rock Lobster."

"Emperor's New Clothes," is possibly the darkest, most out of place song on the album but it is also one of the best. It brought back the old Panic! at the Disco style that has creepy and weird undertones but is still invigorating with crazy high notes and catchiness. It even has lyrics inspired from "The Sandlot", "Heroes always get remembered but you know legends never die."

Other songs like "House of Memories," "The Good, The Bad, and the Dirty," and "Crazy = Genius," are songs that seemed to bring down the album because they seemed shallow, empty, and very repetitive. They didn't really have deeper meanings to them and that was somewhat disappointing. I would put "LA Devotee" on the list if it wasn't for its beautiful descriptive lyrics.

When it all comes down to it, I believe Brendon Urie did the Panic! at the Disco name proud. After all, this is his time to really shine and the spotlight was always on him the most. He has clearly shown his growth as an artist and challenged himself by identifying with a style that seemed far from his but owned it with his killer composition and voice.

I'll try not to be too upset about the death of Urie's bachelorhood while I listen.

BANNER ARTS

A Bigger, Better Movie Theatre Experience

Tarantino's Latest Blockbuster Shown in "Exceptional Format"

BY EMILY ZODA

"The Hateful Eight" was presented by Roadshow to avid movie-goers and film fanatics in 70mm over Christmas weekend. Showing in a limited number of theaters across the nation, it allowed for a raw, longer version of the film complete with an intermission.

The City Cinemas Village East viewing was enormous, complete with a Broadway-esque balcony and mezzanine seating. The screen was significantly bigger than an average 2D movie screen to show the full movie entirely in 70mm.

Every patron received a Roadshow booklet for the history of Roadshow, a movie synopsis, character list, including fun facts about the movie and an exclusive character poster. The special viewing was 3 hours and 7 minutes, while the regular release was only 2 hours and 47 minutes.

The production starts with a musical overture as the lights dim in the theater. It's a tradition Roadshow carries on when films in the 1950s and 60s used to be shown in grand exhibition.

This western tale takes place in the snow (ironically) as a bounty hunter (Kurt Russell) and his prisoner (Jennifer Jason Leigh) travel to post-Civil War Wyoming to indict and execute his prisoner.

Along the way, they encounter another bounty hunter (Samuel L. Jackson) and



Source:

an apparent sheriff-to-be (Walton Goggins) heading to the same city, Red Rock.

With heavy snow delaying their trip, they stop at a lodge where four other gunslinging passengers staying a few nights waiting for the weather to pass are added to the story line.

The story is told in an interesting linear

fashion labeling each part of the movie using chapters along with heavy use of flashbacks. Jackson's character tells a jaw-dropping story before the intermission, the scene is juxtaposed with old timey western intermission music, which begins to play after the traumatic scene.

After the intermission, Tarantino's voice makes a narrating cameo brushing the audience up to speed on key points of the story and we continue on to the blood soaked second half of the movie.

This second half moved a lot quicker in pace than the first, which finally got to a climax point, but just not fast enough when it came to the last 20 minutes.

Some critics have said that Tarantino has become a political filmmaker, often citing his other big release "Django Unchained" to this post-Civil War western, which both profusely using the n-word.

The film was presented in the format Ultra Panavision 70 using anamorphic camera lenses, which made for an amazingly wider and detailed image. Movies are shot in ratios of either 1.85:1 or 2.39:1, but Panavision's camera lenses shoot 70mm in a generous 2.76:1 ratio.

With 70mm film, which is film that's about 2.7 inches long, it's taken with one focal point at all times so the camera is constantly moving to get a close up of characters.

However, it's best used for wide angle shots, being able to show all the characters in one frame or even great landscapes shots.

Sitting in a theatre balcony to watch a grotesque Western movie like any proper lady would, was unlike anything I've ever experienced.

Fuggedaboutit! "Brooklyn" is the Film to Skip This Season

Immigration Book Turned Movie Leaves Viewers Wanting More

BY VICTORIA PRIOLA

"Brooklyn" is the type of film you need to watch in two sittings because the 111 minute run time of the film is enough to put viewers to sleep. Its 98% approval rate on Rotten Tomato's proves that its worth seeing at least once. According to IMDB, the movie made a gross amount of \$22,439,281 since its debut in theaters.

The tragic story of forbidden love we've grown fond of from film's past shines bright in the latest film "Brooklyn." The storyline and actors makes the 1950's immigration movement feel like yesterday.

"Brooklyn" starts out in Ireland where Eilis, played by Oscar nominee Saoirse Ronan, is sent away to America in the hopes of finding employment. She is assigned to live with four other women under the watch of Mrs. Keogh in, you guessed it, Brooklyn.

Eilis and her roommates attend weekly singles dances in the hopes of finding a boyfriend to hopefully turn into a husband. Luckily for Eilis, this is where her and Tony meet and hit it off.

Her roommates warned her about Italian men and their ways but, just like the typical teenage girl with raging hormones, she continued to see him.

Eilis passes the time by going to school for bookkeeping and working at a retail store. When she has a free minute, she exchanges

letters from her sister Rosa in Ireland. After a family tragedy, Eilis goes back to her homeland, leaving Tony and her New York life behind.

"Although the film was visually beautiful, there seemed to be some holes in the story."

Before she goes home, she and Tony do what any logical couple with no permanent place to live do; they got married at the courthouse and told nobody about it.

In her time home with her grieving mother, she habitually goes out with her newly engaged childhood friend, Nancy.

Nancy has no knowledge of Eilis' Italian husband in America and tries to set her up with Jim Farrell, played by Domhnall Gleeson. Eilis makes it a point to show how uninterested she is at first, but as days go by she catches herself falling for Jim, while still married to Tony.

Eilis is forced to choose between the life that has been constructed for her and the life she's made for herself.

The overall message that can be taken from "Brooklyn" is that choosing the direction of your life is the scariest, most liberating thing you can do for yourself.

It's ironic that the movie is so long be-

cause some viewers complained the plot was rushed.

Although the film was visually beautiful, there seemed to be some holes in the story. "Brooklyn" made Eilis' experience with immigration look like a glamorous one, which doesn't seem historically accurate.

During her travel to the country, she is taught to "think like an American" by her cabin mate. She can't be too nervous or too innocent. Her cabin mate tells her to doll herself up and act like she knows where she's going.

They rarely touch upon the paperwork and medical tests immigrants need to complete before entering the country. The only hardship she endured through the film was being homesick when she got to Brooklyn and being physically sick on the boat to Ellis Island due to rough waters.

There was nothing all that groundbreaking about this movie other than being one of the most "feel good" films I've seen in a long time.

Tony's character defied the stereotype of Italian men being nothing but slime balls who are only after promiscuous women. He was a baseball loving momma's boy who treated Eilis with nothing but respect throughout the entire film.

According to IMDB, "Brooklyn" will have it's time to shine at the Oscars and

Golden Globes this year. Ronan is one of the youngest actors to receive an Oscar nomination, as well as being nominated for a Golden Globe, for best performance by an actress in a leading role.

Nick Hornby is up for an Oscar nomination for best writing, screenplay based on material previously produced or published. Amanda Posey and Finola Dwyer are up for the Oscar's best motion picture of the year.

It's particularly shocking that the actor who played Tony, Emory Cohen, has not been nominated for any major awards. The movie plot was visibly rushed through on camera but with every scene Cohen's character became more vulnerable.

Ronan kept the same facial expression throughout the entire film and was dense and boring up until the end of the film.

Reading the book the film was based on, "Brooklyn" by Colm Toibin, is suggested before seeing the movie. The bibliography alone explains what the movie didn't cover.

Looking passed the plot confusion, the film was enjoyable. Eilis venture through her homesickness tugs at the heart strings and the underlying love story is sweet.

It might not be up to Nicholas Sparks standards but it's still an enjoyable date night movie. One that you will watch once and forget about.

Get Flying in Snoopy's Grand Adventure

A Comic Classic That's Short, Sweet, and Easy to Beat

BY LUCIA ROSSI

No game is as nostalgic, simple, and just plain adorable as "The Peanuts Movie: Snoopy's Grand Adventure." Although the video game is aimed towards children, any adult who grew up with the Peanuts gang can experience the beauty in its reincarnation.

This isn't the type of game you play for the storyline, it's merely for the enjoyment of it. This game is a great choice if you love the classic 2D, Super Mario Bros. style of gameplay. "Snoopy's Grand Adventure" is highly criticized for its short length and easy level of difficulty but is loved for all its heart and detail.

"The Peanuts Movie: Snoopy's Grand Adventure" released in North America on November 3, 2015 and is playable on Nintendo 3DS, PS4, Wii U, XBOX 360, and XBOX One. It was developed by Behaviour Interactive and published by Activision.

It's perfect for couples, siblings, and adults with children. I played the entire game with my boyfriend and we beat the game in three sittings. By playing together we realized that although it's a single player game, it heavily relies on two characters playing at the same time who serve different purposes. I'm talking about the beloved beagle Snoopy and his pal, Woodstock. Snoopy is mainly the hero while Woodstock is his sidekick and savior.

The background story of the game is that the Peanuts gang is playing hide-and-go seek and you have to find Charlie Brown. In order to do that, you have to find everyone

else first, one by one, in six different worlds and 29 levels, with a boss battle at the end of each set of levels. The places where you go through levels include the Peppermint Jungle, Lunar Surface, Parisian Underground, Skies of Paris, Temple of Bunnies, and Melody Chateau.

This game is a great choice if you love the classic 2D, Super Mario Bros. style of gameplay.

In each world there are 300 jelly beans ready to be collected, like coins in Mario, as well as Beagle Scouts. They are scouts in Snoopy's troop who all look like Woodstock and are secretly hidden in every level. There are also special jars of very large beans that once opened need to be collected under a time constraint. This adds some challenge to the game and replayability.

Also like Mario, Snoopy has to jump on enemies in order to defeat them. However, why take the risk of losing precious hearts of health when Woodstock can easily fly by them which stuns and confuses the enemy temporarily? You get no points for defeating enemies in this game anyway.

In every world, you unlock a new costume that gives Snoopy a special power that helps him overcome obstacles in that level. These costumes include a Beagle Scout, the Flying Ace, the Masked Marvel, Joe Cool (who's power literally freezes enemies), and

a detective costume. Every costume change is mandatory and is set for you to use when you need it. Snoopy can also just be his normal self and have the power to glide in mid air by spinning his ears like a helicopter.

Although Woodstock doesn't get any costumes, he goes through the entire game aiding Snoopy and is completely incapable of being harmed. While Snoopy collects beans, uses costumes, and jumps from platform to platform, it is Woodstock's job to take care of enemies, activate circles that cause platforms to move, move jelly beans closer together so it's easier for Snoopy to capture, and most importantly can collect Snoopy's lost heart of health from the air and bring it back to him when he is hurt. Snoopy can also eat cookies to regain health. None the less, these two characters need each other in this game.

The main downside to being Woodstock is that as the screen rolls to the right, it only follows Snoopy. Which means that if he moves too quickly, Woodstock can't keep up and can easily get lost out of the frame. Then, you have to wait until he respawns back on the screen in order to continue, but because it is very hard to control Woodstock as he flies, this happens very often and can get frustrating.

Boss battles weren't really "battles" at all. Most of them consisted of running away or trying to avoid a monster chasing you or dangerous objects coming at you. The most gratifying battle in the game was Snoopy as the Flying Ace versus the Red Baron from the recent film, who shoots torpedoes and bullets

at you. Although it is a reference to the film, the game actually has no tie-ins which definitely worked in its favor.

The graphics for the game are just like the film. It looks like it has a mix of CGI with a style of a drawing and has very fine details and beautiful backgrounds. All the platforms interact with the environment. For example, you get to swing and climb on vines in the Peppermint Jungle. The environments also connect to certain characters, like the Melody Chateau has you jumping on a piano for the boss battle before saving Schroeder, or Pigeon's awful dust clouds coming to attack you. Even bosses resemble characters, like Lucy van Pelt as a giant robot.

Be warned that this game can get very glitchy. My boyfriend and I had to restart our battle with the Peppermint Patty boss because she wouldn't die after being hit three times with baseballs like she was supposed to. There can also be some lag or slowness, but good thing this game isn't meant to be taken too seriously.

Critics as well as gamers have mixed feelings about this game. Their biggest concern being how short in length it is with its level of difficulty which is sold at the near full price, depending on what game system it is for. It probably would have been better as a download but was hyped up on television and with the film release.

Even though it ends too soon, the game has such charm and respectable source of materials thanks to the beautiful mind of Charles Schulz.

BANNER OPINIONS

Why You Shouldn't Get Your Hopes Up About Legal Weed in NYC

Marijuana Dispensaries are Finally Open, So is it Legal Yet?

BY MARIAH METZGER

Some would believe marijuana legalization is finally underway. Mayor Bill de Blasio set the wheel in motion by decriminalizing marijuana November of last year.

Now, throughout New York State, at least eight dispensaries have opened with more plans for more in the works.

But is it really legal yet?

What seems to be troubling most of us is the strict limitations on who is entitled to medical marijuana.

According to the New York Health government website people who are eligible must be diagnosed "with a specific severe, debilitating or life threatening condition." It states that legally, this would be cancer, HIV infection or AIDS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury with spasticity, epilepsy, inflammatory bowel disease, neuropathy, and Huntington's disease.

What about the people who suffer from anxiety, depression, Rheumatoid arthritis (which is a form of arthritis that means chronic pain in your joints, for the rest of your life), PTSD, Crohn's disease?

This leaves many people who could be benefiting from medical marijuana in the dust.

If we can remove the stigma that follows marijuana, we will be able to get sick people the medical help they need.

Besides marijuana, the only other thing a doctor can prescribe to someone who is sick would be a prescription drug. Opioid

painkillers, which is your vicodin, oxycontin, percocets, kill 44 people per day according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Staten Island itself is suffering a major heroin addiction among its residents. This is because heroin gives the same effect that opioids do, and is costing a fraction less of what pills are.

It has been previously believed, but not proven, that marijuana was a gateway drug to heroin.

However, when looking at the increased use of prescription drug abuse you can clearly see this notion is false.

The idea of marijuana being a gateway drug has to be left behind. There is way too much compelling data and studies that proves marijuana can be medicinal.

Take a step back from the idea that has

been shoved down your throat since the beginning of time that marijuana is a gateway drug. Marijuana is a non-addictive substance, with no withdrawal symptoms, and better yet, no side effects.

Cigarettes and alcohol have killed more people in the past year than marijuana ever has. There are at least 480,000 deaths per year from cigarettes, also according to the CDC.

Alcohol clocks in at 88,000 deaths per year. While marijuana has been involved in some deaths, it has never been a direct cause. No one has ever ingested so much THC that they died.

When Mayor de Blasio decriminalized marijuana, he got a lot of backlash from it. Not only from the public, but from the police and other state officials as well.

However, de Blasio has got it right. Mar-

ijuana arrests are now decreasing, which is saving time and money.

So how come the healthcare industry can dish out prescription painkillers to anyone in need, but we have harsh restrictions on medical marijuana?

The healthcare industry is having such a hard time due to political pushback, but as much lobbying that was done for medical marijuana there is just as much lobbying against it.

There is also problems with labeling cost to medical marijuana. Currently for someone prescribed in New York, it could cost \$100-\$300 per dose.

According to New York Magazine, they would not receive the physical plant, but would receive a dropper of liquid marijuana.

This doesn't include the \$50 to apply for the ID card or money spent on doctors visits to obtain it.

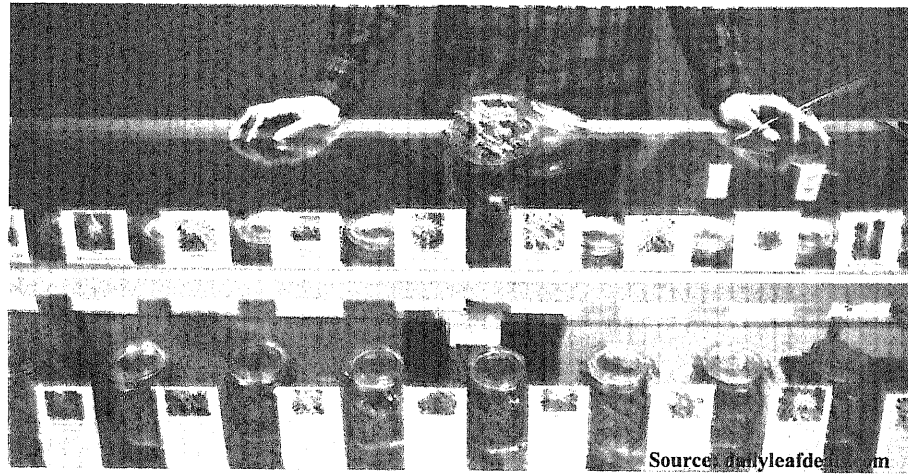
This is costing low-income New Yorkers serious cash. If no one can afford to use medicinal marijuana, how can we go about using it?

There is very slow progress being made. What we need is a reclassification of marijuana.

Once we reevaluate the drug, it will be taken out of the same category as heroin and other opiate drugs.

We need more political action for the use of marijuana medicinally, at the very least.

With more political action, there will be more changes for the people in need of the drug.



Source: DailyLeaf.com

Hoverboards Will Leave You Flying to the Hospital

How the Gift of the Season Will Only Give you Back Pain

BY VICTORIA PRIOLA

Hoverboards were at one time primarily existent in the futuristic dreams of the "Back to the Future" films. Now, these levitation devices were one of the hottest selling Christmas gifts of 2015.

If airplanes and select cities don't want them, why would you?

Since the latter part of November 2015, the Internet has been filled with videos of people trying out this new technology. 102,000 results arise when the keywords "Hover board fails" is searched on YouTube.

People of all ages, mostly parents and young adults, have tried to successfully ride these boards.

YouTuber Stephen Lee Nott captured his hoverboard going up in flames immediately after usage.

Nott claimed that he charged his board through the previous night, which may have caused it to overheat, but no product should burst into flames moments after being used for a short amount of time.

Luckily, Nott was not harmed, but many others who take a test run aren't so lucky. Throughout these 102,000 results, people of all ages have tried to successfully ride these boards.

It's a balancing act most just can't seem

to handle. Why do people keep going back for more, when they know what the end result is?

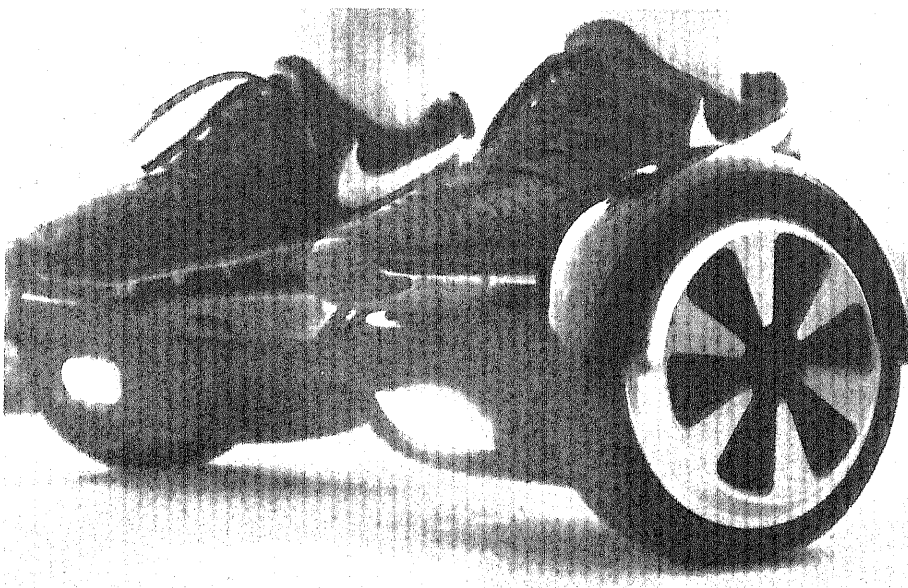
Because being the weak minded generation we are, we're attracted to anything with lights. Regardless of the precautions, we're always looking for the new thrill everyone is talking about.

According to Fox 5 News, the Consumer Product Safety Commission has been forced

to issue a statement saying: "The office has heard from hospitals around the country, injuries including concussions, fractures, lacerations and internal organ injuries."

Most users that are injured from the product fall on their spine and back.

The problem lies with getting off the board. When too much weight is carried to the front or back of the board, it swerves in the opposite direction intended.



Hoverboards are illegal on the streets on New York City but are sold in malls and through online stores.

If a lifetime of back problems sounds like your cup of tea, a hoverboard is the right investment for you.

Instead of buying a \$300 hoverboard, why don't you do something that can actually benefit you? With the money you'd put down on buying one of these "futuristic" items, you can go on a road trip, take a trip to the beach and actually have some quality of life.

When a scooter costs more than your phone bill, it's time for an intervention.

Toys R Us sells Razor Hoverboard Electric Scooters for \$599. Pre-ordering a Electric Scooter 2 Wheels Self balancing Balance Hoverboard Model HFS from eBay costs \$7,000.

The free shipping must be a total selling point because 184 people bought them.

According to SFGate, retailers like Target and Amazon have pulled the product from their shelves due to safety concerns.

CNN announced that hoverboards are illegal in New York City, as if that will make them do any less harm. Hoverboards should be banned everywhere and discontinued. If a product is not absolutely perfect, get it off the market until then.

Maybe the perfect hovering object will come along in 2026, but us millennials aren't able to handle that yet.

SEX AND THE ISLAND

The Thrills of Being the Other Woman

How I Fell for A Taken Man And Ended Up Getting Burned

BY LOREN TRAPANESE

It started with plastic forks. I came into work on my day off to indulge in a treated meal of sausage and peppers, however, it seems that I indulged in a little more than just lunch.

With wondering eyes, I spotted a man whom I've never seen before during the few short months that I've been working here. Curious to find out whom he was, I asked my dad hoping to gain some information—I got nothing. Instead, I got a, "You're a savage."

Taking matters into my own hands, I made it known that I had no fork for my plate of food. You can imagine how thankful I was when Mr. Hottie jumped on the opportunity to take me to where the forks were hiding.

Giving my dad a sly smile, I walked away with the mystery man in what then was merely a simple introductory meeting.

A few months passed since I met the warehouse Hot Man, I hadn't thought about him and quite frankly, I didn't look for him on my days at work either. I didn't necessarily forget about him, I just didn't pursue it even though I knew where to find him.

Call it coincidence, on one Saturday evening as I was home recovering from a wicked "too many shots of tequila" hangover from a work event the night before, fate decided to have a little playtime.

Having thrown my cell phone out a window the previous night (tequila is the reason for that idiotic move), I called my mother at work to grab a phone number. She tells me that there are a group of really cute guys at the bar and I'm missing out, and then pauses to tell me that one has a girlfriend.

Now, call me crazy but have you ever just had a gut feeling that you knew what the person was going to tell you before they actually say it? Well, that's what happened to me. My mom, being the creeper that she is, had the guys credit card for the tab and began reading me the name, "Andrew Whit..." (name has been changed, for obvious reasons). I cut her off and started shouting, "THAT'S THE HOT GUY FROM WORK I TOLD YOU ABOUT!"

When my mom came home from work that night she dished out the details of how she basically blew up my spot to Mr. Hottie. She told me how when she told him that she was my mom, he fell all over himself in shock and kept telling her "how hot I was."

My mom insisted that he would try to look for me during the week while I was at work—and leave it to mom to be right.

However, because my new position at work had moved me upstairs, the likelihood of him finding me was, well, slim to none.

Come Friday that week I decided to look for him, and that's where it all started.

Fifteen minutes on the elliptical, there is sweat gliding down my temple, and my controlled breathing is transforming into more of

a dry, silent scream for hydration. My phone vibrates with an unfamiliar number on the screen.

I open it to see a text message reading, "Where has my carrier pigeon been, I think she's lost."

My heart dropped. I stumble a bit on the elliptical as I dial my moms number.

"MOM! Andrew just texted me," I shouted into the phone. "I'm freaking out! How did he get my number!?"

The next morning, the conversation between Andrew and I continued all through the workday, and we even had lunch together afterwards. We flirted here and there, all the while knowing that he was in a relationship.

I'm not sure what exactly drew me to him when we first met over plastic forks. He is genuinely a nice guy, I didn't just want to believe that, I knew it. Yes, he is in a relationship and we engage in flirtatious chitchat, but I figured that maybe they were in rough patch.

He has these beautiful green eyes, beauty marks scattered aesthetically on his face. And the way his fingers on his left hand runs through his lightly gelled black hair as he glances down to his left when he is being coy is electrifying.

His body is alluring in that it makes me feel safe, his arms firmly toned and able to be hung on, with the back-it-up booty that all girls want on a guy. Our back and forth witty conversations create a certain tension between us—definitely not able to be ignored.

One afternoon as we are sitting across the table from each other during lunch, I'm chomping away on my carrots and laughing at the conversation around us. Suddenly, I feel his fiery gaze on me. Every time I glance up, his eyes are burning through mine, to the point where I felt myself getting hot. I couldn't even break the gaze if I wanted to.

He decided to walk me halfway back to my office, the entire time we are laughing and play hitting each other and saying we hate each other—basic flirting with underlying emotions.

We come to the end of the hallway and stop to talk some more, the usual fidgeting we exhibit during our chitchats was more obvious now, matching our unbreakable eye contact. Within a second, everything around us became obsolete.

He looked into my eyes, differently than he previously had been. He lifted his right arm and placed his hand the left side of my cheek. I stood still, heart racing, anxiously anticipating what was going to happen next. As his face became less than an inch away from mine, I closed the space and our lips finally touched.

The electricity was heightened. We pushed each other closer and tighter, then farther and closer again. Against the maroon work walls we danced, sweating and passionate with each taste of each other.

Everyday after that became more and

more like a game of forbidden fruit, except, unlike Paradise Lost, Adam went for the apple first and Eve followed suit. Our make-out sessions intertwined with anticipated sexual attraction became intensified. Pulling away from each other became just as difficult as waiting to be near each other.

On social media we were not friends, but that didn't stop the game of liking and then un-liking each others photos on purpose, to let one another know we were thinking about each other.

It was even getting to the point of posting our location on our photos, as a sly way of letting one another know where we were in case of an "accidental" pop-up. The attraction was becoming such a heavy pull, that it became all I thought about. Until one weekend, when things went from 0 to 100 "real fucking quick."

During a Saturday of errands with my girl, we were at the mall about to finish up and start thinking about lunchtime plans. Andrews Instagram name had popped up on my phone, knowing what that meant I clicked on his page and saw that he was at my mom's bar.

Already planning on heading there for some afternoon Merlot and salads, I decided to let him know I was en route to avoid any potential problems. As we walked into the bar, I watched his face drop with a slight smile in his eye. Nauseatingly-excited was basically my emotion in a nutshell.

My girlfriend and I took seats facing the wall a little ways away from him, but that didn't stop his penetrating gaze from reaching mine. Each time he looked at me, he would mouth, "I hate you" and smile sexily. I was melting.

I mouthed to him to come over and say hi, when he did, the fidgeting escalated and the redness in our faces matched the heat we felt under our clothes. When we turned toward the bathroom my girlfriend said to me, "Oh my God, you two are pathetic, he really likes you."

After a group of his friends left, it was just us three and it turned out that he actually knew my friend. We all wound up hanging out and drinking. He and I standing close together, occasionally smirking and exchanging our usual "I hate you's."

He was distracted and on his phone voraciously typing. I asked if everything was okay and his response was, "OMG, that's my girlfriend." She didn't come into the bar but she was outside and he followed after her.

I felt guilty because what we are doing is wrong but it also felt so right. When he came back in he explained to me that they've been arguing and he couldn't understand why he just didn't care that she wanted to pack her things from his house and break up with him.

Unfortunately, he needed to leave to handle the situation but not without a very caught off guard kiss goodbye—on the lips, in pub-

lic, in his hometown.

The next day we talked via DM and he came to visit me at my gym, we sat in his car and talked for a while, well, about an hour actually. When I opened the door to leave his car we kissed and I walked away.

Then I heard it. "HE HAS A GIRL-FRIEND YOU FUCKING SLUT."

I turned around confused but then it registered. I turned to see that his girlfriend and her friends had pulled up next to his car and she was screaming at him. I felt sick.

That night he messaged me apologizing for putting me in this situation, he told me how his heart broke for me when her friends were calling me out. I told him that I was the last person he should be thinking about after what happened.

I went to bed that night feeling disgusted but not regretting anything. A girl, who I don't even know, got her heart broken and I had something to do with it. A part of me felt broken too, I hadn't realized how much I cared about this guy and I knew that he would make things right with his girlfriend—because he is a good guy and would want to do the right thing.

The next day at work we met and he apologized profusely, but was so torn with his emotions, telling me that he feels heart-broken for destroying her but that he also doesn't know if he made a mistake—and then he kissed me.

Things were messy over the next few days and eventually, when I realized he was going to try and do right by her, I took myself out of the equation despite how hard it was. Realistically, I shouldn't be upset over something I never had but you can't help who you like, right?

He met me at the wrong time in his life, even if it felt right, I can't blame him for not wanting to let go of the "sure" for the "unsure." You only look outside of your relationship if there is something missing, but many choose to be complacent for fear of loneliness.

"I really hope you find somebody that loves the shit out of you because I really think you're an amazing girl, and you have more to offer than a lot of girls that I have met. I don't want you wasting your time on these asshole guys. You're a very intelligent girl so you won't have that problem, I just don't want to have to beat anyone up for messing with my friend Loren. So basically, my advice to you is never forget what you have to offer, because you're a catch."

That text message was sent me to a week ago, and our last person-to-person encounter after that text was a no eye contact, sincere attempt to express how we feel. What I learned from being the other woman is that it is possible to meet the right person, at the wrong time, but it is what you do with the experience afterwards that lets fate work its wonders.

SPORTS

Dolphin's First Win of Season on Home Turf A Strong Turn Out for Men's and Women's

BY FRANK COSTAGLIOLA

Will Fonseca scored 23 points, while adding 14 rebounds in a dominant defensive performance over a struggling Kean University team.

The CSI Dolphins continued to roll and have success against teams with a sub .500 record. The game was a historic one for Head Coach Tony Petosa, as his team held the Cougars to a season low 40 points.

The last time CSI held an opponent to 40 points or below, was back during the 1996-1997 season against Pratt University, 95-37. That was Petosa's third season as Head Coach of the Dolphins.

CSI has enjoyed much recent success against Kean University, winning their sixth in a row against them, which now puts the Dolphins all time record against the Cougars at 11-9.

With Will Fonseca leading the charge, the Dolphins' defense overwhelmed an unprepared Cougars team. CSI's defense had their way against Kean University and created 16 turnovers. This gave CSI a 22-7 point advantage in points off of turnovers.

The Dolphins and Cougars went at it back and forth in the game's opening ten minutes and Kean University managed to build a seven point lead with only four minutes remaining in the first half.

The Dolphins offense struggled to score during this time and were shooting as low as 19% from the field.

Then the Dolphins' defense kicked it into high gear and created numerous turnovers, which resulted in a number of easy buckets.

CSI finished off the half strongly and forward Edin Baum drained a clutch 3 pointer with only seconds left in the half.

Thanks to the big 3 pointer by Baum, the Dolphins ended the half with an impressive



8-1 run.

The game was a tale of two halves, as CSI only held a marginal 32-25 lead over Kean University going into halftime.

The Dolphins continued to build off the momentum from the first half, and came out into the second half looking like a completely different team. CSI scored an impressive 40 points during the half, while holding Kean University to only 15 points.

The Dolphins can attribute their success in the second half to their great defense. During the second half the Dolphins managed to hold the Cougars to 13% (4-29) shooting.

They also picked it up on the boards, which limited Kean University to any offensive rebounds and second chance opportunities.

CSI's offense also found their way during the second half. After shooting a poor 32% during the first 20 minutes of action, the Dolphins shot a much more respectable 44% from the field.

The men continued to build on their small lead and jumped out to a 19-3 run mid-

way through the second half of play.

Thanks to some big offensive rebounds by Will Fonseca and Thomas Delahanty, the Dolphins managed to create countless second chance scoring opportunities.

CSI is at their best when they play tough defense and dominate their opponents on the boards and in the paint.

They are a big and physical team and an undersized Kean University didn't have any answers for it.

The Dolphins out rebounded the Cougars 54 to 33 during the game and as a result of this, CSI out scored Kean University 17-5 on second chance points.

During the first half the Dolphins and Cougars both scored 14 points a piece in the paint, but during the second half the Dolphins held them to only four points while putting up 20 points of their own.

With the win CSI improved their overall record to 13-4 on the season and have only lost one game on their home court. The upcoming three games for the Dolphins are huge as each one of those games are against conference opponents at home.

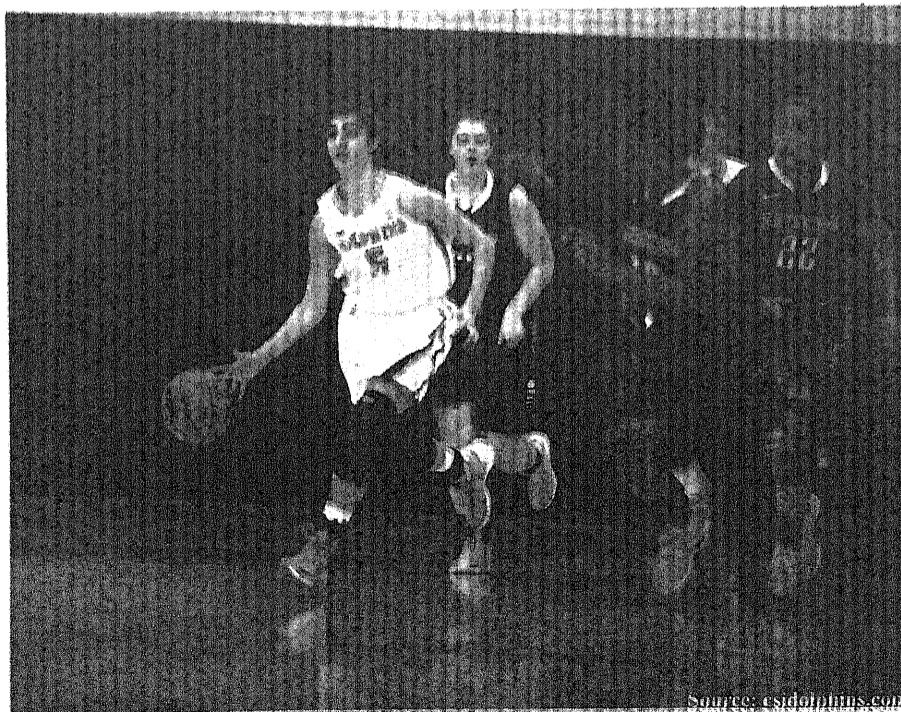
The men are 6-2 overall in conference games this season and can catch up to a contending Lehman College team who holds a 7-1 record in conference games.

The Dolphins have two must win home games against Hunter College and John Jay College during the three game stretch.

Both teams have combined for only three wins on the season and have really struggled in conference games.

The third and final home game is against a tough Brooklyn College team, who won the first meeting between the two by a score of 73-70.

The game against Brooklyn College will be held on January 30th at the CSI Sports and Recreation Center.



College of Staten Island

Athletics Schedule:

January 28 to February 9

Jan. 30 at 1:00pm: Men's Basketball vs. Brooklyn College at home

Jan. 30 at 3:00pm: Women's Basketball vs. Brooklyn College at home

Feb. 2 at 5:00pm: Women's Basketball vs. City College, away

Feb. 2 at 7:00pm: Men's Basketball vs. City College, away

Feb. 5 at 2:00pm: Men's Swimming in CUNYAC Championship meet- Day 1

Feb. 5 at 2:00pm: Women's Swimming in CUNYAC Championship meet- Day 1

Feb. 6 at 12:00pm: Men's Volleyball vs. City College, away

Feb. 6 at 12:00pm: Men's Volleyball vs. Baruch College, away

Feb. 6 at 10:00am: Men's Swimming in CUNYAC Championship meet- Day 2

Feb. 6 at 10:00am: Women's Swimming in CUNYAC Championship meet- Day 2

Feb. 6 at 1:00pm: Men's Basketball vs. York College, away

Feb. 6 at 3:00pm: Women's Basketball vs. York College, away

Feb. 7 at 10:00am: Men's Swimming in CUNYAC Championship meet- Day 3

Feb. 7 at 10:00am: Women's Swimming in CUNYAC Championship meet- Day 3

Feb. 7 at 1:00pm: Men's Volleyball vs. Hunter College, away

Feb. 7 at 3:00pm: Men's Volleyball vs. Stevens Insitute, away

Feb. 9 at 5:30pm: Women's Basketball vs. Medgar Evers College at home

Feb. 9 at 7:30pm: Men's basketball vs. Medgar Evers College at home