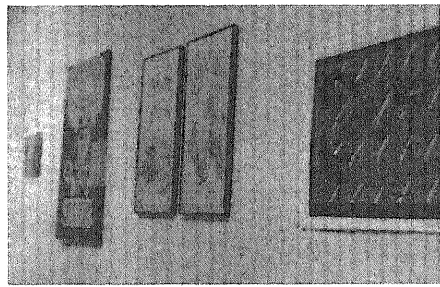


# THE BANNER

The Official Newspaper of the College of Staten Island  
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Issue # 12



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The Issue with the S93 - Page 10



Men's Baseball Preview - Page 12

## CSI Seeks to Better Campus Culture Through Survey *Future Endeavors and Initiatives of Campus Rely on Feedback*



Photo Credit: Clifford Michel

CSI students in the campus center, sitting across from adverts left in the cafeteria

BY CLIFFORD MICHEL

The College of Staten Island has launched a month long push to better understand all aspects of life at CSI via a campus wide survey.

The goal of the "Campus Climate Survey", according to CSI administrators, is to understand what the campus believes are successful initiatives, discover challenges facing members of the CSI community, and develop long term strategies to build on what is the

most productive solution to the challenges the College faces.

CSI has thrown its full weight behind effectively conducting the campus climate survey. The College has placed promotional material throughout the entire campus and has offered some strong incentives for completing the survey.

The potential prizes include a \$200 metro card, a year of free parking, and an iPad Mini2.

Vice President for Student and Enrollment Service Jennifer Borrero, who pioneered the effort, said that the survey is a finite way to address large and underlying concerns from the campus community.

"The Campus Climate Survey is an invaluable tool that will identify successful initiatives, uncover any challenges facing members of our community, and help formu-

*Continued on Page 5*

## CSI Students Protests CUNY Tuition Hikes

*In Albany, Students Confront Legislators*

BY GABRIEL DAVILA

CSI students and the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) advocated against further tuition hikes in CUNY and voiced their support for a tuition freeze on February 25 in Albany alongside hundreds of students.

The students walked into a contentious atmosphere in Albany where a nearly \$500

million budget cut from state funds has been in discussion.

"Higher tuition costs make it harder for students to get the degree they need in order to get jobs," said Neil Button, NYPIRG's Project Coordinator for CSI. "Instead of increasing state funding for CUNY and SUNY, the state shifts the financial burden to students."

The NYSUNY and NYCUNY 2020 tui-

tion plans increase tuition by \$300 each year and expires on April 1.

CSI students advocated for a lower tuition plan because they cannot afford more hikes. Students voiced their financial struggle and emphasized their need for an affordable education.

"I'm afraid of these tuition hikes because

*Continued on Page 4*

## Burglary at the Campus Center: *Banner's Mac Stolen, Window Smashed*

*STAFFERS SHOCKED  
INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY*

BY SIERRA HOWARD

A i-Mac computer worth nearly \$2,000 was stolen from the Banner's office during a break some time between Thursday and Friday, March 3rd and 4th, raising questions about campus security.

The Office of Public Safety declined to comment, citing that the incident is an ongoing investigation.

On morning rounds of Friday the 4th, a public safety officer discovered that the bottom right portion of the window on the door of the Banner office had been smashed. An officer spent the rest of the day posted outside Room 1C-228, the Banner's offices. Campus planning replaced the window by that evening.

According to the Banner's co-Editor in Chief, Junior Communications Major Clifford Michel, Public Safety believes that the burglary occurred between 10:30pm on Thursday—when the campus center's building manager last checked on the Banner—and 7am on Friday.

Robert Kee, who oversees CSI's student publications, which last year doled out more than \$100,000 to the three active student publications, addressed the Banner staff at a meeting during club hours on March 10.

"I wanted to reassure you that we will bring this matter to an end," said Kee. "We're still seeking justice for you all."

In a note emailed on Friday March 3rd, Michel, reassured the 21-student staff.

"You guys work so hard for this paper and have every right to be upset about this situation," he wrote. "But what we want to drive home here is that the Banner is still a safe place for all of our staffers."

The computer is password protected, and can be tracked by Apple's GPS technology when online.

Many staff members left thoughts on the student newspaper's private Facebook page.

"I can't even believe this," wrote Loren Trapanese, opinions editor at the Banner.

"That's savage," added sportswriter Frank Costagliola.



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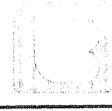
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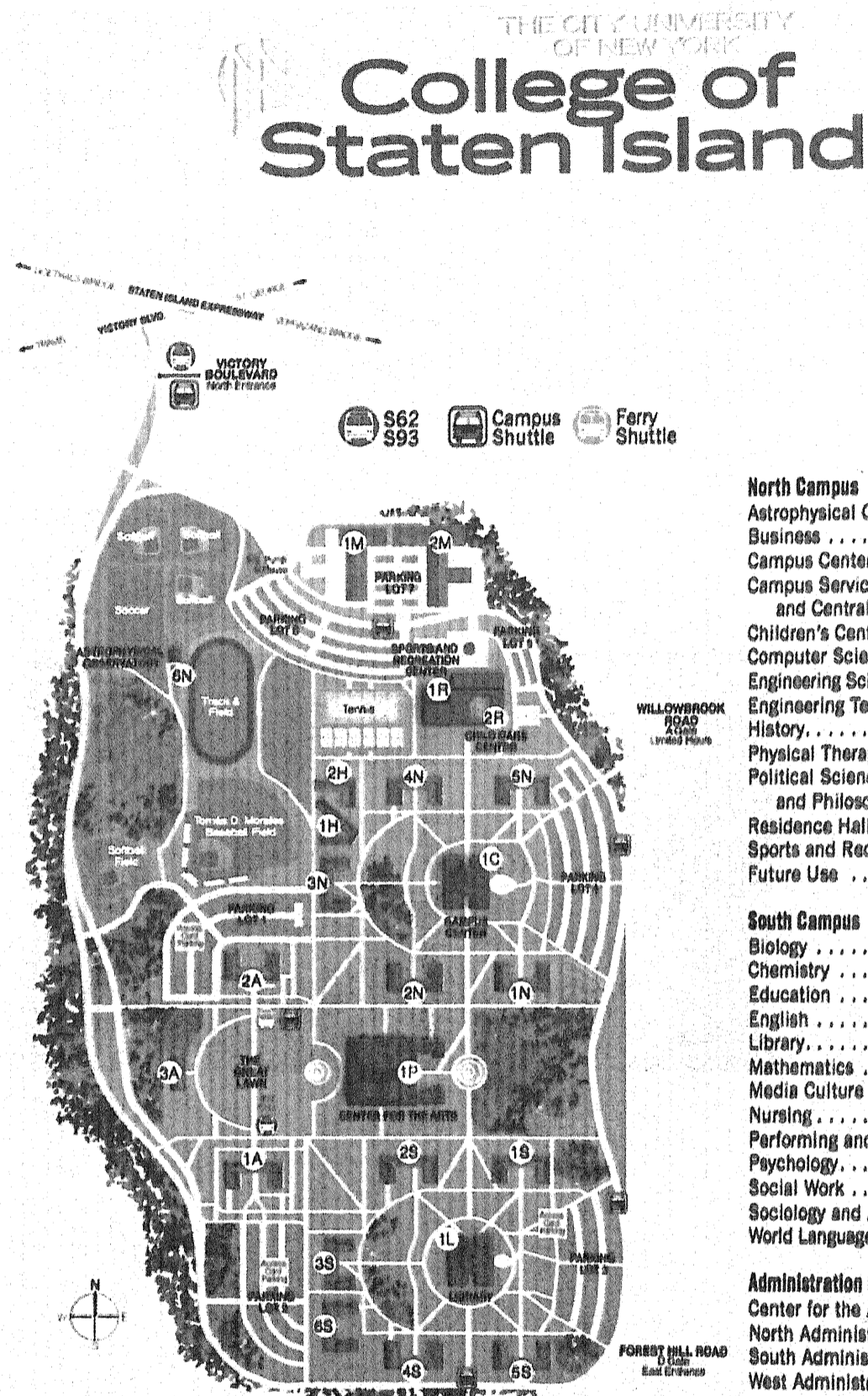
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# BANNER POLITICS

## Republicans Wanted Immigration Reform, But Then Trump Happened

How Donald Trump Ruined the GOP's Goal of Becoming a More Welcoming Party

BY CLIFFORD MICHEL

Slowly but surely, Donald J. Trump is destroying everything that the Republican Party has worked to become and is deeply affecting state politics in the process.

When Trump announced his candidacy in July of 2015, his speech rambled on and on but one line stuck out above the rest.

"[Mexico is] sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems with us. They're bringing drugs," said Trump. "They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people."

The comment went viral and became the first of many vitriol filled platform points that Trump has turned to in order to rev up Republican primary voters.

The real-estate mogul tapped into a dormant hate that had been buried within droves of Republican voters and he's decided to run with it. Gone with Trump's rhetoric, was any chance for the Republican Party to reach a little known goal: to become more pluralistic and welcoming to undocumented immigrants.

After losing the presidential election in 2012, the GOP commissioned a report on itself—an autopsy outlining where the party was failing and analyzing the steps it needed to take in order to fix it.

The report, titled the "Growth and Opportunity Project," cited the woeful fact that Republicans have lost the popular vote in five of the last six elections.

"The federal wing, is increasingly marginalizing itself," the report stated. "And unless changes are made, it will be increasingly

difficult for Republicans to win another presidential election in the near future."

The first recommendation the report makes is to reach out to communities other than traditionally conservative voters, citing Hispanic voters specifically.

The 100-page document explained that the Hispanic population is growing rapidly and would become a key demographic going forward for Republicans to survive when the amount of white Americans shrinks to below 50% around 2050.

The authors of the report argue that compassionate conservatism combined with understanding and outreach could win over the Hispanic population.

The report also aggressively championed immigration reform.

"If we want ethnic minority voters to support Republicans, we have to engage them, and show our sincerity," the report stated.

"Among the steps Republicans take in

the Hispanic community and beyond we must embrace and champion comprehensive immigration reform.

"If we do not, our Party's appeal will continue to shrink to its core constituencies only," the report read. "We also believe that comprehensive immigration reform is consistent with Republican economic policies that promote job growth and opportunity for all."

As 2015 rolled around, the GOP began to roll out its deepest and most talented field of candidates in decades.

About 16 hopefuls with exciting ideas and colorful backgrounds threw their hat into the race.

Among them was Jeb Bush: a former Governor of Florida who spoke fluent Spanish, was married to a Mexican woman, and had a plan which led to amnesty and work permits for many undocumented citizens.

Sen. Marco Rubio, a Cuban-American,

sponsored a similar bipartisan bill in 2013 with New York Sen. Chuck Schumer.

Bush is out of the race, his policy or anything like it will not be a part of the national conversation for years to come, as primary voters are drifting towards a nativist mindset, unleashed by Trump.

Rubio has backed away from his bill and will not consider immigration reform until the country "secures the border first."

But Trump's rhetoric reaches farther than national politics. His ideas have virtually transformed every facet of American politics.

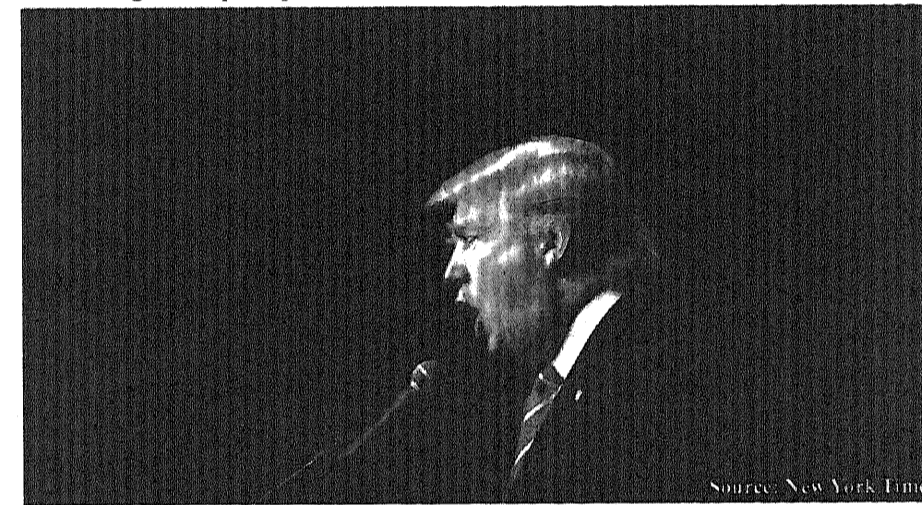
In New York for example, the state Legislature has been debating for a few years whether or not to pass the DREAM Act, which would provide funds for undocumented students who don't have access to TAP (Tuition Assistance Program).

Every year, the State Assembly, controlled by Democrats, passes it and the State Senate, controlled by Republicans, blocks it.

Last year, Governor Andrew Cuomo linked the DREAM Act with a Catholic School tax credit popular with Republicans. After a heated budget season, both items failed to become law, but this year the atmosphere around the DREAM Act is much different.

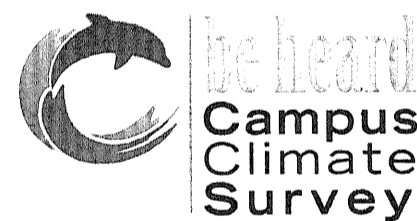
Last month state Senate majority leader John Flanagan immediately dismissed any talk about the DREAM Act and killed even the chance of their being a linkage citing an obvious change in the political atmosphere.

"I oppose the Dream Act, and there's no linkage," he told reporters after a rally in Albany. "And it's not the Dream Act. It's taxpayer-funded tuition for illegal immigrants."



GOP frontrunner Donald J. Trump giving a speech on the campaign trail

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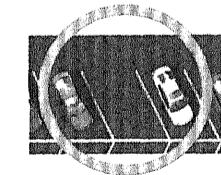


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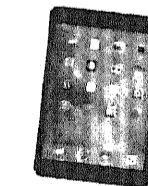
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### "Activists in Albany" Continued from Front Page

I don't want to kiss my education goodbye," said Chris Hood, a sophomore at CSI. "I work full time and I can barely make ends meet with bills and rent."

Since Governor Andrew Cuomo signed the NYSUNY and NYCUNY 2020 tuition plans on August 9, 2011, CUNY universities like the College of Staten Island faced a \$1,500 tuition hike over the last four years. According to The Statesman, Governor Cuomo advocated towards a five-year extension on NYSUNY and NYCUNY 2020 plans.

"I'm the first generation in my family to go to college and I can't qualify for Financial Aid or TAP (Tuition Assistance Program)," said Maria Vasquez, a sophomore at CSI. "My sister is going to college and has to pay out of pocket like me."

The Envoy, Hunter College's official student newspaper, reported that enrolled students can anticipate senior colleges' tuition and fees to increase by another 24 percent by 2021 through the reenactment of CUNY 2020, reaching almost \$8,000 if the plan gets fully implemented.

"My friend's dad had a stroke and couldn't work," said Jomayra Clardy, a fresh-

man at CSI. "My friend's \$50,000 in debt and has to work two jobs just to pay off her debt and take care of her dad."

Although Assemblymen Michael Cusick and Andrew Garbarino could not meet with the student advocates and NYPIRG, legislative aids listened to students on their behalf.

"Assemblyman Garbarino goes in and out a lot but we go over stuff that happened in his meetings," said Mike Popowski, a legislative associate who works for Garbarino. "I'm sure he's passionate about the rising costs in college education since he and I are still paying off our debt."

Assemblymen Michael Cusick's district director echoed a similar sentiment.

"I cannot speak on Assemblyman Cusick's behalf, but he does advocate for higher education and isn't a supporter of tuition hikes," said Gentiana Ames of the Assemblyman who's district encompasses CSI's campus.

Despite student protests against the tuition hike plans, supporters of NYSUNY and NYCUNY 2020 plans advocated for extension.

In a press release, SUNY said "NYSUNY 2020 must be renewed, because it ensures that the SUNY Board of Trustees keeps set-

ting tuition rates and this authority does not go back to the state."

Stony Brook University benefitted from the NYSUNY 2020 plan and achieved goals such as "an increase in the 4-year graduation rate, hired 246 net new faculty, increased research funding and adding sections and faculty in key courses in an effort to clear



Canvassing completed outside of IC completed by New York Public Interest Group interns

obstacles to graduation," Stony Brook University's President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. said in a statement.

Stanley Jr compared tuition to a roulette before SUNY2020 passed, "some years there would be massive tuition increases-20 to 30 percent a year-and other years, there would be nothing."

## For Student Publications, Independence May Be a Click Away

Exploring the Difficulties and Push Back Faced by Student Newspapers

BY EMILY ZODA

Welcome to Emily's "Take on Media!" In every issue of the Banner you'll start seeing this column where I talk about a variety of topics in the media, be it podcasts or journalism, and how it plays out in the grander scheme of it all.

This past year has revealed difficulties for student publications in the face of traditional foes, such as unfair budget cuts by prude student government, and new foes, such as activists.

Campus newspapers have always held the responsibility of chronicling a school's history from a student's perspective and voicing students' opinions on everything from the cost of textbooks to students' rights.

Colleges allow funds to be allocated to students for clubs and activities to participate on campus and boost morale. What they also have is the power to take those funds away from students who use it inappropriately.

Inappropriately, in the eyes of some College officials, means anything that could damage the reputation of the College.

For instance, the University of Kansas' current, and former, editors have recently filed a suit against the University for failing to intervene when its student senators, according to the editors, inappropriately cut funding.

The students claim that the defunding coincided with an editorial published in May 2014, which criticized the student elections

process that elected new officials in every year.

Mount Saint Mary's college newspaper The Mountain Echo lost its faculty advisor earlier this year over a story published about the College President's new initiative to cull the amount of struggling freshmen, comparing them to "cuddly bunnies" that "you just have to drown."

A University of Missouri professor attempted to kick out a campus reporter during protests relating to the treatment of minorities on campus and Wesleyan University's student government slashed the school's paper after the paper published an op-ed criticizing the Black Lives Matter movement.

After becoming the focus of a New York Times article, and backlash from students, the President resigned and the faculty advisor was reinstated.

"Their obligation is to the truth and to keep an eye on the other centers of power at a school," said Christopher Anderson, Journalism professor at the College of Staten Island and author of "Rebuilding the News." "They probably have an obligation to produce bad press if anything. Or at least critical press."

Funding a student newspaper's printing costs and other significant fees, at its core, is funding a place for students' voices to be heard.

As some university's face budget cuts, expenses at student newspapers are increasingly being seen as expandable.

CUNY's budget cuts through the past few years have been widely chronicled and some student publications are beginning to feel the brunt of it.

"I do wish we had way more funding, perhaps double of what we currently get," said Brandon Jordan, Editor-in-Chief at the The Knight News, Queens College's student newspaper, who's initial budget this year made it difficult to print regularly.

"Beyond that, the College does not determine our content, and our content does not affect our budget hearings," said Jordan.

The Internet has provided the space for independent digital student news outlets to flourish and establish complete independence from their universities.

"We are completely funded by advertising revenue," said Kelly Weill, co-editor in chief of NYU Local. "Fortunately, it costs almost nothing to run a blog, so we have very few expenses."

The digital only publication was established when editors of the WSN didn't prioritize a website to reach a wider audience than just the University.

NYU Local has flourished as a rival news source for NYU students since their widely publicized coverage of the "Take Back NYU!" student protests in 2009 where they were recognized by several news outlets for their coverage.

The news blog's digital presence surprisingly stacks up well against NYU's offi-

cial student newspaper, Washington Square News.

NYU Local boasts about 14,800 Twitter followers and 5,665 likes on Facebook to WSN's approximately 8,100 Twitter followers and just over 8,000 likes on Facebook.

In contrast, writers at WSN have suffered cutbacks as the paper has gone from a daily publication to weekly.

Well into the digital age of journalism, student publications are seeing the benefits of having less dependence on their respective institutions, but cutting the cord completely still proves difficult.

"It's nice knowing that I can tweet or release a newsletter for free and give an important story the same push it would've received if I asked our college's publications board for additional funds to hire a distributor for our print addition," said Clifford Michel, co-editor in chief of CSI's The Banner.

"That being said, there's a million things I can think of that I still need to fund, by considering our relatively disengaged student body," he continued.

Anderson says no matter what type of money is being given to publications, be it student activity fees or political party funds, there'll always be some influence.

"There is always a tension between where a news organization gets its money from," said Anderson. "And the degree of control a funder has over the agenda of that paper."

## With Talent and Perseverance in Its Forefront, BFA Program Prepares Launch

With Talent and Perseverance in its forefront, Arts Program Prepares Launch

BY VICTORIA PRIOLA

The Bachelors in Fine Art program at CSI is currently accepting applications for the Fall semester. This will be the first semester, since it was announced in October of last year, that the program will be in full effect.

"Now the program truly begins because it's open to the whole campus," said Chris Verene, a professor of photography at CSI. "In the very beginning, it was only for people who completed enough credits."

There are currently 14 students enrolled in the BFA program and around 12-15 students are in portfolio evaluation, according to Verene. The application deadline is May 2 and applicant numbers are expected to rise

*"The best part is being able to meet others who are just as, if not more, serious than I about art at CSI"*

due to its high demand on campus.

The BFA program is unlike any other degree at the College. Talent and perseverance prevail over academics when it comes to the application process.

A sure-fire way to be accepted into it is to have a strong portfolio and the drive to succeed in the artistic field, according to the art department.

"We're looking for the people who are really inspired to work in their own world," said Verene. "Those who do way more than homework."

In order to teach, one must do. All the faculty members in the arts department have their own personal projects going on during the semester. Verene prides himself on his photo series called "Family," where he takes pictures of his immediate family as the years go by.

The program, according to the CSI website, provides intensive instruction in art history, drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, and sculpture as well as a broad liberal arts education. The BFA in Art offers two different concentrations: Studio Art or Photography.

Verene explained that both concentrations require the same amount of work, but

photography is the chosen media, opposed to traditional arts like painting and drawing.

The faculty of the arts decided at a department meeting to delegate Verene as their spokesperson for this article.

Laura Hollingsworth, one of the first January graduates of the BFA program, claims that the faculty has done nothing but help her through her undergrad journey.

"The professors are great, I only have amazing things to say about them, said Hollingsworth. "It took a bit of time getting all the mistakes out that were in the program because I technically had too many credits."

Hollingsworth explained that the semester before they offered the BFA program, she took a history course to satisfy her credits, when she didn't need to.

She claims it caused confusion for a while but her advisors worked through it with her.

The BFA courses are in the process of adjusting their requirements to coincide with the College's schedule.

Hollingsworth came to the College wanting to become an American Sign Language interpreter. After "stumbling" upon photography in her undergrad, she made the decision to dedicate herself to that and put ASL on hold. She hopes to return to it in the near future.

"You have to be passionate about your work, whatever that is," said Hollingsworth. "You just have to be passionate and put that passion into your portfolio."

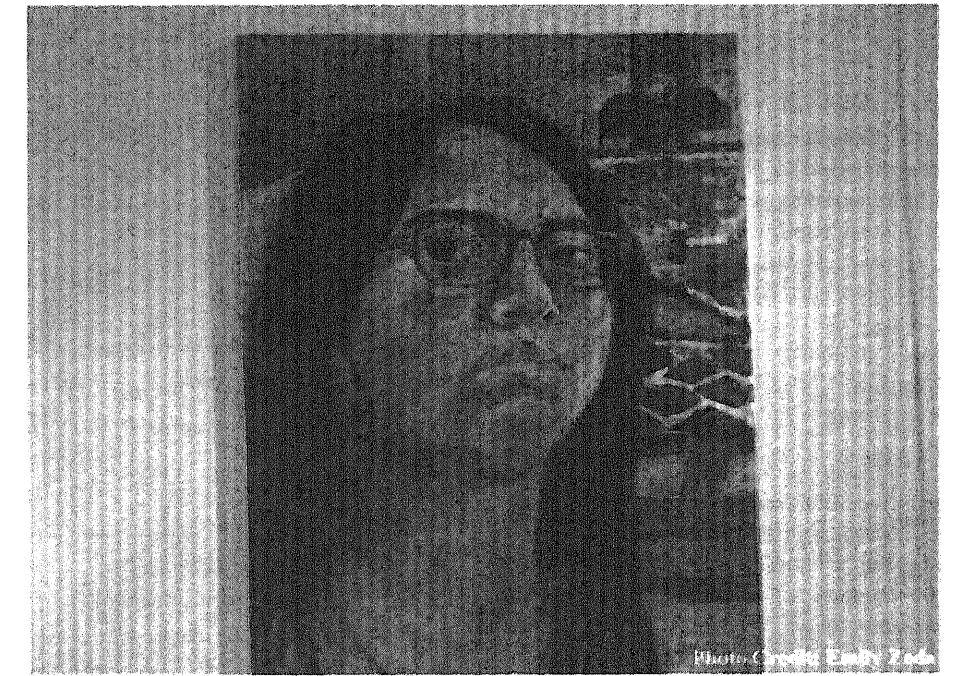
This degree acts as a saving grace to those who want to continue their higher education in studio art and photography.

"The best part is being able to meet others who are just as, if not more, serious than I about art at CSI," said Ruth Li, a senior at CSI.

Verene hopes that this program will inspire students to open their creative minds beyond the classroom. "What we're really interested in is not coursework, but their work," said Verene.

Those who have applied remain hopeful that they'll be accepted in May.

"I want to get into it because I want to be an artist and create things," said Siobhan Granich, a junior at CSI. "I feel to graduate with a BFA is the best way to go. I expect it to be a challenge because you have to show



At CSI's BFA program, talent and the creative process are held in higher regards than grades

off your best work and put your all into it."

One of the benefits students can take advantage of with the BFA program is the Visiting Artist Workshop held every Spring semester, known as PHO 315.

Three artists, who have experience in the field of their study, guest teach in four to five week intervals.

Because the artists wouldn't have enough time to teach a full semester, the Visiting Artist Workshop gives students a taste of what life after graduation is like.

"It gives a different atmosphere than your professor you see every day," said Hollingsworth. "I know they're artists also and I know they're working, but it's someone different and gives it more variety."

In the past, CSI has welcomed many artists to their campus through this workshop including Jen DeNike, Nichole Frocheur, Jen Davis, Nandita Raman, Kanako Sasaki, Rachel Barrett, Gina Levay, Justine Reyes, Pradeep Dalal, and Zoe Strauss.

Both Verene and Hollingsworth remembered photographer Michael Lavine, in particular, teaching to a class of lucky photography students.

It's understandable that Lavine's name would stand out, being that he has shot musicians like Nirvana, Courtney Love, Cher and Notorious B.I.G for MTV and Rolling Stone; not to mention his latest work on the cast of Empire's promotional poster.

"Being able to constantly invite important photography stars in is really a significant thing at the school and also for the BFA program," said Verene. "But it's not linked to them."

When The Banner asked Hollingsworth what course she would like to see added onto the BFA requirements that isn't already, she said a course focused on strictly business would benefit artists and prepare them for post-graduate life.

"You don't think about it until you graduate and you're like "Oh man, I don't have anyone to hold my hand anymore," said Hollingsworth.

Like any other major, fine arts is a competitive field to go into.

This degree aims to give students a much needed leg-up in the artistic world.

"Graduating with a BFA would mean more confidence when applying to graduate schools," said Li. "Which is what I am currently doing to get my [Master of Fine Art]."

According to those who have completed the program, all the hard work is worth it in the end.

The Banner sat with Hollingsworth in 1P during a photo session with CSI's photography students as she reminisced about her time at CSI.

When asked why she was there, she said. "I'm here because I want to be, so I guess that speaks for the program on it's own."

### "Campus Climate Survey" Continued from Front Page

late data driven decisions and initiatives to enhance the campus experience and inform the College's next strategic plan," Borrero told the Banner in a statement.

"By creating awareness of this important initiative, we are confident that all students, faculty and staff will join their voices together and 'Be Heard' to create the future of CSI," the statement continued.

In a letter addressed to the entire campus community, CSI President William J. Fritz said that the aim of the survey is to improve

campus culture and for CSI administrators to better understand what needs to be improved.

"A welcoming and inclusive campus climate is grounded in mutual respect, nurtured by dialogue, evidenced by a pattern of civil interaction, and is one of the foundations of our educational model," Fritz wrote. "Creating and maintaining a community environment that respects individual needs, abilities, and potential is critically important."

Advocacy groups on campus see the survey as a prime opportunity to have their political views shared with top CSI administrators.

"We should use it to expose the everyday forms of aggression and discrimination by race, gender, ability and other forms of oppression," wrote CSI Professor Jay Arena in a note to the club he advises, Staten Island Against Racism and Police Brutality.

Borrero is a firm believer in data driven decision-making and says that the survey will provide insight into how to most effectively conduct change.

for the College.

"We challenge the directors and their staffs to really make assessments from a student centered and service delivery lens. Which means that you're putting the students' needs over institutional functions," Borrero told the Banner in a November interview.

"And that can be a different way to think about how we go about doing our jobs," Borrero continued. "We may have a process that works well administratively for the institution, but the students find it very complex, or difficult to access, or cumbersome."



# BANNER LIFESTYLES

## Is Life Stressing You Out? Zen Club Is Here To Help

*CSI's Newest Club Has the Potential to be a Life-Changer*

BY BRIELLE SPARACINO

College is tough. Most of us are full time students who are also balancing jobs or internships, and some of us are also taking care of our own families at home.

"Methods like meditation, yoga, [and] mindfulness practices are all simple and healthy ways of dealing with stress and anxiety," said Alicia Liow, student and founder of CSI's Zen Club. "While also building self-awareness and confidence in the individual."

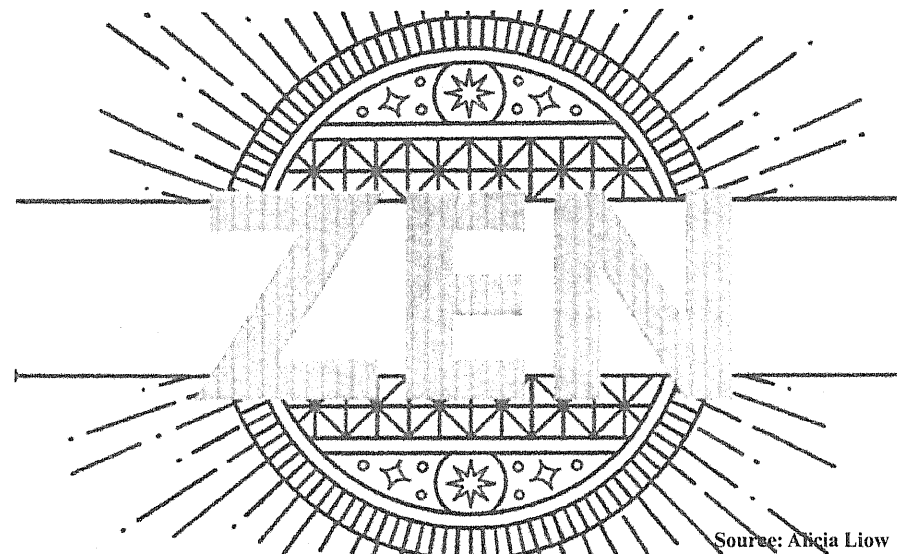
Whether or not you tend to stress out about situations easily, everyone is subjected to some form of pressure. For the individuals who deal with stress and anxiety more frequently, there are numerous amounts of anti-anxiety medications on the market.

If you're uncomfortable with taking a pill to cope with stress, attending CSI's brand new Zen Club might be the perfect solution for you.

According to the definition on Oxford Dictionary.com, the word "Zen" is "a Japanese school of Mahayana Buddhism emphasizing the value of meditation and intuition rather than ritual worship or study of scriptures."

While the ancient art of Zen has been practiced regularly in China and Japan for centuries, it has managed to spread to the Western hemisphere quite rapidly, as well as having made a significant impact on the lives of many, such as Alicia Liow.

Liow is a junior at CSI and the creator of the Zen Club. The Banner had the opportunity



Source: Alicia Liow

to interview her and get her input on the art of Zen, as well as her reasons for starting this type of club on campus.

"I'm an avid fan of holistic methods for dealing with stress and anxiety, and noticed there wasn't any presence of a lifestyle club [at] CSI that promotes well being of the individual," said Liow.

Liow says that the club's mission is to promote, educate, and practice holistic methods towards individual well being through meditation, self awareness, creativity, and healthy lifestyle choices. Liow also shared the club's tentative motto, which is "A better world starts with a better individual."

According to Liow, the permanent club space is "undecided at the moment," but the club's website zencsi.com is updated regularly. The club also has an Instagram account,

@zenatcsi. They have been holding their interest meetings in 2N 110, right by the Bertha Harris Women's Center, for the past two weeks.

There is a demand for natural stress- coping clubs on campus. According to Health-Line, 44% of college students report having depression symptoms during their undergrad years. Liow, and other faculty advisors of the club, hope that students feel comfortable reaching out for help and making the club a weekly "safe place."

"I want our members to know they have a safe, non-judgmental, accepting space at the Zen Club," said Liow. "They can let go of their life stressors or anxieties through the work and practices that we will all learn together."

Liow's passion for using natural methods

of de-stressing started in her younger years. Her mother, who practiced Feng Shui for well over 15 years, had a daily meditation and yoga routine.

"She saw me struggling with anxiety and depression and introduced me to the holistic world of healing through yoga, meditation, acupuncture, etc," said Liow. "I feel that so many of us are over-medicated when we don't need to be."

Liow hopes to take her knowledge and put it to good use. She wants students take what they learn at the club and apply it to other areas and communities of their life.

The desks were arranged in a semi-circle with a small table at the front of the room filled with pita chips, hummus, vegetables, and Liow's homemade "Zen" juice.

A lavender scent filled the room, thanks to a portable air purifier, and soothing music played throughout the room. After everyone went around the room and introduced themselves, Liow told the new members of the club what the purpose of Zen Club was, and what each member could be expected to learn from it.

The 2:30PM meeting ultimately turned into a game of Cards Against Humanity to break the ice with one another. It received positive feedback from all that showed.

Potential members of the Zen club claim the club has an amazing potential to change individuals and their lifestyles for the better. Keep a lookout for the debut of this club that has a strict focus on happiness and fulfillment on their journeys to positive self-discovery.

## A Guy's Guide To Having A Long-Lasting, Healthy Relationship

*When The Honeymoon Phase is Over, The Real Work Begins*

BY ROBERT LAROSA

When he or she agrees to being your significant other, it's a terrific feeling. If it was on a movie set, fire works would go off and doves would fly everywhere.

Well, let's get back to reality real quick.

First thing, right off the bat, to know is that not every relationship is perfect. In fact, probably 99.9% of them are far from it. However, if perfection is something you and your significant other are striving for, here are some tips.

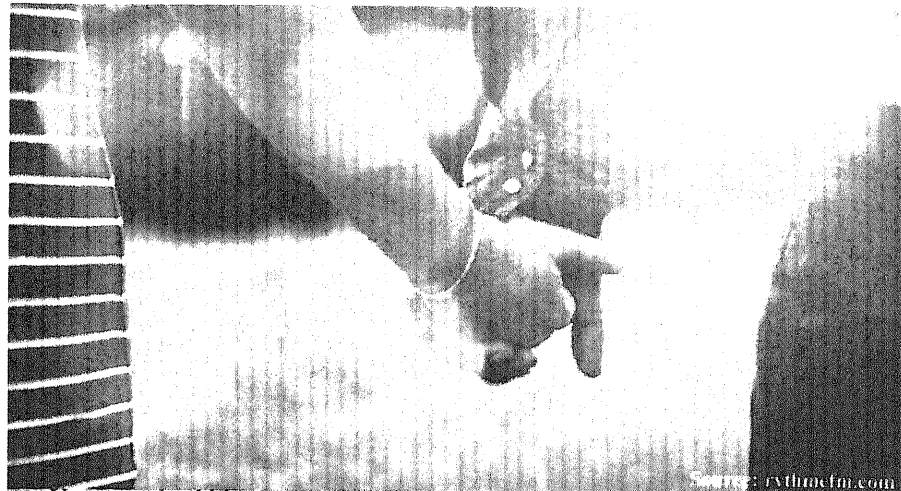
Before I start, I'm not saying that this is one hundred percent effective or I know everything. What I am saying is that within my own relationship, I see what works well and what doesn't

Everyone always says it and it reigns true, communication is without a doubt the number one key in a relationship.

If you and your partner don't communicate, how do you ever expect to grow, get over issues and/or understand each other?

Being able to discuss important issues with them should be a given in any relationship but it may not seem as easy as one would think.

If you're in the early stages of your relationship, communication is the number one factor. Your relationship is still developing and maybe you guys are still trying to work out some kinks more than longer and more mature relationships.



You guys should just speak to each other about whatever problems you have going on whether they're about each other or not.

If you guys speak about each of your pasts and the other partners you've had, keep the conversation for a one time talk.

Understand where you guys were before you met and keep your mind open. You guys weren't together when somebody else was in the picture and there's nothing worse in a relationship than bringing up old ex's. Trust me that conversation is going to suck.

You're crazy about this person and the thought of them with someone else is going to piss you off, but, hey, it's just a one time conversation to get a better mind set of each other.

Another conversation that could affect

your situation is the bedroom. Ah yes, where all the fun happens.

When it comes to sex, this isn't the entirety of your relationship, unless you guys agreed on this but (I'm speaking about a committed relationship) but it does play a large role in relationships.

Talk to your partner, in a respectful way, about things that you want to try or things you don't like. You shouldn't be afraid to discuss these things with your partner, no matter how awkward or embarrassed you feel.

On the flip side of that, trying new things in the bedroom could spice things up as long as you both talked about it prior and are comfortable with it. This should be common sense but you never know nowadays.

Compromise is another factor in a re-

lationship that should be addressed. Look, every relationship will have a fair share of fights and that's completely healthy.

A relationship with zero fighting looks, to me anyways, suspicious because it just looks so one sided.

Open up and try new things with your partner. Do something they want to do and the same would apply back to them.

At the end of the day, you both agreed to date each other and, sooner or later, this person should feel like your best friend.

Talk to them, discuss personal issues whether your significant other is involved with them or not. Just be there for each other and try to be the best partner you can possibly be.

At the end of the day, it comes down to making an effort and being civil towards each other. Don't start a screaming match when you guys are discussing shaky topics such as sex, compromise, and other sensitive topics.

Please, for the sake of your relationship keep an open mind and keep your cool in heated moments.

Relationships are supposed to be fun and create some of the greatest memories of your life.

If you find yourself stuck in a relationship where those factors don't exist the real question is what are you doing and why are you wasting your time?

# BANNER LIFESTYLES

## The DIY Hacks You Need To Know For This Season

*Give Your Room the "Spring Cleaning" It Deserves, In A Few Easy Steps*

BY KINZA KHAN

Who doesn't love having a fresh look on things? Spring is coming and everyone, well almost everyone, I know loves spring cleaning and redoing a few things around their home.

Here are a few DIY hacks that are so simple, you could do them in a day.

The newest decorating craze is washi tape. Washi tape is a thin Japanese tape used for designing. By placing strips of washi tape in a geometric pattern on your bedroom walls, you could reinvent your room and give it a little flare.

A set of washi tape goes for \$5 on Etsy and they come with an array of different designs. The tape works great for intricate designs that give your room a bohemian vibe.

Another easy way to re-create a new look in your room would be to add a pop of color. For furniture, you could always find water resistant paint and paint your heart out. By adding a little color you could re-create your ordinary piece of furniture into a new centerpiece for your room.

Shop around thrift stores and you'll find amazing furniture that you could always dress up by spray painting it.

If you want to add some flare to your wall but don't want to apply paint directly on it, you can always get wall decals. There are so many different decals available online and in stores.

If you want to paint directly onto your wall, make an outline or template using tape



A geometric style hand painted wall with bohemian elements.

Source: Kinza Khan

first and then just fill in the lines.

By using decorative boxes stacked on top of each other, you could go from a messy desk to an organized cleared space which looks amazing.

Many boxes have a space where you could label the front, so you can find exactly what you're looking for in no time. You could also get laundry baskets in fun colors that match your room.

Instead of filling your computer table up all of your papers and making a mess, have everything in folders and label them. If you have a big enough boxes you can put all of the folders in there.

Re-use old cans by using metal spray paint and use those for makeup brush holder. You could also use them for pencils, crayons and anything else you have.

Window treatments make a great addition and it ties the whole room in. You could go for curtains that are either sheer or opaque, depending on the look you're going for. If you like bolder colors, it's best to go for opaque curtains. If you want pastel look, opt for sheer curtains.

Throw rugs can always add something to your room and it makes everything more complete. Go for a simple throw rug if you have carpeted flooring or if you have wood

flooring go for a patterned rug.

I personally love circle shaped rugs. I think they're so much fun and they add a whimsical feel to the whole room.

If you tend to have a lot of books, get a used bookcase and re-touch it up yourself. If you like a natural wood look, you could stain it.

Many hardware stores have different types of stain but make sure you follow the directions and precautions that are listed on the bottle or can.

Instead of repainting all of your walls, go for just one bright wall and accent the rest of the room that coordinate with the one painted wall.

You could always brighten up a plain bedspread with decorative pillows. My favorite pillow one is a real-life poop emoji pillow.

Instead of buying art, why not make your own? Get a blank canvas and use a few of your favorite colors to create an abstract design simple lines and shapes. Make sure you use a clear gloss spray sealant in order to preserve what you just created.

If you look online you could find prints in different patterns. Print out a fun pattern and just frame it up.

You could always spray paint a plain frame to add an additional touch.

By using these hacks, like adding some washi tape and decals to freshen up your surroundings, you'll make your room just as unique, and stylish, as you are.

## True Life: My Mother Is Addicted to Facebook

*How the Baby Boomers Are Adapting to Social Media Better Than We Thought*

BY VICTORIA MANZO

Are your parents spending more time on "The Facebook" than you are? Well, just know that you're definitely not alone.

According to the Pew Research Center's survey of 2,003 American adults, three-quarters of parents use Facebook, as do 70% of non-parents. Furthermore, mothers are more likely to use Facebook than fathers, with 81% of moms and 66% of dads using the platform.

"I think it's a wonderful thing to be reconnected with the past. When you get older, you yearn for the old days," said 56-year-old Facebook user Connie Kelly. "I would never have some relationships if not for Facebook."

Kelly introduced my mother, Francine Manzo, 59, to Facebook a year ago after their middle school reunion. Since then I've been asked a variety of questions regarding the acquisition of sticker emojis, collage construction, and the process of tagging.

My personal favorite question came in the form of a text message. "What does it mean when someone pokes you?" she wrote with a shock emoji. "I'm almost afraid to ask." I quickly reassured her that it was nothing naughty. LOL-ing in class was definitely not my proudest moment.

However, I have mixed feelings about my mother's new-found social media citizenship. Although I have not enjoyed being

woken up at 6am for the urgent issue of a spelling typo in a status that needed immediate editing, I am grateful for the experiences the medium has provided for her.

After searching for nearly two decades, my mom was finally able to track down and reconnect with one of her oldest and dearest friends who had gone into hiding after an abusive relationship. This reunion brought such long awaited joy and relief to my mom's life.

Facebook, with its user-friendly design, has also helped her evolve from a woman

*"I think it's a wonderful thing to be reconnected with the past.*

*When you get older, you yearn for the old days," said 56-year-old*

*Facebook user Connie Kelly.*

without basic computer skills, into a technically savvy and aware individual.

But how much social media is too much? Pew Research Center reports that 51% of parents log on several times a day.

After discovering a closed group for people born in the 50s, Manzo routinely posts daily and nightly, and shares lots of content in-between. This includes quite a few raunchy jokes, which, although hilarious, often make my siblings cringe.

According to a study conducted by iStrategyLabs, teens on Facebook have declined in recent years, whereas adult users, age 55 and older, have significantly grown.

"She is making a lot of friends that she never would have had before," said Sal Manzo, Francine's husband. "But I think it occupies too much of her time. She walks around with a phone charger and has one on each floor of the house."

Social media can easily become an addiction for those experiencing it for the first time. The excess of available data is over-

whelming and impossible to keep up with. "There is a part of it that makes you feel young," said Manzo. "You are relating to a lot of people your own age! I learn such interesting things about what's going on in different states and countries."

It is for this reason that I have found myself having the "stranger danger" conversation with my mom. As of late, our roles have reversed. I have warn her about "catfishing" and accepting strangers from her group as

private friends.

Social networking provides a very similar experience for people of all generations. The same dangers that apply to adolescents also apply to adults. It can also cause some of the same problems.

"I think that she's gotten at least one marriage proposal," said Manzo's husband, jokingly. "I'm just slightly jealous sometimes."

Facebook appeals to people of all ages because of its diverse functions. It serves as an outlet for entertainment, news, venting out personal issues, and sharing personal life experiences.

Many young people turn to social media to network amongst their peers, and as an escape from parental supervision. When parents began joining and friend requesting their children, they began navigating away.

A parent's attraction to social media, like Facebook, shows no signs of slowing down. Learning to co-exist with your elders constantly sending you Candy Crush requests is the price we must pay, thanks to modern technology.

Admittedly, I don't always have the patience I should when she asks me questions, to which she always has a retort: "Do you know how many times I had to sing you the alphabet?" Touché. Ma. Touché.



# BANNER ARTS

## A Painter's Phases

*The Life Works of Craig Manister on Display Through March 24*

BY EMILY ZODA

"Painting the Rhythm of Perception," Professor Craig Manister's life works, is on display in the Art Gallery this month. His paintings range from the mid-1980s to the present day and show a progression of abstract works and still life.

Manister's entrance into the world of art in New York in the late-1970s was a change of pace. At the time, art was going through a political revolution, being that it was the time of the Vietnam War, and prevalent experimental media was film for use in photography and film. Much like how our smartphones replace our morning papers, painting was becoming obsolete.

His formation as a painter is particularly interesting given that he was building himself up as a painter from an older generation of artists, who at the time were coming to terms with a new era of art. This best-of-both-worlds dynamic created a certain style to his paintings.

According to the gallery statement by curator Siona Wilson, these social and political aspects of the era indirectly affected his worldview, which is manifested in the quirky keyhole figures seen in his later abstract work.

The first wall to the right of the entrance are his earlier works of all-over abstract paintings. He paints the entire surface of the Arches paper in layers and leaves a texture of glob stroked paint.

This style is most similar to Professor and BFA Advisor, Tracy Jones', especially in the two pieces that were on display in December for "Practice, Process, Place", a gallery of BFA faculty work.

Another adapted characteristic of Jones', is the clear, careful edge of the canvas that he doesn't paint over and his patient process of abstract painting.

The keyholes are an interesting addition to his style. His piece "Carpet Ride" shows the first signs of his emerging symbols. With a painting style similar to his earlier pieces, this one starts to show shapes and symbols underneath the paint. A harsh line borders the canvas giving the impression of a floor carpet.

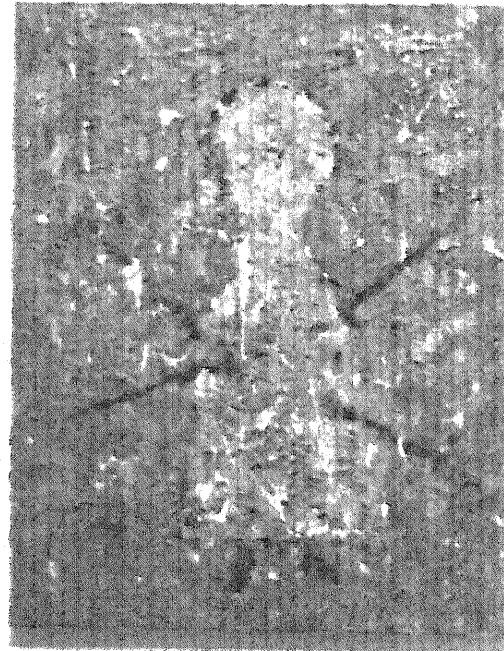
His use of keyholes as objects, humans, and statements is widespread in his works from the mid-1990s to the mid-2000s. He incorporates his earlier style of all-over abstract in one of the largest pieces of an off-centered keyhole on a colorful background.

As the showcase progresses from one wall to the next, it takes an abrupt stop at the end where he displays his latest works of still life. He makes use of an intriguing palette to illustrate how the light reflects on an apple.

Right from the get-go, his works show an unorthodox use of symbols as speech and

peculiar keyholes. Wilson contributes the sudden change as Manister going back to the basics of painting.

The rhythm of Manister's gallery shows an abstract twist of his own, while slowing down to the principals of the classical still life side.



Craig Manister's use of keyholes is prevalent in his earlier works.

Photo Credit: Clifford Michel

## The Kendall and Kylie Jenner Game That Will Leave You App-dicted

*Kardashians Dash Through Virtual Gaming World Leaving Players Hooked*

BY VICTORIA PRIOLA

The family you love to hate has found, yet another, way to make money. Kendall and Kylie Jenner are immersing themselves in the digital world with their highly anticipated app, "Kendall and Kylie."

Its bleak name has no bearing on the game's story-line.

The set-up is a virtual reality of how all the Kardashian sisters make their living.

Your character starts out working in a salon, The Van Norman, and moves through levels by completing events booked by Perry, your manager, and making connections with other characters.

Your success in the game is based off how many stars your Instagram posts get after you complete events and how many followers you accumulate on social media in the virtual reality of your character.

The game has created some major success for itself in real life.

Fortune reported that the app earned over 1,100 user reviews, and an average rating of four-and-a-half stars out of five since it was released on February 20.

Business Insider reported that the "Kim Kardashian Hollywood" app, which debuted in the summer of 2014, made \$1.6 million in its first five days on the market and up to \$100 million in profit, according to the studio behind the game, Glu Mobile.

Kendall and Kylie's app is said to make more money as time goes on due to the Jenner sister's large following on social media.

The game has a similar layout and char-

acter prototype to their sister Kim's game, "Kim Kardashian Hollywood," as if that was any surprise.

A difference between the two apps are that Kendall and Kylie's events are beauty vlogs or makeup tutorial videos while Kim's events are photo shoots and retail jobs.

"Kendall and Kylie" is displayed in a social media format opposed to Kim Kardashian Hollywood that is less focused on the growing importance of online presence.

"Kendall and Kylie" gives players an equal amount of time to complete the event, but the user's energy fills up the star meter more and allows the user to complete the event quicker.

It wouldn't be a Kardashian product if it wasn't a family affair. In "Kim Kardashian Hollywood," everyone in the family, excluding Scott Disick and Caitlyn Jenner, were

made into virtual characters users would meet in their gameplay.

Caitlyn Jenner is also not in Kendall and Kylie.

A lot of potential romantic partners your character meets in the beginning of the game are poets. Players can consider this an ode to the depleting job market, unless their are a lot of poets roaming around Los Angeles in reality.

The game, although entertaining, comes with its fair share of glitches. The reward tab on the bottom left of the activity panel is constantly blinking.

There are dozens of game cheats and hacks online that will help you gain 5,000 followers in five minutes.

One of them is strictly for iPhone users. Open up the Kendall and Kylie app, then go back to your home screen. Go to Settings and

scroll down to General. Then click Date & Time.

Once you're there, swipe left on Set Automatically. Scroll up on the date column until it comes to a full stop, do that twice. Open up Kendall and Kylie again, and you should see your follower count go up.

Make sure to only do this a couple of times. When I tried this hack more than once, it froze my app and made me lose followers after a while.

A fairly new feature to the game is the advertisement of the Jenner sisters' new line at PacSun.

The girls have been partners with PacSun since November 2012, and now your character can wear their new summer line, for the same overpriced cost it would be if you bought it in real life.

A lot of the iconic Kendall and Kylie Jenner hairstyles are not available to users until they reach level 12.

Characters have to settle for having short blonde hair until they can unlock the Kylie Jenner baby blue wig.

"Kendall and Kylie" is one of those "this could easily infiltrate my life" games.

Events take anywhere between three to eight hours to complete, so you can forget about being productive for that time.

Waiting for your energy count to go up takes the longest time compared to everything else in the game.

But after that, your millennial thumbs are free to play for as long as society deems socially acceptable.



Kendall and Kylie launched their own virtual game available for Apple and Android products

# BANNER ARTS

## "Nina" Brings the Drama Onscreen and Off

*Nina Simone Portrayed in a New Controversial Biopic*

BY SHANTEL ROWE

The life of blues singer Nina Simone is hitting the big screen with the Cynthia Mort directed biopic, "Nina", starring Zoe Saldana and David Oyelowo.

"Nina" tells the story of Simone's resurgence after a battle with substance abuse and her unique relationship with manager Clifton Henderson.

Earlier this month, a trailer circulated online which left critics and fans alike disappointed—to say the least.

The Simone estate denounced the film with a snarky tweet aimed at Saldana, and they have publicly refused any affiliation.

While the Oscar nominated Netflix documentary, "What Happened, Miss Simone," received praise for its portrayal of Simone's activism and artistry, "Nina" has been highly controversial since the early stages of production.

Rumblings of the film's cast began in 2010, with Mary J. Blige and David Oyelowo set to play Simone and Henderson, respectively.

However, in 2012, "Avatar" actress Zoe Saldana, announced that she would be portraying Simone in the film.

The announcement came with heavy criticism given Saldana's lack of resemblance to

the songstress.

The actress herself noted the lack of physical similarities in an InStyle interview, where she expressed how she didn't believe she was "right for the part."

The project was further scrutinized as photos surfaced of Saldana on set with a prosthetic nose, afro, and theatrical make-

up—which many perceived to be black face.

The trailer's arrival has coincided with the recent backlash in Hollywood over a lack of diversity.

Critics have argued that the casting of Saldana, an Afro-Latina, versus an African-American actress, is a clear example of how film opportunities are often political.



Nina Simone, a legendary artist known for her striking vocals, at a concert in Morlaix, France

Fans have also noted a slew of actresses, including, Viola Davis and Uzo Aduba, who could have portrayed Simone's character more authentically.

Despite a majority of Simone's estate dismissing the film and casting, Simone Kelly, the late singer's daughter, has expressed a different sentiment. Kelly shared her opinion on the subject in a recent interview with TIME.

"It's unfortunate that Zoe Saldana is being attacked so viciously when she is someone who is part of a larger picture," she said. "It's clear she brought her best to this project, but unfortunately she's being attacked when she's not responsible for any of the writing or the lies."

Kelly also mentioned how the plot of the film is purely fictitious as Simone and Henderson, a gay man, never had a romantic relationship.

However, the film's director is sticking by her work and feels as if "there's a lot of good in it [that] people should see."

While the drama surrounding the film has catapulted, many have chosen to keep the fiery words of the late singer alive, "I'm a real rebel with a cause."

"Nina" will be released on April 22 in select theaters and through video on demand.

## Nick DiPaolo and Kendra Cunningham Deliver Laughs to CSI

*Boston Born Dynamic Duo Delight CSI with Comedic Satire*

BY BRIANA DELBUONO

Kendra Cunningham and Nick DiPaolo poured their interesting jokes into the ears of CSI students, faculty, friends, and family with ease this past Saturday.

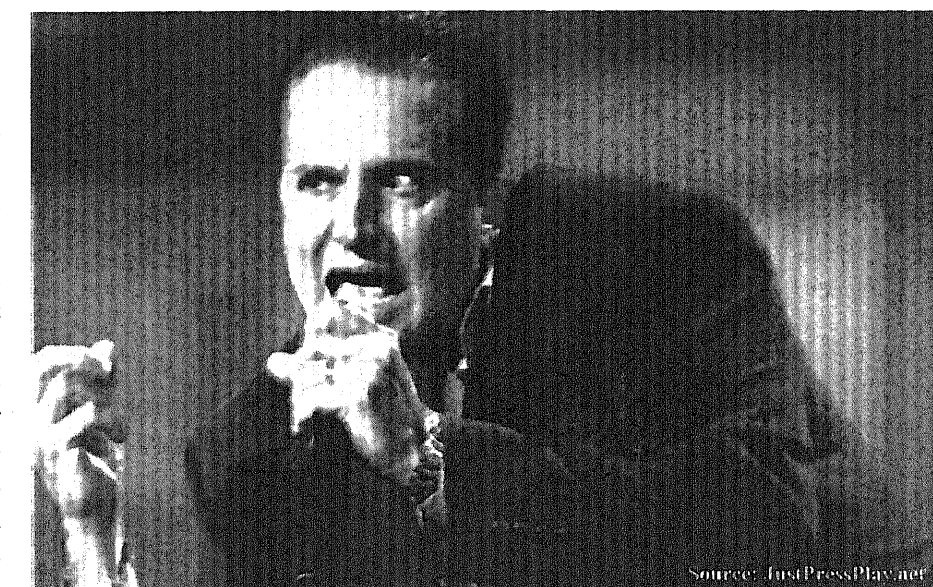
Cunningham took the stage with confidence, wearing a blazer, grey dress pants, and stylish red heels. As a Bostonian in her mid thirties, Cunningham had much to say about being single in her social stratosphere.

From joking about the awkwardness of visiting a sex shop in Montreal with her mother, to her not-so-lucky relationship status, Cunningham fulfilled the audience's need for comedic satire. She has a way with getting in touch with the audience as she talks about life experiences that everyone can relate to.

He sounded almost as if her life was taken out of a Family Guy episode, or maybe it was just her accent that forced me to make the correlation.

Cunningham, an actress, comic, and filmmaker, was cool as a cucumber as she spoke with a monotone "I'm over it" charm. Seemingly in touch with the tri-state area, she explained that she's been a New Yorker living in Brooklyn for the past ten years. She even has a Master's Degree in Forensic Psychology; she is one smart cookie.

A half hour later, Cunningham thanked us for being a great audience and out walked Nick DiPaolo in a casual pair of dark jeans



and a navy thermal. His presence alone caused a huge round of applause. I sat there awaiting his first joke, wondering if he would even be funny.

I was pleasantly surprised with his jokes. He warmed up the already warm audience with a joke about how desolate CSI's campus is at night.

He even called it a "good campus to hide a body." The audience was in tears.

DiPaolo talked about his commute to the college on the New Jersey Turnpike describing its accident causing signs that tell you not to text and drive.

The over-the-hill comic has earned two Emmy Nominations for his writing and is well known on Comedy Central.

DiPaolo is described as "Gentle as a starved Wolverine and as predictable as a tipsy-hop through a minefield," the Winnipeg Press said on his website, NickDip.com.

Transparent on and off stage, DiPaolo has a real authenticity to him.

He spoke with the same honesty to his audience that he would to his wife in his pajamas behind closed doors. He writes honest material to a fault.

He also told jokes about having to complete the weight loss workout tape "Insanity" with popular trainer, Shaun T. He did a well-rehearsed imitation of the workout junkie screaming, "Stay with! Stay focused!" The audience couldn't control their laughter.

He touched on controversial topics

such as the increased amount of feminists in America. "You feminists have ruined the country," he joked.

He attributed this increase with the amount of sensitivity the world seems to possess as of late. "Everybody's uptight," he said.

DiPaolo made light of topics that people are still afraid to laugh at such as ISIS and the "see something, say something" reminders that are littered throughout NYC.

When he touched on politics, he joked about Trump being the "next Hitler" and then went on to say, "Then there's Hillary. I'm praying she finds a lump in her neck the size of a grapefruit," and the audience laughed a little uncomfortably.

He complained to the audience about his insomnia and elaborated that he had tried everything to remedy it but nothing has worked. He talked about how he has just about every item that is sold on late night infomercials.

DiPaolo is the crazy uncle that everyone wants at the Christmas party.

He's got a great sense of humor and just about anything he finds funny, controversial or not, is added to his material. He has no boundaries and seems to always know how to get a laugh.

I recommend DiPaolo and his opening act, Cunningham, to anyone who wants a good-hearted belly laugh and some food for thought for the next couple of days.



# BANNER OPINIONS

## Commuting Woes of the S93

*Enlightening, But Certainly Not Trippy*

BY JESSICA B. PASSIONE

Imagine for a moment that you're on a crowded bus, it's so humid inside that the windows are foggy and the heat is mercilessly pumping because it's the middle of winter. Is this smothering situation due to mother nature?

Nope, it's the hot breath of dozens of CSI students jam-packed into a confined space. Uncomfortable is an understatement, but getting off the bus and waiting for the next one isn't an option.

The S93 from Brooklyn to CSI runs every fifteen minutes between the hours of 6:45 to 9:45am and 4:30 to 10pm.

If you're part of the unlucky crowd that needs to get to CSI during the gap between 9:45am and 4:30pm, tough luck because the bus only comes every 30 minutes at that time.

When it comes to the S93, arriving twenty-five minutes early to your scheduled bus time is arriving twenty-five minutes too late. By then, the bus line has already stretched across the main avenue, reached the corner, and is beginning to make its way down the side street. This happens every single day.

CSI students wait for the bus in a single file line based on who arrived first, (I like to

believe it's because we've formed some sort of brotherhood or bond).

We all know that if we made it our business to get to the bus stop a half an hour early, that we would hate it if someone tried to skip us. We earned that spot on the line.

It's like The Amazing Race for a spot on the bus, but instead of getting a million dollars, you get to arrive to class on time.

The commute home from CSI to Brooklyn is a nightmare in and of itself—especially during hours when the bus runs every thirty minutes.

Sometimes they're late and sometimes they don't come at all.

You can have students waiting for the bus that are being released from classes at three different times.

The line winds around and inside the bus stop, out through the maze of barricades put up by CSI, and spills out across the pathway in front of Building 1A.

The lines have gotten so out of control at night that Public Safety officers often stand at the front of the line to avoid chaos breaking out. If your night class is dismissed after 9:15pm, you can forget about taking the S93 because the last bus to Brooklyn leaves at

that time. It's ridiculous because the last class at CSI ends at 9:50pm, so there is no reason why the bus should stop running an entire forty-five minutes before that time.

A bus leaving at exactly 9:50pm wouldn't do the trick either, we need for buses to run until at least 10:15pm. The S93 is a limited bus route to and from CSI so it should revolve around CSI's schedule.

Since it does not, students either have to take the shuttle bus to the ferry and a train back into Brooklyn, or take two Staten Island buses that will get back to Brooklyn in just under TWO HOURS.

That's the exact opposite of what a student wants after being in class until 10pm.

Up until August of 2014, this limited bus route didn't even exist.

Students, as well as bus drivers, took it upon themselves to complain until their voices were heard and acknowledged.

This time around the bus drivers seem to be more upset than the students.

During my 11:30am bus ride one Monday morning, the very irritated bus driver made several announcements that students should complain to the MTA about what is

going on.

About a dozen students couldn't even get on the bus and were forced to wait until the next bus was due to arrive at noon—that brought their wait time to an entire hour.

As the bus driver was making the announcements, I looked at the faces of my fellow students and was aggravated by what I saw.

Some were on their phones barely paying attention and the ones that were listening had practically no emotion on their faces.

I spent a lot of time trying to figure out why the bus driver seemed more bothered than the students did, and then I remembered something very important that he said.

He mentioned that he had been putting in daily reports about this issue.

It dawned on me that the reason these students weren't bothered was that they probably have no idea how incredibly strong their voices can be.

This problem can be fixed the same way it was before. Commuters NEED to call 511 and go to MTA.info to place reports.

We're always on our smartphones anyway, right? The power is literally in our hands.

## 21 is the New 30, Give Us Millennials a Break

*Living Paycheck to Paycheck is a Reality For College Grads, More Than Baby Boomers*

BY VICTORIA PRIOLA

It seems like now more than ever, young people are supposed to have their life together. Gone are the days where a \$10/hr job alone paid for rent, food, and college tuition.

The Project on Student Debt State by State Data revealed that seven in ten seniors (69%), who graduated from public and non-profit colleges have student loan debt with an average of \$28,950 per borrower.

Once you graduate high school, let alone college, you're seen as an adult—you know, one who pays rent, gets married, has kids, hates their job, and awaits the impending doom of supporting their offspring through college.

I'm with Peter Pan on this one, growing up sucks.

One of the many wonderful accessories that come with a diploma is student debt, and the only way to pay it off is to get an above minimum wage job.

This would be easy to do if the job market didn't expect twenty-one year old applicants to have ten years of experience in the designated field by the time they graduate.

Expectations like that are the reason most young people straight out of college have jobs in retail or other minimum wage options.

It's common for millennials to talk about how successful they are in life, but that doesn't reign true for the majority.

We live in a society where thirteen

year olds look like eighteen year olds, and eighteen year olds act like they're in their late twenties. Even outside the job market, there is a constant desire in young people to take on more than what their age allows. Everyone and their sister are getting engaged, a majority of which still live with their parents.

According to Family Studies, the probability of getting a divorce doubles for couples under twenty-five-years-old.

One of the most common "first" fights couples have in their marriage is about money, or lack thereof. Once young people are

*"This would be easy to do if the job market didn't expect twenty-one year old applicants to have ten years of experience in the designated field by the time they graduate."*

truly on their own, they realize quickly that they cannot support themselves, let alone a family—alone.

That's why it's common for young people to live with their parents until they're in their 30's, single and working full time. It's the only plausible option.

When did this fiscal horror for millennials begin? According to The Washington Post, young people have always been poor, we're just super poor now.

There is a significant wealth gap between

the Baby Boomer generation and millennials that doesn't seem to be giving up anytime soon.

According to the economists' calculations, reported by The Washington Post, someone born in 1970 has a quarter less income and 40 percent less wealth than an identical person born in 1940.

Is it because they're smarter than we are when it comes to money?

Since they had longer to save, it makes sense that they have more to spend. The dollar went a lot farther back then than it goes now.

There are some out there who genuinely think young people don't want to work or be successful.

Young people are more concerned than their predecessors with finding happiness and fulfillment in their work lives, according to Net Impact survey, reported by Forbes.

In order to get ahead in the career world, you have to own and advertise your personal brand.

How are we supposed to have built an empire when just four short years ago, we

were applying to college?

To get over the hurdle of filling out the "experience" section of our resumes, millennials will have to accept the thought of working for little to no pay.

The hustle will be real, but just think how many bragging points you'll be racking up when you're done. Update your LinkedIn page like your life depended on it and focus on your craft. They may take away your jobs, but no one can take away passion.

A way for internships to get out of paying their young employees is to offer them school credit. If you're enrolled in school, this should be perfect.

It may not be something that pays but work like you're getting top dollar.

If you do an outstanding job, most of the time they'll ask you to intern again or in some cases land you a paid position. It's all about the connections.

For those out of school, job hunting consists of checking e-mails, being "that guy" and calling potential employers on a weekly basis and praying that something comes through while you're working part time at a job that sucks the soul right out of your body.

Young people get the short end of the stick financially and socially. To the rest of the world, we're just inexperienced, poor, and impressionable kids.

Their views may never change, but at one point, the baby boomers were seen as this too.

# SEX AND THE ISLAND

## Butt's Are Making A Comeback

*Why "Eating the Booty Like Groceries" Is the New Trend*

BY BRIANA DELBUONO

Butt play is a surprisingly common form of sexual pleasure— as strange as it may sound. The booty has basically taken over media today.

Lyrics like, "But he gotta eat the booty like groceries," which surfaced in Omarion's song "Post to Be" or "Eat my ass like a cupcake," featured in Nicki Minaj's song "Only," booty eating has made a statement. This has caused a whole new appreciation for a woman's backside.

The Internet and social media make "eating the booty" seem like the new thing, but how many guys are actually into it?

According to Galoremag.com, only 36% of guys do it... so why is it dominating rap songs and feeding into the meme fascination on Instagram and Twitter?

Some guys say they do it for their partner's pleasure, whereas others say they do it for their own fascination with the booty—big OR small!

The overall obsession with butts is linked to somewhat primitive behavior. Men prefer a 45-degree angle of curvature on a woman's spine regardless of her butt size.

This is due to the fact that women who have this feature are often less likely to have spinal injuries while carrying children. (Don't worry ladies with small booties, the guys are still going to come running).

"What's fascinating about this research is that it is yet another scientific illustration of



a close fit between a sex-differentiated feature of human morphology and an evolved standard of attractiveness," said the study's co-author David Buss, a UT Austin psychology professor on UniversityHerald.com.

Other guys say that they would only put their member by that hole, not their mouth for the simple reality that their member can't taste, but their mouth can.

Guys will be guys. So odds are, they're probably just happy to be getting some action in the first place but an unclean set of buns can sometimes be the deal breaker.

Another concern, is the issue of whether

or not the girl has showered after her last bowel movement (some don't really care and are just that savage).

Is butt play safe?

"Rimming is one way to contract hepatitis and other intestinal parasites, like E. coli," Dr. Rullo explains on MenHealth.com. "Partners in long-term monogamous relationships, however, share much of the same anal flora. So if you've been in a relationship with someone for more than a couple years, rimming is much safer for you than if you're with a new partner."

So next time your boyfriend wants to change it up, make sure it's something you're okay with and if not, he ain't getting any groceries.

## The Double Standard on Women and Casual Sex

*Casual "One-Night Stands" for Dummies*

BY J. SANCHEZ

I had a one-night stand and felt more emotionally secure after that encounter than I ever thought was possible.

For once, I wasn't plagued with the stress of worrying whether or not a man was going to do a 180 on me for feeling comfortable enough with my sexuality to sleep with him. It actually happened to be some of the most stress free sex I've had in a while.

What would you do if you were a young, warm-blooded, college student who hasn't "let out some stress" in a while and you met a decent guy at a bar who wanted to help that situation? Would you run away from the opportunity because of social stigma or would you try your luck with a new experience?

"I think every woman should have a one-night stand," said Rachel Perry, a Canadian TV personality. "If it's done right, it can be liberating."

If you're like me and my group of friends, the thought of having sex with someone you don't know that well for the first time can cause a lot of anxiety. I'm pretty sure the following questions have shot through your mind faster than you could even formulate a proper answer. When is it ok to start having sex with a new guy? What happens if he treats me differently or stops talking to me because that's all he wanted? The list goes

on and on, and I personally have spent more time worrying about that than I care to admit.

The thing that made the one-night stress free is the fact that there were no strings attached.

I had no reason to worry about whether or not he was going to call, or if his view of me was going to change. There were no means of contacting each other the next day. I'm sorry what was your name again?

*"I had no idea I was even capable of having sex like that until I tried it. I always looked at myself as a 'relationship girl.'"*

I had no idea I was even capable of having sex like that until I tried it. I always looked at myself as a "relationship girl."

I never slept with anyone I wasn't dating. I secretly admire women who don't care about the social stigmas against women having casual sex.

Like in any other situation, it is important to allow yourself the opportunity to do something outside of your norm. A new sexual experience will help you learn new things about yourself, the same way any other experience would. You won't know until you try it.

According to Cosmopolitan.com's, "One Night Stand Survival Guide," one recent sur-

vey found that 54% of women have positive feelings after a one-night stand.

Durex did a study and found that 51% of women believe you can have great sex without being in love.

There are ways to go about this that can help to avoid turning something that is supposed to be liberating, into a messy situation.

First of all, don't do it with someone who's married or in a committed relationship—that's just unhealthy for the both of you and way too complicated. This is supposed to be fun, remember?

Second, do not try and one-night stand someone you've been consistently dating. That just defeats the purpose.

Third, do not expect a phone call or for anything to come out of the experience. You definitely can't expect a boyfriend out of this because you'll end up being a part of the large amount of women that feel regret after a one-night stand. This isn't about love, this is about sex.

Last but not least, please use a condom. Yes, I'm aware that it feels better without

one, but you'll thank yourself for being safe later on.

I'm not encouraging you to make this a habit. There are a myriad of positives that you get out of having sex with someone you're in a relationship with, that you can't get from having a one-night stand.

However, there's nothing wrong with trying something new.

Hey, some people go skydiving once for the thrill and never do it again. The point is, don't be afraid to expand your horizons a little bit.

Remember not to use this as an outlet when you're lonely. This is all about confidence and comfort. Be secure in your decision and you'll be able to enjoy the experience more.

Men tend to come out of a one-night stand with unforgiving confidence.

They're also a lot more open with it and usually brag about it to their friends—maybe we could learn a thing or two from them. I'm definitely not saying to run out there and scream it on the top of your lungs, or to start sharing your business via social media.

What I am saying is go in with no expectations and no regrets.

Sex between two consenting adults is nothing to be ashamed of, even if it's just for a night.



# SPORTS

## CSI Men's Baseball Looks to Repeat as CUNYAC Champions

### *A Preview of the Dolphin's 2016 Season*

BY FRANK COSTAGLIOLA

After a Hollywood-esque movie ending to last season, the Dolphins have their eyes set on another CUNYAC Championship title.

It was season of success for the Dolphins in 2015.

After failing to repeat as CUNYAC champions in 2014, the Dolphins were back on top as Champions in 2015.

With the 2015 Championship victory the Dolphins recorded their 17th CUNYAC title and their fourth in the past six seasons.

Head Coach Michael Mauro enters his seventh season as head coach of the Men's Baseball squad. Since becoming CSI's Head Coach, Mauro has provided the school with nothing but success.

In his seven seasons as Head Coach, he has a 168-111 overall record, four CUNYAC titles, and five CUNYAC Coach of the Year accolades under his belt.

The team saw a six game improvement from last season and finished with an overall record of 25-15.

After starting the 2015 season with a 2-5 record, the Dolphins managed to go 23-10 during the remainder of the season.

The Dolphins were at their best when they played at home and against division rivals. With a home record of 15-7 the Dolphins took advantage of playing in front of their home crowd.

However CSI's record in conference play was more impressive. In games against division rivals the Dolphins were nearly perfect, holding an impressive 7-1 record.

Since Coach Mauro was made Head Coach in 2009, his team has always performed well against division opponents.

CSI said goodbye to two senior pitchers

from last year's squad. The most notable departure was Robert Jannace.

Jannace was a dominant closer for his team and has won multiple awards and championships during his Dolphin playing career. He was a three time PSAL Champion, while also being awarded Closer of the Year during the 2014 season.

This year's roster is comprised of 30 players; five freshmen, eleven sophomores, seven juniors, and five seniors. The team has a nice mixture and balance of both young and old talent.

The team batted an impressive .313 during last year, scored 7.45 runs per game and had a .952 fielding percentage.

Senior infielder Nick Delprete was one of the Dolphins' most consistent players last season. As a starting infielder, Delprete started every game last season and lead his team in hits. Unfortunately for CSI, their leader in homeruns, RBI, and SLG percentage did not return to the team this season.

Elijah Rodriguez was slugger in the 3 spot and his power will be missed greatly by the Dolphins this season.

Sophomore outfielder Glenn Glennerster tied Rodriguez with 29 RBIs last season, while also leading his team in batting average.

Glennerster batted nearly .400 on the season and had the second best batting average in all of CUNYAC. His ability to make contact and impressive speed made him a nightmare for opposing teams.

On the mound, CSI has an impressive array of arms to work with.

With a total of 12 pitchers on the roster, the pitching staff is mostly made up of players who are upperclassmen.



CSI Men's baseball team after winning the CUNYAC championships at MCU Ballpark in Brooklyn

Pitching has been a huge part of Dolphin Baseball.

Last season the Dolphins had the best ERA of any team in CUNYAC and held their opponents to a league leading .301 batting average.

Their team was lead by ace Brian Russell last season, but similar to Rodriguez he too will not return to this year's roster. Russell was arguably the team's best pitcher and led the Dolphins in ERA, tied for wins, innings pitched, and strikeouts last season.

The Dolphins will have to look for other players on the current roster to step up in the departure of Wilson from the team. Many of the current pitchers on this year's roster weren't on the team last season.

CSI will have to count on some young starting pitchers such as Christian Capellan and Tom Musso to bolster the Dolphins pitching staff. The both of them are sophomores and have limited experience pitching for the Dolphins.

Rounding out the rotation for the Dolphins are Junior Ryan Kennedy and Senior Jason Failla.

In seven games started last season, Kennedy was 3-3. While his record might portray mediocrity he had a solid era of 3.27 and pitched 44.0 innings last season, which was second behind Russell.

Last season, Capellan only made one appearance and was limited to 2.2 innings pitched. He struggled in that limited time but has shown that he has upside.

It's important that CSI's starters give the team quality innings.

The Dolphins had only six complete games pitched last season and five of them were from players who aren't on the current roster.

If the Dolphins want to make another CUNYAC Championship run this season, they are going to need to get quality starts from their pitchers.

Out of the bullpen, Sophomores Peter Bellina and Dan Newman are just some of the many new faces in the Dolphin's bullpen.

The Dolphins proved last season that they could rely on their defense to get the job done.

CSI had a .952 fielding percentage last season, which was best in CUNYAC and nearly 20 points better than their opponents. Elijah Rodriguez led the Dolphins with 16 errors last season.

Overall as a team, CSI committed 70 errors while their opponents committed 92. Finally their infielders were effective at turning ground balls into double plays.

The team successfully turned 76 double plays while their opposers turned 64. In nearly every defensive stat CSI outmatched other teams.

CSI will play a total of nine games in March and of those nine, seven of them are home games.

The first home game of the year will be played on March 12 against St. Joseph Brooklyn. The Bears were 24-18 last season but struggled on road games.

The Dolphins will open up the month of April with a huge game against Lehman College. Lehman College led CUNYAC in most batting categories last season, including average, home runs, and slugging percentage.

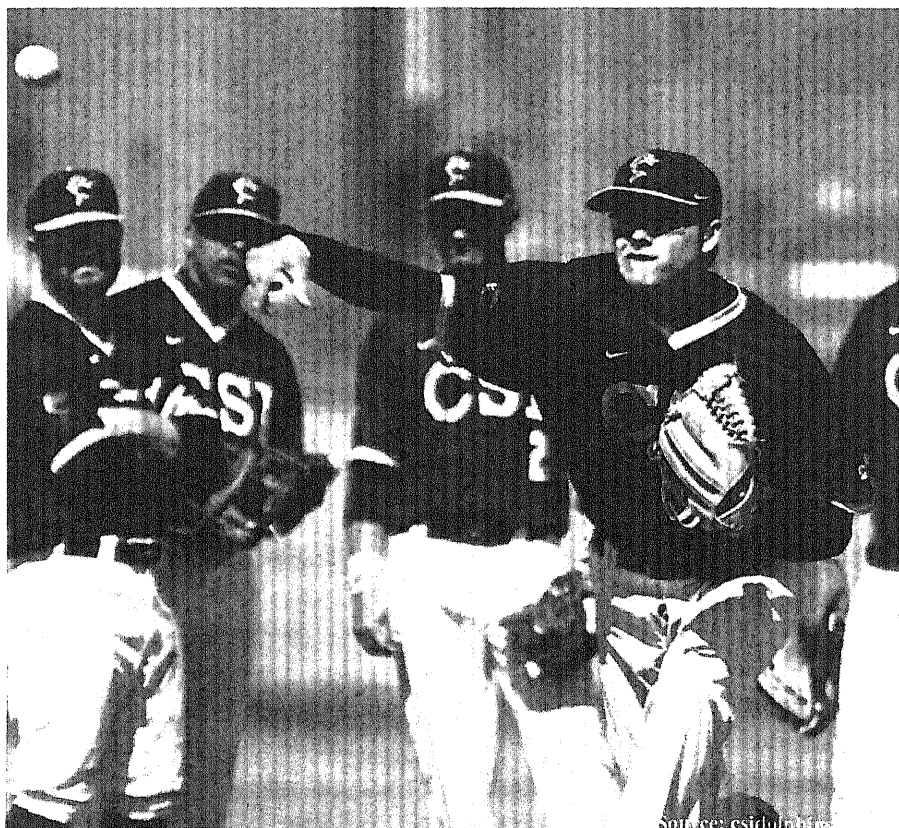
You can expect Lehman College to put CSI's pitchers to the test and make them earn their outs.

Other notable games include matchups against Drew University, John Jay College, and division rival Baruch.

The last time the two faced off was in the CUNYAC Championship game when CSI got the better of them.

The highly anticipated rematch of last year's championship game will be played on April 30 as a doubleheader in Brooklyn.

This will be the only regular season meeting for the two of them.



CSI will play Drew University in the annual Grace Hillery Breast Cancer Awareness game