

Official Newspaper of the College of Staten Island

Greek Life Fights for Recognition

College Wary About Allowing Fraternities and Sororities on CSI Campus

BY MARIE SCARSELLA

Not currently recognized by the college, CSI's sororities and fraternities are engaging in a battle to become established organizations on campus. Greek Life is not currently recognized because of fears of discrimination and lack of funding; however, the lack of recognition prevents the sororities and fraternities from taking part in charitable events.

The sororities and fraternities feel that recognition would be useful both to their individual agendas and the college. Not only would it help to provide career and life opportunities to club members by giving them valuable leadership and community service opportunities for their résumés, but it would also create a stronger alumni network and bring more school spirit to the college.

The college argues that sororities and fraternities are discriminatory. They are very selective, which can raise issues of racism, sexism, and homophobia. The school is also currently unable to afford the additional funding it would take to maintain sororities and fraternities on campus.

Sororities and fraternities argue that these things are untrue, explaining that national fraternities also provide regulation within their internal structures.

"[We] have disciplinary hearings and insurance," explained Associate Director of Student Life and former sorority member Debi Kee. "It is discriminatory that we are not recognized by the college."

Student government recently voted on the issue, favoring recognition with only two abstentions. However, feelings of uncertainty are present.

"I think that they should be recognized but they need to follow the guidelines to be recognized here. They have a goal, but they haven't properly set that goal," said Monica Sibri. "They don't have a specific knowledge of the structure that will allow them to be recognized."

Though with dorms set to open this fall, the sororities and fraternities have one particular goal in mind: recruitment. With an influx

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Aging Shuttle and Loop Bus Fleet to Be Replaced

Five New High Capacity Buses Should Ease Commute for Students



Photo Credit: Clement Thierry

CSI will begin to replace the aging buses currently being used for the loop bus and ferry shuttle services by Fall 2013

BY CLEMENT THIERY

Good news, loop and shuttle riders. Over the summer, CSI's bus fleet will welcome five new buses in replacement of the three ferry shuttles and the two loop buses that currently operate on campus.

"The buses have been ordered, but they have not been received yet," said Andrew Diaz, Director of Operational Services at CSI. "The approximate arrival time is July of this year; we're hoping to have them before the start of the Fall Semester."

CSI is about to receive five 40-foot Axess buses manufactured by EIDorado National.

Each bus will be able to hold 37 sitting passengers and 28 standing passengers. Overall, it's eight passengers more than the colorful Champion buses, and roughly the same number of passengers as the white Motor Coach buses.

The five new buses will replace vehicles that are currently used on campus, and will be dispatched between the different services: three buses will go for the shuttle and two for the loop. The four colorful buses will be kept as back-ups, and five of the oldest buses will be reassigned to other First Transit accounts.

"These new buses are a good thing," said

Vincent Rondinelli, one of the bus drivers at CSI. "You drive a better bus so that means better equipment, less breakdowns, easier handling, and more comfortable too!"

When CSI began to organize a shuttle to the Ferry Terminal in August 2009, the school contracted the service to First Transit, Inc., a Cincinnati-based bussing company. On August 28, 2012, when the contract ended, CSI decided to contract its three bus services - the ferry shuttle, the loop bus, and the Sports and Recreation Center's trips - to one single

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Student Justice for Palestine Protests Israeli Holiday

Newly Chartered Club Gathers to Shed Light on Nakba

BY LARRY ZAKHARENKO

Student Justice for Palestine, or SJP, gathered in 1P on May 8, with over twenty members to mourn, protest, and inform other students of the violence and controversy behind Nakba, the celebrated Independence of Israel.

"We want to create more awareness for the Palestinian issue because it is not portrayed correctly in mainstream media," said student activist and member of SJP Marwa Janini. "We'll be here every day until May 15, which is the day of Nakba."

In 1P the atmosphere was heartfelt and informative as SJP members mourned the lives of those killed during Nakba, and handed out flyers with cited information about what happened 65 years ago. There were no picket-signs or intrusive yelling, no radical demonstrations or extremists, just students who felt passionate about their history

and their beliefs.

"They [Israel] celebrate a creation built on our massacre," said Israa Najjar, wearing a sign with the name Deir Yassin, one of 531 villages destroyed by Israeli occupation in 1948 and erased from history. "We denounce the state of Israel because it is built on our suffering," says Israa. "I am embarrassed to consider myself American because my government doesn't stand by my people."

The President of the College of Staten Island's Israel Club, known as Hillel, did not directly address SJP message instead arguing that the gathering was against school regulations because the club had not been chartered yet.

"They [SJP] are not really supposed to be doing anything on campus until next semester because they are not a chartered club," said Alison Sherman, President of the Hillel Club. "It's against

school regulations and they can get in a lot of trouble for it."

However the President of SJP, Islam Allan, stated, "We just got recognized as a club. CSI is very diverse and we are an underrepresented group."

Dedicated students can use SJP as an outlet for expressing their opinion over Nakba and Palestinian oppression.

"They have a right to say what they feel like saying," said Sherman. "But not on campus," added Amanda Davis, a member of Hillel, referring to the literature and flyers handed out in 1P.

"What we fear most is what this could bring to the campus, we just don't want to have any trouble," says Alison Sherman, and Davis says she is "worried about the level of hatred."

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Calling Immigrants 'Illegal Aliens' is the Most Hurtful Name of All

BY LUCY FARFAN-NARCISSE
"Spic", "Paki", and "Nigger", have been some of the labels given to me throughout my lifetime but none were so despised and troublesome as "illegal alien". A term that brands immigrants to others as a foreign and in a sense-an unwanted entity and presence in the United States.

Immigration has always been a hot topic for many and has caused great conflict and division on both sides of the debate. I could approach Immigration and Immigration Reform from a political point of view but Immigration is not just a political or economical topic it is personal and affects millions of faceless so called "illegal aliens". We should ask ourselves why these people who seek a better life for their family and themselves should be subjected to unnecessary violence, ostracism and stereotyping.

According to the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Immigration Statistics there are 11.5 million undocumented immigrants in the United States. The population of the U.S. is largely fed by immigration and the country has been built on immigrants. In most cases these "illegal aliens" are people who are struggling and/or persecuted in their own country of origin and are seeking better opportunities, political and religious freedom and an education. America is known as the great "melting pot" and this is due to immigration, which has brought a large diversity of races, cultures, languages and religions. In turn this diversity generates tolerance and less fear and prejudice of the unknown and people that are different.

During a recent panel discussion entitled "What Does Just and Dignified Immigration Reform Look Like?" held at the College of Staten Island on April 30 th, 2013. One of the panelists Professor Calvin B. Holder is a professor and director of the African American Studies Program at CSI. He received his Ph. D in History from Harvard University and has done extensive research on immigration. Holder strongly emphasized, "Immigrants and their descendants have made signature contributions to the United States, they have made it a stronger and better place.

Without them the energy, the inventiveness and the presence of America in the world today would not be what it is

if immigrants had not had the opportunity to come here and contribute as they have done. We are now witnessing a new migration to the United States those people are not of European ancestry, they are people who come from Mexico, Latin America, Central America, Asia and Africa. They come with the same goals, same drives and same desires to contribute and achieve.

What we need to do as we examine the issue of Immigration is to look at it not simply in terms of these people as being strangers and intruders but they are here for precisely the same reasons that individuals came 120 years ago." I am a proud first generation Canadian Latina of immigrant parents from Guatemala and El Salvador. I witnessed my parents work menial jobs at farms, factories, construction, cleaning houses and churches and babysitting bratty, spoiled Caucasian children.

They never collected unemployment, government benefits or looked for a handout and they always worked their knuckles-to-the-bone to give their family more than they ever had. My parents left their war-torn countries yet beautiful countries with violent histories and the only families they had to pursue a better life and opportunities.

My own migration to the United States has not been an easy transition or experience as I have been turned away at the border in frigid temperatures with an infant and young toddler of an American citizen in tow. My husband has paid thousands of dollars and we have been subjected to intense investigations and questioning despite the legitimacy of our union. After finally receiving a green card I decided to attend college and earn a college degree with honors.

My main goal as an immigrant is to give my children a better life and greater opportunities just like my parents and all the other undocumented immigrants.

New York is the home of the iconic Statue of Liberty and she has been a beacon of welcome and symbolizing freedom and hope to immigrants arriving from abroad for centuries. An inscription written by Emma Lazarus is placed on the inner walls of the statue's pedestal reads: "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore, Send these, the homeless, tempest tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

Amnesty, Immigrants, Aliens, and the Conundrum of Immigration Reform

BY JOHN FALCONE
In order to discuss the issue of immigration we must bid farewell to political correctness and say hello to honesty.

On that note, we will begin by clarifying a few terms. There really is no such thing as an illegal immigrant. To say you are an immigrant means you have left your country of origin to seek permanent residence in the country you now reside. Labeling someone an immigrant implies that they are legally a citizen who migrated to your country. To say that someone is an illegal immigrant is an oxymoron.

The proper label for someone living in a country without citizenship is alien. They are an alien, that is to say, they are a resident of another country and are illegally residing in your country without having acquired citizenship. While there are undoubtedly many who would find this terminology offensive, there are, conversely, many who find it offensive that tyrants of political correctness try to stifle the truth with friendly and inoffensive terminology such as "undocumented workers." The problem we have in this country is not the "illegal immigrants" or "undocumented workers," it's the people who label them as such.

Ever volatile, and seemingly endless, the immigration reform debate in America is about how to best figure out a way to repair or replace our broken immigration system; to keep aliens from entering the country while simultaneously dealing with those that are already here.

At some point in this debate, those who support an easy path to citizenship for the many aliens who are currently residing in this country will insert a heart wrenching tale designed to tug at your emotions and make you wish that citizenship could be dispensed as fast as Obama is dispensing food stamps.

The story typically goes something like this: Little Jose was brought here by his parents as an infant. He is now attending college and works part time at the neighborhood bodega. Aspiring to be a nuclear physicist, Jose however, is not eligible to receive all of the college financial aid benefits that a citizen of this country can.

Insert somber violin music. Alas, Jose is unable to finish his schooling and will resort to a life of crime and drugs. Cut to a shot of weeping mothers.

The logic behind this argument is that it is unfair for Jose to be punished for something he had no control over; i.e. his

presence as an "undocumented student" here in America. Amnesty, amnesty, scream the weeping mothers! Give him amnesty!

Let us now consider another story. A few months back, I met a man we will call Dr. K to protect his identity. He was a new employee with my company. Dr. K. and I are valet parking attendants.

Dr. K is a medical doctor; well he was back in Egypt. You see, Dr. K is a Coptic Christian who just became an American citizen; he fled from Egypt because of the persecution his people have undergone since the Muslim Brotherhood has risen to power. In the two or so years it took him to become a citizen, he had to settle for whatever work he could find. So, he parks your car.

What is amazing about Dr. K is that his wife and young daughter are still in Egypt. He spent hours telling me stories about why he is scared for their lives and how he worries about them every day. Now that he is a citizen, he is trying to secure the correct documentation he needs to secure in order to bring his family to America. He told me how grateful he is to be an American, he told me how he desires the safety and freedoms he experiences here in America for his family.

In the meantime he is content to park your car and accept crumpled up \$1 tip you dug out of your pocket. He'll send it back to his family.

Interestingly, Dr. K never mentioned the desire to be granted amnesty, nor did he tell me he desired it for his family. He did mention though, that it upset him that someone who doesn't obey the law might be given citizenship while his family is still in Egypt.

You see, Dr. K is an immigrant, the type of immigrant who understands and respects the laws of this country. He also understands that the freedoms and benefits that go hand-in-hand with the respect for this country's laws are something that aren't, and shouldn't just be given away.

To just give away the rights of citizenship would be to dilute what it means to be a citizen. Then, if we are to keep citizenship as something that is to be valued, we must ask ourselves what is more likely to be valued; citizenship given away or citizenship earned?

Truth be told, there will be no perfect answer to the immigration conundrum, but before you decide to support an answer that includes the granting of amnesty, please Dr. K and his family.

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Black is Beautiful Premieres in 1P

BY LUCY FARFAN-NARCISSE
The Black Student Union hosted a "Black is Beautiful" fashion show at the Williamson Theatre on Friday, April 5, 2013 in the hopes of beginning a movement to create a rising of black student leaders at the College of Staten Island, celebrating uniqueness, diversity and local talent in a positive light.

"This is the club's coming out party and I felt I needed to make a statement," said president of the Black Student Union and coordinator of the fashion show, Andre Tullock.

Tullock is a mechanical engineering major at CSI and began the club because he felt there was nothing directed to him club wise on campus.

"This is BSU's opening statement to the college and community to let people know that we have a club," said Tullock. "Black is Beautiful is the name I chose but it is more like a statement. I felt that there is not much for our community on Staten Island and I would like

this to be an annual event."

The fashion show featured fashions from designers LU of Socialite, Sade Jennings of Monkey Face Apparel and Donata of Inferno Entertainment along with performances by Chrissi, Jay Ax, Mr. Weirido, YF and Gerard. A dozen students of ethnic diversity who were selected during casting calls at CSI on during the second week of March, strutted the stage.

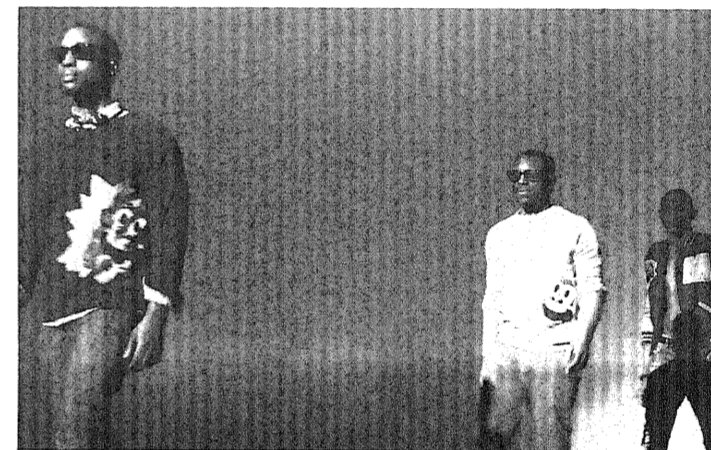
Between wardrobe changes and the musical acts cohosted by Candace Gittens from the College of Staten Island and chairwoman of CAB, and Scott Morris from John Jay University added a fun and interactive atmosphere to the show joking and dancing to the beats of D.J. K and Bling.

"This fashion show is a celebration of black people as a whole," said Student Body President at the College of Staten Island and co-coordinator of the event Michael Allamby. "It brings everyone together in a social setting and offers the opportunity for networking."

Allamby witnessed firsthand the effects of a collaborative event backstage before the curtain lifted and described how both designers; models and performers were mixing and mingling.

Both Tullock and Allamby believe that events like the "Black is Beautiful" fashion show help to increase student life on campus. Tullock suggested when students see events or participate in events it can spark an interest, encourage them to be involved and perhaps lead to becoming a member or leader of a club. "It is good for the school and it is good for the students," said Tullock. "Events promote the school and promotes the clubs at CSI."

"I love doing what I do and every event that I get a chance to be a part of I'm always going to love it," said Senior and International Marketing major Jay Ax, who also performed at the fashion show. "Promoting black designers and black artists to a larger audience is a beautiful thing."



Top: President of the Black Student Union Andre Tullock struts his stuff on stage other student models
Bottom: Cohost Candace Gittens and coordinator Andre Tullock introduce Sade Jennings of Monkey Face Apparel

Top: Female Models give the audience another glimpse of fashions by Donata of Inferno Entertainment
Bottom: Senior Jay Ax performs "Bonnie and Blue" during intermission in the Williamson Theatre

The Banner is now offering INTERNSHIPS to CSI students. Internships last one semester and give students the opportunity to learn about media. Interns will work a minimum of 12 hours per week, and can focus on:

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“CSI to Replace Aging Bus Fleet”
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company, instead of three as it was the case before.

So on July 1, 2012, a new five-year contract was signed between CSI and First Transit for \$7,561,519.09, giving the bussing company the operation of all the transportation services on campus. The five new buses are part of the contract: CSI required buses that were within two or three years old and were below a certain mileage so, eventually, First Transit would have to acquire new buses at some point.

Although CSI won the title of Clean Air Champion in 2010 for its shuttle service, budget reasons forced the administration to settle on diesel engines instead of compressed natural gas (CNG) engines for their new vehicles.

“We work on really green, that’s really important to us,” said , the Assistant Vice-President for Finance and Business Services at CSI Ed Rios. “The only thing is it’s very expensive for sustainability to go green. Money does matter, so unless we were able to receive a grant to buy the highest energy-efficient buses, we could not afford it within the constraints of our budget, it’s not feasible.”

The First Transit salesman who’s in charge of the CSI account, Sam Nichols, refused to reveal any number concerning the sale price of the buses. On the website of the California-based bus dealer Creative Bus Sales, however, diesel-engine 40-foot EIDorado Axxess buses are sold for \$357,349, and the CNG-engine models for 375,286.

“The cost of the buses is built into the contract with First Transit,” said Rios. “We don’t own the buses. First Transit is buying the buses to service the account, so there’s no cost directly to us for these buses, but I think they average about \$400,000 each, I’ve been told by First Transit.”

Following the new contract with First Transit, the annual operating cost of the shuttle increased from an average of \$511,000 in 2009-2012 to \$750,000, and from \$380,000 to

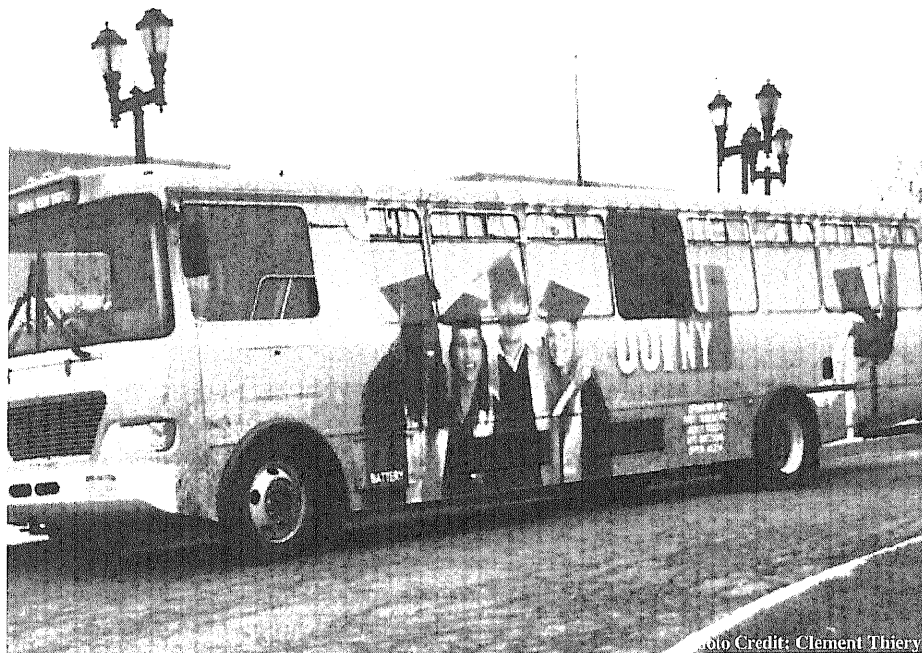


Photo Credit: Clement Thiery

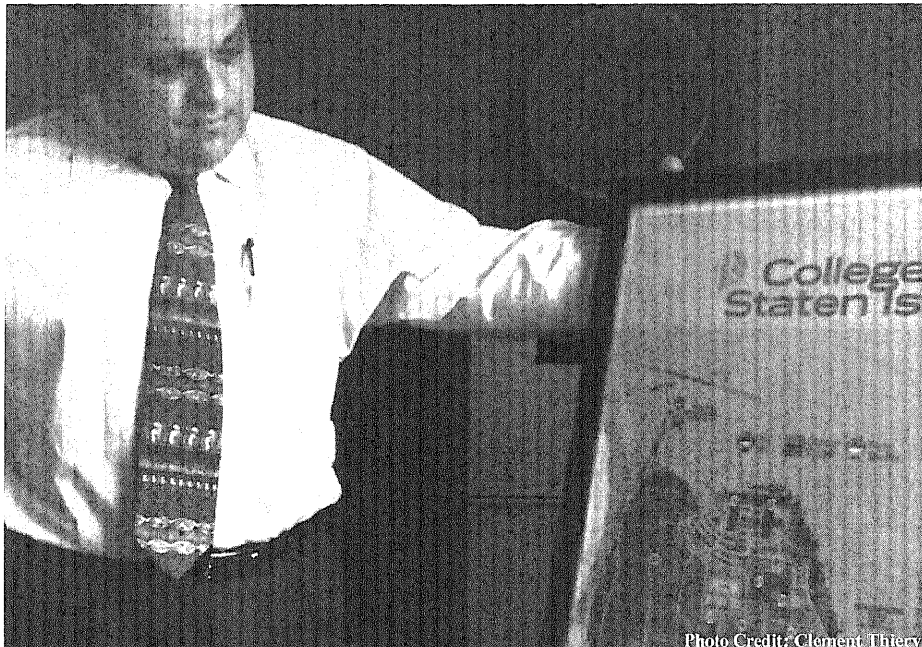


Photo Credit: Clement Thiery

Top: The Ferry Shuttle will be replaced with newer buses that can seat more people hopefully alleviating the commute for some
Bottom: CSI unveils its new plan to acquire 5 new buses from EIDorado and how they will be utilized

\$500,000 for the loop. The increased expense, said Rios, allowed CSI to face a growing ridership and to extend its enrollment base to places as far as Brooklyn and the Bronx.

“Getting new buses is a good idea, but I

feel it’s only half-way there,” said Tyler Morse, a Senior student who uses the ferry shuttle on her daily commute from Manhattan. “I think they should try to get the buses to come more often.”

Where’s the Bus? Use Your Phone and Find Out

BY CLEMENT THIERY

More good news for loop and shuttle riders, the five new buses bound for CSI for the Fall Semester 2013 will be equipped with GPS tracking devices that will enable riders to know where the buses are -and when they will arrive- via a smartphone application or website.

“The GPS technology is the way to go, everyone’s going that way,” said the Assistant Vice-President for Finance and Business Services at CSI Ed Rios. “These new buses will be equipped with GPS technology, we’re working on buying software now.”

It is very likely, said Rios, that CSI will be getting the NextBus technology that is being used at Rutgers University - since September 2007, and at the City College of New York since the Fall Semester 2012. NextBus is also being used by the BusTime service the MTA is experimenting on Staten Island since January 2012.

This means that soon CSI students should be able to pull out their smartphone and check, via an application, the estimate arrival time of the next loop or shuttle bus. The service should also be accessible via a website and text messages. The CSI Transportation Task Force, which discusses transportation issues on campus, is also considering the idea of displaying real-time bus schedules on the bus stops.

“It is something that we’ve talked about, that will happen,” said Rios. “As early as the fall maybe, we’ll be able to roll something out on these buses coming, and if not, it will be sometime during the year. We will get there, it’s very important.”

“Greek Life Fights for Recognition”
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of students on campus, the number of people interested in joining is expected to jump to new levels.

“People might go to the school just for Greek Life,” explained APD member Miguel Gomez. “[Because it is not recognized] some students have no idea there even is Greek Life.”

They also feel that it will help to raise school spirit, which is low on campus due to the environment created by being a commuter school. With Greek Life participation, members feel that spirit will be boosted and events will be more widely attended.

“To bring Greek Life in will increase school spirit,” Gomez argues. “It will motivate people to go to events.”

Though with school support and recognition, Greek Life will be forced to undergo certain changes in order to adapt to the college’s standards. They are currently able to run their organizations however they please, allowing for controversial pledging practices and partying activities. Though the members of Greek Life are willing to make the sacrifice for official recognition.

Even with their willingness to accept change and with student government on their side, the future of Greek Life on campus is still unclear.

“The faculty can easily say no to their resolution,” said Sibri. “They are giving it to a student government that will no longer be in power.”

“Peaceful Protest from SJP”
Continued from the front page

Sophomore Abeer Husein, wearing another village-name called Yubla says, “In a country that is supposed to fight for humanitarian rights, we are the voice for Palestine.”

SJP mourns in IP between 12 to 1pm, hoping to cement the recognition of Palestinian grief, and to reserve a table at the first floor of CSI’s Library on May 15 to continue their effort and educate as many students as they can.

Islam Allan explains that SJP at the College of Staten Island is in contact with other SJP CUNY’s and that this event is held in colleges citywide.

“During debates on Israel Apartheid Week, half the room was pro-Palestine and half pro-Israel. It was open discussion but you could feel the tension,” said Islam Allan while reflecting back to his first SJP event.

SJP President Islam Allan hopes to keep things passive and enlightening with future club activities to come, as does Executive Director of Hillel, Amy L. Posner.

“Everybody has a right to express themselves, and we encourage friendly communication,” said Posner.

“What they are doing is just a taste of what is going to happen. We would like to have a peaceful discussion about it if they are willing to listen to what we have to say, just as willing as we are to listen to what they have to say,” said Alison Sherman.

Meanwhile, Student Justice for Palestine continues to peacefully protest the memorialized Day of Nakba, and mourn the 750,000 Palestinians who were left homeless in 1948 after the creation of Israel.



Photo Credit: Larry Zakharenko

Top: Members of the newly charter Student Justice for Palestine wear signs to commemorate the villages that were destroyed by Israel in 1948
Bottom: Signs mark the different villages that were destroyed during Nakba



Photo Credit: Larry Zakharenko

CSI Hosts Conversation About Leadership and Civic Engagement
Leadership Convention Illustrates That Together We Can Change the World

BY LUCY FARFAN-NARCISSE

In an effort to continue the conversation of giving back through volunteering seven months after Hurricane Sandy, the offices of Student Affairs and Student Life hosted their annual Leadership Conversation and Civic Engagement Fair entitled “Together We Rock The World” which took place on April 11, 2013 at the College of Staten Island.

“Today’s conversation will be about the issue of civic engagement, what it is and what it looks like,” said Coordinator of Student Leadership and Development at CSI Robert King Kee. “As privileged members of our community it is our duty to give back to those in need and be able to fuse your ideas, your passion and energy with all the wonderful challenges that we face in our city, in our country and in our world.”

The Leadership Conversation featured two guest speakers; Frank Siller, Chairman of Tunnel to Towers Foundation and David Campbell, Executive Director of All Hands. The two led the discussion and spoke about the importance of the work both their organizations do for different communities and the need for leadership and civic heart.

Frank Siller formed Tunnel to Towers in December 2001, in memory of his brother Steven, a firefighter who heard about the Twin Towers attack over his radio scanner while on his way home after an evening tour. Steven turned around, picked up his gear at the firehouse and drove to the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel. Due to closure of the tunnel he continued on foot with 65 pounds of gear on his back and ran to the towers where he sacrificed his life.

“Steven had unbelievable leadership skills

and we were so proud of what he did and all he sacrificed,” said Siller. “My brother inspired his six older siblings to dedicate their lives towards something better.”

In the wake of Hurricane Sandy the Tunnel to Towers Foundation has raised over six million dollars and with the help of thousands of volunteers they have executed emergency relief and aided with the recovery and rebuilding of Staten Island. Over 1800 homes were gutted and are in the process of being repaired.

“The only way that you feel good, day in and day out is to get out of yourself and help others, it is the key to life, it is the key to leadership,” said Siller.

David Campbell, the Executive Director of All Hands was originally one of the founders of Hands on Thailand, which brought over 200 volunteers and several hundreds of thousands of dollars that assisted in the rebuilding of five Phuket fishing villages.

In 2011, All Hands engaged 3,500 volunteers in major projects in Haiti, Japan and all across the United States. It is one of the major organizations in Staten Island facilitating and changing the lives of people who were affected by Hurricane Sandy.

“I believe strongly that we are here to help other people,” said Campbell. “One of the phrases that we use to describe All Hands is we help people help people. Find an organization that triggers your passion and by being engaged you learn about other communities, other people and you’ll learn about yourself.”

Dr. Ramona Brown, Vice President for Student Affairs also announced a new program at The College of Staten Island. The new program,

CUNY Service Corp was made possible through a grant that the college won recently.

Students are placed into volunteer positions and/or internships throughout the borough where there is a need. 100-150 students will be hired and paid \$12-14 an hour salary. Dr. Brown encouraged students to check their six email for upcoming news and application details.

“This is an opportunity to do great community service. The more you learn, grow and develop-the better leader you are going to become,” said Brown.

Following the Leadership Conversation students in attendance participated in the Civic Engagement Fair where organizations such as All

Hands Volunteers, American Red Cross, College of Staten Island HILLEL, March of Dimes, Project Hospitality, Steven Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation and Komen Greater NYC presented literature and opportunities for students from CSI to volunteer in their communities.

“What Sandy did to Staten Island was nothing short of devastating but what came out of that devastation has been inspirational and full of hope,” said Director of Student Life at CSI, Carol Brower. “Today is more than just about Sandy, it is about understanding the power of one. It is about finding some way to pay it forward, some way you can make a difference whether it be locally, nationally or globally.”



Photo Credit: Lucy Farfan-Narcisse

All Hands Volunteers Lisa Carpino, Allan Rey, Megan Scott offer literature opportunities to the students during the VCivic Eggagement Fair

Give a Donation to the Senior Class Gift!
Be A Part of the Legacy Here at CSI

BY NOORELHODA MAHMOUD
2013 CLASS GIFT COMMITTEE MEMBER

The Thirty Seventh Commencement of the College marks the third year of building a tradition of a Class Gift at CSI. As a member of the 2013 Class Gift Committee, I am excited to announce our philanthropic campaign! The Class of 2013 has a unique opportunity to leave a legacy by giving back to the next generation of CSI undergraduates. We ask for a suggested donation of \$20.13, in honor of our graduation year, for future students in need.

This year, our goal is to endow *The Class of 2013 Legacy Scholarship*. An endowed scholarship means that it will go on forever. It’s an ambitious goal that requires raising \$25,000. That goal is possible if each graduating student pays it forward with a donation that will not only help future students, but is a vote of confidence and support to the value of a CSI education and degree. Establishing a scholarship will set a new precedent for a

Class Gift, with the Class of 2013 leading the way and raising the bar.

You may have noticed the benches for the classes of 2011 and 2012 along Alumni Walk. They are symbols of the class gift and we will soon have our place along Alumni Walk. We ask that you join your fellow classmates in supporting the cause by making the suggested donation but any amount will be appreciated. It’s a great investment in the future and a great bang-for-your-buck. If you think about all the things you can spend on, this may be the best twenty bucks you ever spent. Your generosity will be meaningful and make a difference for CSI students.

For a truly unique graduation gift, family, friends, faculty, and staff are welcome to donate as a way of honoring your graduation. As a special bonus, all who donate will be entered into a raffle to win four tickets to a New York Yankees game in September.

There are three ways to donate:

- Please visit www.csi.cuny.edu/foundation,



2013 SENIOR CLASS GIFT

click on “Make Your Gift Online Now,” and select “2013 Class Gift” from the drop-down menu.

- Come by, meet us, and make your donation in person at the Class Gift Table during Cap & Gown Distribution on May 21 and 23 in the Campus Center.
- If you prefer, you may send a check or money order payable to:

The CSI Foundation
2800 Victory Boulevard
Building 1A, Room 401
Staten Island, NY 10314

For further information, please contact Jennifer Lynch in the Office of Institutional Advancement and External Affairs at 718.982.2293.

CAMPUS STYLES



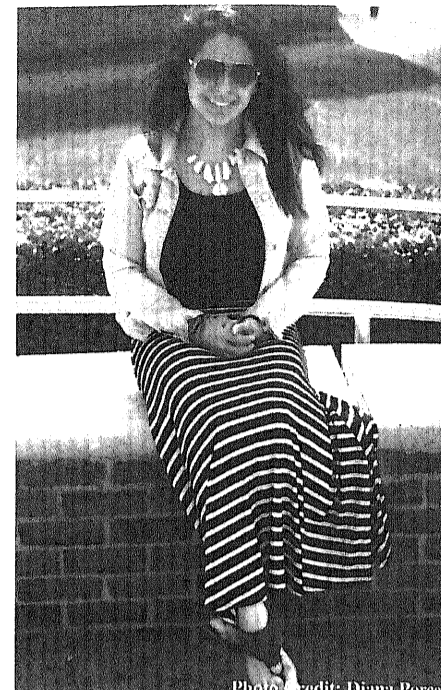
Edita Islami
Freshman
Wearing: Unlimited, Charlotte Ruse
Summer Style: Dresses, Ray-Bans



Silvia Guaman
Sophomore
Style: Hollister and Garage
Summer style: shorts, tanks and jewelry



Brittany Minondo
Freshman
Style: Spring and H&M
Summer Style: dresses and rompers



Sharifa Othman
Senior
"I like Charlotte Ruse, Bakers and South Pole."



Eimy Martinez
Sophomore
"My favorite store is Forever 21, H&M and Pink."



Jamayra Rodriguez
Sophomore
"I like American Eagle and Bakers shoes."



Shpresa Nikovic
Sophomore
Summer Style: light colors shorts and dresses
Outfit: Hollister and Express



Nathalie Azor
Sophomore
"I like anything casual with my pearls"
Summer Style: Necklaces and Jewelry



Elizabeth Malave
Freshman
"I have a city style"
Summer Style: Shorts



Angela Spadaro
Sophomore
"I like mostly 20's and 50's style"
Summer Style: Skirts, Maxi Dresses



Vania August
Junior
"I really like sequins and funky african."
Summer style: large earrings



Jennifer Gil
Senior
"I usually go for edgy chic. I like to mix up all different trends"

BANNER STYLES

The Best Summer Travel Options for Students on a Budget

Don't Let Financial Woes Ruin Your Summer!

BY VICTORIA CAROCCIA

After a semester chock full of exams, papers, projects, and stress, there's no better feeling than knowing that summer is right around the corner! We've been counting down the days until our final exams are over and are finally free to bask in the sunlight of a well-deserved break. While most of us will get sucked right back into summer classes or unforgiving work schedules, there are a lucky few who are planning their vacations to various summer hotspots.

When choosing a destination, most students settle for somewhere fairly close to home that won't break the bank. Popular summer activities have included road trips to Florida or the Jersey Shore, and some even wind up in their own backyards due to financial woes.

Unless you have rich, generous parents or somehow managed to rob a bank, you're probably assuming your vacation plans will include a barbeque and wading in a friend's aboveground pool. However, many vacation hotspots and travel websites offer amazing deals for students on a budget. With the help of some planning and research, you can have the summer of a lifetime and still be able to afford textbooks in September.

A great travel option for students is an all-inclusive vacation. Through this plan, you can pay for your room, meals, and activities up front. Once you've paid, you have access to everything

your resort has to offer without having to pay a dime for the rest of the trip. While these resorts have unlimited options for dining and entertainment, many of them offer deals from nearby resorts so you can explore different areas and make the most out of your vacation.

All-inclusive hotels are popping up in vacation hotspots all over the world, including Cancun, Punta Cana, and Jamaica. One popular resort for young people is the Hard Rock Hotel in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Like any other Hard Rock facility, their Dominican Republic location is a lavish spread filled to the brim with rock and roll memorabilia, delicious restaurants, and awesome bars and nightclubs. Their all-inclusive plan offers unlimited food and drink along with deals at their spa and shops located within the hotel.

A trip abroad may seem like an impossible dream for a broke college student. But if you plan it right, you can save even more. Travel sites like Orbitz.com give you the option to book your flight and hotel together, with rates starting at \$200. All-inclusive vacation plans give you tons of choices to tailor your trip to your needs and interests while allowing you to get more bang for your buck.

Although an all-inclusive plan seems like the go-to for restless students, some would prefer to avoid the hassle of foreign affairs. Not to worry, there are still plenty of affordable vacation destinations state side. U.S. News recently

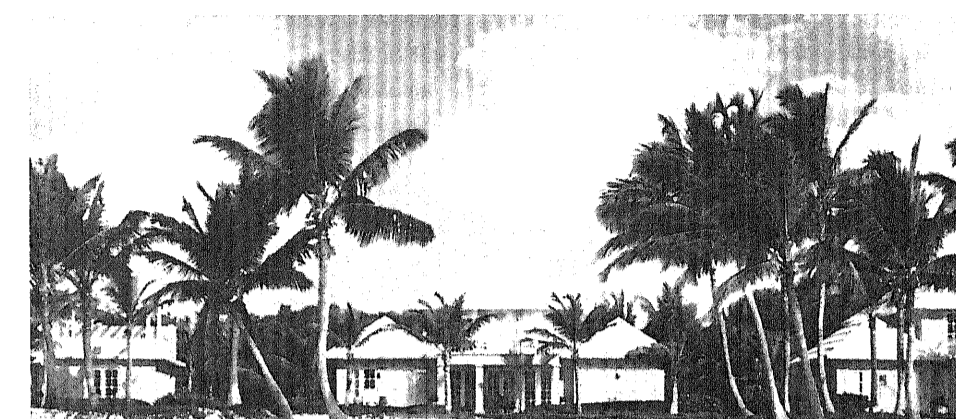


Photo Credit: Google Images

published an article about the 10 best vacation spots for college students. The places that made the cut are surprisingly cheap and very unconventional locations for your typical student traveler.

Among the top 3 was Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, which offers hotel deals at \$67 per night and tons of honky-tonk bars for a fun night out. Denver, Colorado can also be found on the list, and not because they legalized marijuana. (But that's definitely not a reason not to go.) Denver has some great tourist hotspots, including Coors Field and Lakeside Amusement Park. Not to mention round-trip flights starting at \$270 and hotel rates at \$57 a night.

These along with some of the other locations listed are perfect opportunities for a road trip with

your adventurous friends. But if you don't feel like wasting your souvenir budget on gas or being crammed into a six person Honda with rowdy college kids, then there are still affordable options out there. Check out websites like STA Travel and Student Universe for information on travel deals. Some airlines, including American Airlines, even offer student discounts on tickets.

Once the semester is finally over, the last thing you want to do is extensive research or calculate a budget. But in order to plan the ultimate vacation, you have to work at it! Don't let these big numbers scare you; just because we're young and working an hourly wage doesn't mean we can't enjoy ourselves. It will all be worth it in the end when you're lying on the beach with a margarita or riding a mechanical bull.

Doing More than Just Wifebeaters and Basketball Shorts

Summer Fashion Tips For the Straight Male

BY VICTORIA CAROCCIA

It's no secret that summer is everyone's favorite season. With barbeques, warm weather, and a break from school, it's physically impossible to dislike the summertime. For us girls, summer is the perfect opportunity to run around in dresses and bikinis while showing off our beautifully tanned skin. While guys also enjoy tans and warm weather, most of them have a little more trouble transitioning their styles between seasons.

A lot of my guy friends walk around wearing jeans in 90-degree weather because they feel awkward wearing shorts. Most others resort to wearing obnoxiously colored basketball shorts or baggy, unflattering cargo shorts. Rather than take the time to find a nice pair of shorts that fit them properly, they'd rather walk around looking like a time traveling pre-teen from the 90's.

The 70's were a questionable period where sharing a pair of short-shorts with your girlfriend were socially acceptable. Obviously, times have changed, and the length of your shorts says a lot about your manhood. When looking for the right pair of shorts, length is key. A modest pair of shorts should end right above your knee. If you're feeling especially bold, you can find a pair that hits mid-thigh.

Color is another important aspect to keep in mind. You can never go wrong with a classic denim pair that matches with everything. Neutral colors like navy, khaki, or gray are also a great option. If you want to change it up, try incorporat-

ing light seasonal colors with subtle patterns. Pastels are huge for this season, and nautical pin-stripes are a fun, classic summer pattern.

Once you've snagged the perfect pair of shorts, your next challenge is to find a top to go with them. For most guys, this is a no brainer. Most of you gravitate towards graphic tees and tank tops. Both of these options will work, so long as you don't clash the colors of your shirt with the colors of your shorts.

When it comes to tank tops, there is a very fine line between over shirt and undershirt. The three pack of Hanes tank tops that your mom bought for you at Costco? Not appropriate to be worn by itself outside the gym or the comfort of your own home.

You can easily find a lightweight t-shirt that will give you the same amount of cool comfort as a tank top. You can also find cool graphic tanks from H&M that won't make you look like you came straight out of a trailer park.

In the midst of all of the meticulous work that goes into planning a good summer wardrobe, it's easy to forget about your footwear. Although summer footwear is the easiest and most comfortable, most guys still find ways to screw it up.

The most common summer fashion faux pas are socks and flops. You would think that strenuous activities and climbing temperatures would deter anyone from smothering their feet in cotton white socks. Unfortunately, common sense isn't common, and many of you still deem it necessary to keep your tootsies warm.



Photo Credit: Google Images

Flip-flops and sandals are perfect for days at the beach and backyard barbeques. Contrary to popular belief, you will not be judged for having ugly feet. You're a guy: you're not supposed to care about having perfectly maintained extremities. Granted, if you have oozing blisters and unclipped toenails, stick with boat shoes or Toms.

Other than footwear, men typically don't think too much into accessorizing. But if you're the type of guy who will drop \$180 on a pair of Oakley's, guess what? You're accessorizing!

One of the most popular sunglass styles for these season are wayfarers, better known as the sunglasses that Tom Cruise wore in Risky Business before he went insane. RayBans are famous for their wayfarers, but if you're not look-

ing to spend a lot of money, you can find a cheap pair of wayfarers anywhere.

Wayfarers are tricky to pull off if you have a wider face. So another option is my personal favorite style of men's sunglasses, aviators. Tom Cruise also wore these in Top Gun pre-insanity and looked damn good. Unlike wayfarers, aviators will flatter any facial structure. Plus, any woman is a sucker for a man in aviators.

Summer is all about kicking back and enjoying the weather through effortless style. I'm fully aware that shopping is not a favorite pastime among straight men. But if you know what you're shopping for and take the time to look for the right style and fit, it's not nearly as grueling as you would imagine.

The Cast of 'The East' Sits Down to Talk CSI Style Discussing Everything from Kissing Ellen Page to Zoolander

BY LARRY ZAKHARENKO

At the spearhead of Conservative Media, an advance screening showed a movie about anarchist crusades against corporate crime. *The East* – which should have been called *The West* for how far left it swung, erecting at any mention of corporate crucifixion – is a movie inspired by the concept of "Buy Nothing Day," where hippies (often misspelled as "anarchists") protest against Consumerism. What better way to capitalize on this concept than by making a movie about it.

Having spent two months with these activist groups, director Zal Batmanglij and actress Brit Marling brought their dumpster-diving escapades full circle to Fox Searchlight Studios. Secret Agent Sarah (Brit) ditches her sub-plotted boyfriend to go undercover and infiltrate an anarchist group called "The East," led by apparent Grizzly Adam bastard-love-child "Benji," who later shaves the Hasidic locks to reveal a sexy Alexander Skarsgård (True Blood/Generation Kill) in disguise.

These *more-than-meets-the-eye* radicals attack CEO's who metaphorically shit oil into the Gulf and wipe their ass with pesos. The film is Tarantino revenge on Ritalin, because the focus of the film instead lies with the moral complexity of each character committing eco-terrorism, which had less depth than Brit Marling's tongue in Ellen Page's mouth during a spin-the-bottle scene, and yet that's the chick from Juno.

The movie never drew any raw emotion, but it was still an entertaining story. Like a steak that lacks seasoning: it doesn't taste amazing, but hey it's still steak. Would I recommend paying 11\$ to see it? That depends on how frugal you are. I highly recommend this movie as your first choice for when you finish watching Iron Man 3 and try sneaking into a second movie, aka Atrium Theater inhabitants. Although you can probably buy Iron Man 3 in Chinatown by the time this film comes out.

I was also invited to interview Zal, Brit, and Alex via video conference at the dark tower itself in Mordor, New York. I sat down with college reporters from NYU, Yale, and a student from Columbia who brought a raw copy of "Crime and Punishment" by Dostoyevsky. After the stars were bombarded by questions of moral and psychological confliction from our nation's future leaders, I decided to interview the cast the CSI way.

The Banner: What was it like kissing Ellen Page?
Brit: I think we all had fun kissing each other that night. We all kissed Ellen at least once.

Zal: I think Toby Kebbell tried to kiss her twice...

TB: Alex, did you have a fitness regimen for this film or do you just naturally rock a six-pack?

Alex: I uhh did not have a fitness regimen for this film. Benji doesn't go to the gym.

Zal: His fitness regimen was eating two lunches after every cut. After five minutes another plate of

food would come around.
TB: Zal and Brit, when you were writing the screenplay—

Zal: Why didn't you ask if we had fitness regimens...?

Brit: Yeah?!

TB: Well we mostly saw Benji shirtless throughout the movie. But when you guys wrote the script did you personally believe that eco-terrorism is justified if it has the potential to prevent corporate crime?

Zal: The funny thing is, once you're telling a story and you're in that process – which starts with me and Brit telling each other the story – you can't actually have the characters do what you want them to do, things happen organically.

Alex: That's what I loved about the script, that it's not preachy or didactic, it wasn't "this is right this is wrong." We just want you to audibly enjoy it but also hopefully think a bit.

Brit: We would workshop the scene together and Alex took his character to a much better place. He would look at this long winded monologue and he'd be like "you know what, I don't need to say this," and he would cut those lines out of the script.

Alex: That's because I'm lazy.

Brit: No no! I remember saying that is the coolest thing I've ever seen. I have never seen an actor who was so egoless, doing the best thing for the story.

TB: When it comes to acting, writing, or directing, so many people want to do it, but so few get in because the odds are against you. For you guys, what was the moment that helped you launch your career?

Alex: Well I started in Sweden when I was 7 and I worked for about six years – it was completely different from being a Hollywood child-actor with auditions and headshots. My father is an actor so it all just happened naturally. But then I quit at 13 because I didn't like the attention and it made me uncomfortable. I remember dad saying, "I love this job, but if you feel there's something else you can do – go do that," because it's such a tough job. When I was 20 I went to New York to study theater in Marymount College, and I missed acting, I missed being on stage, and like most people at 20 I didn't know what I wanted to do with my life. So I decided to give it one more try before dismissing it, and I returned to Sweden for auditions while working as a busboy in a coffee shop.

Zal: When did you get Zoolander?

Alex: I went to L.A because my dad was shooting a film, so I went to visit him, and his manager sent me out on auditions just to see what it's like, and for some reason I got the job! When I came home to Sweden I told all my friends, "fucking Hollywood is easy – you just go, you meet Ben Stilller, and then two weeks later you're doing a gasoline fight in Manhattan."

Young Entrepreneurs Most Likely on a Campus Near You Clothing and Music from the Minds of Fellow CSI Classmates

BY KHALEEL NICHOLSON

The College of Staten Island harbors many kinds of people. Here you will find all different

levels of intellect and talent from various distances.

We tend to take each other for granted,

letting our fellow classmates slip by not even knowing that we could be sitting next to a future star. Yes there are stars amongst us. They

have amazing gifts that are worthy enough to change the industry game. Here are some of our next generation stars who stand out.



Mike Nolasco

This Staten Island resident has captured his dreams through photography, clothing and film. A graduate of Tottenville High School, Class of 2012, this 20-year-old has paved his own lane through art. His clothing line "Life Legacy", which launched on February 19, started off with sweat shirts, however his use of social media and parties helped skyrocket his clothing line. "Life Legacy is something that you leave with after you pass. Your accomplishments, your story, your goals," explained Nolasco. Nolasco is currently using his line in hopes to inspire and influence the youth of our generation to go for their dreams and always "stay hungry" for your art. With a passion for photography, Nolasco captures inspiration with photos of his friends and New York life. He has also worked with local artists shooting short films of promotion films and visuals. He is a one man army, creating his own legacy living his words. You can find Mike Nolasco at his blog site at MichaelNolasco.com.



YF of Corporate Swag

YF or Young Franchise has been putting the island on the map with his hard rap style. This artist is on a nonstop hustle to the top. Along with his music production team, Corporate Swag, YF has changed the minds of fellow Boroughs who are convinced that Staten Island is musically dead. Gaining the name from his Curtis High School teacher, the multi talented artist can rap, style and manage his brand as well as his clothing line LWAXTF. YF influences for his "hustle hard" music are Jay-Z, Wu-Tang, and Young Jeezy. With his art and influences being just the tip of the ice berg for his sonic art, he adds a unique fusion of Dubstep, Techno, and Contemporary to his sound in order to stand out. Now, with his music and die-hard fan base, his independent label Corporate Swag Entertainment has been placed on the map, creating a world of opportunities and new ventures. Find more about YF and his movement on his website at Corporateswagmusic.com.



LWAXTF Clothing Line

Edgy loud spontaneous and colorful is what you can describe Shevon Miller, Tony Salako, and YF. This trio are all co-owners of LWAXTF (Leaders. With. Ambition. Trashing. Fashion.) bringing high end fashion and classical art to the streets of New York. They have each worked together to bring their personal styles to bring birth to a new form of street wear. With Shevon's edgy and daring style, Tony's prep and neat cut trend, and YF's urban hip style makes LWAXTF fit for anyone. Launching their line on April 8, 2013, the three have been grabbing the attention of boutiques across the country with their loud boundary breaking tees reaching areas such as Los Angeles, Miami, and Atlanta in such a short time. Their rapid growth from social media has opened up opportunities in the fashion world. This family of friends and young entrepreneurs are taking fashion by the balls defying the rules and carving their own lane with their imaginations and worldly influences. You can catch these tee shirts on their website at LWACLOTHING.com.

FarCry 3: Blood Dragon Retro-Futuristic Game a Nice Surprise

BY STEPHEN KLEIN

Far Cry 3: Blood Dragon parodies the '80s with a style and presentation that is unique, hilarious, and great.

Rather than all of the shades of grays and browns that we've come to expect from today's game environments, especially first-person shooters, Ubisoft Montreal decided on a retro-futuristic '80s theme with pinks and neon colors. It all adds up to a nice little experiment; a mini-Far Cry 3 if you will. It's mostly all the same gameplay mechanics and it takes the best of the original.

Come to think of it, Far Cry 3 was very colorful as well for a first-person shooter. It was a beautiful game with the game play to match. For Blood Dragon, however, the presentation and humor is great where the rest falters. It's still a great game, if a slightly disappointing one.

There's so much to love about this game too which only fuels my disappointment at its short length and lame side content or lack thereof. I love the retro-style animated cutscenes, the music, and the aforementioned art direction. Especially hilarious are the tutorial messages and VHS-style loading screens that give incredibly obvious hints and bits of information. I don't want to spoil any of the jokes so I'll just leave it at that.

The graphics aren't half-bad either. Not as impressive as the original Far Cry 3's jungle environments, but still good. Lastly, the story is



Source: Google Images

so nonsensical that it works. I don't know how Ubisoft Montreal did it, but it works. It just does.

There's even some mild improvements made over FC3, such as not losing health from falling, that help make you feel like the ultimate unstoppable killing machine, literally. No, I'm serious. You play as a cyborg so not only does my bad pun make sense, but so do these improvements. So, what's the problem?

Well, for one thing, the open world has surprisingly little content. You can liberate garrisons, save hostages, and hunt rare animals, but that's about it. The main story alone is extremely short for an open world game which I beat it in about three hours.

You can expect a way random '80's montage and sex scene here and there as well as an amazing ending, and yes, all of which are hilarious. Despite my disappointment, I was laughing throughout my time with Blood Dragon. Enjoy the ride!

Far Cry 3: Blood Dragon gets an 8.5 out of 10.

JT: The 20/20 Experience Timberlake Comes Back After 7 Years

BY MARIE SCARSELLA

After a seven-year hiatus, this generation's king of pop has stepped back into the spotlight, effectively bringing sexy back for a second time with the release of his new album The 20/20 Experience. The album is the first for the revered Justin Timberlake since 2007, and is his most musically diverse set of tunes yet.

The neo-soul vibes of "Pusher Love Girl" set the scene for The 20/20 Experience early on, infusing Timberlake's classic pop-sound with '20s styled soul. His elegant falsettos combined with soulful backup vocals and hip-hop beats create a retro feel with a modern twist.

"Pusher Love Girl" is followed strongly with the album's widely received single "Suit and Tie" featuring his summer tour mate Jay-Z. The song also plays on the retro vibe, however, it incorporates a more danceable rhythm. Jay-Z's verse, which is executed flawlessly, adds just a pinch of gangsta, making the track the perfect recipe for a hit.

The album peaks with the ethnic-toned "Don't Hold the Wall," playing on tribal drums and echoing vocals from Timbaland. The odd yet intriguing instrumentals and booty-shaking beat make it a strong contender for the album's top track.

"Let the Groove Get In" contributes a funky element to the table with Spanish-styled undertones, while "That Girl" plays heavily on Timberlake's R&B influences. Both tracks add



Source: Google Im

to the diversity of The 20/20 Experience, while still maintaining Timberlake's essential musical selling points, unifying the album and showcasing his wide range of talents as an artist.

"Strawberry Bubblegum" and "Mirrors" bring in a slower element to Timberlake's trippy pop world. The former an eight-minute opus, complete with smooth vocals and electronic blips and bleeps. It is the crowning jewel of sexiness buried within an album jam packed with steaminess. The latter, a soft yet solid nod to his earlier works. Using more standard R&B and pop ballad elements, it is The 20/20 Experience's version of "Cry Me a River" or "What Goes Around Comes Around."

Closing with "Blue Ocean Floor," the album fades out on a slow note. The track is quite eerie, using slow vocals and chilling instrumentals to instill a feeling of sadness. It is notably the album's most emotional sounding track, making it a perfect ending to Timberlake's masterpiece.

Iron Man 3 and Oblivion Kick Off Summer Blockbuster Season

BY LUCIA ROSSI

If you're looking for a superhero movie that's like The Dark Knight, you better look elsewhere because Iron Man 3 is packed with comedy. Some might even ask, is it a comedy movie with a superhero, or a superhero movie with comedy? This style however was enjoyable and executed well by director Shane Black.

No actor is better suited (pun intended) for Iron Man than Robert Downey Jr. Tony Stark's quick verbal humor is alone worth the price of a (non-3D) admission ticket. In this film, he must face his nemesis Mandarin who has a small army of fire powered soldiers. Stark feels it is his fault that his enemy became the way he did and is also struggling with post traumatic stress from his near death experience in The Avengers. Not to mention his struggle with a three way relationship between him, Pepper Potts, and his beloved suits. Now, he must answer the question that keeps him up at night: does the man make the suit or does the suit make the man?

Iron Man 3 may not be as good as the first film but it is certainly better than the second. This movie added interesting twists, ones who people either love or hate. The Mandarin is not true to the comics, sorry to disappoint. However it fit well regardless because Mandarin (Ben Kingsley) was the mouthpiece, Aldrich Killian (Guy Pierce) was the brain, and Eric Savin (James Badge Dale) is the muscle. Ben Kingsley as Mandarin was the highlight of the film. Just when you thought you knew who he was, you're sprung with surprise.

The film played with the damsel-in-distress



Source: Google Images

complex with Pepper Potts (Gwyneth Paltrow) finding her own way of saving Tony Stark. Stark also gains the help of a young boy named Harley Keener (Ty Simpkins) who just so happens to be a perfect reflection of Stark's character, only not as tainted with grief. Stark's character however is foiled by The Iron Patriot, a.k.a. War Machine, Colonel James Rhodes (Don Cheadle), who is his best friend and in turn gives the film a buddy cop feel.

Iron Man 3 is exciting, with appealing visual effects, but feels rushed despite its length. There are plot holes, clichés and underdeveloped characters, such as Maya Hansen (Rebecca Hall), who is a complete throwaway. The main problem was consistency and whether the amount of comedy was appropriate. The beginning is slow, it picks up in the middle, and then instead of ending with a bang, its sort of a shrug.

There are difficult situations Tony Stark finds himself in and it's thrilling to see him pull through. It's clear he doesn't need the suit, he will always be Iron Man. If there's time, be sure to watch the scene post-credits!

BY IAN USTICK

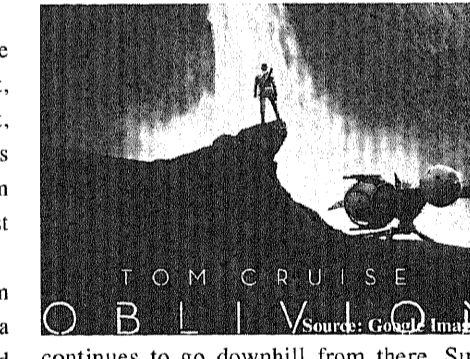
As far as science fiction movies go these days, movie-goers know what to expect, some kind of post-apocalyptic environment, twists and turns at every moment, and loads of action. While Oblivion, starring Tom Cruise, has some of these, it lacks most importantly a good storyline.

The action begins on earth decades from now. Humans have left the planet after a terrible world-wide conflict with aliens and the destruction of the earth's moons, which have left the planet almost completely uninhabitable. Tech crews stay behind repairing drones which destroy any aliens left alive, called Scavs.

Jack Harper and his partner Victoria are stationed in a high rise platform/house together and their mission is to continue to seek out Scavs and exterminate them. After their mission is complete, they are told they will rejoin humanity on the moon Titan. The only problem is that Jack is having recurring thoughts of a past he feel he has lived. He even sets up a house near a lake with books so he can figure out some clue as to why he is having these dreams/visions. It is at this point in the film where the first twist happens.

For the sake of suspense, I will not spoil but it would be suffice to say Morgan Freeman shows up. And we know when Morgan Freeman is in a movie, it must be good. However, not in this movie.

The twist is predictable and the movie



Source: Google Images

continues to go downhill from there. Sure there is a fair bit of action, good acting, and a few surprises. But as I first mentioned, first and foremost, a movie must have a good story to be enjoyable. As interesting as the plot may seem to a person viewing the trailer, it is an entirely different experience viewing the film. It goes on for way too long to the point you'll be wondering how many more things have to happen for this movie to finally be over.

Maybe this is an attempt by Tom Cruise to still stay relevant in Hollywood after his divorce from Katie Holmes and the controversy surrounding his involvement in the Church of Scientology. His former science fiction movies were fairly good including Minority Report, War of the Worlds, and Vanilla Sky, but then again, he had Steven Spielberg and Cameron Crowe working on those movies. The main problem with this film is the storyline. The premise is interesting enough, but the execution falls flat.

BANNER OPINIONS

Ask Not What CSI Can Do for You but What You Can Do for CSI

Quit Whining and Grab Your Bootstraps Dolphins!

BY CLEMENT THIERY

CSI lacks a real campus life. CSI sucks. CSI doesn't even have a football team. Three-hundred-and-sixty-five days a year, our campus resonates with the sound of grumbling students declaring fatwas on reading assignments, vending machines, and parking lot potholes.

Interestingly enough, each new grammar-impaired bathroom-stall graffiti, each new fiery tweet to @CSIProblems, and each new upside-down smile walking to class seem to have sprayed a coat of unity on campus. In a

(bitter) sense, complaining about CSI gave CSI the sense of community it was longing for.

When the Student Elections were held last April, 345 students cast their ballot, said Carol Brower, the Director of the Office of Student Life, in a phone interview. 350 students let their voice heard—that's a mere 2.48 percent of the entire student body. The remaining 97.52 percent -13,549 students!— chose instead to stay home (and keep grumbling). Those who throw rocks at Madison, Nixon, or Clinton and stay home on Election Day have no rights

whatsoever to complain. Same rule applies to CSI.

"There are [nevertheless] a majority of students who attend CSI that are by no means lazy and take every opportunity they can get to squeeze out a more-than-quality education here," wrote Jean-Claude Quintyne in a *Banner* op-ed published last fall.

College experience, after all, amounts to what we, students, make out of it. College experience, the one our parents and professors speak of with watery eyes and hazy memories,

does not come free of charge on a silver platter. College experience is like a lunch at Subway: you take the ingredients that are available to you, combine them, and try to make as good a sandwich as you can. Have you ever met a Subway customer complaining about the sub he just made and ordered?

Only "the energy, the faith, the devotion which we bring to this endeavor will light our [school] and all who [attend] it" and make our college years worth remembering with frank laughs and watery eyes, *nothing* else Dolphins.

Video Gaming and the Issues With Handicap Accessibility

Tailoring New Generation of Consoles for the Less Mobile

BY ANTHONY TILELLI

I believe that motion controls and dual screen systems will be integrated into the next three major consoles and traditional controllers will be returning to the Wii U, as seen in the Wii U remote. This is going to create at least two major issues, first is developer confusion, the three consoles are using vary different systems and a variety of add-ons that may be incompatible with each other.

These official add-ons will make it harder for developers to decide what system or peripheral too make their game for and risk losing money if they use the wrong add-on or system for their game. Secondly, these new add-ons are becoming in accessible for people with certain disabilities.

In the not so distant past, all major consoles were relatively similar, the Xbox and Ps2 particularly. Both the Xbox and PS2 had comparable rendering power supported DVD and CD formats, sported a similar controller, featuring 2

analog sticks, triggers (4 triggers for PS2, 2 triggers on XBOX, but 2 extra buttons on face of the controller) d-pad and 4 primary buttons. However, the Game Cube featured a different controller scheme, rendering power and storage style that led to significantly less third party support and abandonment by many companies. With the release of the Wii, the radically different console suffered even more from a lack of major games with cross platform support. Luckily, the Wii was successful enough to survive and thrive on largely Nintendo's internal IPs. This has created an arms race for innovations were each manufacturer is trying to outdo each other.

With all these new input devices, developers are going to be face with more choices on what to develop for. While more choice can be good, it also has downsides, as it fragments the user base and lowers the amount of potential customers. For instance, *Steal* battalion heavy armor requires users to have both a Kinect and a

controller in order to play. This problem can be largely prevented if the new Kinect and similarly move add-ons are packaged in with their respective console, upon release.

I would also like to separate what I mean by reasonable accommodations as opposed to unreasonable ones. Reasonable accommodations are when a developer puts subtitles in a game for the deaf; unreasonable ones would be for the developer to remove all sound from the game to keep it fair for the deaf player. So the issue a hand here is motion controls and how it has impacted the disabled. The easiest example would be how it affects the wheel chair bounded person, as they are unable to move certain parts of their body, which may be required for the game. This is a particular problem for Kinect games as they are full body. Going back to the *Steal Battalion* example, in parts of the game you need to stand up and again these people can't. Now some will say create a work around, an auxiliary action to accomplish that action.

That creates two potential problems, extraneous moves and exploitability. The more moves you add to the game, the more chance you have for the game to miss read one move for another; just take a look at *Steel Battalion*'s problems. Secondly, if there are extra moves intended for disabled people, than "normal" people may be able to exploit it in order to get an advantage, as certain moves may be faster than others. A way to prevent this would be to implement move profiles that lock the moves for each need. A less looked at issue is people who have tic disorder. Tics can be both phonic and motor, imagine playing *Mass effect 3*, again with Kinect, using the voice controlled system and you have a phonic tick were you say "boom" The game could interpret it as boom stick and constantly switch you to the shotgun. Or, are playing kill zone with the PS3's sharp shooter attachment and are unable to precisely hold the controller due to motor tics.

The Positive Effects of Motivation on Others

The Innate Weapon That We All Possess

BY JEAN CLAUDE QUINTYNE

At four in the morning watching the overcast sky trying its hardest to hold in lukewarm raindrops, I sit here in the lonesome bowels of my room writing this article with the shoulder blade cracking weight of this hellish spring semester keeping me awake.

Though I am cracking my knuckles every few minutes, deleting every other word, and constantly cursing at the screen, I could easily collapse upon the intoxicating softness of my goose feathered pillow and blanket and welcome their dream-inducing embrace. But doing that would delay the completion of this article, break a promise I made to myself, and halt the completion of this issue of *The Banner*.

What is this feeling that's causing me to think about the three aforementioned consequences of calling it a night? What is pushing me to battle this fatigue and produce a decent piece of work that I'll be satisfied to have as my final submitted piece for this semester? The answer is motivation, an incredible and indestructible feeling that churns out unprecedented power.

One unique quality of this power is that it

is innate. Each and every individual that exists in this troublesome lifetime possesses the ability to call upon motivation when he or she needs it most in the thick of a dire situation. Back in high school, I encountered a boy who, no matter how many perfect scores on exams he had or awards he brought home, was constantly ignored by his parents. Now this was a kid who had what seemed to be an infinite amount of energy—nothing saddened him despite his constant failed attempts to get his parents' appreciation, he stood up to anybody that insulted him, and always kept a smile on his face—but after roughly a month or so, I noticed all of these colorful characteristics of his steadily declining.

His parents' relentless lack of acknowledgement caused him to lose his motivation to do well in school and as a result, turned to self-mutilation and alcohol. Witnessing this decline seemed surreal, sometimes forcing me to deny what was happening before my eyes, but I'd pinch myself, realize that this kid was only fourteen years old, and that I had to spring into action. I suggested he see the school's counselor, to which he replied "she wanted to send me to a mental institution, convinced I was

being a little bitch".

So I sat him down one day after giving some hard thought about a new angle to approach this situation. I asked him to write a story about everything that has been going on, in graphic detail, to his parents and read it out loud to them. The problem with this was that he wasn't motivated to try anymore; he'd completely given up.

I knew that if I didn't do something at that moment, it probably would have been the end for him. So I conjured up a speech:

"You need to dig deep and refresh your mind of the things you have accomplished and use that refreshment as a way for you to break down that door of doubt that you are now facing.

You've entered a brand new realm of reality and the world doesn't look as bright as it once was—perhaps this is the way it is—but use this bleakness, this pain as a new weapon in an arsenal of motivation. It may seem as if you are out of strength now, but the tiniest thing can spark something incredible, so look at everything surrounding you a bit harder and let ideas, emotions, and even the slightest doubt, elicit that involuntary spark that enables

you to surpass the height of the abilities you once possessed.

My friend, just picture how you'll feel once you break this slump that you're in and imagine how much stronger you'll be. Dig deep and tap into those dormant abilities of yours and then nothing will get you down ever again."

He hugged me afterwards and raced home to write his piece. After a week, he told me that he was able to break through to his parents and things got much better for him.

Motivation is an otherworldly ability. It causes individuals to do things that couldn't be conceived before, enabling the creation of unprecedented works of art, or that final burst of energy needed to complete a hard day's work.

So for the writer stuck on how to begin the final chapter of her novel, for the film director that can't seem to find the perfect ending for her first film, for the biology student nervous about how she'll perform on her final exam, and for all of my fellow students at CSI pulling their hair out during final's week, search for that motivation that will embrace you with the strength needed to accomplish your goals.

BANNER SPORTS

Montclair State University Wins Over CSI Women's Softball Team Falls to No. 1 Seed but Scores Big in Wounded Warrior Project

BY MIKE PAPANDREA & JESSICA PIFALO

Over \$1000 was raised for the Wounded Warriors organization at the CSI softball complex as the Dolphins hosted the number one ranked division three team, Montclair State University. The Dolphins did not have as much success on the field as they lost both games by the scores of 9-1 and 7-0.

In the first game, MSU starter, Alex Hill, dominated CSI batting. Hill struck out the first eight batters she faced and gave up one hit through four innings of work. CSI Pitcher, Victoria Procopio, remained competitive with her until the third inning, when a couple CSI errors loaded the bases for MSU.

Red Hawks catcher and number five hitter, Alisha Cumberston, smacked the Procopio pitch over the left field fence for a grand slam. After the inning, MSU found themselves up 5-0 and continued applying the pressure in the fourth inning. Another four runs would cross the plate to put MSU up by a score of 9-0.

Errors haunted CSI, as they committed five for the game. Procopio would take the loss although all of the runs she gave up were unearned runs.

On the offensive side, CSI finally saw a spark in the fifth inning, when Hill was replaced by relief pitcher, Jeniffer Skinner. Third baseman, Christina Tufano, led off the inning off with a double to center field. Then

left fielder Danielle Locke, connected for an opposite field single to right.

Skinner would settle down after that and collected the next three outs. With MSU leading 9-1 after five innings, the game was halted.

The Dolphins hoped to take back game two. However, the fired up MSU squad came storming out with a 1-0 lead after just half of an inning off CSI starter Brittany Smith. The Dolphins couldn't get a run, and MSU would take a 2-0 lead in the fourth. CSI was error free, that is until the fifth inning when things took a turn for the worst, when MSU totaled a whopping five runs for the inning putting the Dolphins at a devastating 7-0 deficit.

Despite the big losses, the squad was happy they could do such a good thing and help raise money for a good cause.

"It's always great to play for a good cause whether we win or lose we know we did a good thing," said Stefanie Solari.

With the 2013 CUNYAC Playoffs approaching, the Dolphins know what they have to focus on to be successful in the tourney.

"With playoffs this weekend, the next few practices we we focused a lot on fielding and just making sure we were relaxed in the field and making the plays."

The CUNYAC tourney kicks off May 3, at the CSI Softball Complex, with the Dolphins taking on #3 Brooklyn College.



Top: CSI's Samantha Tallarine spread out five hits with five RBI in two games
Bottom: Danielle Locke scattered four hits for CSI



Dolphin's Defeat Hunter for Softball's CUNYAC Title Women's Softball Takes Down Hawks After Ten Inning Duel

BY JESSICA PIFALO

The CSI Dolphins were looking to change their fate from last year's heartbreaking loss to Baruch. After 10 innings the Dolphins were crowned the 2012-2013 CUNYAC

Champions defeating Hunter College 9-8 on May 4, at the CSI Softball Complex.

Jumping into the game Hunter came out of the gate early with a 2-0 lead, but it wouldn't be long before CSI came storming back when 2012 Rookie of the Year Brittany Smith leading off with a single, only to come in to score on a Maxine Jasko infield single, getting the Dolphins on the board 2-1. After an unearned run next to tie the game, Samantha Tallarine would hit a sacrifice fly to bring in Jasko to give the Dolphins the 3-2 lead.

The score remained 3-2 until the Hawks came roaring back in the 4th, with a single RBI from the Hawks to tie the game up 3-3. Hunter did not stop from there, shortly after;

Hunter would bring in two more batters putting the Hawks at a 5-3 lead.

The Hawks would control the rest of the inning, making the Dolphins sweat a

little, that is until Stefanie Solari would score off a Danielle Locke infield hit, giving the Dolphins a bit of momentum.

The Dolphins really turned it up when senior standout tournament MVP Victoria Procopio homered, and tabbing 2 RBI's putting the Dolphins up 6-5.

Hunter did not go down quietly when, a sacrifice fly brought in a run, snagging the lead

from the Dolphins, that is until Freshman standout Danielle Locke sent Jasko to score, setting the score 7-7.

The eighth and ninth inning were close for both teams, but no results forcing the game to go into the 10th inning where the Hawks capitalized quickly scoring and hoping to secure a win leading 8-7, but the Dolphins would seal the deal when Procopio would strike again with a clutch double over the Hawks second baseman, sending Gilliam home and crowning the Dolphins champions.

"We played in tough weather and against tough competition to get where we are now," said head coach Stella Porto. "With about nine freshmen and one senior, I am so proud that we were able to get the most out of this year."



The Lady Dolphins grab the CUNYAC Championship against Hunter

The Dolphins knew that the fired up Hawks were going to give the Dolphins a run for their money, but didn't lose their composure and came together as a unit.

We knew that whoever we played today, it was going to be a competitive game," said

Tournament MVP Victoria Procopio.

"We honestly didn't think we would go ten innings but we did it. A good team effort."

With the win, the Dolphins have gained and automatic bid for the 2012-2013 NCAA

Tournament, and wait for the NCAA Selection show, hoping to keep their post-season season alive.

BANNER SPORTS

Men's Tennis Falls in CUNYAC Championship *Dolphins Fall to Rival Baruch in Tense Matchup*

BY JESSICA PIFALO

With a tension filled season between the Dolphins and the Bearcats of Baruch College, the 2012-2013 CUNYAC Championships was the place where it would all be aired out.

Despite tough efforts, the Dolphins would come up short on matches and the Bearcats would be crowned the 2013 CUNYAC Champions with a final score of 5-1.

Going into the match the Dolphins were very focused and were ready to take the court against a tough opponent.

"Our mentality going into it, is that we're going to play our best possible tennis and prove the world wrong, were extreme underdogs, and we like the odds," said Sophomore Austin Kapetanakis. "I have been preaching to my team that all of our training has come down to this showdown between Baruch, and that we should all feel confident in our abilities."

And a showdown it was indeed, hitting the court first up was No. 2 doubles play, where Kapetanakis and Daniel Ursomanno hoped to get the momentum going for the Dolphins. Through two hours of grueling tension-filled play, as each squad battled intensely, Baruch was pulling ahead

tremendously 7-1, but the Dolphin duo came storming back to cut the lead 7-4. However, the Bearcats were able to piece together the final point. Putting Baruch a head 1-0

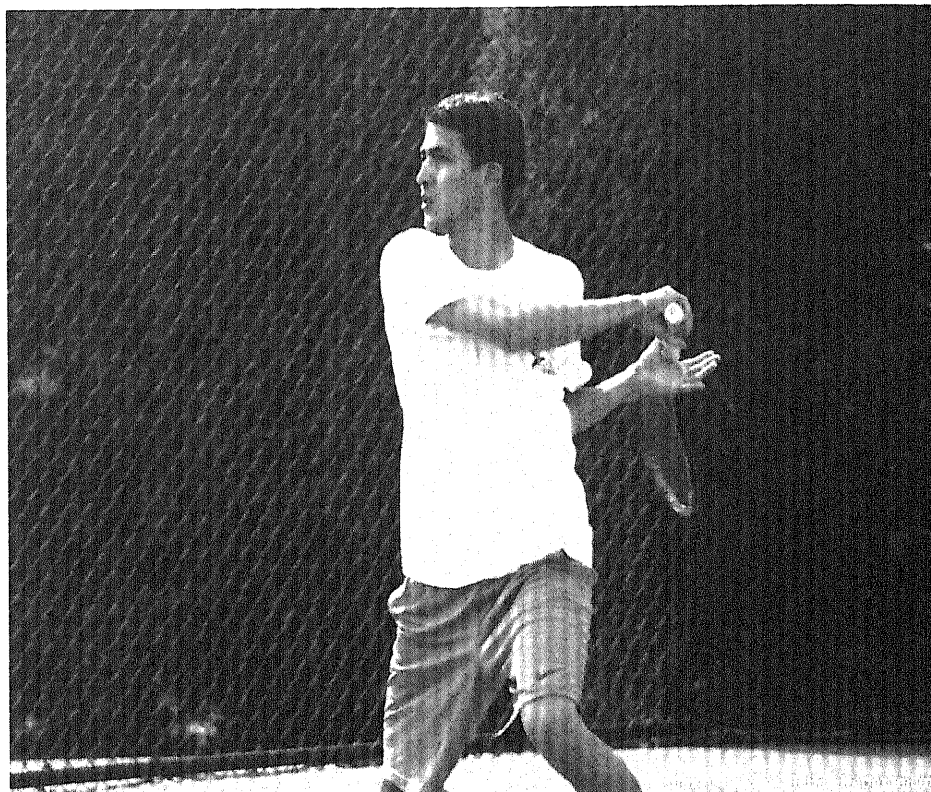
Jumping to No. 3 Doubles play, CSI's Hector Molina and Ed Ruffe were leading 3-2, but a spark from Baruch would leave the Dolphins trailing 4-2. The squads would go point for point, making a close 7-6 until the Bearcats sealed the eighth point and the win.

Moving onto the No. 1 Doubles match, CSI's Nicholas Zikos and Timur Shamuradov were in control most of the match, making this match the most contested of the evening, but another late spark from Baruch, the Bearcats would grab a 9-6 win.

With the Bearcats at a commanding 3-0 lead, it was all down to the singles. Baruch would only need two singles victories to snag the title, while the Dolphins were hoping to rally back.

CSI looked hopeful as they controlled the No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 singles, CSI's Shamuradov would get the Dolphins on the board, but with a No. 5 and 6 win by Baruch the Dolphins would see their Championship dream slip away with a final score of 5-1.

"I am very happy with the way our team



Nicholas Zikos shined for the Dolphins in the Championship Match

handled itself out there in a tough and emotional match," said head coach Paul Ricard. "We had some big chances and we came up just a bit short. We have a very

experience for us. We are obviously disappointed, but I couldn't ask for a better effort."

The Dolphins finished their season 11-7 overall and 6-1 in conference play.

Men's Baseball Loses to Drew but Wins for a Cause *Annual Grace Hilley Game Raises Money for Breast Cancer*

BY BRAD POPKIN

Men's Baseball couldn't get the win on the tenth annual Grace Hilley Breast Cancer Awareness night as they fell to Drew University, 3-1. This loss breaks their 12 game win streak, as CSI falls to 24-10. Despite the loss, \$4,500 was raised towards CSI's Staten Island Breast Cancer Research Initiative.

The evening, which included appearances by CSI President William Fritz and members of One on One Rehabilitation Services, started off with the ceremonial first pitch thrown by two breast cancer survivors, Patricia Parisi and Suzanne O'Donnell.

Grace Hilley's son, Anthony Hilley, is a former baseball player and lost his mom at the start of his Junior year.

"My mother's name is attached to it," said Hilley. "But this is representative of all women who have dealt with this disease."

Hilley has talked with CSI about the possibility of hosting another event, such as a masquerade ball, during breast cancer awareness month in October.

As the game got underway, good pitching and defense were the theme throughout this low scoring contest. Drew University took the first lead of the game in the second inning when a base hit plated Catcher Robert Auletti.

Not to be outdone, CSI Catcher Bryan

Moreno threw out two stolen base attempts in the game, including one to close out the inning. Moreno wasn't done as he helped put the Dolphins on the board the following inning with a base hit that brought home CF Dan Lynch.

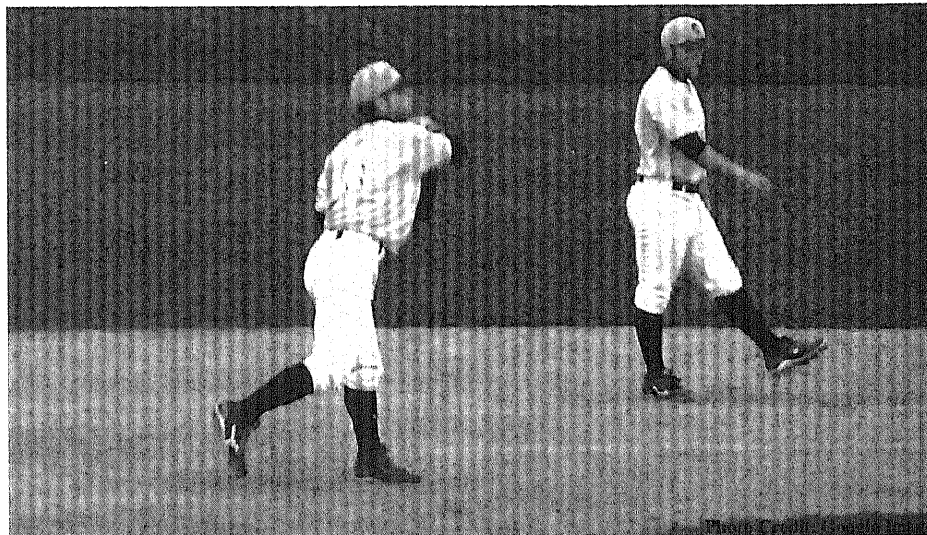
The next few innings did not contain much action. It wasn't until the eighth inning that Drew put up two runs after LF Michael Bodden reached on an error. Late game miscues halted any chances the Dolphins had for a comeback. A runner was caught stealing third base in the bottom of the eighth, while the following inning saw the bases loaded only for a Phil Ciprello pop-up to end it.

"We beat ourselves tonight. You can't run bases and get picked off twice in a game," said Head Coach Mike Mauro. "We needed a hit to tie it up but they beat us that inning."

The Dolphins loss against John Jay was only their second loss of the season and the team had beaten the Bloodhounds three previous times this month. When asked whether his team had a shot to win the CUNY Championship this season, Mauro had this to say.

"All I know is that we were playing good baseball right now and I hope it continues throughout the playoffs," said Mauro.

The events surrounding the annual game also resonated with Senior Pitcher Richie



Anderson. Anderson's grandmother is a breast cancer survivor.

"I like everybody to play their hearts out for this game," said Anderson. "It means something to me, especially my family and everybody else that's gone through it."

Anderson, the team's top starter, boasts a 6-2 record and is an important piece to a team that hopes to be in the CUNY Championship as it has been the past 3 seasons.

The SIBCRI, through it's research, has found that Staten Island has some of the highest mortality rates in the country, according to President Fritz.

"As a campus were trying to bring this as

a public health issue into concern," said Fritz. "I think tonight's game is a great event to make a greater public awareness."

The CSI Breast Cancer Awareness game has been played annually for ten years and since then a total of \$48,000 has been raised.

Drew pitched in \$300 to the cause. One on One Rehabilitation Services, the title sponsor, made a \$1,000 donation prior to the start of the game.

"We have close ties with the college and all the athletic programs," said Joe Saraceno of One on One. "Coach Mauro came to us and we know it's very close to his heart and very close to the heart of the players on the team."