

THE BANNER

Leave Your Comfort Zone

*Until You Leave Your Comfort Zone
You Will Not Change No Matter
Who You Are*

JUSTIN SARACHIK
CO-MANAGING EDITOR

It sounds so easy, "Hey guys, lets get discovered!" Or how about, "Lets get a manager, then we'll really make it."

Both of these, as wishful as they may be, are not true. All serious jobs require hard work- music is no different. No matter what field, no matter where you live, there is always someone better or higher up than you. Everybody and everything is in a total competition. A lot of bands, as good as they might be, have it engrained in their minds that their music will get them fame. Just because you are the best band in your town, doesn't mean anyone outside of it will think that way. I have a friend who played High School basketball. He was the best player I have ever seen, and was never outmatched by anyone. When he made it to college he made the team, but he was the twelfth man on the bench. Yeah, my friend was upset, but he understood. There are so many people that can do what you do. Even if you apply yourself and work the hardest, unfortunately nothing could happen.

I know so far this sounds depressing, but don't worry I'll get to some light in a bit. For any musicians reading, do a test. Go to Myspace music search and type in the style of music you play. Now look at the thousands of bands that come up. Next click on where it says unsigned, and look at the thousands there. Talk about competition huh? Here is where you can take it to the next level. Click on a few of the top ones. Check them out, listen to their music, look at the page design. What do they have that you can do better? What do they have that you can't do better? Take some notes. What do you like, what don't you like? Bring these things to attention next time you meet with your band. Strive to beat it. How do you think we learn in the first place? We see someone else do it first. Take what you observe as the ground work of what you want to be.

I can equate the same thing to writing. To be a good writer you need to first read. Read about things that you are interested in writing about. To be a sports writer, read sports columns. To be a music reviewer, read reviews. And to be a blogger, read some blogs. Blogging and journalistic writing can be two different things. If I'm blogging, I'm having a conversation with using my speak-

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Is It A Dump Or A Park?



Photo By: Ramses Martinez

RAMSES MARTINEZ
COPY EDITOR

Some places are known for their splendor, others for their diversity but Staten Island is mostly known for the dump; that is until recently. Starting in 2006 the former Freshkills Landfill started the long and complicated metamorphosis into the new 2,200 acre Freshkills Park. Recently in an effort to promote the growing park, it was opened to the public for a short "preview" event.

On Sunday October 3rd I had the esteemed privilege of touring the Northern Park. As I approached the deceptively simple entrance, I noticed massive rolling hills in the distance. I felt very odd and a tiny bit mischievous as I stepped through the threshold, as all over the entrance are signs warning against trespassing and about prosecution by local law enforcement. I was imagining big burly guys

in Department of Sanitation uniforms chasing me around before I noticed the warm guard beckoning me to enter the park. Because it was my first time at the former dumpsite, I was taken back by lengthy walk into the park. As I walked deeper into the park, each side was lined with large fields of lush, green grass instead of massive barely covered garbage mounds like I had expected. Each of the hills in sight looked like any other natural hills to me; I couldn't even see any discarded beer cans or styrofoam cups anywhere. It actually felt quite warm and inviting journeying deeper within its spacious green fold. After that pleasant walk, I arrived at the main junction where there were numerous tables and booths setup by local wildlife and ecological preservation groups.

Each ecological group had come out in force. They had fliers, pamphlets and inform-

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How Safe Is CSI For Students?



LEEOR BRONIS
STAFF

On Thursday evening October 7th, the CSI Public Safety Office got a disturbing call. A woman had been attacked while walking alone by the handball courts close to the CSI recreation center. Although she was unharmed, a mass email was sent out to every member of the CSI community warning them to be aware of their surroundings and take the necessary precautions to ensure their safety.

Ironically, this incident happened almost immediately after CSI sent out their 2010 Annual Security Report. It consists of all reported crimes committed on campus for

2009 as well as all reported crimes committed in the previous two years. According to the report, the crimes could range from burglaries and liquor law arrests to sex offences and even manslaughter. The college is required by law to adhere to mandates such as Title IX, medical reporting laws, and the Campus Security Act, thus ensuring that this security report is relatively transparent.

"This is an extremely safe campus," Paul Murtha, Director of Public Safety said. "2009 was our safest year, with only two reportable thefts." 2009 was indeed the college's safest year with only two acts of burglary and one aggravated assault. 2008 had eleven burglaries and one illegal weapons possession arrest. Additionally, seven burglaries and four drug arrests occurred in 2007.

The importance of safety on campus is a crucial concern, especially at night when many are worried about the shortage of lights while walking to and from their classes. Niroshini Yoga, a junior who is taking several

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NY 2010 Elections

JAMES KINGSLEY
CO-SPORTS EDITOR

In New York State, the state of the government has been a complete mess and the position of Governor is on the line, there are also seats on the Senate being fought over as well. On Staten Island a battle rages for a position of Congressman, the question is who will win. There is also the issue concerning officials' term limits, thanks in part to Mayor Mike Bloomberg's making himself able to serve three terms instead of two.

The issue with term limits was started during last year's mayoral elections. Mayor Bloomberg had switched from being part of the Republican Party to the Independent party. The original law passed in 1993 stated that all elected officials would serve two-terms; in 2008 the City Council passed a law that now has elected officials serving three consecutive four-year terms. There is a new law that if passed would still allow current elected officials to finish their three terms, however, it will return to the original format of two four-year term limits. Others however, have their own thoughts on the term limits issue, New York resident, Angela Leone added this on term limits, "They should've kept the term limits at two four-year terms like we had them, not the four-year three term limits we have now." Hunter College student, Irene O'Hare added her thoughts to the issue, "I am all for term limits, I think they are necessary and prevent corruption. I don't care if Bloomberg is a good mayor (and he's done a lot wrong), he still should have stepped down when he reached the term limit. He may be okay but the next guy that bad now has flexibility with his term limits that he wouldn't have had other wise. I think breaking them makes him seem power hungry. It makes me nervous the future because it just opens too many doors for future corruption. Besides, Bloomberg doesn't seem so special that he should get to hold the office for longer than Giuliani or any other mayor or other elected officials."

With many strong calls for term limits, it is believed that a change will come before or after the current elections. Another call for change has been that of Election Reforms, which would make public knowledge of where Legislature and other elected officials get their money from and from whom gives them money for campaigns and other needs.

The Staten Island race for Congressman is heating up between Mike McMahon and Michael Grimm. Mike McMahon took office after winning an election on May 28th 2008, to replace former Congressman Vito

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Cuomo and Paladino face off at Columbus Day Parade

THOMAS BRIGANDI & LEEOR BRONIS

Political controversy was the theme of this year's Columbus Day Parade in New York City as the Republican candidate for Governor, Carl Paladino, defended comments he has recently made against the gay community. Crowds of people lined the streets of Fifth Avenue on Monday, October 11th to show their devotion to the memory of the famous Italian explorer Christopher Columbus.

Amid a sea of floats, high end Italian retail stores, fancy cars, and Italian flags, the crowd showed their support for both parties, holding up their respective signs and proudly shaking hands with both Carl Paladino and his rival Democratic nominee, Andrew Cuomo.

Both candidates are of Italian decent; however, their political views could not be more different. In fact, there has been a rather interesting controversy brewing in the New York gubernatorial race the last few weeks. Carl Paladino recently criticized Cuomo on the "Today" show for taking his young daughters to a Gay Pride Parade. "Is that normal?" he told "Today" show host Matt Lauer. "They wear these little Speedos, and they grind against each other, and I don't think little children should be exposed to that, it's disgusting."

Additionally, on the day before the parade, Paladino spoke with a group of

Hassidic Jews in the Borough Park section of Brooklyn where he stated that he did not think kids should be "brainwashed into thinking that homosexuality is an equally valid and successful option." This comment brought up a lot of controversy given the high profile violent actions which have been taken against gays in recent weeks.

With Cuomo marching only a few blocks ahead of his rival, he addressed his opponents comments as being "reckless and divisive" given the recent attacks in The Bronx by nine gang members on one gay man and two gay 17-year-olds. "New York celebrates our diversity," said Cuomo, "Today we have the Columbus Day Parade - the Italian parade. But we also have the Gay Pride Parade; we have the Israeli Day Parade. We celebrate our diversity."

Salvatore Giordano, 43, of Bensonhurst, Brooklyn showed his support for Cuomo by not only waving a sign which read "Italians for Cuomo" but also through his words. "He's the kind of man you want running your state," Giordano said. "He's not an ignorant man, he knows right from wrong." He also added that "Paladino's remarks about homosexuals are dangerous in today's society and due to his unbiased beliefs I will be voting for Andrew Cuomo on November second."

As Paladino walked in the parade, he was swarmed by dozens of journalists and photographers. He answered their questions as he walked along the streets of Fifth Avenue,



Photo From: Life.com

while enduring bashing and name calling from parade goers along his march. However, there were also many Conservative Republicans supporting Mr. Paladino, holding up signs with his signature slogan: "I'm Mad Too, Carl!"

Paladino greeted his supporters with handshakes and traditional Italian double cheek kisses. Stephanie Culotta, 23, a Republican who recently moved to New York City says she will vote for Paladino this November. "I don't believe that he is a bad guy," she said. "I don't believe he hates gays, he is just Conservative and knows his mind and I like that quality about him." She also added that she wished that there were more politicians like Paladino who were not afraid to speak their mind for fear of political backlash.

As shown by Stephanie Culotta's remarks, there are still many Republicans standing behind Paladino in the wake of these remarks against the gay community. However,

there is a general movement in the United States which points to Americans being more agnostic, and even supportive, when it comes to the gay community and gay marriage.

According to the article "Agnostic about gay marriage" from The Economist Online, "For the first time since the Pew Research Centre began conducting polls on the subject in 1995, fewer than half of Americans (48%) are opposed to gay marriage, while 42% are in favor." Thus, it is evident that the general view of society is one which is moving against being critical of the gay community.

This controversy has dealt a blow to Paladino's standing among many New York voters and this situation will likely gain more attention as the November election gets closer.

"NY 2010 Elections" Continued from the front page

Fossella. McMahon is also the first Democrat in 76 years to hold the Congressman seat in Staten Island, due to it being held by the Republican Party. McMahon's primary issues for running for

There is a new law that if passed would... return to the original format of two four-year term limits. Others however, have their own thoughts on the term limits issue...

re-election are: the Economy- to fight for Staten Islanders jobs, Healthcare- that all with have affordable healthcare, Seniors- by providing the elderly community the ability to retire comfortably, Transit and Infrastructure- to improve the Staten Island transit system and infrastructure that has been in need of repair, 9/11- which a health bill should be passed to those that worked at the trade center site. There are several people that hope for McMahon to win reelection and remain in office. One of these such people is Island resident Nicole Sullivan who said this about McMahon, "I'm going

McMahon all the way, he knows what he is doing, and plus we don't know what Grimm will do nor do I think he will lead through on his promises like McMahon would." Another McMahon supporter shared her comments as well, "Mike McMahon has more experience on Staten Island and I don't trust Grimm at all." added Claudia Andreula.

...the state of the government has been a complete mess and the position of Governor is on the line, there are also seats on the Senate being fought over

His opponent Michael Grimm is a former FBI Special Agent and a U.S. Marine Combat Veteran and member of the Republican Party, which hopes to re-obtain its position on Staten Island once again. Grimm's issues for being Congressman are: the Economy- to cut income taxes and increase tax exemptions for individuals and families, and to stimulate economic growth and job creation, National Security- to keep America safe from terrorism, Education- providing better education for children, by

having schools go back to the basics, Healthcare- increasing access to hospitals and healthcare for seniors, veterans, children, Transit- fighting for better mass transit and less traffic.

McMahon is also the first Democrat in 76 years to hold the Congressman seat in Staten Island, due to it being held by the Republican Party.

Like McMahon Grimm also has strong support from Staten Islanders. Kim B. an alumni from CSI added her thoughts, "I am voting for Michael Grimm for many reasons, but the most important reason to me is because he feels that enforcement of our current laws is necessary instead of adding more government regulations. He is for a smaller role of government in our lives and for more economic freedom." Marion Caruso shared her thoughts on Grimm, "I feel that Grimm would be the best for Staten Island because when, McMahon's little play of having Grimm's ex-wife and in-laws in the audience during their debate to try and rattle Grimm was pretty low, however, I

liked how it did not effect Grimm and proceeded to finish what he was saying."

"It makes me nervous the future because it just opens too many doors for future corruption. Besides, Bloomberg doesn't seem so special that he should get to hold the office for longer than Giuliani or any other mayor or other elected officials."

With the election ending and voters votes counted the results are in, in the Governor race Andrew Cuomo defeated Carl Paladino-60 to 38. In the Senate races Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand were reelected as well. Finally on Staten Island Michael Grimm defeated Mike McMahon returning Republican dominance back to Staten Island by grabbing 51% to 48% of the votes. All of New York voted to bring term limits back to 2 years as well in a resounding 74% yes. New Yorkers also voted 83% yes for the Election Reform section of the ballot as well.

"How Safe is CSI for Students" Continued from the front page

night classes, often fears for her safety when walking to the bus stop every night. "Have you ever walked in the woods across from IP?" she asked. "It's completely dark, I'm always afraid someone is going to jump out of the bushes and attack me."

Public Safety has put increasing the lighting on campus at the forefront of their agenda. In fact, they are currently in the process of upgrading the lighting in and around the campus. According to Murtha, within "six months to one year" they will have added lighting to the vast majority of parking lots and pathways, as well as adding more pole lights. Public Safety would also like to put more exterior lighting on every building, which would be in the form of a string of lights pointed downward, aimed at generating more light on the paths for students walking

around campus during the night. Such lighting can already be seen on Building 1N and will hopefully make its way to every building on campus.

In addition to Public Safety's initiatives to improve awareness regarding assaults on campus, there are also a number of other campus organizations whose aim is also to prevent assaults. The Bertha Harris Women's Center in CSI recently hosted an event called "Women Take Back the Night," a march for women who have suffered from sexual abuse or domestic violence. "Every year sexual assault against women is prevalent on Staten Island," Ellen Goldner, head of the Women's Center said. "That is why it is so important that people are willing to speak out against violence."

Goldner is part of The CUNY Women's Council, an organization that has set up various Women's Centers on CUNY campuses. The organization is heavily involved in ensur-

ing the safety of women both on and off campus. Last year the organization lobbied to make all CUNY schools create a statement that addressed the policies and procedures concerning sexual assault, stalking, and domestic and intimate partner violence against students. This past August the statement was sent out and is now available on the CUNY website.

The Women's Center is responsible for almost every event involving women's needs on campus, such as women's self defense classes and lectures on the importance of preventing sexual abuse. "Our goal is to establish a supportive community for women on campus," Goldner said in her office at the Women's Center. "It's an ongoing effort."

However, the Women's Center is not the only place that a student can seek guidance. At the Counseling Center in building 1A, professionally trained counselors provide individual

and group counseling for CSI students who are dealing with a wide range of emotional issues. Help can also be offered at the Peer Drop-in Center, located in 1C. The center offers guidance from trained professionals as well as fellow students who are assigned as peer educators.

"CSI is the biggest campus in CUNY and it is also the safest," according to George Mallon, Assistant College Security Director. The 204 acre campus opens its doors to the entire community of Staten Island. Three or four major events happen every day and about twelve thousand vehicles and twenty six buses pass through in a day. The Office of Public Safety obviously has an enormous responsibility to fulfill, but based on the improving security reports the last few years, they seem to be up for the challenge. "CSI is a microcosm of Staten Island," Mallon said. "And safety is paramount."


Internship Opportunities @ The Banner


The Banner is now offering internships to CSI students. Internships take place for one semester and offer opportunities to learn about Journalism and New Media. Through these internships students will become involved in the operation and production of The Banner. Interns will work a minimum of 12 hours per week.


Depending on the type of internship students will learn about and assist in blogging, correspondence, editing, fact-checking, graphic design, layout & production, photography, reporting, web design, etc.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: "The European Debt Crisis Rages"
Leo Friedman brings up an interesting topic about the economy. For the first time in about 5 years I hear something other than Americans (U.S.) recession and unemployment decreasing. I found it interesting how other countries around the world are going through the same struggles. The question is what are we doing wrong? Governments are falling deeper and deeper in dept and aren't focusing on social reform.
Raymond Morel

Re: "The Guido Factor"
I really enjoyed reading "The Guido Factor" by Leeor Bronis. It was fun to read the funny yet truthful comments about he Staten Island guidos. The writer really pinpointed the issues that women see today in the guido culture. One of her friends adds, "It's our own fault for not being honest with guys or telling them what's on our minds." It was very entertaining and I look forward to reading more articles by Leeor. Vanessa Joseph

Re: "Mr. Obama's Folly"
"The fantastically successful Iraqi war has now been disrupted"? I just want to know how you managed to contradict yourself in just one sentence. If it was fantastically successful then logically there is no need to spend millions and waste American troops' lives; therefore it wasn't disrupted because there hasn't been anything to disrupt for the past 2-4 years.
"However in contradistinction Iraq is a

splendid place to wage a war and George Bush knew this full well." What exactly goes Bush know well? - because from what EVERYBODY in the WHOLE WIDE WORLD can honestly, without hesitation say is that he was a waste of 8 years time and money and lives.
Lobna H.

Re: "The Feast of San Gennaro"
First I would like to say, that the pictures, although scattered on the page aimlessly, were very clear and perspective. (My favorite is "Entourage of the San Gennaro padre") I do however believe that the layout did not do justice to some of these beautiful images
I would suggest some captions to break the monotony of the page. Interweaving some text would be informative, give more life to the pictures, and make the page look nicer.
Costas Buis

Re: "Mr. Obama's Folly"
After reading this article from The Banner I learned alot more information about the war in Iraq. I completely agreed with the contributors idea on the presidents faults on causing more deaths. Obama really did make a mistake placing that extra 30,000 troops in the Middle East, and the statistics show on how many more people dies in Obamas short period of presidency.
Dylan Monaron

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The Future Of Newspapers In The Developing World

THOMAS BRIGANDI
CO-MANAGING EDITOR

The newspaper industry has been on the decline in America for sometime. Profits from newspaper companies have been falling and many small newspapers have been forced to close their doors the last few years. This is a direct result of people increasingly getting their news from the internet as opposed to picking up a newspaper from their local neighborhood news stand.

According to the article, "The Year the Newspaper Died" from Business Insider, in 2009 alone "105 newspapers have been shuttered and 10,000 newspaper jobs have been lost." This conundrum the newspaper industry is currently facing is really doing damage to the industry in the United States and other developed countries as newspapers fall out of favor in exchange for news

which can be accessed over the internet free of charge.

However, there is one country in which newspaper circulation and profits are surging, this country is India. According to the article, "Newspapers in India: Where print makes profits" from The Economist Online, "Since 2005 the number of paid-for Indian daily newspaper titles has surged by 44% to 2,700, according to the World Association of Newspapers. That gives India more paid-for newspapers than any other country."

Moreover, according to The Economist Online article, "At less than four rupees (\$0.09) a pop, Indian papers are cheap, so many households buy more than one daily. Revenues are driven by advertising, which is buoyant. In the year to March 2010, the amount spent on newspaper ads in India increased by 30%, the swiftest increase in

the Asia-Pacific region, according to Nielsen India, a market-research firm. Unlike, say, the Guardian, most Indian papers are profitable."

India's powerful newspaper industry is sustained largely to the fact that many Indians do not have access to the internet, which is a luxury we in the States use to access our news in an ever increasing manner. In fact, according to The Economist Online article, "One reason why the internet has not yet started destroying Indian newspapers is that only 7% of Indians surf the web regularly."

As India continues to develop, this statistic will obviously increase. However, with a population of approximately 1.2 billion people, most academics and economists alike claim that it will take decades until India reaches the economic potential currently realized by Western nations. Until a majority of Indian consumers have the money required to purchase a big ticket item such as computer and when broadband lines are laid throughout the country, newspapers will continue to be the main source of information in India.

Consequently, it is obvious that print media has seen better days in the United States. However, the world is changing more and more everyday and this trend is likely to continue. As a result of technological innovation, the newspaper industry in the United States has sadly become obsolete. Due to this notion, it seems that future journalists who dream of writing for a newspaper publication must expand their horizons overseas in order to capture the audience in countries where the internet hasn't inflicted drastic damage to newspaper circulation and profits. Thus, the newspaper industry in the United States has not been immune to the swift changes occurring in our every changing global economy and has sorrowfully become yet another casualty of technological innovation.

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

The Banning of Books and the Hindrance of Intellectual Freedom

MARISSA PESSOLANO
CO-SPORTS EDITOR

Every year, books are added to the "Banned Books List," removing the work from library and school systems. According to the American Library Association, books are often challenged and possibly later banned "with the best intentions to protect others, frequently children, from difficult ideas and information." Commonly, books are challenged due to sexual explicitness, offensive language, violence, racism, homosexuality, and anti-family themes. Although in some cases this may be true, it does not hold plausible in every ban, as many of them just seem inane. Books have been banned for Mickey Mouse losing his pants in a comical manner, for supposedly teaching children to break dishes, and just for being too sad. At this rate, there will be no books allowed, as a person can probably find something wrong with every one of them. Often times, parents challenge books, but the banning of them is unsuccessful. Nevertheless, a large amount of books remain on the list and the public finds it to be an unfair violation of their first amendment rights.

Every year since 1982, the American Library Association, together with other groups, host "Banned Books Week," the last week in September. This event brings together people to celebrate freedom of speech. It is widely believed that one has the right to express and read ideas even if they are considered to be "inappropriate." The public has unlimited access to television and other forms of media that expresses the same ideas, so why not books? Some of the most notable banned books of today are the Harry Potter Series, as it promotes "unChristian magic." The author, J.K.

Rowling, as well as the public are taken aback by this ban.

College student, and avid Harry Potter fan, Dale Fjordbotten, defends Harry Potter and it's intentions, "As for Harry Potter being unchristian, I think that's the dumbest thing I've ever heard. I'm a Christian. I go to church Sundays, and I've read the series more than once. I don't find anything about it that goes against Christianity, or any other religions for that matter. It's a fantasy based on good versus evil, and how good prevails. It teaches very good lessons to people of all ages, about making the right choices in life, making new friends, always 'do what is right, not easy' (quote from the 4th book). I think some Christians hear the word 'witchcraft' or 'spell' or even 'wizard' and immediately get scared, and/or just go along with the group, instead of actually thinking for themselves. If they would sit down and read the books, then make their opinion, I believe this whole mess would be resolved quickly. It's a real shame that this franchise has to go through so much unfair criticism."

In addition to everyone's favorite wizard, classics such as, The Grapes of Wrath, The Catcher in The Rye, Of Mice and Men, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Perks of Being a Wallflower, James and the Giant Peach, amongst others, have either been challenged or banned all together. College Student, James Kingsley, has strong opinions on this matter. "I was shocked to hear that Huckleberry Finn and To Kill a Mockingbird was on the list. Sure, some of the outcomes and themes were not what everyone hoped they would be, but they taught unity, respect, and friendship. These things are pretty important, especially in the times we are in now."

To the surprise of many, even some children's books have been deemed inappropriate. Shel Silverstein's innocent book of children's poetry, A Light in the Attic, has been banned from many schools as it supposedly promotes "disrespect, horror and violence." Another notable children's book Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? was banned in Texas for the sole reason that the author has the same name as a Marxist theorist, Eric Carle. They did not even bother to check if it was the same man before putting the ax on the book. Staten Island resident, Irene O'Hare, commented on the matter by saying, "No book should ever be banned. People should be allowed to decide for themselves whether or not to read something, even if it is controversial."

The banning of many of these materials is just senseless and ineffective in comparison to what is prominent in the media today. By banning these books, those who may not have the funds, or the desire to purchase the title, will not have the opportunity to read them. In addition, by not allowing these books to be taught in class, students are unable to learn and form their own opinions on the matters they discuss. High School student, Faith Paccione, added her opinion, "I think schools should not ban books because if they do, then students are unable to appreciate the novels and learn the deeper messages they may have." Even teachers are against the banning of books, as Camille Horihan, teacher at Moore Catholic High School, believes "the banning of books is a violation of the first amendment which entitles us to the freedom of the press."

Despite everyone's fight, books will continue to be challenged or banned, as criticism of literature is not letting up. Perhaps however, by the public's voice, bans will slowly begin to be lifted, allowing certain titles to reappear in libraries and schools. By persistency, the system can be fought, one step at a time.

Food of the Gods

DANIELLE DACRES
CONTRIBUTOR

"Can I get a Baked Ziti pizza?" these seven words can always be expected to leave my mouth when I enter Roma Pizzeria. Sometimes I joke and say "Do you even have to ask?" This is my Tip to all the ladies out there if you want a big slice try and flirt.

I remember coming from school one day and I decided to go get a slice of pizza. As always I was greeted by the huge green irregular octagon with the words Roma in red. It was placed right above the entrance for all of Park Slope to see. As I stepped through the door I was welcomed by the saporific scent of freshly made pizza. At the front of the desk they had an array of different toppings put on display.

"Let me guess, Baked Ziti?" the guy behind the table upfront asked. I felt like and adulteress caught in the act. It was as if I was cheating on Baked Ziti with grandma pizza, ham and pineapple pizza, pepperoni and of course cheese pizza. I couldn't help but covet them all. I flirted a little and he gave me the biggest slice ever. Another tip to all the ladies out there always act interested. I made that mistake and the next time I didn't get a slice as big.

I walked to one of the tables and had a seat. I see a group of teenagers eating their pizza laughing and joking around. I can hear a little girl telling her dad how her day at school was. Sometimes I would start day-dreaming the atmosphere was very relaxing. Normally I would walk in get my pizza and get out of there but for some reason I did not. As I sat there with my Baked Ziti in hand I could not help but think Haley a character from One Tree Hill was wrong. Forget Macaroni and cheese being the food of the Gods as she claimed, pizza was the winner in that competition. She must have never

"Is it a dump or park?"
Continued from the front page

ative volunteers at each booth. With bright smiles and flashy displays, I found that many people were milling about, mingling with each other, and buzzing between each of the booths. I talked to many of the guests present and found that the majority of them came from all over the island. People of all ages had come to see the wonder and majesty of the Northern Park. After eating some ice cream and grabbing some pamphlets, I signed myself up for one of the guided tours.

After a quick line and a short wait I found myself a part of the heard of people within the tour. Now, this "reporter" would have loved to try the canoeing tour as well, but so many other eager people beat me to it. As my group progressed through the tour, I found myself learning many fun facts about the park and finding numerous fantastic views of the Island and the city. From the top of one of the mounds you could see everything for miles around. I was half tempted to run around and sing songs from The Sound of Music but time was short and the tour kept moving, so I resisted the urge. One thing that surprised me though, was the humble beginnings of the landfill.

"The Dump" as the locals have dubbed it, has been a part of Staten Island for over 50 years. Starting in 1948, the Freshkills Landfill had greatly expanded from a miniscule landfill to it's final size of 12 km sq. Originally, the site was only supposed to be open for a short period of time to take up some of the slack off other dumps in the area. However because of increased consumption and limited options, the dump remained open until March 22, 2001. It was formerly the largest dump in the world, but

in 2003 this changed.

After the landfill was closed, many plans for the area were proposed. There were plans for residential areas, parks, and even a wildlife preserve. However after several years and many long debates, the wildlife preserve and the park plans prevailed.

Freshkill Park itself is broken up into four separate project areas that will be completed in phases over the next 30 years. There is the North, South, East and West Parks. The North Park is 223 acres, and is the first park that will be open to the public in sections. The first section will be approximately 80 acres and is scheduled to be completed this year. The Northern Park is proposed to have a Civic Center, tree nursery, basketball court, picnic areas, seed farm and even a bird observatory! Currently it's only open at certain times during each month for guided tours. These will continue for the rest of this year.

After finishing the tour and dodging many recycled paper kites on the hill, I started to head out. Leaving the park behind, I realized how something as ugly as a dump could become something as beautiful as a park. I also realized that we create a lot of garbage in this country. It's really terrifying to think about the amount of garbage on top of those formerly flat marshlands. One thing I can say for sure is that when they finally do open this park, I will be back.

For more info on the park go to:
http://www.nycgovparks.org/sub_your_park/fresh_kills_park/html/fresh_kills_park.html

Correction:
In Issue 2 of the Banner the article titled, *Dolphins Struggle But Fall Short*, the byline should read, by James Kingsley & Marissa Pessolano

"Food Of The Gods"
Continued from the page 4

eaten pizza much less one from Roma. Whatever pizza they offered you, would be the most ambrosial thing you every tasted. I could imagine Zeus eating himself some baked ziti. I have to say whoever decided to put baked ziti on pizza was a genius and I applaud him or her. Baked ziti isn't the only thing good coming out Roma's ovens. Basically everything they offer especially for meat lovers, like the Roma Italian meat pizza one of their specialties. This pizza is topped with Italian sausage, meatballs, pepperoni and salami. And for the vegetarians they have great pizzas for you too. An example of a veggie pizza would be the Veggie sun dried tomato garlic pesto pizza. This pizza's toppings include mozzarella, zucchini, artichoke hearts, basil, spinach roasted garlic, roasted red peppers and oregano. Take one bite and the costumers or led to orgasmic pizza heaven.

"That will be three dollars please" the man behind the counter said to the lady, bringing me from my myriad of thoughts. From where I sat I could make out those little red circles on top of some cheese. I knew then it was a slice of pepperoni pizza. It was my pizza on the side. Shhh! No need for Baked Ziti to find out. If anything Pepperoni was one of my guesses at first when he requested three dollars. Roma Pizza is very

affordable. Who knew food for the gods came at such a low price? The prices tend to range from \$ 2.75 to \$3.50 for a slice of heaven. Some might say three dollars is a little to much for one slice. I say they haven't tried Roma's pizza

Roma's Pizza is Located on 7th avenue in Park Slope Brooklyn. Seventh Avenue has so many restaurants many of them expensive those I steer clear from. There are so many pubs or bars. The avenue is always filled with business. When leaving my house on the hunt for pizza, as I hit 7th avenue my feet turn left. It doesn't matter to me that Joe's pizza is closer. I'm not going to lie I use to buy Pizza from Joe's, but then I saw the light. Roma's main competition in the pizza war is Pino's also on Seventh Avenue. My cousins always go there for the barbeque chicken or spicy chicken pizza. I have tried it and it still doesn't compare to Roma's. They don't have Baked Ziti.

How Can They Not Sell Baked Ziti!

The madness of it all still boggles my mind. I admit Pino's does beat Roma in the atmosphere department, with its pleasantly comfy and comfortable interior. In the end I pick Roma over any other.

I give this restaurant 4 out of 5 stars.



Photo By: Ramses Martinez

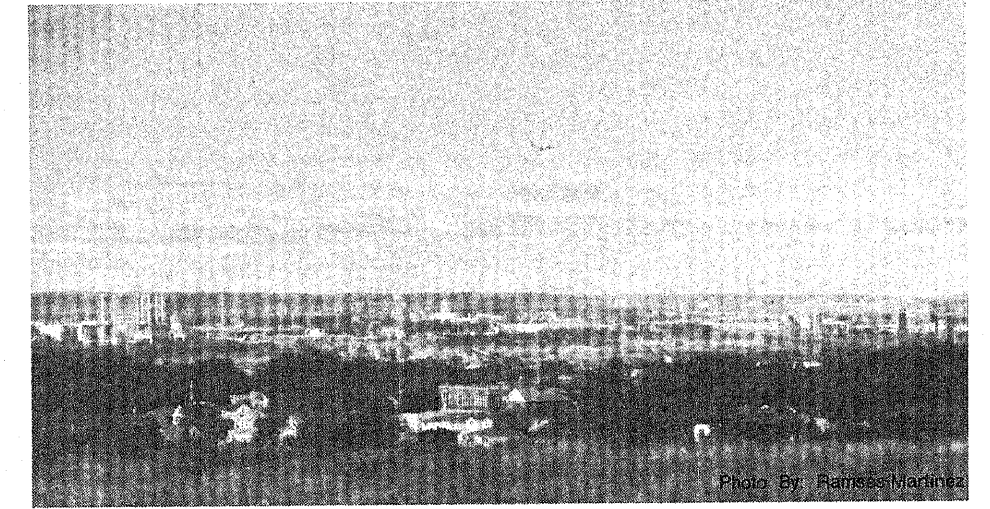


Photo By: Ramses Martinez



Photo By: Ramses Martinez

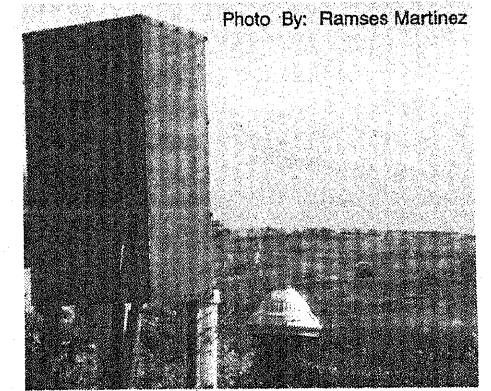


Photo By: Ramses Martinez

"Leave Your Comfort Zone"
Continued from the front page

ing my voice. I can say "I" and "me" with no fear because this is a personal talk. When writing something for the Advance or if I'm reviewing a band, it has to be professional. You can't refer to yourself, or any past experience. You state the facts, and keep it to a formulaic pattern of: intro, body, closing.

No matter what field, no matter where you live, there is always someone better or higher up than you. Everybody and everything is in a total competition... as good as they might be, have it engrained in their minds... that will get them fame...

Just like music, blogs have their fair share of competition, perhaps more too. Anybody can blog. You don't even have to know how to complete a sentence to log into here and start mashing buttons. What makes my blog different or better than anyone else's? For one, it's my target audience. I didn't have the goal of setting out to interview Linkin Park and Jay-Z. My goal was simple and small, lets do Staten Island. Go ahead, go Google search for blogs about Staten Island music. You will find mine and

Ben Johnson's of the Advance. I don't have much to worry about. Start small and build a big reputation with that, and then see what big things come your way. Find something specific and home in on it like I talked about in post #2 on "Branding".

To be a good writer you need to first read. Read about things that you are interested in writing about...And to be a blogger, read some blogs. Blogging and journalistic writing can be two different things.

Recently I've been thinking about hosting events under the blog. I've also been trying to contact charities and organizations to get the band involved with them. If you could attach your name to something and do work for a good cause, that sets you off from a whole group of people. It's easy to garner community support if you support the community.

Be different, stand out, and always try your hardest whether an audience of one or ten thousand.

Justin Sarachik has reported with the Staten Island Advance, and is currently a writer and editor for Broken Records Magazine. This excerpt is from his blog at - <http://thesbandguy.blogspot.com/>

New York Comic Con 2010

RAMSES MARTINEZ

New York Comic Con is the East Coast's biggest and most exciting popular culture convention, which is held at the Jacob K. Javits Center in Midtown Manhattan. NYCC attracted over 77,000 attendees in 2009, easily making it the second largest comic book and pop culture gathering in the country. And Crain's New York Business has ranked NYCC as the second largest event in New York City!



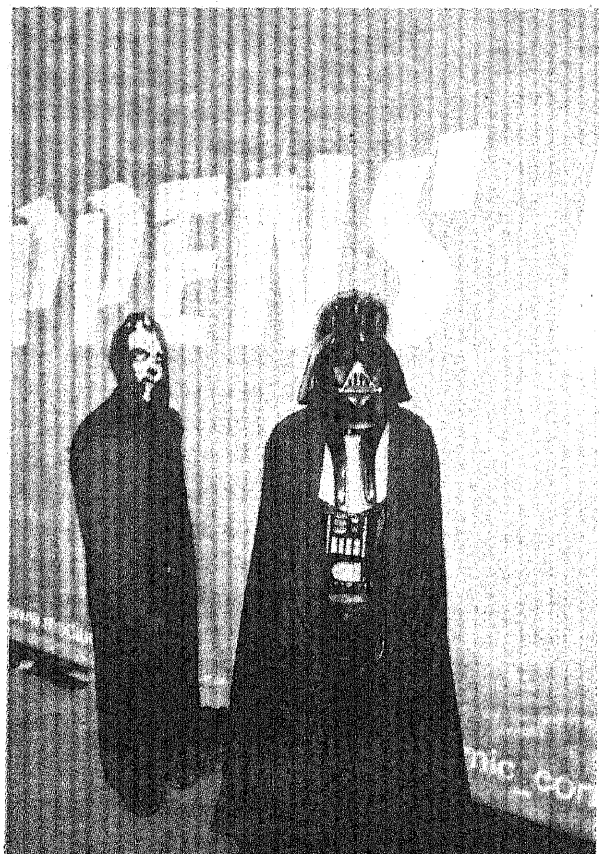
OUTSIDE NYCC



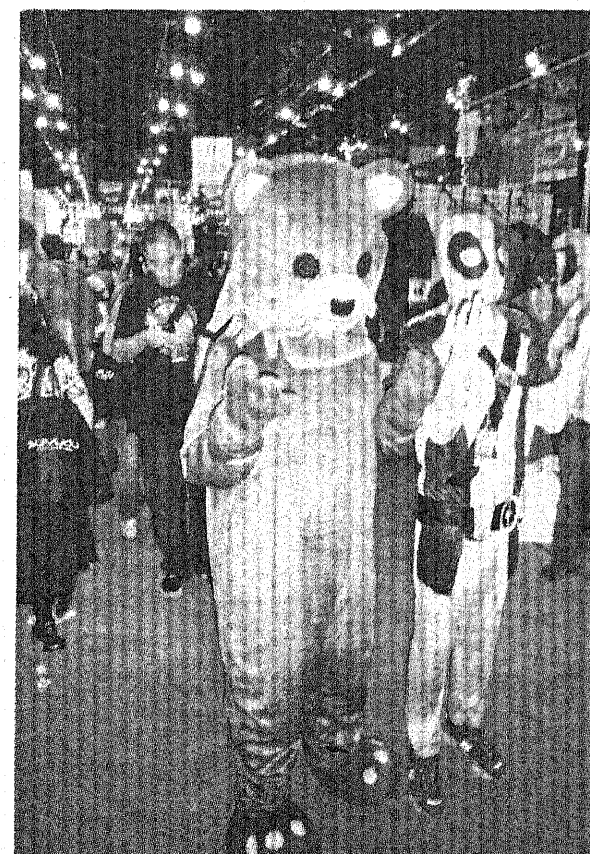
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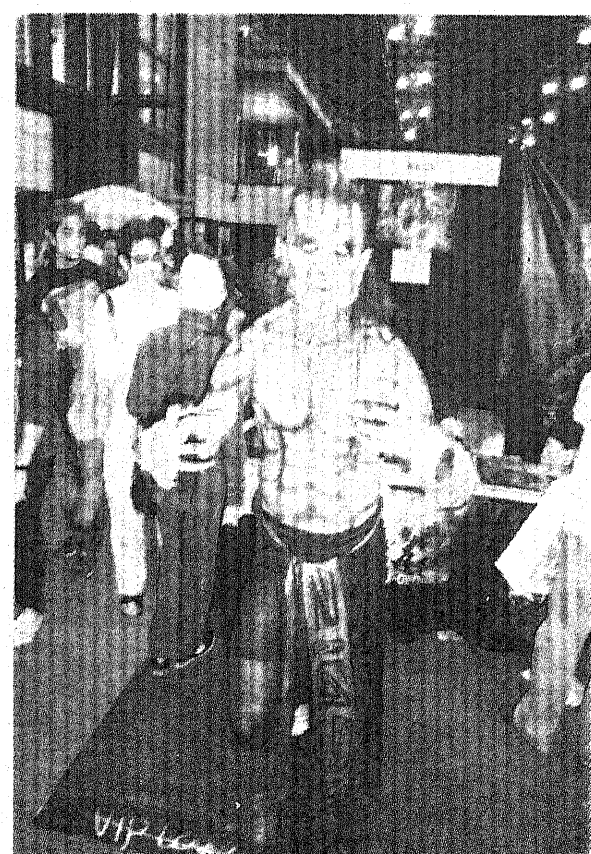
THE GREEN & WHITE RANGER FROM MIGHTY MORPHING POWER RANGERS



DARTH VADER & DARTH MAUL



PEDOBEAR & DEADPOOL



A DEMON

Public Service Announcement

IN CELEBRATION OF HISPANIC HERITAGE PLURALISM AND DIVERSITY PROGRAM



- SEPT W | 15** 2:30pm-3:15pm, Center for the Arts, Recital Hall, **Kickoff Event—Nuestra Tierra: Un Homenaje A La Cultura Latino-Americana (Our Homeland: A Tribute to Latin American Culture)**
- Th | 23** 5:00pm-6:00pm, Campus Center, Room 209, **Discussion—Latino Migrants to New York: Global Causes, Local Issues**
- W | 29** 2:30pm-3:20pm, Library, Room 103, **Latin Jazz—An Introduction and Live Performance**
- Th | 30** 1:30pm-3:30pm, Center for the Arts, **Heritage Speaker Series—Colombian American Claudia Sparrnroft Demonstrates Zumba Dance**
- OCT T | 5** 1:30pm-3:15pm, Campus Center, Green Dolphin Lounge, **Cultural Competency Workshop: Special Focus on Hispanic Awareness**
- Th | 14** 6:00pm-8:00pm, Sports and Recreation Center, Auxiliary Gym, **Hispanic Awareness Service Recognition Event**
- W | 20** 12:20pm-1:10pm, Campus Center, Room 227, **Santa Cruz, Galapagos, Ecuador: A Student Teaching Experience to Remember**
- Th | 21** 1:30pm-2:30pm, Library, Room 103, **Discussion—Intersections of Gender, Sexuality, and Latin American Culture**
- NOV W | 17** 12:20pm-1:10pm, Campus Center, Room 227, **Discussion—Funding Women and Changing Lives in Latin America**

PHOTOCOMPOSITE (Images from top to bottom) **Sandra Cisneros**, Chicana writer best known for her novel *The House on Mango Street*. **Oscar de la Renta**, Dominican American fashion designer. **Luis Walter Alvarez**, experimental physicist, inventor, and Nobel Prize winner of Spanish descent. With his geologist son, **Walter**, pictured to the right, propounded the dinosaur impact-extinction theory. **Sonia Sotomayor**, Associate Supreme Court Justice of the United States. Born in the Bronx, her parents had emigrated from Puerto Rico. Folksinger and political and civil rights activist **Joan Baez** grew up on Staten Island. Her father, **Albert Baez**, was born in Mexico. He was a physicist who co-invented the x-ray reflection microscope. **Serena M. Auñón**, astronaut of Cuban descent. Painting by **Jean-Michel Basquiat**, artist of Haitian and Puerto Rican descent.

SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2010 | CELEBRATE DIVERSITY **CSI**

These events and more can be found at www.csitoday.net/events. All are CLUE events and are sponsored by Student Affairs. For more information, contact the Pluralism and Diversity Program in Building 2A, Room 208, or go to www.csi.cuny.edu/pluralismanddiversity.

BANNER LIFESTYLES

New Lounge Raises The Bar But Doesn't Clear It

Eve Ultra Lounge offers a city club vibe in nearby Rossville, but most Islanders would rather pay bridge tolls

BY JULIANNE FISHMAN
STAFF

It's been quite the project to get Eve Ultra Lounge finally in business, and the decor and sound system were certainly worth the wait. The old L'amour space has been completely renovated in every way possible. Now Eve offers super chic VIP areas, a male revue, and notable DJs spinning beats that may cause temporary loss of hearing. However, with crowds already dwindling just a week after the grand opening, it appears that Staten Islanders just aren't ready to pop bottles in their own backyard.

In all fairness I did hear that the grand opening on October 2nd was a huge success. Staten Island and New Jersey flooded Eve in full force and even the tables were

booked. Even though I missed the party, word on the street leads me to believe that it was everything a grand opening should be. The following week I was at Eve on Friday for their first male revue followed by some great sets from DJ Danny Estrella. At around 10pm that night the dance floor was occupied by two tables of women that seemed to be family members of the owners. A great show was put on by VH1's 20 Pack and his group of male strippers. It's a shame that there wasn't much of a crowd. Even after the show was over, it stayed that way for the majority of the night. A stream of people came in right before 12am. The guys were probably trying to dodge the cover. The line soon disappeared and Eve's relatively grandiose interior felt bare. The upstairs VIP section was closed fairly early, but there still weren't enough people downstairs to make it feel like a real party. It actually had all of the other elements necessary for a good time. After all of the work the owners put into this place, I hope that they can gain a following. Maybe they're just off to a slow start. I can't write Eve off

just yet. Still, some part of me feels that Staten Island may just not be ready for an "Ultra Lounge".

There are many stereotypes that Staten Islanders have to deal with. Unfortunately the majority of them, as with most stereotypes, stem from truths. I feel that most Islanders are pretty sheltered. I've lived here since I was five, and I must admit I've been guilty of Staten Island-like behavior on occasion. We drive to Chelsea in our Accords and Infinitis, and support the garages because we can't find parking. We head over to Brooklyn to toss back shots with our extended families in Bay Ridge and Bensonhurst. In the summer we bathe in the sun on the pristine beaches of the Jersey Shore. We love our bridges. A city style night club in Rossville may save us money on tolls, but we have E-ZPasses, and we just aren't interested. Staten Islanders tend to have love/hate relationships with our borough, so escaping it is in our nature. Getting all dressed up to go around the corner just seems silly. Besides, if we're going to keep it local, we're quite content to toss back some stiff cheap drinks at the nearest watering hole. While Eve is trying to keep it strictly 21+, I wouldn't be surprised if they start throwing parties for CSI fraternities before the end of the year.

Eve has still been promoting what sound like promising events, and I will definitely be following their progress. If you've had the chance to check out any of their parties I would love your feedback. To capture time and give it a nonlinear quality allows the truth to be more fleeting and accessible. In the Fall of 2010, a student photography exhibition embraced a range of art produced by emerging student photographers under the theme, "The Silent City". It included works from photography majors and minors from the Spring and Summer semesters of 2010. These images stood as a representation of the gentle and canny creativity of the artists' vision and the depth of their commitment to the unseen reality of New York.

One can spend time looking and feeling what the operator has imaged, and be drawn in to pause and reflect on New York, and see it as a place away from harshness. In Christina Caranante's photograph, a petite bird is caught, quietly hopping away from a cigarette butt. While in Janney Swary's work, a submissive and mute chicken peers, deadpan, from behind the cage waiting to be slaughtered. These images proved the observations of daily life delved from a unique perspective.

Chinese Fried Rice

BY GARY ZHONG
CONTRIBUTOR

Fried rice is one of the most well known and popular dish in Asian cuisine, especially in Chinese cuisine. It is served in almost every Asian eatery as well as non Asian eatery that has adapted this dish. The most common place that people go to purchase and eat fried rice is in a typical neighborhood Chinese take out restaurant. These take out restaurants are located all around the world. Fried rice can be eaten as a side dish or as a complete meal itself.

The origin of fried rice is unclear but it most likely originated in China around 589-618 AD during the Sui dynasty in Yangzhou of the eastern Jiangsu province (Parkinson). It originated as a method of using leftovers to prepare a meal by peasants living in China who could not afford to buy food and had insufficient amount of crops for harvesting. With food source scarce the peasants have devised a way to create a dish using every bit of leftovers they can find.

Although it is mainly seen and served in Chinese cuisine, many other eastern and Latin countries have adapted to this dish with their own variations of it. For example typical Thai fried rice consists of a different type of rice and has sliced cucumbers and garlic with Thai fish sauce. Cuban fried rice consists of vegetables, eggs and meat such as pork, ham, chicken and sometimes lobster or crabs. Kimchi fried rice is a popular dish in Korea that consists of fried rice and

Kimchi, spicy Korean pickled cabbage.

Fried rice is a very versatile dish as there is no real set of ingredients to put in. The fixings you put in fried rice mostly depend on the individual's fondness for certain ingredients. You can add different types of meat, vegetables or different types of condiments. It is simple to make as it uses mainly leftover food such as cold leftover cooked rice. The most common ingredients found in a typical fried rice dish are various vegetables such as green onions or scallions, soy sauce, eggs, and chopped diced meat. It is typically cooked in a large bowl shaped pan called a wok. Even though you can add almost anything in the fried rice, the most important aspect of fried rice is the rice itself. The rice needs to be white and fluffy and have been previously cooked, preferably one to two days old.

My mother is the main chef of our household. She is the one responsible for preparing almost all of the dishes that feeds the entire family. There were many instances where I will complain to her when I became insanely hungry. Most of those times are when my mother did not go grocery shopping, so the selection and amount of food was limited. But luckily there are leftovers from previous meals lying in the fridge such as cold leftover rice, as well as a few veggies lying here and there. The fried rice recipe that my mother uses is pretty standard. It is not too fancy but it is certainly not too bland. The ingredients she put in depend on what she has. A few chopped

green onions and an egg are that you need to make a suitable fried rice meal. Sometimes there would be leftover meat such as pork that she would add. The fried rice she makes is as basic as you can get, yet it is enough to fill your appetite.

This is the standard recipe that my mom uses when they cook fried rice.

- 1 to 2 green onions
 - 1 to 2 eggs
 - 4 tablespoon of oil
 - 2 to 4 cups of cold cooked rice, preferably one to two days old
 - 1 teaspoon of salt
 - 2 tablespoon of soy sauce
1. Wash and chop the green onions into small pieces.
 2. Beat the eggs in a small separate bowl.
 3. Add 2 tablespoon of oil to the wok and then add the eggs. Stir the eggs until they are scrambled. Remove the eggs from the wok into a separate bowl. Clean the wok.
 4. Add 2 more tablespoon of oil to the wok. Then add the cold cooked rice. Stir thoroughly for about three minutes or until the cold rice start to separate. Add 1 teaspoon of salt and stir thoroughly for another minute. Then add 2 tablespoon of soy sauce and stir thoroughly for about a minute. Add the scrambled eggs and green onions and mix well.

Public Service Announcement

CUNY Citizenship and Naturalization Project

This is to notify the CSI community (students, faculty, staff and families) that on Friday, November 12, 2010, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. CSI Center for International Service located in 2A-206 will provide citizenship assistance to anyone who:

- has resided in the US as a permanent resident for five (5) years; or three (3) years as a permanent resident if married to and living with a citizen.
- has been physically present in the US for half of the five or three year period
- is at least 18 years of age

Aside from assisting with documentation, we are authorized to take the required photo. All services are provided free of charge.

Pre-registration is required. Please pick up an application packet and register for the event at the Center for International Service, Building 2A, Room 206, prior to the event. For more information, please contact the Citizenship Coordinator for CSI:

Barbara Clark in the Center for International Service, 2A-206, 982-2100.

BANNER ARTS

S.I. Based Rap Trio, "The Higher Concept"

BY JUSTIN SARACHIK
CO-MANAGING EDITOR

New York City is known as the birth place of hip-hop, with underground and old school legends hailing from all over Queens, Brooklyn, and the Bronx. However, Staten Island has its fair share of legendary lyricists as well like- the WU-Tang Clan. The WU are/were some heavy hitting emcees and producers coming together to form rap the way it should be- raw, gritty, emotional, and thought provoking. The mastermind creators of the "Shaolin World" over came obstacles and hard living to create a legacy on this Island that will be tough to follow, and yet here we are today, on an Island filled with a good amount of rappers. So to anyone who doubts Staten Island's place in hip-hop history, don't sleep on us. The vision was laid by the WU, and portrayed on their records. Now their concepts are pushing forward to the future of lyricists who just want to be heard. The Higher Concept is this future, bringing back a fresh feel to a genre desperately needed a face lift.

Here's an interview with The Higher Concept. Answers are from IB Profyn with collaborative help from Tekst and Matty J.

Where did the name "The Higher Concept" come from?

The Higher Concept came from our obsession with hidden meanings within our music. We knew our music was going to have a strong message when we formed the group and we also knew we were conceptual writers. Mix that with our recreational habits and we got (THC) The Higher Concept, a name that works on many levels. It was Matty J and IB who came up with the official name in '03 in the Syracuse

University dorms. I remember we really wanted an acronym and when we landed on THC, we knew we had the perfect fit.

How did you guys form? Did you know each other, or was it by chance?

The story of our music goes all the way back to High School. J. Glaze (our feature producer) and I spent hundreds of days after school working on a rap/comedy album to play for friends. It was filled with tons of rapping inside jokes and Glaze was just getting his feet wet on the production side of things. The next year we linked up with Tekst, an old friend. He had a real grasp of the underground hip hop movement that was starting to gain momentum in 2000. With his guidance, Glaze and I, wrapped our heads around the real hip hop culture for the first time. We learned there was more out there than guns, drugs, and woman to rap about. I found that I could start writing about things that were actually relative to my everyday life. I didn't have to make up raps about shooting people or having sex with the most girls. This push turned rapping from a joke and hobby to something I really wanted to be involved in and take seriously. Songs like 'Scapegoat' by Atmosphere and 'No Regrets' by Aesop Rock changed my life. I wanted to make songs that inspired people like those.

Senior year of high school consisted of after school time spent in Glaze's mom's apartment working on a "real" album. We named the group Manifest Destiny and released an 18 song album by the end of the year. All three of us knew we wanted to follow this career path so we went off in three different directions to meet as many people as we could and make as many connections as possible. Tekst went to Wagner College in Staten Island. Glaze went to University of



From left to right: IB, Tekst, Matty J

Maryland, and I went to Syracuse University. I met Matty J on the second day of college. He was placed two doors down from me in the freshman dorms and we hit it off instantly. I had met his roommate the day before and he told me that Matty was a rapper. We hit the ground running, recording a track that very first night on his Labtek microphone into his computer. Throughout the semester, Matty and I had been sending tracks to Tekst in Staten and Glaze in Maryland. They were both feeling Matty's style, so over the winter break, even though I was out of town with my family, Matty went down to Maryland to meet Tekst and Glaze. After that it was a wrap (pun intended). The group was formed with Glaze at the time, as an official 4th member. He even rapped two verses on our first album, *Figure It Out*. As we grew and started working with other producers it was only practical to cut the group down to the three MC's, even though Glaze is still a big part of what we do.

What draws you to hip-hop and have you ever engaged in any other styles of music?

In the beginning it was an attraction to a new and different culture than I was used to. I got into rap listening to a lot of west coast gangsta rap. It was the first genre of hip hop I

was exposed to. I discovered all the different genre's of music and realized that there were rappers out there covering subject topics I could actually relate to. A switch flipped in me and I knew I wanted to be making that kind of relatable music for the rest of my life.

Did you ever have a rockstar moment performing? Why?

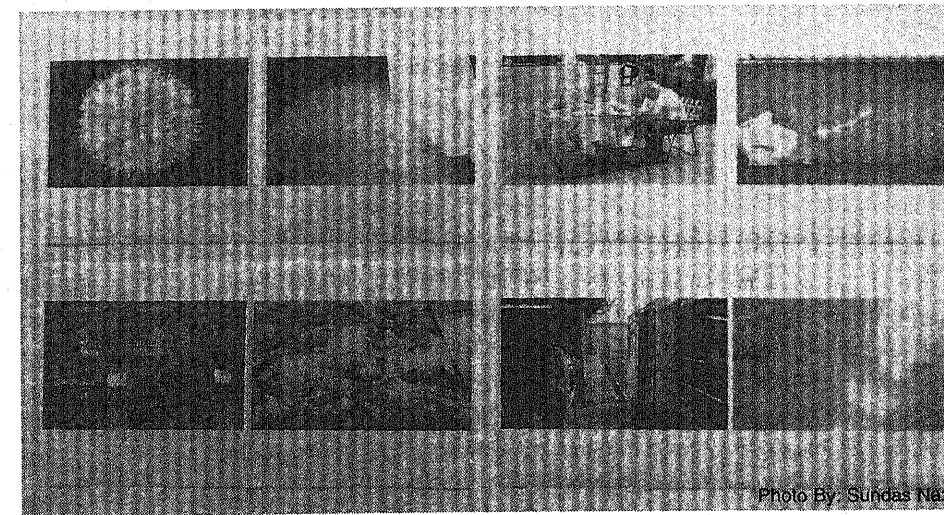
I try to feel like a rock star every time I step on stage. Every little thing you do while performing is analyzed by your audience. You should treat every crowd even whether it's twenty people or one hundred thousand people. I try to give as much energy as possible during all my performances. If the crowd reacts, it makes you feel like a rock star. I'd say my main rock star experience was this past year opening up for Kid Cudi at The Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor. We were set up backstage with our own dressing room, a bottle of vodka and a thirty rack of beer. After the show we walked the two blocks to the after party and within two minutes of being in the place, I had been bought shots and drinks from three or four different people. It was pretty wild.

The Silent City Photo Expo

BY SUNDAS NAZIR
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

To capture time and give it a nonlinear quality allows the truth to be more fleeting and accessible. In the Fall of 2010, a student photography exhibition embraced a range of art produced by emerging student photographers under the theme, "The Silent City". It included works from photography majors and minors from the Spring and Summer semesters of 2010. These images stood as a representation of the gentle and canny creativity of the artists' vision and the depth of their commitment to the unseen reality of New York.

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it as a place away from harshness. In Christina Caranante's photograph, a petite bird is caught, quietly hopping away from a cigarette butt. While in Janney Swary's work, a submissive and mute chicken peers, deadpan, from behind the cage waiting to be slaughtered. These images proved the observations of daily life delved from a unique perspective.

Everyone watched Michael Dote's video, Christmas of '82 in silence. It documented his mother, Sherrie Marie Dote, while imparting the harshness of being homeless in New York City. A narrative by Jehab Shalobi revealed the Namaz, the Muslim prayer, through a creative process.

With the power and timeless nature of

black and white photographs, artists' had created a stark and somber mood by merging emptiness and silence. Color photographs were not merely pretty pictures, as the vibrant colors spoke for the zest of living in New York. Amidst the shrill and raucous ambiance of a construction sight, Annie Breen captured the heavy objects lying motionless. There were traces of people in many of the photographs that alluded to the artists' experiences. The work that went into making the show appealing, was successfully portrayed. The silence, both literal and lyrical, is minute and not found in the streets of New York- making it dialectical.

The exhibition consisted of works by: Ka Lai Chan, Alexandra Hunt, Trevor Wilson, Boyanna Jovanovic, Paul Caminiti, Christina Caranante, Lucila Farfan-Narcisse, Jason Danischewski, Afua G. Ansah Michael Dote, Nicole Camacho, Annie Breen, James Valcime, Janney Swary, Tim Brady, Jehab Shalobi, Charles Tagle, Robert Hill, Ewelina Berc, Victoria Salvo, Melissa Giaccio.

Maroon 5 Rocks the Hard Rock!

MARISSA PESSOLANO
CO-SPORTS EDITOR

Popular American rock band, Maroon 5, held a private concert at the Hard Rock Café on September 20th, 2010 for the lucky winners of a contest on radio station, 95.5 PLJ. The intimate setting gave the fans the opportunity to meet the band on a more personal level, as the small crowd allowed for better interaction with the guests. Before the afternoon kicked off with an up close "mini concert" and question and answer session, the Hard Rock served the attendees a buffet style lunch, consisting of a variety of selections.

Just after 1:00pm, Maroon 5, consisting of lead singer, Adam Levine, bass guitarist, Michael (Mickey) Madden, guitarist James Valentine, keyboardist, Jesse Carmichael, and drummer, Matt Flynn, stepped out on stage, opening with their current hit song, "Misery." The band continued with their hits, "Sunday Morning," "She Will be Loved," and ended with a cover of "Let's Stay Together," by Al Green. In between the songs, the band answered questions from an interviewer, as the band was on a tight sched-

ule and did not have time for individual questions from the audience. Adam Levine discussed their new album, "Hands All Over," that was just released on September 19th, 2009. The band recorded the album in a studio in Geneva, Switzerland. Levine explained how difficult it was for him to stay there during the four months of recording, having to leave and come back a few times. Nevertheless, the album has been completed and sold 142,000 copies thus far.

The band was asked about their early career and specifically, how Adam Levine first found out that he could sing. "It was in a music class," Levine stated. He continued on how it was "lame" at this time and he was embarrassed by it. It wasn't until he got older and became involved in a band, where he embraced his musical talent. The interviewer proceeded with a "recycled interview," where the band was asked questions that were previously asked to a musical act in the past. In this case, the band was the Four Tops. The audience learned that the men of Maroon 5 have been together for 18 years and they love both recording and performing live for different reasons. When asked if



Photo By: Marissa Pessolano

there were any downsides, Levine quickly responded, "We can't complain." He continued to explain how lucky they all are and even though they might have moments where they do complain, they have no right to. Levine also shared his "wow" moment, which was at Live Aid, when Stevie Wonder called him on stage to sing with him. Levine discussed in detail, the realization and the awe he had, that this is where his life had led him.

The whole band was very friendly and down to earth. After the music and the inter-

view, the guests were asked to form a line, as they were allowed to take a picture with Maroon 5. Although, rushed because the band had a 3:00pm flight to catch, the afternoon was an exciting and rare experience. Maroon 5's success continues, as they will be kicking off their tour soon. The band hopes to bring their show to New York City next summer.

"S.I. Based Rap Trio - The Higher Concept"
Continued from page 9

Honestly, have you ever been booed off stage or had a really bad experience live?

When you're playing the type of venues we have been for the past six years it's very easy to have a "bad experience" live. Most of these bars with their makeshift sound systems don't really allow for a great live experience because of the sound. We have definitely had a ton of issues with sound at our shows. It's the worst when fans can't hear our lyrics because when we play without a band, our lyrics are the only captivating thing about our performance.

As far as us being booed off the stage, that has never happened. The closest instance was probably back in 05 or 06 when we did our first show on Staten Island. There was a girl in the back of the concert hall that yelled "your not black." After we finished our first song.

Usually it's the other way around. We get on stage and see people pointing and snickering and joking with their friends about us, but once we get off stage, they are the first ones to come up and tell us how surprised they were by how good our show was

What's the biggest venue and biggest crowd THC has played to?

Our biggest venue to date would definitely be the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center where we opened up for Nas in '09. There are 40,000 plus seats there, and half of them were filled up for Nas's show. We've played The Michigan Theater to a sold out crowd of 1,700. We opened up for Method man at the Country Club in Syracuse in 07. It probably had close to a 1,000 people there. Also, we've

played The Highline Ballroom in NYC, opening up for pop sensations LMFAO. There was close to 600 people in attendance.

Give me a list of all your achievements and successes.

To date we have released four official albums and three official mixtapes under "The Projectivity Movement". We made the Canadian college radio charts back in 2008 with The Lookout EP. The list of artists we've opened up for and worked with is pretty extensive as well: Method Man, Nas, Kid Cudi, Fergie, Sean Kingston, LMFAO, Afroman, Inspectah Deck, KRS-One, DJ Kool Herc, to name a few.

Three years ago in a Connecticut show, I had my most memorable experience. There were only about twenty people in the crowd, but we performed our hearts out and gave a great performance. After the show I was approached by DJ Tony Tone. The original DJ for one of the first hip-hop groups ever, the Cold Crush Brothers. We exchanged info and we've been working together ever since. He has introduced us to the likes of KRS, Kool Herc, and Double Trouble (from Wildstyle).

Are there any cool stories behind your emcee names?

IB goes way back to 9th grade. It would take way to long to explain it but the "I" and "B" comes from another nickname I had growing up with my friends which was Ibus. From Ibus I came up with IB Profyn and the whole Musical Medication thing.

Tekst (pronounced 'text') was always just a tag I used when I would write graffiti. As I got more into the music it seemed to make sense to use as an emcee name based

on what I was writing about and what I wanted to present about myself." - Tekst

Matty J has been my nickname since I was in middle school, and there's no hidden meaning. What you see is what you get!" - Matty J

Where do you feel the state of hip-hop is now? Where would you like to see it go?

Hip-hop now is in a much better place than it has been for a long time. I love how things are moving towards a more conscious style of music with live instruments being used for beat making. Artists such as B.O.B. and Lupe Fiasco who discuss real issues and have very intelligent lyrics are getting bigger and bigger. Rap fans have started to get tired of the, "I'm the most gangsta dude out here so you should buy my records mentality." We also have more of a meshing of genre's in popular rap music these days. Hip-hop has merged with R&B, pop music, and even rock music to encompass any and all types of music. In the future I believe we will see hip-hop becoming more genre classified like what happened with Jazz music after its popularity died down.

Hip-hop was started as a means to keep gang members off the streets and get them dancing and having a good time. Now it's returning to that vibe by becoming much more dance party oriented.

I read about the Projectivity Movement. Pitch it to me in a nutshell. Why is it important, and how do you become involved?

The Projectivity Movement is a collection of musicians, artists, teachers, designers, promoters, and generally good people working together to help expose each others work and passions. There is no business structure or organization, just people together to help promote each others product,

show, music, art, etc. It is a volunteer based thing. Recently the movement has been focusing on educating kids in the music engineering/production field.

Currently members are helping to promote after school programs, workshops, events, and more. TheProjectivityMovement.org will be up soon to really showcase what we have done and what we are about. The Higher Concept is really only one small group of artists within the entire collective that is Projectivity.

On a strictly musical basis, The Projectivity Movement is our record label. We signed to The Orchard for our distribution and release music under The Projectivity Movement LLC. Our roster of releases currently consists of The Higher Concept, Michel Aubertin, A Tree of Crows, J. Glaze, and Emilio Sparks.

Why should people listen to "The Higher Concept"?

I think The Higher Concept brings a new sound to a game that has been lacking in freshness for some time. We make feel good music with a positive message and there aren't too many groups doing what we do. The majority of our fans are not hip-hop fans; they are people who appreciate good music. I often hear comments about our music like "I don't normally listen to rap, but you guys are great." I think we bring a new image to a culture dominated by guns, drugs, and misogyny. We will make you think twice about your perceptions of rap music.

Videos- Youtube.com/knotlionthc
Website- thehigherconcept.com/
Twitter- Twitter.com/higherconcept
Myspace- Myspace.com/thehigherconcept
Facebook- Facebook.com/pages/The-

SEX AND THE ISLAND

Down the Rabbit Hole, To Fall or Not to Fall?

Is experimenting with the same sex a right of passage for college students?

LEOR BRONIS
SEX COLUMNIST

A famous hookah smoking caterpillar once asked "Who are you?" What many people tend to ask right off the bat is "who are you, sexually?" but is it really that cut and dry? It seems today that a young person going through the college experience is keeping their sexual options open. Students are not limited to one side of the sexual spectrum; they can be open to all ideas and experiences.

It was almost a year and a half ago when my favorite cousin Hannah told me she was bisexual. For a girl whose bedroom was busier than a Heineken keg at a frat party, I was pretty shocked. It wasn't long until she was a full blown lesbian. Ever since then she

has been begging me to explore my sexuality. It got me thinking, maybe it was time for me to get off my high horse and see what else is out there.

Last Friday night I let Hannah take me to Deko, a very crowded club in New Jersey that hosts "gay night" every Friday. We drove there with Hannah's girlfriend Nichole, two very chic lesbian friends, Lisa and Jillian, and her gay best friend, Anthony. They were similar to a very weird erotic interpretation of the cast of "Happy Days".

"Being with a woman is like having your cake and eating it too, literally." Hannah said in the car ride on the way to the club. "You can get multiple orgasms without worrying about whether or not some guy is going to jack off in your face." Hannah had one of those I could fuck your boyfriend and steal your best friend in a second kind of attitudes. In fact I've seen her do it.

"Bottom line is a woman knows what's going on down there," Nichole said. "It's like why sift through my car for change when an

EZpass can take me right through in half the time."

"I don't care what you guys say," Jillian said as she gave me a slight smile. "Vagina kind of tastes like Chicken Franchise." Everyone in the car burst out in laughter as they clearly have heard Jillian say that about fifty times before.

"Look I have dated men in the past," Lisa said. "But at the end of a day a woman can sit and watch a romantic movie with you without having to be in pain, doesn't pee on the toilet seat and doesn't tell you when to stop over analyzing because they do it too!" Lisa was one of those hip downtown lesbians with short hair cuts, who are all about earrings.

As we entered the club I realized the attraction my cousin and her friends had for this strange world. In a time span of about twenty minutes I watched as men and women drank, flirted, made out, grinded profusely on the dance floor, and slowly disappeared into dark corners and bathroom stalls. It was refreshing to see how freeing and uninhibited a world without a specific sexual orientation could be. I wondered if I would ever experience that, or more importantly if I real-

ly wanted to.

With my new friends all preoccupied with their respected partners for the night, I walked over to the bar for my fourth Espresso Patron shot of the night when suddenly Jillian came up to me.

"So, have you decided if your ready to explore yet." She said as she stroked my hair. It was no sooner when the words came out of her mouth that I wondered if they were true. I didn't have much time to think about anything. Before I knew it Jillian had her tongue down my throat. I had fallen deep down the rabbit hole and there was no turning back. I had stayed in Wonderland long enough to realize that HOLY SHIT: I'M STRAIGHT! Men are confusing, intolerable, and emotionally draining but I can't help it, I am obsessed. No amount of nice boobs, sexy hair, or great smelling perfume is going to change that. For what it's worth, it's just another college experience I can cross off my list.

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

BANNER OPINIONS

Cash Or Credit? It's A Job Not A Career

BY VINCENT BALESTRIERE
STAFF

Beep. "That'll be \$17.99, sir. Oh? You've got a member card? Let me put that through for you..." You do your job as well: scanning bland item after bland item, interacting with abusive customer after abusive customer, engaging in mundane conversation after mundane conversation. But hey, at least you get paid for it.

Well, mom and dad did always say to pay attention in school, lest you share their fate and be a dreg from a bygone era

Minimum wage never burned a hole in anyone's wallet though. Guess that means you've got to go back to work and to the brain cell-murdering cycle, rinsing and repeating as many times as is necessary to have something to show for your efforts come payday. But not enough to completely fill your mind with self-loath and drive you to quit your meager job.

A job. Not a career. Your scanner has a

job; you should have a career. That's why you're in school, right? So you don't wind up doing this job five days a week for the rest of your working life, struggling to make ends meet, awaking each weekday to greet the morning grind. Your bosses, who are probably a bit older than you, Joe College are your superiors for one of two reasons: they're graduate students working to pay for tuition, or they gave up on a career long ago. As you stand behind the off-white, fading counter, slathered with soulless corporate symbols, your mind wanders.

You stand there with a vacant countenance, at a crossroads: "Do I want to do this the rest of my life? Or should I try to make something of myself, something beyond this lousy nametag and insultingly low salary?" The answer is clear, isn't it?

So you might logically surmise that your average CSI student would be at the very least semi-industrious. Yet, if by chance you pass by one of the lecture halls on campus and spy on one of the 100-level courses, you can find a great number of young minds wandering.

Just as if they're back at their part-time jobs. Well, mom and dad did always say to pay attention in school, lest you share their fate and be a dreg from a bygone era: mom

a housewife without a formal degree, dad a laborer who has to work three jobs to keep the family going.

Beep. "That'll be about sixteen grand. Hope you paid attention to the past four years. No? Oh, well, that's too bad. Here's a little laser to play with."

Beep. How much will your actions cost you in the future? There's still time for the fleshy wrinkled organ in your noggin to do its job and give you a chance at a good future.

Minimum wage never burned a hole in anyone's wallet though. Guess that means you've got to go back to work...

Your boss's voice snaps you back to reality, jarring your spine and boiling your blood. "Pay attention, what do you think you're getting paid for? I can replace you tomorrow." To the corporation, you are a number, a blip in their infrastructure. Disposable and meaningless. Nobody.

But to you and to your field, you can be somebody. Someone skilled, with a career you enjoy pursuing every day.

Beep. Or you can just keep scanning cans of cat food and Chef Boyardee the rest of your life. "The total comes to your happiness, sense of fulfillment, and dreams. Cash or credit?"

Public Service Announcement

Free Flu Shots Available for Students

Protect yourself against influenza this year by getting a free flu shot at the walk-in flu vaccine clinic sponsored by CSI Health and Wellness Services located in the Campus Center, 1C, room 112. The clinic is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10th from 10:00am and 6:00pm. No appointment is necessary.

Vaccine is available to all CSI students with a valid ID card. Students 17 years old or younger must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Please contact the Health Center at (718) 982-3045 if you have any questions.

BANNER SPORTS

Dolphins fall to Lehman in CUNY Quarterfinal

JAMES KINGSLEY & MARISSA PESSOLANO
CO-SPORTS EDITOR

Hopes for a CUNYAC postseason tournament championship have come to an end, as the CSI Dolphins fell to the Lehman College Lightning. This quarterfinal round comes as a rematch of a prior regular season game, where the Dolphins took Lehman to overtime, coming out victorious. This game looked as if it was headed on the same path, as much of the first half consisted of an evenly matched defensive contest between both teams. Tensions were high with heightened aggressiveness that led to pushing and shoving amongst players. In addition, on and off the field, were complaints from both sides, griping over the referees' lack of calls.

Despite the "bad calls," Lehman

pushed ahead on offense, but failed to capitalize, missing an open net shot, keeping the game scoreless. CSI responded quickly, but also missed an opportunity with a shot that was just wide of the net. Just when it looked as if the half would end in a stalemate, Lehman landed themselves a penalty shot with only ten seconds left. This came as a result of a shot by Lehman striker, Assami Valian, that made contact with the post, followed by a CSI player accidentally hitting the ball with his hand. To the dismay of the players and fans, Lehman was granted a penalty shot that was successful. The penalty shot was scored by Enes Dervisevic, marking the games first goal, giving Lehman the lead with a score of 1-0, just as the time expired.

With CSI desperate to respond with a goal of their own, the second half was underway. The Dolphins continually had

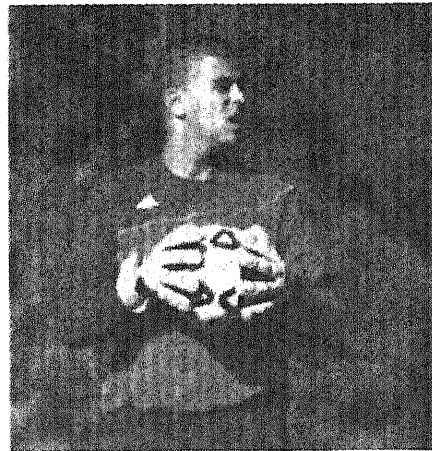


Photo From: csidolphins.com

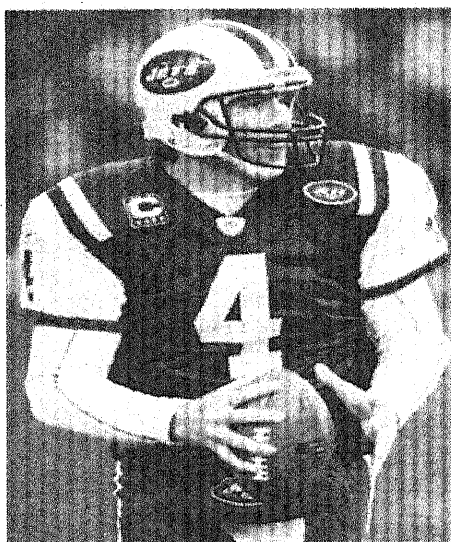
scoring chances, but Lehman squashed any comeback attempts by the Dolphins, thanks to their strong defense and their goalie's tremendous plays in the net. The CSI goalie, Ahmed El-Ghareib, responded with his own defense, keeping the game within a goal with two incredible saves.

This wouldn't last however, as CSI turned the ball over and Assami Valian, blasted a goal on a breakaway opportunity to give the Lightning to a 2-0 lead. This

marked the downfall of the Dolphins as shortly after, Lehman added another breakaway goal from Geovanny Arredondo, increasing the lead to 3-0. The Dolphins struggled to respond and keep up their defense, frantically trying to recover. Their attempts were unsuccessful unfortunately, as Lehman's Assami Valian, contributed his second goal of the game with 2:16 left, giving the Lightning a 4-0 lead which stood for the remainder of the game.

The CSI Dolphins left the field with looks of disappointment as what was a close game took a turn for the worse. CSI had been outshot 19-14, with 11-4 on goal. There were also five yellow cards distributed to Lehman and one for CSI. With the loss, the Dolphins are out of the playoffs, with a final record of 4-11-2 ending a disappointing season. The Dolphins will look to improve on the field and come back as a bigger threat next season.

Sex And The NFL "The Brett Favre Scandal"



Submitted By: James Kingsley

JAMES KINGSLEY
CO-SPORTS EDITOR

As reported by The Daily News, CBS and ESPN.com, former Jets quarterback, Brett Favre, is making headlines, and not in a good way. The current Vikings quarterbacks' family-man image is now in question over allegations that he had text messaged photos of his private parts to another former Jets employee Jenn Sterger. Favre was a member of the Jets in 2008, when he led the team to an 9-7 record, but the team stumbled towards the end of the season with no playoff appearance. The site Deadspin.com, first broke this story because it had documents and phone messages from Favre to Sterger.

This isn't the first time this season that Favre and the Jets have been in the news,

nor is this the first time in Favre's 20 year career that he had been in the news. Having had issues with drinking, vicodin, signing with the hated Vikings, his bad split up from the Packers, and his lousy second half of the season with the Jets, Favre constantly made news. Favre, earlier in the season, had been involved in his usual "I retired, but I'm coming back" saga. While the Jets have had the Ines Sainz, Braylon Edwards DUI, the Revis holdout, and now with this story, they can't seem to catch a break.

The NFL is investigating the allegations against Favre, with Commissioner Roger Godell possibly speaking with Favre if necessary. Jenn Sterger's attorney had said that his client is not interested in a settlement at this time, just proper and timely action. The Jets meanwhile have

been helping the League's investigation, with all the information that they have.

Several fans, management and players are probably happy that they and the team don't have to deal with this latest problem. It is a Brett Favre and Minnesota Vikings' problem. Others have their own views on the legendary quarterback and his scandal. Michael Mooney, football fan, had this to say on the subject, "I honestly am not even sure what to believe. The voicemails were definitely him. I'm just honestly not sure why this woman waited two years to reveal this. Favre should have retired when he had the opportunity to, and if it's true I hope his wife leaves him." Fellow sports editor, Marissa Pessolano, added this,

"It is difficult to currently formulate an opinion at the moment since the investigation is still in the "fact gathering" stage. Also, Sterges has yet to be interviewed and Favre has not commented on the matter. According to what has been uncovered, it seems that Favre's advances were unwanted by Sterges and the other women (Jets massages therapists) that allegedly received the lewd pictures and unwanted attention for the Quarterback. If this is the case, Favre has no right to be acting in such a manner towards these women. Sterges in particular, was just a sideline reporter doing her job for the Jets organization. She is a person too, and just because she posed for Maxim and Playboy, does not give men an open invitation to treat her like a piece of meat. Brett Favre promotes himself as a "family man," making this type of behavior even more unacceptable, especially since he is still a married man. Brett Favre, has yet to be found guilty, however, if this becomes the case, there may be serious repercus-

sions."

Jets fan Chris Pukala added his thoughts on the matter by saying, "She was employed by the Jets as an in game host. Although nice to look at, she was terrible at what she did, like introduce the flight crew and do fluff pieces with the crowd at the stadium. Deadspin.com broke this story in August but did not have the phone messages to back it up. Funny they got them just in time for Favre's visit to NY. I fully believe it's him but unless Jen Sterger makes a stink, it may fall by the wayside." Another female student Irene O'Hare shared her opinion:

"I think that Brett Favre may be a great football player but he is an idiot. Flirting with women when you've got a wife at home is stupid enough. Then he shows that he has failed to learn from the many other sports stars that have been caught being dirty cheaters and sends dirty pictures of himself. Why do they not learn from each others mistakes? If you take a dirty picture and send it over any sort of network, it will be found. If he retires I think it will have more to do with the fact that he's too old for the game then this scandal. Tiger Woods has successfully come back to golf and Kobe Bryant is still playing basketball and he can still play football as long as he is good."

Opinions vary, but right now, Jet fans can only hope their team can avoid future unwanted publicity and maintain their winning record. While the NFL and Brett Favre wait to hear more details about the story, evidence will surface and Favre will deal with the consequences from the NFL and his wife.