

Official Newspaper of the College of Staten Island

Letter From The Editor

*A Welcome Back to Campus
From The Banner*

BY DAEYUNG LEE & MARK REVELLO

Welcome back to all new and returning students here at the College of Staten Island! Each and everyone here at The Banner hope that our students had an enjoyable and relaxing summer and we all wish you all a well-rested and productive school year for '12-'13.

The Banner is looking forward to a very fruitful school year. We plan on publishing only the best content that we can bring you, our faithful readers, and we have a number of ways we plan to do this.

To start, we plan on building on some of the initiatives started by last year's Editor-in-Chief. Some of these included expanded reporting on CSI related stories and bringing students more of what they wanted to see in their newspaper, including expanded fashion, and sports news. The last academic year also saw our publication grow from a handful of students into a well-staffed organization.

The growth of our membership last year led to a number of improvements for our paper, and when combined with some of the initiatives mentioned earlier, led to an increase in content, photography, and more dedicated coverage for important CSI-centric events on and off campus.

Overall, The Banner was filled with the most important information for students, along with vibrant fashion, arts, and lifestyles sections and we hope to continue this progress and take it even further! I and the staff are very dedicated and will give all the time that we have to fulfilling this mission.

As one of Editors-In-Chief, I promise to do the best I can, along with all of the staff, to continue publishing what students are most interested in seeing and reading. So this year, look for more CSI related sports coverage, fashion, and entertainment, as well as all of the important news that impacts the students here at The College.

Our goal is always, and always will be, to focus on putting out each and everyone's best for each issue of the newspaper so that everyone here at CSI can read and enjoy it in their time between classes. We hope that you will continue to read and support our hard work as well as give us feedback on how we can better serve you, the reader, about events taking place at CSI and the surrounding neighborhoods.

We have an amazing staff and set of editors who are striving to bring you, the reader, the best possible in everything related to CSI, including news, arts, sports, fashion, politics, and opinions. My name is Mark Revello and you can find me on

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S93 Initiative Stuck in Traffic

Proposed Bus Changes May Resolve Brooklyn to CSI Commute



The S62 is a poor consolation for the S93 as shown by these unhappy CSI commuters who prepare for a 2 return hour trip to Brooklyn.

BY JEREMY PASKER

The Operational Services section of the CSI's website stated they are in the process of extending the number of trips to and from the campus but bureaucratic procedures have slowed them from implementing a robust travel schedule for commuter students.

"[CSI is] presently negotiating with the MTA to increase the number of runs from Brooklyn to the College and from the College to Brooklyn. This is something that will not happen over-night, the MTA has pro-

cedures they need to follow before this will happen."

That is where most of the good news dissipated. Different departmental sources within CSI gave varying explanations. Francine, the assistant of the Operational service supervisor, gave a statement from her boss. "The Operational Service has nothing to do with the S93" and for definitive answers "contact the MTA."

Supervisors at the Security desk wouldn't be bothered to answer a few questions; but a

non-managerial security guard indicated CSI is working out officially where the S93 Bus will land and is expecting everything to work out by December or January.

The delayed modest concession by NYC's mass transit authorities would have gone a long way to resolve many of the student's past frustrations.

A complaint being voiced around campus is how difficult the walk from the back of campus to the entrance is, while still having to wait

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Green Thumbs Club Lends Mother Nature A Helping Hand

A Garden of Beauty and Tranquility

BY LUCY FARFAN-NARCISSE

Tomatoes, green peppers, cucumbers oh my! While students at CSI are just beginning the Fall semester the garden that grows beside the Campus Center is in full bloom. The Green Thumbs Club and it's members have planted and tended the garden since early spring.

"It's a great garden and it provides the opportunity for students to get to know each other," said Joe De Paulo, the President of the Green Thumbs.

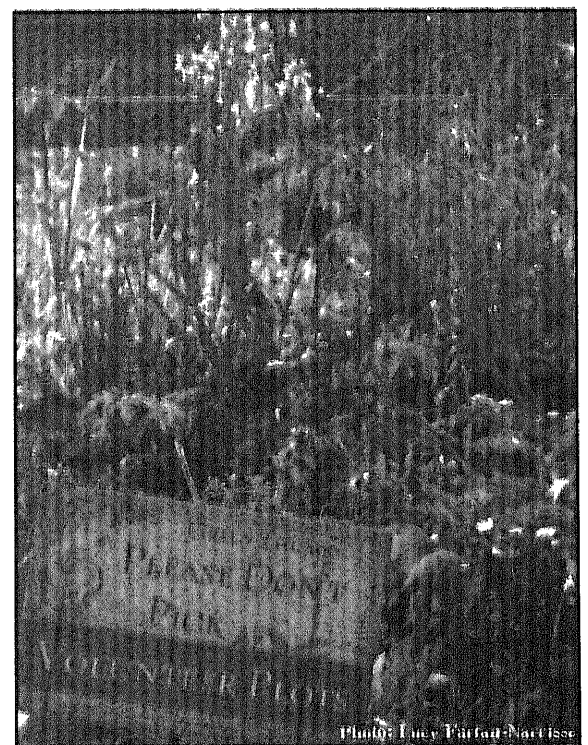
This community garden unifies and brings together Biology,

Journalism, Education, Art and Business majors that may have not had the opportunity to meet otherwise.

"The garden makes the campus more student friendly and introduces organic and healthier food into students' daily lives," says Kubra Shirazi, a Senior and active member in the club. "It's our own little world to express ourselves on campus in a creative way."

Many aesthetic improvements are visible such as the new wooden fence, solar lights and flower garden thanks to a generous grant from MTV U which

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The Politics of Greed . . . Or Why I Hate College Libertarians

Young Americans for Stupidity I mean Liberty.

BY M. MILEY

It should be surprising the amount I dislike Libertarians. I, being a member of the rare Far-Left in America, a socialist with anarchist sympathies who is anti-war, pro-legalization and decriminalization of various drugs among many other positions. You would think the libertarian message of limited government would resonate with me? Since after all I generally hold negative views about the State, the problem comes from a divergence of thought. Whereas I believe that a government can be a good thing, when handled in the right manner and when it works for the people, you know the whole "Government of the people, by the people and for the people" thing. On the other hand, libertarians hold that government is always the problem and is always wrong. To quote Grover Norquist, "Should be small enough to be drowned in a bathtub." Now this isn't all libertarians, I'm sure there are some who believe that the government has vital services to do besides contract law enforcement. I'm mostly talking about the "Randroids," those that treat those quite awfully written books as Holy write. To quote the author Corey Robin, "St. Petersburg in revolt

gave us Vladimir Nabokov, Isaiah Berlin and Ayn Rand.

I hold generally two ideas about why Randian libertarianism is popular among the college and internet libertarian front. One idea is that libertarians are hopelessly ignorant of facts and historical trends that they can't understand the refutations of their nutty ideology that borders on religion. Or the other idea is that they understand these things and just don't care, just so long as the wealthy parasites of our society can profit off if the backs of working classes.

Their views are shortsighted, ignorant, reactionary and just plain old regressive. Before we tackle their insipid anti-tax and government rhetoric, let's just look at their worship of the "Founding Fathers" for a moment and some of the anti-tax stuff they have taken from them. First, I have heard more than a few of this type shout to remember we had a revolution about no taxation. Wrong, so wrong I can't believe it wasn't said in jest. The phrase was "no taxation, without representation." Notice there's a comma after no taxation, indicating that there is more to the idea. The second half is where the main thrust of the argument is, "without representation," meaning



Gary Johnson is one of the central figures for the growing Libertarian movement

that while the colonists didn't have any seats in Parliament it wasn't fair to tax them since they had no voice in government. This is supposed to be something we all learned in hell the third grade? But apparently some people much older than a third grader have problems remembering that. Next is the valuing of the "Founders" as some sort of infallible demigods, let alone the absurd notion that 18th century ideas can be used to solve 21st century problems.

But more worrying is the cult of the founders, as if the fact that if Ben Franklin and Jefferson would agree with them, it would mean something. We are talking about of group of men with the utter balls to write down the phrase "All men are created equal", while holding a large number of men in bondage. Men who wrote a document so "perfect" we've only had to amend it 27 times. Now that's more of a knock against these cultists rather than the signers of the Constitution, who while yes, wrote a document that was regressive and designed to keep power in the hands of wealthy patricians. They did envision a document that could change with the time, which is why only wealthy, white, land owning males over the age of 21 are not the only ones allowed to vote anymore. Yet many college Libertarians are dead set on "constitutional originalism." Such as minorities, women, those under 21 and the poor and since those demographics tend to vote for democrats or actual left candidates, one has a hard time not seeing it as voter suppression tied up in patriotism.

Then there's this insane idea that if we let government get out of the way, business would respect the rights of their workers, the environment and "fairness" of the market is just so patently absurd that I find it hard to believe that the people that hold it aren't just "trolling." The biggest flaw in this assumption is simple historical fact; we have labor laws, the Environmental Protection Agency, Ant-Trust Laws, and many more because people demanded them. US Steel and Standard Oil were able to charge whatever prices they wanted because they had a monopoly in their field. They were able to undercut and prevent any competition from rising. The Labor movement

happened because business treated their workers like they were disposable. They worked in unsanitary, hazardous conditions, were paid next to nothing and would be expected to work 12 hour plus shifts. . . Where workers who tried to unionize and fight for their rights, would be meet with beatings and murder, from the Ludlow massacre in Colorado, to the Harlan county war in Kentucky. Rivers would spontaneously burst into flame because of all the pollutants in the water. Hell the best response I've found to libertarians is just to say, well you raise a good point, but on the other hand all of recorded human history. Yet still with thick headedness they persist with this horrid ideas and spouting bullshit.

The worst offenders I find our CSI's own *Young Americans for Idiocy I mean Liberty*. Who because they hold this shirking of government and reductions of taxes, would not only doom public education from pre K-12th grade, but would also seek to dismantle the CUNY system as well as the SUNY system. I'm sure they would prefer it if it happened after they got their degrees though, since cowards like these always want to pull the rope ladder up after them. This is the part I find so engaging and makes me learn more towards the idea their just a bunch of greedy ass morons since CSI is dependent on tax dollars from the city, state and Federal governments to fund its self. Which if all of those were to be dried up, the tuition we have to pay would increase an absurd amount (more so than it already has) effectively pricing most students out of being able to go to college and better themselves. Let alone the fact that they're a bunch of filthy hypocrites who decry to the government while taking advantage of governmental programs (Public Higher Education!).

When you get down to it, that's the real reason I hate college libertarians. It's not whether or not they're just fucking idiots or Batemen-esque sociopaths; they're all a bunch of hypocrites. And if someone is not willing to follow what their own ideals, why the hell should any of us?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: "What you would like to see from your student newspaper?"

I would like a student newspaper to include all the activities (free and payment) that are available. There should also be a section (for the back to school issue) on where things are (who, what, where, when) or the highlights of CSI. There could also be a scholarship/job opportunity section. I would like the newspaper to cover detailed stories of CSI individuals and events. It could also include volunteer opportunities.
Victoria Gomez
Junior

Re: "What you would like to see from your student newspaper?"

From the banner, I would like to see more of the issues students have on campus being spoken about and recognized. A lot of times students don't raise their voice because they feel as if they are not being heard. An example of this is debit/credit card machines being available when purchasing food or drinks in the café or campus center. Not many students carry around cash. Although there are two ATM machines on campus, they are often so far that students are late to where they have to be. It would be nice to hear from people who have the ability to help this.
Melissa Oviedo

Re: "What you would like to see from your student newspaper?"

I would like to read an opinion piece on how students from CSI are adjusting to being officially "Tobacco Free" on campus. I have heard a few mixed reviews from friends, but was interested in a more diverse perspective.
Samantha Fink
Junior

Re: "What you would like to see from your student newspaper?"

One thing I would like to see more often in The Banner is coverage of school clubs or groups, specifically of the schools radio station, WSIA. The radio is such a huge aspect of communication and WSIA provides students with an outlet to communicate with its student body. I feel many students do not even know about WSIA and its benefits.
Chris Bitetto
Senior

"How nice it would be to see CUNY's budget sheets . . ."

Re: "What you would like to see from your student newspaper?"

I would like to see more coverage on how students honestly feel about the way the campus guides them towards completing their degrees. I always overhear students complaining of how they have been lied to about which classes to take and end up paying more money than usual. I think it's an issue that must be addressed.
Albulena Abdushi
Senior

Re: "What you would like to see from your student newspaper?"

I would like to see more coverage of club events that are going on. Last year my Philosophy Professor told us that there were Philosophy meetings and I never even knew the campus has

that kind of club. I would like to see more coverage made to the campus.

Brittany Ferone
Sophomore

Re: "What you would like to see from the student newspaper?"

I would love to see The Banner cover stories about the new dorms and how they will benefit our school. I would like to know if they are going to put the courts back up that they took down to make the dorms. What actually happens to the petitions that students sign in favor or not in favor of something happening in our school? Is it talked about or thrown in the trash?
Dana Biondolillo
Junior

Re: "What you would like to see from the student newspaper?"

I would like to see more about what goes on in the school. I'm not too familiar with some of the clubs or events take place on campus. I sit in the campus center a lot and I know there is always something happening in there but I am unaware when they take place. Also, I have never heard of The Banner. It would be nice hear and see more of it around campus.
Diana Porcelli
Sophomore

Re: "What you would like to see from the student newspaper?"

In order to bring in more readers, once consideration would be to go after the large/controversial issues, for example, where all the millions of dollars students are paying go to. How nice it would be to see CUNY's budget sheets if anyone can set a hold of them. Also more political rants.
Daniel Fish

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- Graphic design • Layout & production
- Reporting • Web design • Fact-checking

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BANNER STYLES

Final Farewell to Nana

BY NICOLE PAGANO

Summer always comes with a bundle of memories and experiences. For me, this year, my summer was new and different. June started off with a loss in my family, and for the first time lost someone very close to me, my grandmother or nana as my brother, cousins, and I called her.

Her cancer came back just several weeks before and took over her body quickly. It was one of the hardest times for me, but it is true that you do not know your own strength until something like that happens in your life.

My family and I spent her last three days in the nursing home with her. At that point she could no longer speak or move besides occasionally raising her hand for us to hold it. With support from our entire family we got through it, talking and laughing about different memories and the old days.

When she did peacefully pass, my father said, "She wanted to spend the weekend with her family before she left." I couldn't have agreed more. My nana loved her family, especially her grandchildren, more than I can possibly describe, just like any grandparent would.

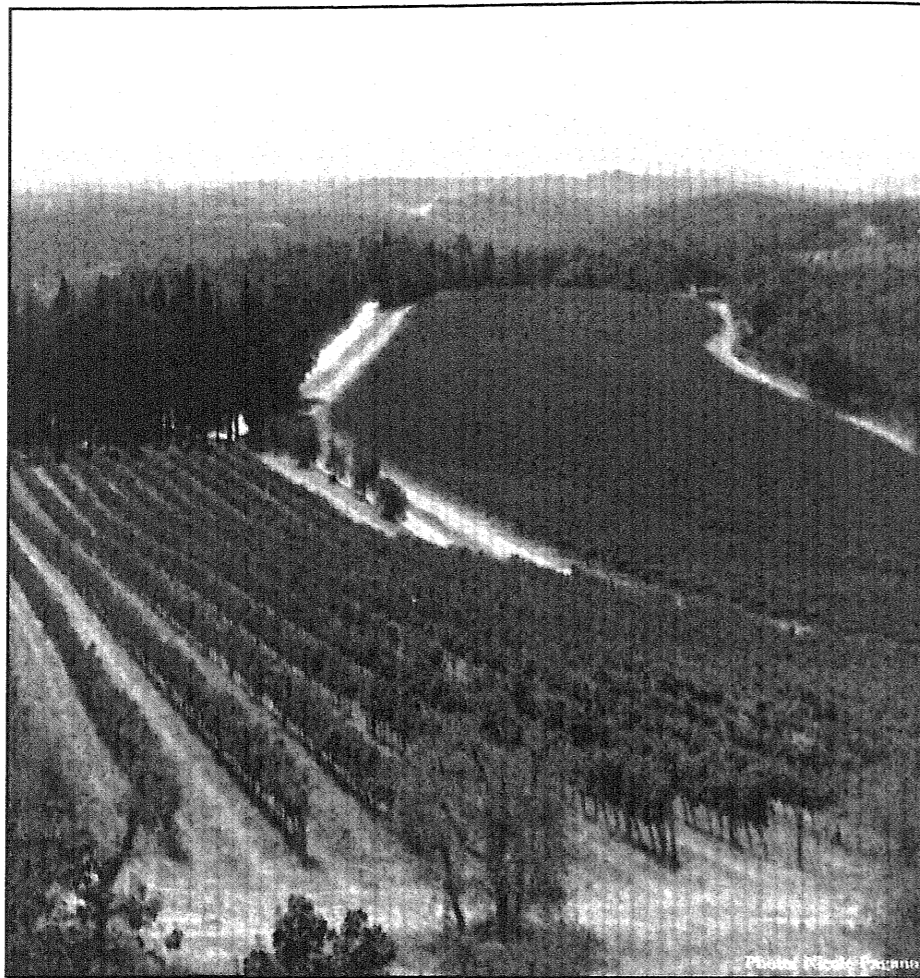
At the end of July my family and I took a trip of a lifetime traveling northern Italy. This trip was important because my family and I agreed that we would dedicate it to my

nana. We landed in Rome for two nights, drove up to Tuscany for four, then we were off to the coastal mountains of Santa Margherita for two more nights, lastly we stayed in Milan and flew home from there. We cheered and drank wine to my nana, we laughed, had some Griswold family moments and took in every bit of beautiful scenery around us.

Throughout her funeral, wake and even after, people kept telling me she would always be with me and looking over me and I did not feel that was more true than when I was looking over the beautiful Tuscan hills. There was such a serene calm and beauty there that I cannot possibly describe unless someone has been there. I truly felt like she was standing right next to me and the gentle breeze was her telling me she was there.

Going to Italy helped me to accept and realize that my nana was truly in a more beautiful and better place than any of us could imagine, and that it was her time to go.

Then, with August came my birthday which was one of the harder days. Every morning on my birthday my nana would always call and sing to me. Of course I didn't hear her voice on the morning of this birthday and I just wanted the day to be over with, but I am lucky to have an amazing family. My aunt called and sang for



A stunning view of the Tuscan countryside

her, telling me that she promised my nana that she would sing for her after she passed. My summer was filled with sadness, happiness, fun times and new memories. I wanted to start off the first issue with this op-ed piece because I thought it would be a different and unique thing

to do and this isn't just the fashion section, it is the lifestyle section. As we all know life brings many different things. As a writer I put my feelings on paper and this piece is dedicated to my beautiful nana.

And I do apologize for any tears.

BANNER STYLES

Taking A Lesson From Designers Overseas

Fashion Cues From Italy

BY NICOLE PAGANO

Italian fashion is definitely one of a kind. With many fashions designers hailing from Italy, it is easy to see why this country is one of the most fashion smart. Though Italians are viewed as having a laid back way of life, the way they show off their style is anything but.

Where ever Italians go whether it is out to lunch, shopping or to the beach, they always dress like they are ready for a fashion show. Designer dreads are almost always worn and forget sneakers, for the women: high heels and for the men: a good pair of designer loafers. Yes, even to the beach women wear high heels, and not a little two-inch pump, a serious six-inch club heel. This isn't just in Italy though, women all over Europe like to sport heels like this to the beach. Though the Italians love to show off their style, especially during the summer season, they know keeping their outfits light and comfortable are still key.

This elegant way of style isn't just part of what Italians choose to like themselves, they have had plenty of help and inspiration from some of the worlds most famous creators.

"Italian men and women have had some of the best fashion visionaries watching over what they wear; be it clothes, perfume, shoes, jewelry or hair, for almost all of the last century." Lifeinitaly.com

Some major Italian designers are Valentino, Armani, Missoni and Ferragamo. Valentino being one of the most highly worn

designers on red carpets first started out in the fashion capitol of Italy, Milan. Still to this day the House of Valentino headquarters is located in Milan.

Vintage fashion is always a big go to for fashionistas and boy do the Italians know their vintage, which makes sense because many of the high fashion Italian designers have been around since the 1950's and with many of their locations being in Milan it is easy to find vintage pieces such as ones from the Fontana Sisters. These women are known as the mothers of Italian fashion, their name first appeared when they took part in the first Italian fashion show held in Florence in 1951 since then they designed gowns and outfits for major socialites and celebrity clientele such as Elizabeth Taylor and Jackie Kennedy.

Besides high fashion designers and stores, Italy also has many small owned and operated boutiques. These types of stores can be found in many of the towns around Italy especially the smaller quant ones, but they are also seen in the major cities. These stores offer unique, exclusive pieces. If you find a piece you like, it is yours and only yours.

Fashion in Italy ranges from high-end designers to little boutiques holding one of a kind designs. Whether traveling to southern Italy and Sicily or northern Italy and Milan, you are bound to find a fashionable and memorable item to add to your closet.



The Ponte Vecchio is the beautiful backdrop for this Gucci advertisement

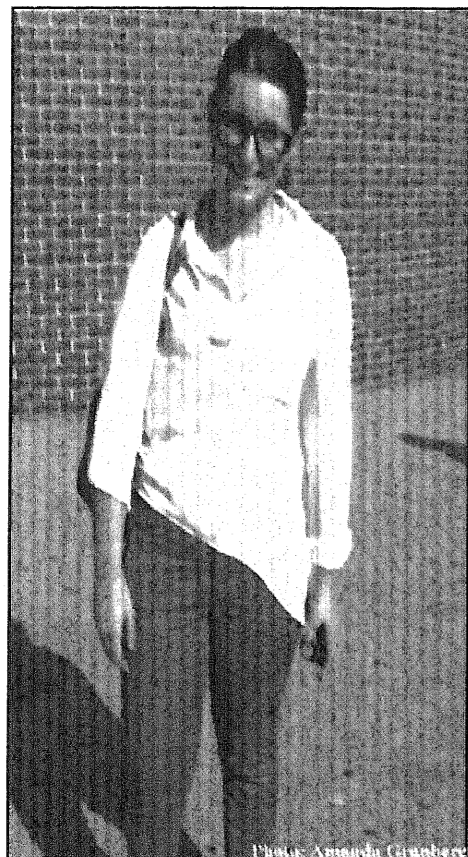
Campus Style

BY AMANDA GRANBERG



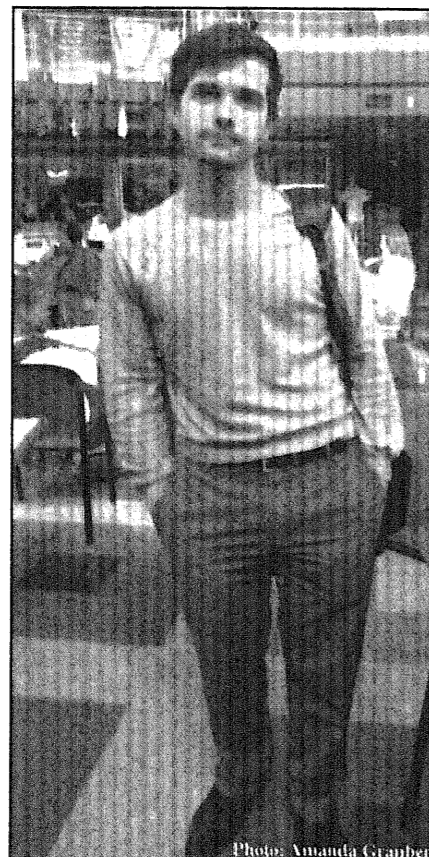
Chadecia Simpson
Age: 19 - Sophomore
Style: Preppy

Fashion Advice: "My favorite outfit this summer has been this striped jumper I got from Forever 21."



Sejhan Sinan
Age: 22 - Senior
Style: Accessories

Fashion Advice: "My go to fall accessory is going to be my Tom Ford glasses, they're fashionable but different."



Thomas Dieter
Age: 27 - T.A.
Style: Professional

Fashion Advice: "For the fall I am most looking forward to cardigans, I can't have enough."



Maria Espinal
Age: 22 - Senior
Style: Bohemian

Fashion Advice: "I think long sweaters and skirts are going to be popular, especially in leopard print."

Fall Fashion 2012 Preview

From Scarves to Boots: What you should be wearing this fall

BY AMANDA GRANBERG

Along with the pumpkin spiced lattes comes my favorite season, fall. Actually, I say that about every season, however I do believe the fall is by far the most fashionable.

While I am sad to see summer end, I'll gladly be packing up the sandals and sundresses for next year while I can hear my neglected sweaters, scarves and boots calling to me from the back of my closet.

Fall can also be the most versatile. What other season in New York could you wear boots, patterned tights, a dress, and an adorably cropped leather jacket, that just so happens to perfectly match the color of the fallen leaves around you?

Brown, navy, and gray are usually the typical fall color palette, but this year warmer vibrant colors are shown in previews for Marc Jacobs, Yves Saint Laurent and Louis Vuitton. Eventually when the trend trickles down into store like H&M and forever 21, and Urban Outfitters we should be seeing color likes maroon, burgundy, wine, and russet.

"Enough of fall black it's burgundy's time to shine. Rich hues of deep reds are spattered everywhere throughout the fall," said Maura

Brannigan, Marie Clair magazine. "You won't be able to resist picking up an item dipped in that irresistible burgundy shade."

Another prominent color that has been reoccurring in previews for many top designers is gold. Gold draws the eye instantly, it has a lovely richness that can take an outfit to a whole new level. Other metallic shades such as silver and copper tones have been show on statement sweaters and scarves.

A new trend that has popped up this season are riding boots. They will make you feel half equestrian chic half Kate Middleton. My favorite part about riding boots is that you can put them with a variety of outfits to give them that preppy look so many other boots fail to provide. "The bootie has had its moment to shine, it seems that the high equestrian boot is ready to reclaim the spotlight," said Kerry Pieri, Harper's Bazaar.

Infinity scarves are returning this season in many colors. As well as the obvious reason of keeping you warm, they can be worn in a variety of ways. One of my favorite tricks for the fall is wearing a plain black top and bold scarf.

From scarves to boots, these are some trends you can expect to see this fall.



This leather jacket from BCBG could be a staple in your fall wardrobe. It has a glossy finish, which would make it great to pair with an otherwise dull outfit.

New York Doughnut Shop Gives a New Meaning to "Hot and Fresh"

Doughnut Plant brings a new twist to a favorite sweet treat

BY MARIE SCARSELLA

After opening his own bakery in a converted tenement building in 1994, Mark Israel set out to do something rather unusual in the doughnut world. Following a family recipe passed down from his grandfather, he attempted to not only perfect one of the country's most loved sweet treats, but to create them using entirely fresh ingredients. It was with this plan that Doughnut Plant became one of New York's most delicious hidden gems.

Nearly two decades later, Doughnut Plant has become successful enough to be

and refreshing peach, the vibrant blueberry, to the floral and distinct orange blossom and cashew. There were also tropical, summery treats such as pineapple and mango doughnuts.

There are, however, some flavors that are a huge hit, and remain available throughout the year. These include doughnuts like the square shaped blackberry jam filled vanilla bean, and the chocolate-lover's blackout cake doughnut, with its rich chocolate cake base, subtle chocolate filling, rich chocolate frosting, and decadent chocolate crumbles.

"With the use of fresh ingredients, the flavors of doughnuts are constantly changing."

operating at two locations - one in Chelsea and one on the Lower East Side. All doughnuts are baked fresh daily, using fresh fruits and nuts from local farmers' markets.

With the use of fresh ingredients, the flavors of doughnuts are constantly changing. This summer's flavor lineup rotated quite a few times, switching from the sweet

If that sounds like it would make you thirsty, Doughnut Plant also offers unique house-made beverages. Along with the typical coffee and tea, there is also an option of a house-made juice, which also varies by season, and a warm, delicious chai tea. Most recently, the featured juices have ranged from pineapple-celery



Photo: Megan Brenneck

Located in the Lower East Side, New York's Doughnut Plant artfully crafts mouth-watering pastries.

to strawberry lemonade.

While the hours vary by location, once the doughnuts sell out for the day, they are gone, so be sure to snag your favorites bright and early.

Once you taste one of these, you'll never want to eat anything from Dunkin' Donuts again.

Weighing In On The Dark Knight Rises

"The Dark Knight Rises" Falls Short

BY MARK REVELLO

Upon leaving the midnight showing of "The Dark Knight Rises", I was unable to speak for a few minutes. The "high" that accompanied the thrill of seeing the movie for the first time, especially one that I had been anticipating for years, had rendered me awestruck.

That overpowering feeling had me believing that "The Dark Knight Rises" was the best of the trilogy, much to the chagrin of a few friends. After hearing the arguments against the movie, and seeing the movie in theaters a second time, I HAD to reconsider my position. My issues with "The Dark Knight Rises" became much more apparent after the second viewing.

The first issue that screamed out at me from the movie screen was how inconsistent the movie was timed. "The Dark Knight Rises" starts out with a brief introduction to Bane and some minor action but then it damn near crawls to a halt by the middle of the film. Instead of Director Christopher Nolan pacing the movie out in a way that keeps the viewer constantly on edge, like "The Dark Knight", he saves ALL the most intense sequences of the film for the last 45 minutes in what feels like a defibrillator for the entire movie.

Character development also left something to be desired in "The Dark Knight Rises". The Miranda Tate/Talia Al Ghul character is poorly developed. Her insertion into the movie feels out of place and in-

applicable to the plot at times. Selina Kyle also has issues as a character in this film; her motives are always muddled at best, and when she decides to save Batman at the end of the film it seems to defy her previous acts of screwing him over throughout the whole movie.

Overall, Director Christopher Nolan's third and final installment of the series was filled with more plot holes, inconsistencies, and character issues than both the first and second movies combined. Nolan perhaps should have used the "Bat-Knee" to kick more life into the film instead of using it to



Source: Google Images

bust down unsuspecting brick columns.

BY LUKE CRISALLI

If movie trilogies, more specifically superhero movie trilogies, have taught us anything, it is that the third movie must always not only suck, but also make you want to throw up in your mouth a little bit. Most guilty of this are the "X-Men", "Spiderman" and "Blade" franchises, which oddly enough, are all Marvel owned.

With that in mind, and the mentally scarring Joel Schumacher Batman films starting with 1995's "Batman Forever" fresh in the mind of the movie going public, one wouldn't fault a moviegoers apprehension before seeing "The Dark Knight Rises."

But this is Christopher Nolan, who seem-

ingly out of thin air, managed to make Batman appeal to everyone who walked into a theater. I mean, "The Dark Knight" was one of the most critically acclaimed comic book movies

of all time, and that's following the already excellent "Batman Begins." Still, this is the third movie, so it's going to have to suck right?

Actually, no. Even the most casual comic book fan knows that Batman's rogues' gallery is deeper than Mayor Bloomberg's careless pockets so there were plenty of villain options available. Nolan's choice of Bane as the films main antagonist was an interesting one, to say the least. Bane might not have been the first name that pops to mind when it comes to Batman's foes, but it was a choice that had to be made.

Bane is the Yin to Batman's Yang; a true polar opposite. Trained to the utmost of physical perfection, he also has mind that is not driven by ego, like the Scarecrow, and not unpredictably chaotic, like the Joker; Bane is the one person that could actually not only best Batman physically, but also do so mentally.

In "TDKR", you literally did not know the outcome. True to the original story of the comics, Batman quite literally receives the beating of his life, something nearly unseen in any superhero movie. Yet the fight choreography was done to such a tremendous point that watching it did not "feel" like a "superhero movie fight", it felt like I was watching the best boxing match since Ali/Frazier. Bane was the best villain for the job and makes "TDKR" a satisfying conclusion to the Nolan trilogy.

Top 5 Albums of Summer 2012

BY MARIE SCARSELLA

If there's one thing notable about the summer of 2012, it's how hard its music rocked. The festivals were crazy, the free shows were abundant, and most importantly, the new albums were worth spinning over and over again.

While it would be impossible to discuss the ups and downs of every record to hit shelves this summer, here is a list of a few of those worth rocking out to long past the change of seasons.

Minus the Bear - *Infinity Overhead*

For fans of: Portugal. the Man, Circa Survive, Cursive

Playing off the risqué tones of 2010's *Omni*, Minus the Bear's latest record, *Infinity Overhead* is the perfect record to listen to while rekindling a summer romance. While the lyrical imagery is a bit dark at times, the album is filled with thumping bass lines and funky guitar solos, making it one of the sexiest albums of the season.

Recommended tracks: **Lonely Gun, Toska, Cold Company**

Passion Pit - *Gossamer*

For fans of: Two Door Cinema Club, Grouplove, Hot Chip

After a violent battle with his mental health, Passion Pit frontman Michael Angelakos opened up and bared his soul with the release of *Gossamer*. Though with the bubbly charm of his helium-balloon-tinted vocals and the beeps and blips of a synthesizer, if you didn't know any better, you'd think it were one of the most cheerful albums ever written.

Recommended tracks: **Constant Conversations, On My Way, I'll Be Alright**

Smashing Pumpkins - *Oceania*

For fans of: Silversun Pickups, Soundgarden, Zwan

A lot of people hated the Smashing Pumpkins' last record, *Zeitgeist* for whatever reason, but quite frankly, Billy Corgan and his crew didn't give a damn. However, for those in doubt, the band's new record can be seen as a form of redemption. It features both the heavy tones and the delicate softness fans would hope for from Corgan, echoing prior albums while still sounding fresh.

Recommended tracks: **One Diamond, One Heart, Pale Horse, Glissandra**

Fiona Apple - *The Idler Wheel Is Wiser Than The Driver of the Screw and the Whipping*



Source: Google Images

Minus the Bear heats up the summer with their new studio album: *Infinity Overhead*

Cords Will Serve You More Than Ropes Will Ever Do

For fans of: Regina Spektor, Alanis Morissette, St. Vincent

The album title may be a mouthful, but if there's one thing to be said about *The Idler Wheel*... it's that its some of Fiona Apple's best work to date. After her seven-year hiatus from music, the neurotic singer is back with full force, adding bouncy melodies and powerhouse vocal lines to her agenda, this time, hopefully, minus the nervous breakdowns on stage.

Recommended tracks: **Daredevil, Periphery,**

Anything We Want

Empires - *Garage Hymns*

For fans of: Forgive Durden, This Is Ivy League, Butch Walker

Finally a band that hasn't forgotten the simple pleasures of straight up rock n' roll! Empires is on the road to becoming a rock and roll powerhouse with *Garage Hymns*, combining powerful guitar lyrics with soulful vocals and their Mick Jagger-like stage presence, circa 1972.

Recommended tracks: **Keep It Steady, Hell's Heroes, Hitchhiker**

'True Blood' Finishes Its Most Intense Season Yet

BY SARAH ALADHAMY

The fifth season of *True Blood* was the most shocking and suspenseful season yet. This season, Bill and Eric are sent to The Authority to be interrogated. After arriving at its headquarters, they realize that six vampires, who are chancellors, run it. Looking like they are in a religious cult, keeping the blood of Lilith in a safe place and praising Lilith as God. While also believing that "mainstreaming" is the only way they can co-exist with humans.

Once The Authority finds out that Russell Edgington wasn't killed but buried in cement; Roman the head of The Authority sends Bill and Eric to find Russell and bring him to headquarters. They eventually locate Russell and dig him out from the construction site. We learn that Russell was one of the chancellors of the Authority who believed in sharing the blood of Lilith to all vampires. The two capture Russell taking him to the Authority where he's supposed to be executed by Roman. Instead, Roman is killed by Russell via a stake through his chest.

Meanwhile, Sookie and Jason discover the truth about their parent's death, realizing it was a Vampire named Warlow who killed

them. Also, humans who want to kill vampires and other non-humans shoot Luna and Sam. While they try to find out who would want to kill shifters, Luna's daughter Emma stays with her grandma and her wolf pack. Eventually Russell takes Emma away while she's in wolf form to become a pet for Steve Newlin. Luna and Sam sneak into the Authority to rescue Emma. But the two get caught while attempting to do so. Once they escape, Sam manages to kill one of the chancellors named Rosaline.

The season ended with Eric, Sookie and her friends sneaking into the Authority headquarters to save Bill from losing his humanity. Both Eric and Sookie walk in on Bill about to drink the vial of Lilith's blood. They try to stop him by talking to him but it does not work. Once he drinks the vial, Bill is appears to die after his body explodes but is instead reborn. He reappears in front of them covered in blood, effectively leaving viewers impatiently awaiting season 6.



Source: Google Images

SEX AND THE ISLAND

Static Cling

Relationships That Aren't All That Great

BY DAEYUNG LEE

It's hard to breathe when you have the Great Squid dragging you underwater with these tentacles that scream out want and need. I lost my voice and she gained this dangerous grip on my life and my free time. It didn't help that the desire to end it quickly flew out the door when sex was in the equation. As a Neanderthal man, the promise of sex has me grunting and drooling, mostly because it's been a while since I placed my best friend in a hole that was questionable. While I'm not a fan of the hit and quit or the smash and dash, I finally realize the need for it. Some women aren't meant to be in a relationship with me. Excuse the self-flattery but they fall deep, like a dug a ditch made of romance, emotions, and chiseled abdominals.

Yet, it's just so easy to see the romanticism evoked in a, well, a romantic relationship. For a little while everything is pretty pink and roses and unicorns flying on top of shining rainbows while gumdrops and various candies fall from the skies. You look up to this scene and you think you find peace and serenity. You think it's perfectly fine to go on Facebook and profess your love for life now that you have someone mentally ill enough to consent to shagging you on the regular.

In this period of time, your statuses start reflecting a serious loss of testicles. This is usually demonstrated with loud and annoying statements like, "OMG life is perfect!" or, "I just love my girlfriend! <3 <3!" A general rule that follows the diction of these statements is that the word love is spelled with a great excess of e's at the end. Your friends have a hard time respecting you, trying to hold onto the image of a harder you, the one that occurred before you decided to throw your manhood to the wind. They meet up privately under the guise of hooded garments within hidden alcoves and back alleyways to discuss your femininity. The light candles to mourn your loss, they burn copies of the Bro Code, convinced that the new you is pretty gay and out of fear of contagion, they flee

When a girl throws affection at me, I take it and run like Forrest Gump. Why? Because life is like a box of chocolates, that's why.

from your shadow.

But I digress.

My story follows a weather beaten and defeated young man who stared into the mirror and cursed with heavy adjectives. One day, after a particularly nasty encounter with an STD-carrying lady, he kicked cans in the gutter and sang the traditional ode to the lonely man. All the lonely guys out there know the song, the lyrics are composed of, "Woe is me,

Woe is me" often accompanied acoustically by the world's smallest violin. The story progresses to CSI where I find a broken girl munching on granola and telling me how great I look. She gushed over my skin color, my broad shoulders, and brown eyes. I left so flattered but utterly convince that she was not the one I wanted to rebound with.

The next day, I saw her activity on Facebook and thinking to amiably, I added her. Why not? We had a pretty interesting conversation about how beautiful I am, what wrong could come out of it? Before I knew it, I was in a relationship with this woman. A horrible, horrible relationship. On the first day of the rest of my life (or what it seemed) she told me how she knew I liked her because

I added her to Facebook. The rest of the day was spent thinking, "Eff that. I don't even really like you right now." But for all my bravado here, I'm really a pansy-ass. When a girl throws affection at me, I take it and run like Forrest Gump. Why? Because life is like a box of chocolates, that's why.

I'll explain.

In thanking her for her kind words, I invited her to a lovely stroll to Yogurtberry for smoothies, gracefully leaving my testosterone behind. Rumor has it that my manliness has intimidated many a female.

Whatever, she ordered some crappy smoothie that she didn't finish, that pissed me off. Like why in the world did I pay 5.95 for some blended fruit that she played with, sipped, and then gave it away?

To make matters worse, she was one of those protestors, an OWS character who believed that they she was doing the world an unfathomable justice by banging drums and coming up with catchy slogans. She played

me some kind of work song from the 20's and got offended when I said that it sucked. Honestly it sucked with Dyson power. She was all like, "This is what I'm all about, fighting the people, doing things that matter." I couldn't believe that she believed that. Then she had the audacity to decide that my decision to be a doctor wasn't self-sacrificing.

You know, because I'm all there fixing people and what not, jerking off during the down time. I told her that she was retarded for thinking she was making a dent in the way the world worked.

After that she criticized my outfits, complaining that I was trying to hard to be something that I wasn't. I screamed inside like, "Bitch, how dare you. Do you not see how

fabulous I am?" You can criticize a lot of things about me, but don't you ever tread on my attire, especially when you look like you got dressed in a dark dumpster.

Just to add fury to the flames, she asked me to buy EVERYTHING and got disappointed when I came up short. At one point she begged me to buy her ice cream. She asked why I didn't ask my parents for more money and complained when they gave me a 20 that it wasn't enough money. I don't ask my parents for money just like no one asks Charon for a coin to get over the River Styx.

I have no intention of getting to hell faster, I'd rather swim to be honest.

In a series of whirlwind acts of infatuation, she just highlighted how immature she was. "I think I'm falling for you, but I don't completely trust you yet." And then there was her immense family of a truck full of brothers and sisters. "OMG my sisters love you!" Well duh, what's there not to love? They followed us to the store and almost made me look like

an asshole the way they picked up random items and looked at me to buy it. In fact, they did it with such efficacy that I was fairly positive it wasn't the first time they've done that. Sharks, goddamn it, sharks. But the best was, "I can't live without you," whispered in an attempt to be sexy, right in the middle of coitus. Now I ask you, is there anything more

unsexy than that from a girl you barely know? It would have been more effective in completely shrinking my stiffy if she had mounted me, got off and then punched me right in the sack.

But I lied. The real best quote from the squid was, "I think I'm pregnant and I don't want to get rid of it because that would be like killing a piece of you," she said while stroking her belly. "That's great," I said as I reached for a coat hanger. Kidding. But my balls shrank to the size of pebbles and I swallowed down reflex vomit as I whispered, "Oh really?" How in God's green earth was that possible when I used condoms like they were going out of fashion.

And then I remembered I used some of her condoms and she might have been so balls out crazy she took a pin to them. I was a good 5 seconds away from pulling some Maury Povich type BS and telling her that that baby don't look like me. And then she texted me saying she got her period. Lady, do you think this relationship was going anywhere after that?

Oh, and she told me that after a second round of sex. Up to this point I don't know she segmented the only part of the relationship I liked with ball-shriving news. Maybe it turned her on or maybe she just loved giving me blue balls.

Either way, it's no wonder that I broke up with her via text.

Hell hath no fury like a woman's crazy.

"I think I'm pregnant and I don't want to get rid of it because that would be like killing a piece of you," she said while stroking her belly.

Before I knew it, I was in a relationship with this woman. A horrible, horrible relationship.

BANNER OPINIONS

Ask Sandra: She Has All the Answers...

The Banner's Resident Advice Columnist Answers CSI's Toughest Questions

BY SANDRA CHAMOUN

Dear Sandra,

I am having trouble managing my money. It seems that once I get my paycheck, I spend it all with out any money left to show for it. How can I assure this doesn't happen?

Dear Big Spender,

I would suggest taking out a certain percentage of your paycheck and putting it into a savings account every week. Making sure that you take that money out of every pay check will give you less money to spend on stuff you don't need and more money saved for your future expenses. Next, start to write down what you're spending the remaining paycheck on. Keeping track of this will shed light on where you can cut down. Example , if your spending most of your money on eating out, try to pack lunch a few days a week this will save you an average of \$ 7.00 a day and makes for more money in your pocket.

Dear Sandra,

I just found out that my boyfriend of 4 years is planning on proposing and I don't have any intention of marrying him. The truth is I feel like he isn't the one. He possesses none of the characteristics that I want in a husband. I don't see myself with him and want to break up. What do I do?

Dear Wake up Call,

While it's great that you know what you want and need in a partner it is not great that you are being dishonest with your boyfriend. You're allowing him to think that he is the one for you because you're still dating him. It is your responsibility to be honest with him and end the relationship before he invests anymore time planning a proposal.

Dear Sandra,

I am an incoming freshman at CSI and was wondering if it is important to join clubs on campus. Will it help me with my adjustment from high school to college?

Dear Incoming Freshman,

While I wouldn't pin it to be necessary it is however a good way to meet fellow peers. I find that participation in clubs as well as various extracurricular activities on campus is a good way to enjoy your college career. It isn't all about studying it is also beneficial to have a social life here as well. I do want to point out that besides being involved, acquiring better study skills will better prepare you for your adjustment from high school to college.

Dear Sandra,

Now that the semester is approaching I am beginning to think that the 18 credits that I am registered for are going to be too much to manage along with my two jobs. Should I drop a class or suck it up?

Dear Overloaded,

It is not just important to pass this 18 credit workload but you also want to do well. If you find that juggling two jobs and 18 credits is going to come at the expense of failing a course or sacrificing your health then I would strongly recommend dropping a class and saving it for another semester.

Sandra Chamoun is senior and psychology major at CSI. You can reach her at the Heath and Wellness Center in 1C where she is a peer counselor.

Romney Vs. The Big Bird

Mitt Takes On PBS

BY JEREMY PASKER

Mitt Romney recently mentioned how PBS should stop borrowing money from China and pay their way.

"We're not going to kill Big Bird, but Big Bird's going to have to have advertisements," Romney said. "My test is — is a program so critical that it's worth borrowing money from China to pay for it?"

Which institutions fail the test to prevent insolvency to China? For starters, the United States spends approximately \$700 billion on defense each year; that's about 4 trillion yuan that is needless government spending.

Therefore, a sure fire way to enable our illustrious military to cease begging the Chinese for money like opium addicts is... you guessed it, advertisements.

First, we begin placing advertising on all military weapons, vehicles and all other levels of machinery; very gaudy and distasteful, but the benefits are enumerable. So, an armored Humvee saunters down Afghanistan Blvd, we should envision a McDonalds logo draped over the side. Or the next drone strike implemented, might have an Exxonmobil emblem festooned around the flying war bot.

Even better, whenever we drop bombs on an unsuspecting village in Yemen, Wal-Mart could be the spokesman. Wars would pay for themselves.

For those reasons it's a two pronged advertising strike. We're able to "protect" American interests while promoting American interests, simple. Think of the effects on the mounting deficits.

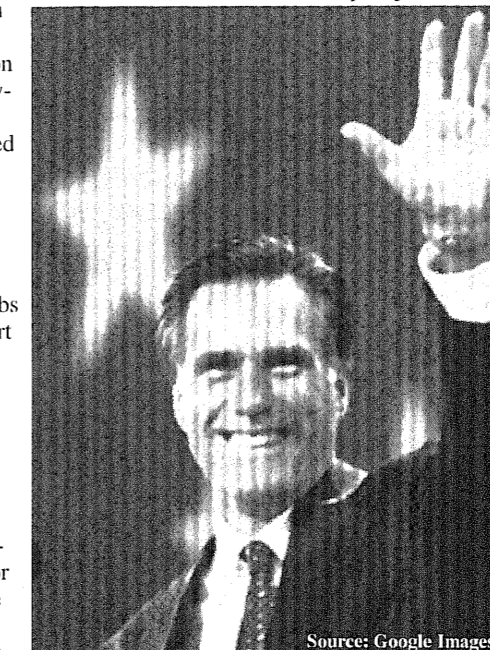
When every bullet taken out of a taliban soldier has the words Bank of America, or whenever a helicopter, fully equipped with the newest premium killing gadget, has the mint icon of Visa, the free market benefits are insurmountable; think of all the jobs created.

Secondly, after America is through

selectively rooting out terrorists being harbored within the borders of various third world countries we inhabit, all that will be on their minds are the company icons that sponsored the destructive force. The voluminous exhortations for "more" and "more" evoked by them would be unchallenged

Nothing compares to the jubilation one feels after consuming an arbitrary piece of electronic equipment. They won't have a bed to sleep in or a kitchen to eat from, but they'll have the newest version of the Madden football franchise, priceless.

Imagine if armored intrepid marines stormed the fortified residence of Osama bin Laden with Perdue Chicken emblazoned on their uniforms, helmets, and weaponry. Then



Earlier in the year Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney took on public broadcasting by suggesting that PBS should run advertisements to cover its operating costs

perdue chicken becomes synonymous with freedom, instead of the company that pollutes the water supply.

Furthermore, visualize during our 10 year Iraq war soldiers parading around in Alaskan Fur Company jackets. The unfathomable cost of a war, for imaginary weapons of mass destruction, would have been surely reimbursed by the billions of advertising dollars extracted from private companies.

Nothing is more hip, exotic and innovative than soldiers, in the desert, wearing fur. Can you smell the American exceptionalism? We need more private intervention in the public sector, not less. For instance, Public schools leach off the system too. The pervasive narra-

tive emphasises how freeloaders must provide their fair share.

Therefore, every public school, instead of accepting tax money and other "free stuff", should have several emblems and trademarked icons stitched permanently on required uniforms Nascar style.

These are simple solutions for tough problems. How else do we expect to finance the budget?

There are still other free loading industries enslaving us to China and other Communist ilk. It's time to start fully subscribing to the principles of the free market and not rely on "Big Government."

What about Congressman; total moochers, right!?

Congress should start raising funds for their own salaries and pensions and free lifetime health care, free chauffeurs, free private jets and free office space and stop depending on "Big Government."

The United States is missing out on valuable demographics. Americans are losing out on tangible revenue streams.

Alternatively, similar to sports arenas, advertisers could rent space outside and inside government buildings.

Instead of the Oval office, the Oval Gillette office. Or better yet, instead of the Supreme Court, how does the Koch Industries Supreme Court sound, huh?

When Mitt Romney stresses fair participation from those he deems limited contributors we all know he's referring to the poor. Poor pedestrians walk on sidewalks and automobile owners drive on highways; cement is not free. You know what could pay for that? Advertisements, that's what.

The only way to prevent us from becoming the United Chinese States of Socialism are sensible proactive solutions that do not begin with tax. Unless it's taxing the poor because they're freeloaders.



Source: Google Images

BANNER SPORTS

Women's Soccer 2012 Preview

The Lady Dolphins look to improve on last season's CUNYAC championship in hopes for a trip to the NCAA division III bracket.

BY MIKE PAPANDREA

After last season's championship victory over John Jay College the CSI women's soccer team has a new goal this season, admission into the NCAA.

For the first time in CUNYAC history, the winner of the tournament will automatically advance into the NCAA division III bracket. In order for the Dolphins to reach the NCAA it would require them to again win the CUNYAC championship.

According to coach John Guagliardo an influx of talented freshman and returning stars of last season gives his team an edge.

"The biggest strength of this team is depth. We never had this kind of depth before," said Guagliardo. "Started with 36 players and we ended up with 24 and of the 24 we can sub a player out now and sub a player in. We are not gonna miss a beat."

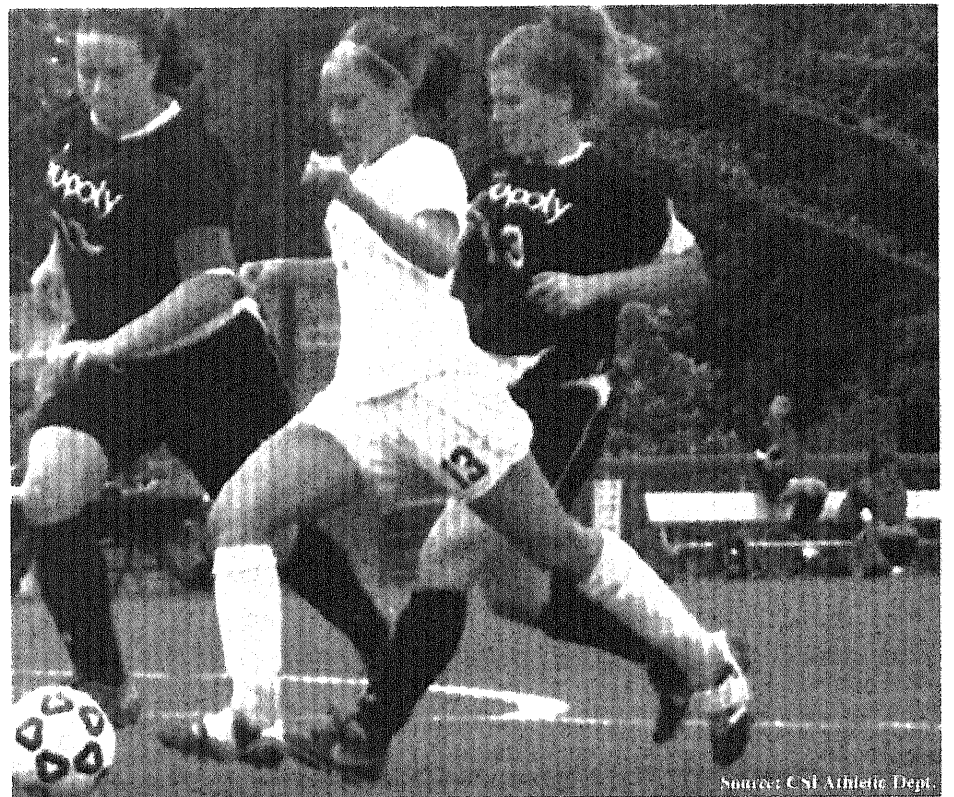
"The amount of freshman power we have on coming in is absolutely amazing," said Guagliardo. "Samantha Wysokowski is going to go in the center or mid field where she should have been to begin with. One of forwards who was on the all CUNY team, Natalie Tombasco is dropping back to help

us in defense, that's how strong we are offensively."

The team's new found depth was put on display against the highly regarded Benedictine University in the first game of the 2012 season. Junior Demi-Jean Martorano scored the first goal of the season for CSI, picking up right where she left off after her team leading 18 goals last year. Sophomore Victoria Donegan, who faced an injury last season, stopped 10 shots on goal including two saves to preserve the 1-0 victory, despite the team being defeated 13-9.

The second game, held at CSI, and was played the next day. The dolphins were unable to stop the strong offense of

Wisconsin Platteville, who scored 5 goals in the first half. After being down 5-1 CSI did attempt a comeback in the second half, as Danielle Alexandrini made her first career



Source: CSI Athletic Dept.

goal to make it 5-2. Samantha Wysokowski made her second goal of the game by scoring

After the first two games of the year the Dolphins are 1-1.

Coach Guagliardo is not worried about the loss up to this point as he believes his team is filled with all star calibers.

"We have a possible all star cast with this team. This teams heading for the NCAA, I'll stick my neck out and say it."

"The biggest strength of this team is depth. We never had this kind of depth before." said Guagliardo.

a penalty kick goal to make it 5-3.

Wisconsin ended the game 6-3. Despite the loss, Donegan collected 10 saves as CSI was outshot in shots on goal (16-8).

Men's Soccer 2012 Preview

Under Coach Tardy The Dolphins Look Ahead

BY BRADLEY POPKIN

A 5-0 shut out at the hands of Lehman College marked the end of the men's soccer team's run in the CUNYAC tournament.

Despite that loss and an underwhelming 3-11-1 season the team has a new outlook under new head coach John Tardy whose resume includes previous division I coaching.

"A weakness that led to a loss versus William Patterson in preseason play."

"Coach Tardy is stricter on players, which is a good thing," said midfielder and defensemen Christian Cherrios. "He always pushes us to give our 200%."

"With his D1 experience he has helped us to be in good condition and has added a no nonsense mentality that has the team in a serious tone," said co-captain and defensemen of the team Giovanni Cortese. "We will be a disciplined team."

When a new coach comes aboard there is often a transitioning period. A coach has to

command the respect of his team and set a tone. Transitioning into a new system requires a dedicated team that is willing to put the time in off the field.

"This year's team is more fit than last year's team. Coach really had us work hard in the preseason on our conditioning," said defensemen Stephen Caifa.

As the team embarks on its 2012 cam-

paign, expect a more disciplined team. "Our biggest weakness right now is definitely our organization which is something we've been focusing on," said Coach Tardy. "A weakness that led to a loss versus William Patterson in preseason play."

"Skill wise and talent wise they were not better than us. They were more organized and it showed on the field," said Coach Tardy.

Despite that weakness, the coach pointed out that confidence around the team is



Source: CSI Athletic Dept.

high and it should be. The team returns 16 players from last years' team and gets a healthy group back, including leading goal scorer Alfonso Castaneda, Lirim Begai, Michele Kissi, and Mubaric Ibrahim.

A big part of winning the CUNYAC will be cohesion. A team that has chemistry can ultimately go far. "As long as our guys stay healthy without any significant injuries, I do truly believe we have what it takes this year to get those rings in December," says Giovanni Cortese.

Mid fielder Lirim Begai, Forward

Michele Kissi, and Forward Mubaric Ibrahim combined to miss 17 games due to injury last season.

Every team's goal no matter the sport should be to compete for a championship and this team is hungrier than ever. "We have a very competitive team this year. The team definitely has enough talent to go all the way," says coach Tardy.

"Success definitely takes time, we're hoping to get together and make the best of the season."