

The Banner

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Dirt, Noise, Disappointment: Welcome to the Dolphin Cove

New Residents at CSI Find Poor Planning and Rushed Delivery Problematic



BY DAEYUNG LEE

CSI welcomed new residents and their families into the Dolphin Cove for the first time on August 25 with an elaborate move-in day; chaperoned by Resident Advisors, volunteer students, and members of the Student Housing Department.

The celebration was well received by the college campus, that had been reminded of the opening with jeering signs and advertisements telling the community that, "if you lived here, you'd already be home," or that "you could have slept in."

The signs failed to mention that holes in the ceiling, a lack of hot water, and no internet connection could make the extra time sleeping or being home more of a hassle than anything.

While luggage and amenities were carried and set up in rooms, the joyous event was marred with the realization that the dormitories were not yet completed. While many of these students were responsible for paying for a seat in the Dolphin Cove months before, most found that the Student Housing Department were quick to take checks and even quicker to announce the dorms "complete".

The move-in day became even more of a disaster as several residents were instead checked into hotels, accommodated with shuttle bus service to and from the college and hotel.

"The shower is missing, one of the cabinets is half off, there's a hole in the ceiling, there is paint missing, what else is there?" joked Mayra Pesantez, trying to make light of a serious situation. "No hot water, there's only cold water."

The North and South Building along with the newly constructed handball and basketball courts make up the Dolphin Cove, CSI's new residential community. 442 residents, of which two are professional staff members and eight are Resident Assistants, call the Dolphin Cove home.

A look at the Dolphin Cove's website reveals a virtual tour of the different kinds of living situations offered. The video highlights the beautiful landscape and the fully furnished dorm rooms. It fails to mention that as of the first week of September, the Dolphin Cove barely resembles anything in that video.

The problem is that the virtual rooms are lively with beautiful lighting, wonderful furniture, and exude a feeling of home. The dorms that the residents showed off were empty and bare, pock-marked with lack of paint in some areas or small and invasive holes within the walls and ceiling.

The website and the FAQ page also fail to mention that the Dolphin Cove is still a work in progress, a fact that the residents are not quick to forget. A look outside of one of the rooms reveals a large dirt mound, unplanted trees, and debris from the summer long construction. Construction workers are also present at the Cove, often intermingling with the residents as they hurry to finish their job. This was learned by all residents on the move-in day.

"An email went out to residents advising them that some construction would continue after they moved in," said General Manager of the Dolphin Cove, Nicole Weston. "We understand

that the construction items are an inconvenience to residents and we are feverishly working to complete all outstanding construction items."

However, there were a handful of students who were more than happy with their dorms and their roommates, ecstatic to finally live the college experience.

"I love living here, it's amazing," gushed freshman and resident Nyah Smith. "The dorm experience depends on your roommates."

But the excitement of living on a college campus is not without the recognition that there are problems.

"Except there's no WiFi or hot water," interjected Smith's roommate Irina Heimerlen, class of 2017.

For the first week at the Dolphin Cove, residents in the South Building were informed of the lack of hot running water in the dorms. The residents were then encouraged to venture to the Gym, or The Recreation Center 1R to take warm showers there.

"Students were also advised that hot water would not be available for a couple of days," responded Weston. "But they could use the Sports and Rec Center to shower."

The problem was corrected later that week, but during a follow-up, the residents acknowledged improvement but noted on how the water still was not hot but lukewarm and that it took about five minutes to get that way.

Now that these students have officially paid for their seat

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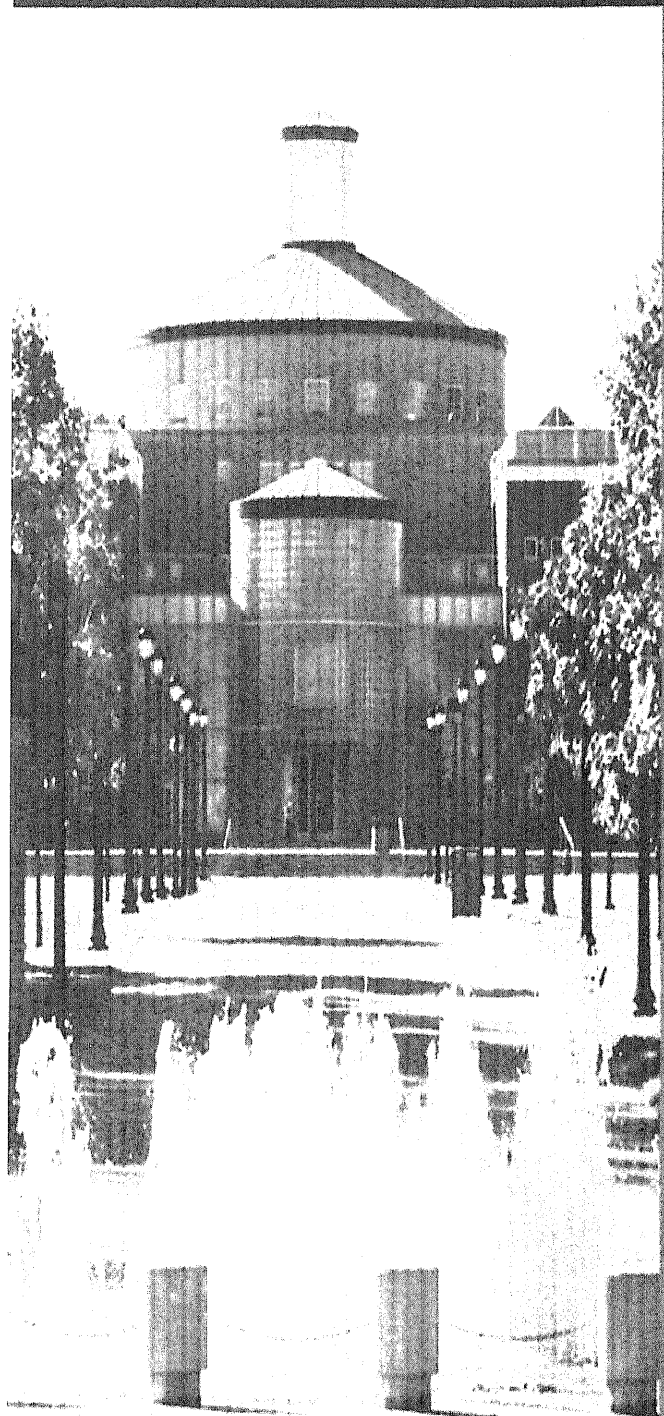


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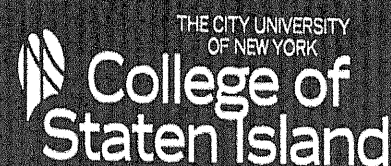
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"Dirt, Noise, Disappointment" Continued from front page

in the Dolphin Cove, many feel trapped and taken advantage of. In addition to the exorbitant fee, complaints from these residents have been filed to supervisors such as Weston and the RAs.

While these complaints are filed, few have been followed up on. Resident Kiana Williams of class 2017 admits to meeting Weston around three times.

One of these meetings with Weston occurred during move-in where Weston was described to be, "really caring and helpful," by Williams.

After that Weston disappeared from Williams and her roommates until a larger problem arose revolving around legal action.

Samantha Wong, a freshman and "little person" diagnosed with skeletal dysplasia, sought CSI as her first choice for college because of its status as the most handicapped accessible campus out of all the CUNYs. Wong and her family also agreed to give the Dolphin Cove a chance, seeing as she would otherwise face a long and expensive

commute via cab service.

In May, three months before the projected completion of the Dolphin Cove, Wong took the time out to place an order for a fully accessible (Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodated) four bedroom, two bathroom dorm. When she showed up on August 25, she was not given anything close to what she and her family were promised.

The doors to the North Building are not automated, so Wong has a hard time even getting into her dorm lobby.

The family quickly consulted Director Christopher Cruz of the Student Disabilities Office who promised to remedy the situation. Yet Wong remained in a non-ADA room, North Building 105, until they switched her with Williams, to 103 later on that day.

When the family realized that the room was still not along the lines of the specifications requested in May, they reached out to Cruz, only to find that he was no longer working at CSI.

The switch not only failed to remedy the situation, it also proved to make things

uncomfortable for Williams who had already met and bonded with her roommates from the move-in date.

"They allowed us to get connected with our roommates when they notified us who we'd be living with," said Williams. "After I had gotten close with them, they switched me and Samantha. My room isn't very handicapped accessible either."

Investigation of North Building rooms 103 and 105 reveal small differences, nothing along the lines of the drastic changes Wong and her family had ordered.

While inside of the buildings, the smell of fresh paint was recognized as were the countless pieces of equipment lying around while construction workers entered rooms to fix problems.

With the lack of privacy noted, it was also mentioned that some of the windows throughout the South Building lacked blinds and people were able to see straight into bedrooms.

After the switch, Wong unofficially left the North Building, opting to live at home.

"We spoke to all the office managers we

could but the ADA room is not ready," said Wong's sister Vivian. "The family is spending a lot of money to get Samantha to school every day. Because of her disability, Samantha has to take a cab service which is really expensive."

Vivian also discussed the emotional stress that Wong has suffered because of the dorm situation because of the moving and inability to stay with her friends in the dorms.

Due to private issues and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act or FERPA, the managers of the Dolphin Cove and the Office of Student Housing declined to comment on Wong's situation, instead insisting that the Dolphin Cove, "meets ADA compliance."

With these problems at hand, could it be possible that the dorms on campus were rushed thereby forcing CSI residents into problematic and uncomfortable living conditions?

When questioned on the idea Weston repeated, "Outstanding construction items are in the process of being completed."



Photo Credit: Daeyung Lee



Photo Credit: Daeyung Lee

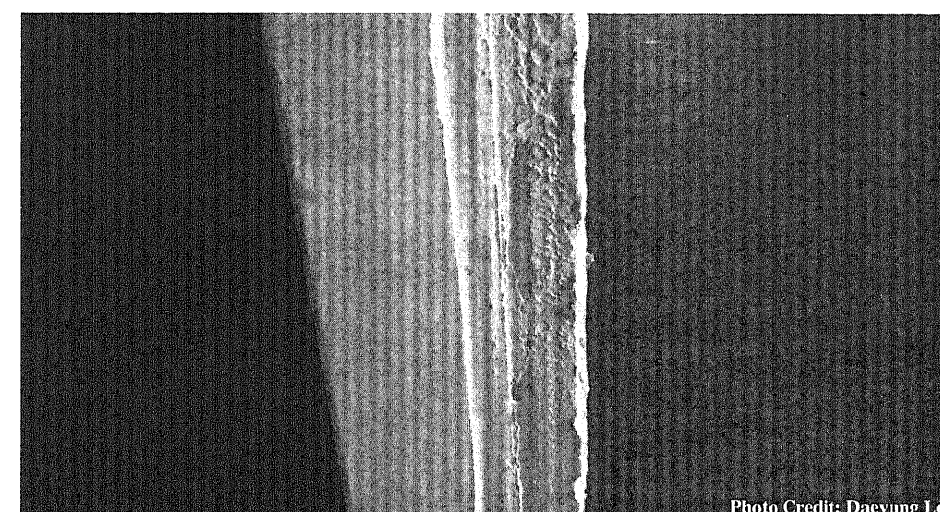


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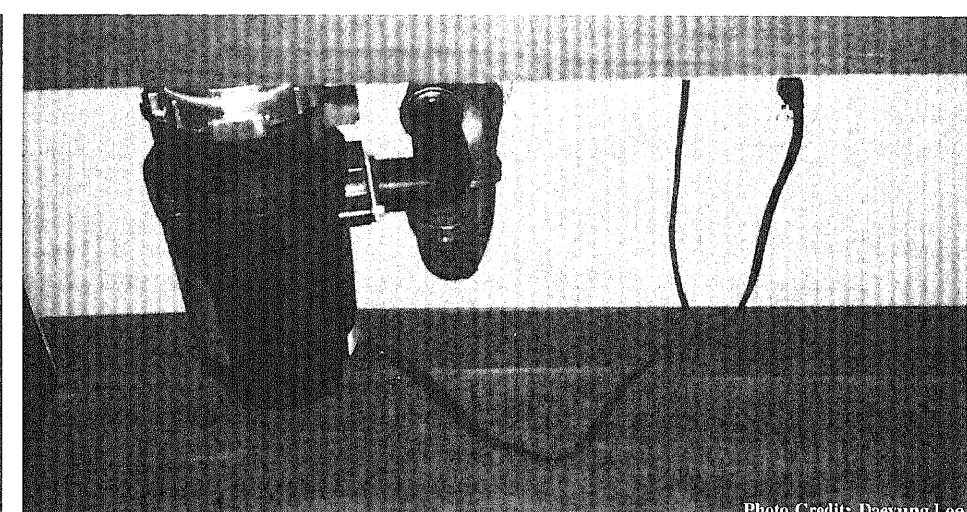


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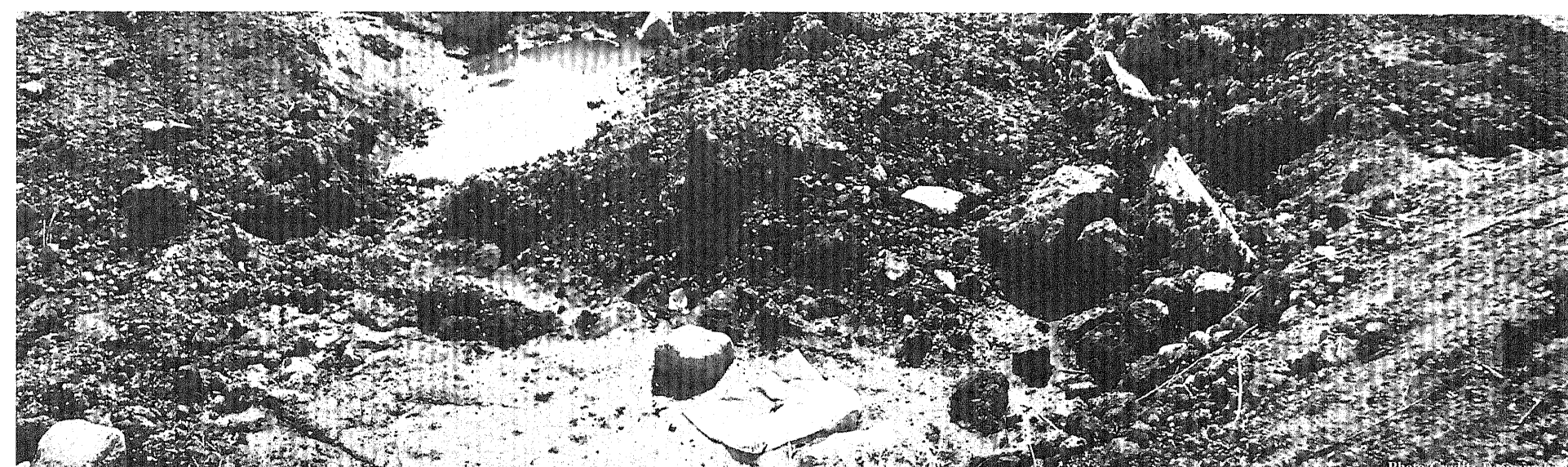


Photo Credit: Daeyung Lee

Top Left: The lobby to the South Building of the Dolphin Cove hosts an unfinished Mail Room, currently home to trash and leftover tools
Bottom Left: A dividing wall in Room 103 remains unpainted with chipped plaster

Top Right: A half-completed, wood-framed pylon welcomes residents to their rooms in the South Building
Bottom Right: An exposed sink in room 105 is left in the open for wheelchair and ADA accessibility

Bottom: A pool of stagnant water and mud located nearly twenty feet away from the dorms remains after construction, already cluttered with litter and debris

CSI's New Dorms Are Guaranteed to Change the Campus

The Impact of Dolphin Cove On Community Life

BY CLIFFORD MICHEL

Mayra Pesantez, a freshman at the College of Staten Island, starts her mornings off stress free. She wakes up, showers, and makes herself a plate of eggs right before she strolls to her 8am class. This convenience is provided to Pesantez and over 400 CUNY residents by Dolphin Cove, the newly built apartment complexes on the north side of CSI's campus.

CSI was traditionally viewed as a local college but with the construction of Dolphin Cove, CUNY's latest residential complex, students who were initially intimidated by the long commute decided to give the campus another look.

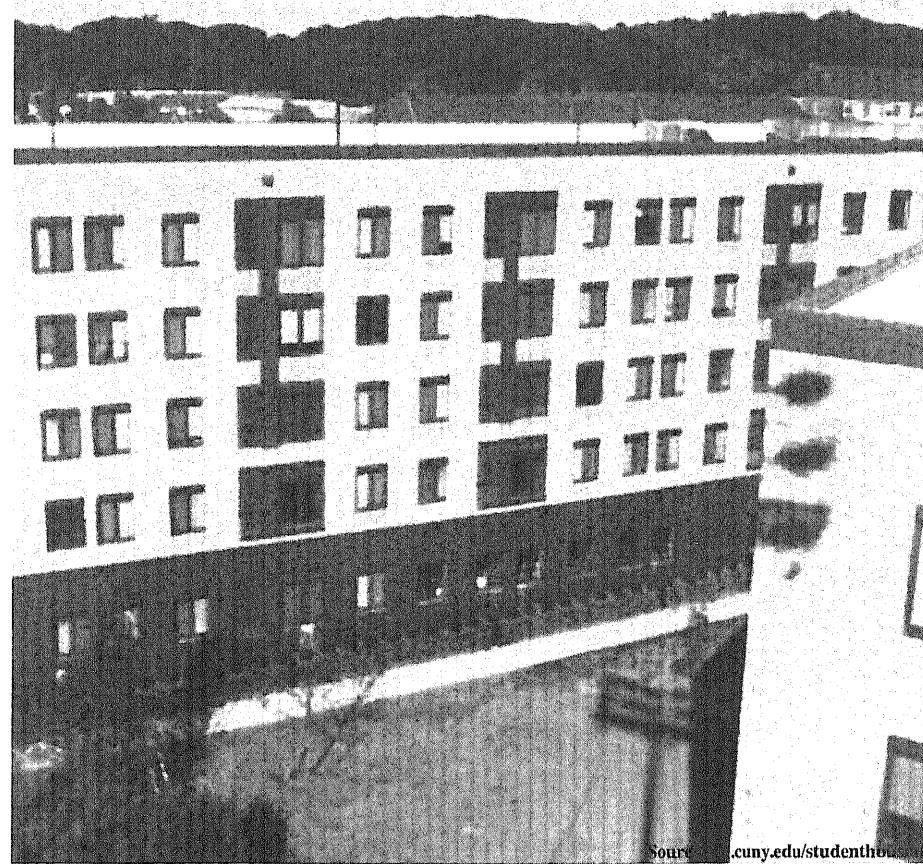
"I figured if I dorm, I'll have more time to study. Because if I commute it'll be three hours, so that's six hours a day commuting so you have more time to study and get settled," said Pesantez.

Dolphin Cove's amenities also aid in providing residents with a proper study space. The spacious apartments include a desk, full kitchen and dining area—benefits that most undergraduates will have to wait till their senior year to obtain.

Beyond studying, some residents believe that Dolphin Cove has the potential to create a tight-knit community seen on traditional college campuses.

"I think there's going to be more commitment to the activities on campus," said Pesantez. "Because now we're living here and some of us want something to commit to, so I'm pretty sure we'll get involved in more activities."

The various banners hanging in the campus are proof of CSI's multitude of clubs. The campus currently has fifty clubs



A birds-eye view of the dorms can be viewed from a link on the Dolphin Cove's website which updates roughly every ten minutes

and organizations on charter for students to join, but some clubs struggle from a lack of participation from the student body.

"I think a lot of that has to do with students not wanting to get involved, so I'm not going to blame that completely on the fact that we're a commuter college," said Student Government President Andrea Curry. "Dolphin Cove would bring more life to campus, specifically weekend events and night events that normally have lower attendance rates. So I'm looking for that to

be an area of increase due to the new dorms."

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) is in charge of providing the student body with social events to entertain and bring together the CSI community. They organize over 100 events every year and on September 3 they presented this year's first outdoor movie night, showcasing "Fast & Furious 6." There was a huge turn out from residents as many crowded the benches and grass surrounding CSI's track field. Moviegoers

wrapped up in complementary blankets and snacking on freshly made popcorn gave sign of cheerful times to come.

With a portion of the CSI community living on campus, enthusiasm for school athletics is primed to grow as well. CSI's men's baseball, basketball, softball and women's soccer programs are playing at a championship level in the CUNYAC (City University of New York Athletic Conference).

CSI's former President, Dr. Tomas D. Morales, was a large supporter of collegiate athletics and the sports programs have seen tremendous growth under his supervision. He was a firm believer that athletics would enhance the CSI experience. And now with the residential building being steps away from the baseball field named after Morales, many are excited for Friday nights on the field to root for their Dolphins.

"I definitely think that housing will increase school spirit. I think there'll be an increase in attendance because the school is no longer just a commuter school, so there's people here 24/7 living and breathing CSI and ready to come to the home games, said student housing resident Joe Tribuzio. "And also commuters can have friends in housing, who would encourage them to come to events."

The excitement and buzz can be felt all over campus as students pour out of the North and South building to go about their day. No longer will CSI's campus be used solely for getting around from one classroom to the next. While for hundreds of students CSI is an institution first, it is just as well a place to be called home.

BANNER POLITICS

Sarin Gas Attacks Brings US to the Brink of Involvement in Syrian Conflict

The Fuzzy Facts and Obama's Line In the Sand

BY JOHN L. FALCONE III

In the poker game of international politics, someone in Syria is calling President Obama's bluff.

The big question is exactly who is calling for the President to show his hand.

Syria's current civil war dates back to 2011, and it is a complicated affair, but it basically boils down to what most civil wars boil down to: on one side you have the existing government and military led by President Bashar al-Assad and on the other side you have a newly formed Free Syrian Army (FSA) which wants to bring down the Assad regime. In the middle, you have innocent civilians.

To date, the United States has stayed out of the conflict, but that may soon change. Back in July, the President stated that the use of chemical weapons by the Assad regime, or any of the other players in the war (i.e. the FSA) would be to cross a red line, leading to US involvement in the conflict.

Recently, a proliferation of amateur video has surfaced on the Internet in the wake of what appears to be a Sarin gas attack on innocent civilians. Someone crossed Obama's line. The question is was it Assad's forces or the FSA?

In an address to the nation on Saturday August 31, the President made it clear that he is certain US intelligence has concrete evidence the Assad regime is behind the attacks, but also admitted that not everyone may agree.

"I'm confident in the case our government has made without waiting for U.N. inspectors," said Obama. "I'm comfortable going forward without the approval of a United Nations Security Council that, so far, has been completely paralyzed and unwilling to hold Assad accountable."

Are they paralyzed and unwilling or unsure due to fuzzy or inconclusive evidence?

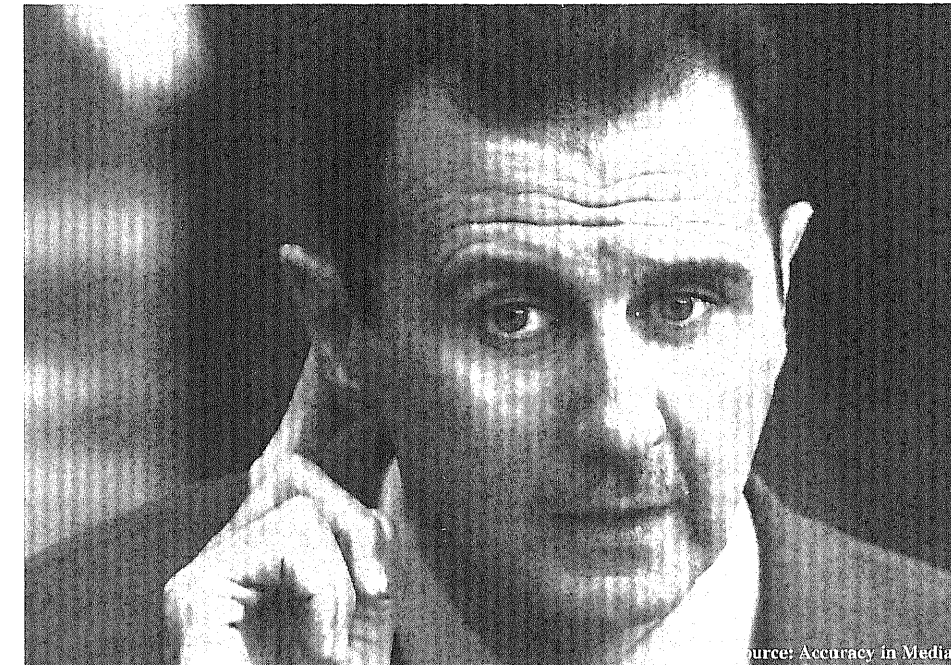
Assad has used forceful language while denying that he ordered the use of chemical weapons, calling Obama weak and claiming that Obama cannot even convince his own people with the evidence that is available.

Obama plans on showing Assad he is wrong by securing Congressional approval for limited military strikes against Syrian government targets.

In order to get the support he needs, the Obama administration must provide answers to the crucial question: was it really Assad, was it the FSA, or was it a third party intent or further destabilizing the situation?

Gathering public support for US involvement in yet another Mid-East conflict may prove more difficult than the President may realize. He would be asking for Americans to back him even though our ally Britain's parliament recently refused to support military intervention in Syria, even though he would not have the backing of the UN, and even though Russian President Vladimir Putin is calling for the Obama administration to provide more evidence to support its claims. As of now, the only other world leader who is backing Obama is the French President Francois Hollande.

Given the amount of international uncertainty surrounding the answer, it does raise some



Source: Accuracy in Media



Top: Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has been in power since 2000, he assumed control of the country after the death his father Hafez al-Assad who had ruled for thirty years
Middle: The fact that Syria borders both Iraq and Israel places it right in the middle of other hot bed Mid-East US interests that cannot be ignored
Bottom: UN investigative teams have landed in Syria to determine the nature of the attack that claimed the lives of hundreds of Syrians



considerable questions about the firmness of the evidence, which the Obama administration is claiming to have. With so much tension built up around this

situation Obama has likely backed himself and our nation into a corner with no real way out. It doesn't take a military expert to realize that a limited military strike on a few targets will not bring an end to this conflict. So what is the endgame here?

Obama needs to act, or at least attempt to, in order to show that he wasn't bluffing, and this can lead to one of two outcomes.

One, Congress shoots the President down and Obama has to fold his hand whether he was bluffing or not. Whoever executed the Sarin attacks went all-in and won.

Two, Obama gets the approval he seeks and the bombs begin to drop, he wins this hand.

Neither outcome really has an upside. Outcome one virtually destroys President Obama's international credibility- he made a bold claim and couldn't back it up. Outcome two see's us involved in another Mid-east conflict and may tick off some of our allies who want more proof before action is taken.

Let's hope Obama has a few cards up his sleeve.

What is Sarin Gas?

Sarin gas is not something you want to be exposed to. Odorless, colorless, tasteless, and highly toxic, this man-made chemical warfare agent is a ruthless nerve gas. For a firsthand look at the results of sarin gas exposure, perform a YouTube search for "sarin gas attack Syria." A word of warning though, this footage is not for the faint of heart and contains graphic images of violence and death showing men, women, and children victims.

When sarin enters your body it attacks the nerves which control your glands and muscles, causing overstimulation. In essence your body goes haywire. Symptoms can manifest within seconds of exposure to sarin in vapor form.

The Center For Disease Control and Prevention website provides the following laundry list of grisly symptoms:

Runny nose, watery eyes, small and pinpoint pupils, eye pain, blurred vision, drooling and excessive sweating, cough, chest tightness, rapid breathing, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, and/or abdominal pain, increased urination, confusion, drowsiness, weakness, headache, slow or fast heart rate, low or high blood pressure, loss of consciousness, convulsions, paralysis, respiratory failure possibly leading to death.

New DolphinCard Brings Convenience and Headaches to Students

To Get One or Not to Get One, the Choice is Yours

BY BRADLEY POPKIN

The beginning of a brand new semester has sent hordes of students to the Office of Parking and DolphinCard services; exactly where you want to be. If you don't access your CSI e-mail account, then chances are you might have missed the subtle introduction of the new DolphinCard.

"My friend worked here over the summer so that's how I found out," said Sophomore Anna Miranda. "If I don't have to get one, I won't because I don't really eat here."

First administered to the new residential students, the card, which acts as both an ID and a debit card, can hold money for purchases at the book store, dining services and parking services. In addition, the DolphinCard allows access to secured areas and gated parking lots, as well as the option to purchase parking decals or pay tickets.

"For the past five years, many of our customers upon payment have presented us with a debit or credit card and we've been unable to accept them," said Director of Dining Services Jodi Merendino. "It's a new world and I think the fact that we're finally able to accommodate them will make many people happy."

Long waits have plagued the crowd of students hoping to get in and out of 3A quickly.

The DolphinCard looks to eliminate congestion and headaches in the cafeteria, the coffee lounge in the library and the bookstore.

"It definitely takes out the factor of using cash," said Freshman Vincent Crescente. "Or if you can credit or debit card [campus purchases], taking out books or eating would be way quicker."

Make sure you hold on to those DolphinCards for dear life, because replacing a card comes with a fee of \$15 when you lose it the first time, \$20 for the second, and \$25 thereafter.

"I think that's a little ridiculous," said Miranda. "If you want something, carry some extra cash on you. I don't think it's worth it."

The brand new cards can have money added to them in a variety of ways, including, Card Management Centers, at the Office of Parking and DolphinCard Services or online via the DolphinCard page on the CSI website. They have three different account types which are Dining Dollars, Dining Plus Dollars and Dolphin Dollars.

Dining Dollars is the main account which holds funds for a meal plan, if you so choose. And the Dining Plus Dollars are subsequently used after all funds have been drained from the main account. There is a minimum deposit of \$50 for the Dining Plus Dollars account and any

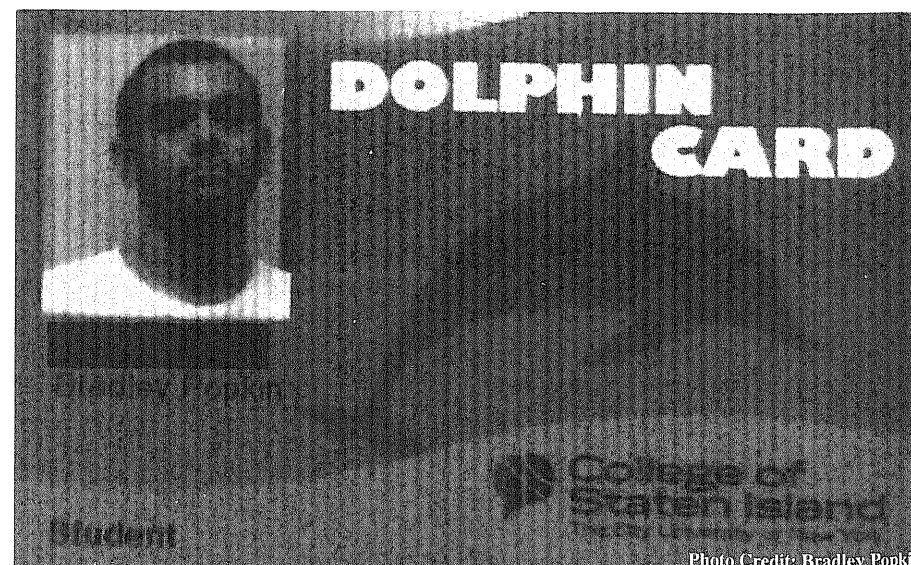


Photo Credit: Bradley Popkin

The DolphinCard doubles as an ID and a Debit Card for quick and easy purchases on campus. The card can be refilled at several kiosks as well as online

remaining money will be forfeited at the end of the semester. Both of these accounts are exempt from NYS sales tax.

Lastly the Dolphin Dollars, the most flexible account, can be used for purchases all around campus; even in the residential laundry facilities but are not tax exempt. Account balances will roll over from semester to semester.

When CUNY made the switch from E-SIMS to CUNY First, they stopped using the

students social security number as the base line for the ID number and went to another form of ID called an "emplid," informed Merendino. The switch was evidently a huge undergoing because the transition was both delayed in bringing the card to students, especially new residents.

"Now that they have one card that acts as a student ID and (are) able to use it for money; it's super important," said Merendino. "It's one stop shopping."

BANNER STYLES

A Glass a Day Keeps the Doctor Away The Health Benefits of Red Wine

BY VICTORIA CAROCCIA

For thousands of years, red wine has played an integral role in human history. From religious ceremonies to cultural traditions, wine has been the drink of choice among gods, monarchs, and other societal elites.

Apart from its rich lineage and great taste, red wine provides excellent health benefits that Jesus and friends didn't know about.

Everyone knows that wine is the ultimate antidote for a long, stressful day. Recent studies have shown that drinking red wine can help fight depression. According to Spanish research, people who drank a glass of red wine daily had the lowest risk of depression compared to those who didn't drink.

While wine does wonders for your mental health, it can also improve your physical health. A study conducted in France claims that wine can boost cell function and prevent muscle deterioration. Another recent study published in The Journal of Andrology and Cancer Science reveals that a compound in red wine makes prostate tumor cells more susceptible to radiation treatment.

So what exactly is in red wine that gives us all of these health benefits? The answer is resveratrol, a compound found in

grape skin. Resveratrol acts as a preservative and protects the grape's skin from fungi. Its defensive nature makes it powerful against tumor cells, while acting as a preservative for muscle fibers and brain cells.

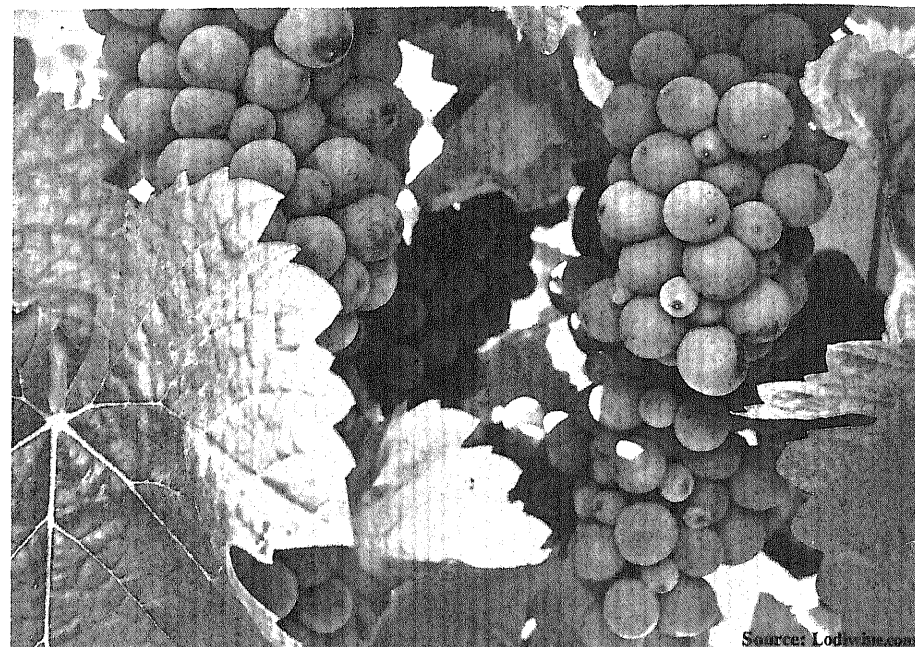
Another healthy compound found in red wine is piceatannol, which delays the production of fat cells and can also boost your metabolism.

The evidence supporting the health benefits of red wine is staggering, but there can be too much of a good thing. Drinking more than one to two glasses of wine a night can have adverse effects on your mental and physical health.

Thanks to both of these potent antioxidants, a daily dose of vino has been deemed acceptable by researchers worldwide. But not all wines are created equal. According to researchers at Cornell University, pinot noir contains the highest concentration of resveratrol.

Because the grapes used to make pinot have very thin skin, they maintain high levels of resveratrol and react quickly to fungi attacks.

Wines made from humid areas are also more likely to contain more resveratrol, since their grapes are more likely to fight off fungi. When shopping for a bottle, opt for wines from France, Oregon, and of



Red wine can contain many health benefits as well helping you to unwind at the end of a long school day, if you are of legal drinking age of course course, New York.

A bottle of wine tends to be cheaper than a trip to the doctor's office, but this preventive method can still be pricey. Luckily, there are plenty of affordable wine options that still taste like their full priced competitors.

Barefoot is a popular brand from California that offers a wide variety at just \$6 a bottle. If you're too embarrassed to pick up Yellow Tail, then opt for a bottle of

Rosemont for \$8. Both wines are from Australia, but Rosemont looks and tastes a little more expensive.

Red wine has always been the perfect escape from life's daily struggles. But with all the recent medical discoveries, it's no surprise that the great men of history valued their wine so much!

The life-extending qualities of antioxidants in red wine will have us toasting to good health for years to come.

BANNER STYLES

The Most Wearable Fashion Trends of Fall 2013 From the Runway to the Hallway

BY VICTORIA CAROCCIA & OBIAGELI UKATU

As we all know, school is back in session and fall is rapidly approaching. While it is extremely upsetting to abandon those lazy days spent baking in tanning oil and drinking Corona Lights, there are a lot of fun things about fall to look forward to: Halloween, Pumpkin Spice Lattes, and of course, fall fashion.

Last February, the designers of Mercedes Benz Fashion Week debuted their fall lines, giving us a sneak peak of what was to come for fall 2013. One of the recurring trends on the runways was punk. When people hear "punk," they mostly think of destroyed denim, razor-sharp studs and bad attitudes. But punk is more than just a crazy outfit; it's about being bold and taking risks with whatever you wear.

Models stomped down the runway in leather, lace, and over-the-top fabrics that let out a rebel yell for all to hear. Along with plaid shirts and biker jackets, designers exhibited fearless fashion with bright colors and new twists on classic pieces.

Fur was huge on the runway this season, spotted on coats from Rachel Zoe and Jason Wu. But these weren't your grandma's floor length minks. Some popular statement coats were Tom Ford's floor length leopard print coat with fur trim and Altuzarra's bright colored full fur coats.

Bright and bold statement coats are all the rage this season, but when it comes to everyday wear, gray is the new black. Alexander Wang, Stella McCartney, and J.W. Anderson all went gray, showcasing the color in different shades

and textures. Emerald green is another popular hue for this season and can be paired with other jewel tones for a regal look.

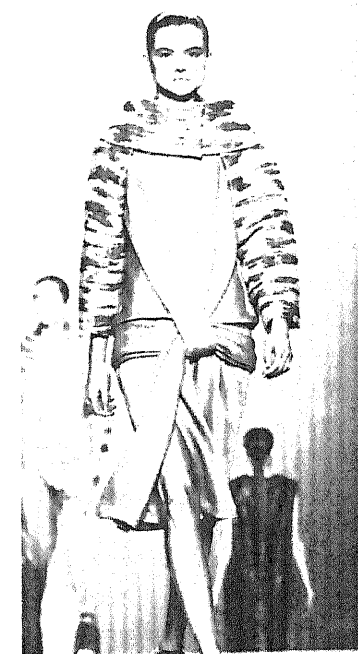
These runway looks may seem too ambitious to pull off on campus. Luckily, there are tons of ways to incorporate these trends into your wardrobe without looking like a crazy person. For guys, fall fashion is easy. Just throw on your motorcycle jackets over your flannel shirts like you did last year, and the year before that. If you're looking to be more fashion forward, try taking on the oversize trend. When the temperature drops, throw on a chunky knit scarf. If you're really brave, go for one with a bold pattern, but be sure to match it with a neutral colored coat.

Fortunately for us girls, menswear inspired

pieces were also trending for us this Fashion Week. From boyfriend jeans to oversized flannel and chambray shirts, this season's trends will have you feeling like one of the guys. If you want something more feminine, go with animal print.

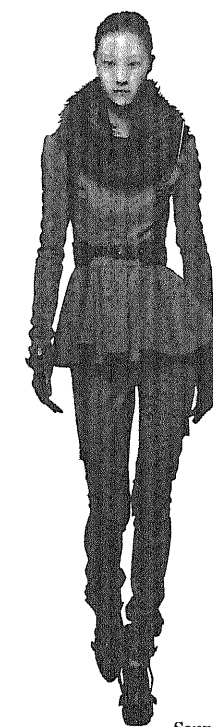
Once again, leopard prints were all the rage this fall. Designers amped up the classic print with brighter hues and bigger spots. Whether you pair a spotted top with denim jeans or printed shoes with a solid colored dress, leopard print is a neutral that can be incorporated into any outfit for a fun, unexpected look.

Now that the weather is starting to break, there's no better time to stock up on staples for your fall wardrobe. Check out stores like H&M or Forever 21 for chic looks at an affordable price!



Source: metro.us

Alexander Wang went gray in chunky oversized fabrics for his outerwear collection



Source: metro.us

Dark olive green debuted in Prabal Gurung's collection with military inspired pants



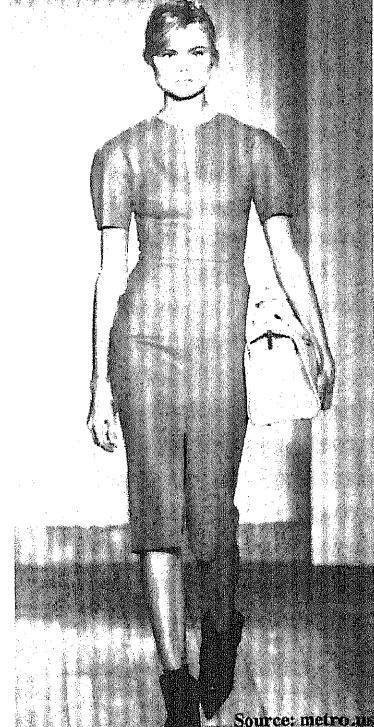
Source: metro.us

Altuzarra stuck with black and white for indoor winter looks and bright floor length coats



Source: metro.us

Vera Wang's printed patterns make a simple top and bottom combo fit for the season



Source: metro.us

Victoria Beckham followed shades of gray with a light gray handbag and black boots



Source: fashionblog.com

Designers used bold colors and patterns to put a twist on the traditional fur coat



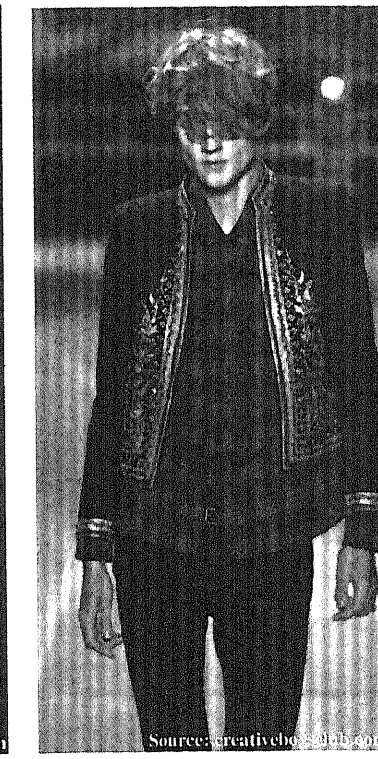
Source: nymag.com

Trending this fall are massively oversized coats, keeping you warm sans the extra bulk



Source: roguemag.com

Fall Fashion channelled punk with a mix of studs, spikes, and leather pieces



Source: creativeschools.com

Designers were craving checks and tartan taking inspiration from the lumberjack print



Source: Getty images

Nautica provides an interesting layered outfit to add functionality to fashion

The Best Dressed On Campus - Back to School Edition



Nataly Herrera
Math Education, Junior
Favorite Store: American Eagle



Photo Credit: Matthew Bergman
Joey Fonti
Undeclared Major, Sophomore
Favorite Store: Top Man



Fion Wu
Journalism/Literature, Junior
Favorite Store: Free People

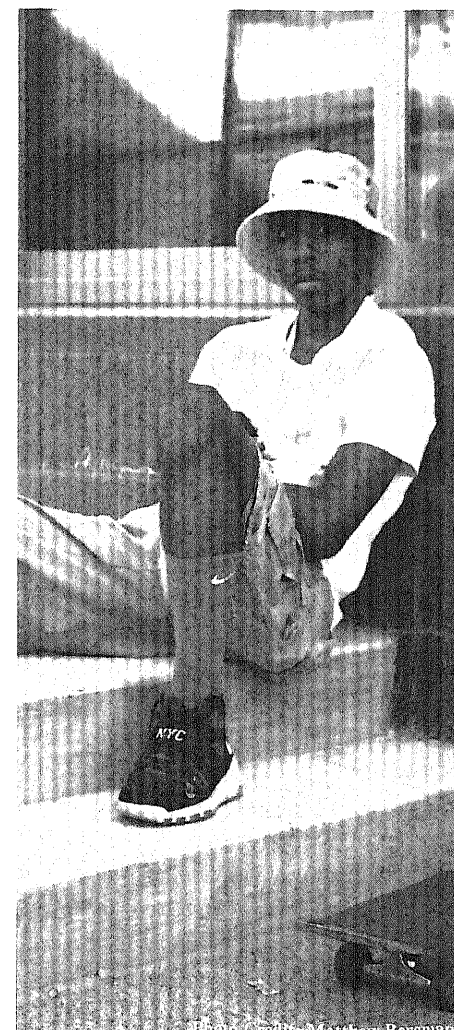


Photo Credit: Matthew Bergman
Merrick Miller
Psychology, Freshman
Favorite Store: Thrift Shops

BANNER ARTS

The World's End Isn't The End of The World... ...But it is The Best Apocalypse Film of the Year

BY LUCIA ROSSI

Some say the world will end in fire and some in ice. Edgar Wright however, says that it all ends in a pub. A chaotic, sci-fi comedy, starring Simon Pegg and Nick Frost makes this movie impossible to fail. The film combined British brilliance and comedy with themes such as anarchy vs. conformity, highlighting the message uniformity never wins.

In case you didn't know, the film belongs to a trilogy called the "Three Flavours Cornetto Trilogy" because they all connect to a flavor of Cornetto Ice Cream. Shaun of the Dead is the strawberry cornetto because of amount the blood and gore involved. Hot Fuzz is the blue cornetto because the main characters are buddy cops dressed in blue, and The World's End is the mint chocolate chip, the green for classic alien fiction. This is director Edgar Wright's third installment in this trilogy and had the highest per-theater average out of all films in the theaters in the country on opening day. It also earned the most out of the Three Flavours Cornetto Trilogy.

Twenty years ago, five childhood friends attempted to fulfill an epic twelve pub crawl. On their first try, the men failed to reach the fabled twelfth pub "The World's End". Fast forwarding to the present, they reunite to re-try the drinking marathon when they realize something is wrong with their hometown "Newton Haven".

Gary King, played by Simon Pegg, is

their forty year old man-child leader who wants to relive the glory of his youth from high school, as well as mend his friendships. While getting completely wasted, King and his friends realize nearly everyone in town has been replaced by alien robots and they now they must fight for humanity, their own lives, and the beers in their hands.

Instead of showing the happiness in rediscovering their youth, this film showed the folly of adulthood, which was refreshing. The great cast of characters

easily displayed what friendship really is with their charm and charisma. Their group can be compared to that of the sad-sack male team bond that was in The Hangover, except they were surprisingly very high-functioning while intoxicated. So much in fact, they were amazing fighters; probably due to the false truth that they were impervious to pain.

The movie also showed fear of assimilation and domestication because the robots claimed they wanted to perfect mankind by making everyone what they are.

It really invokes 'Invasion of the Body Snatchers', a classic science-fiction.

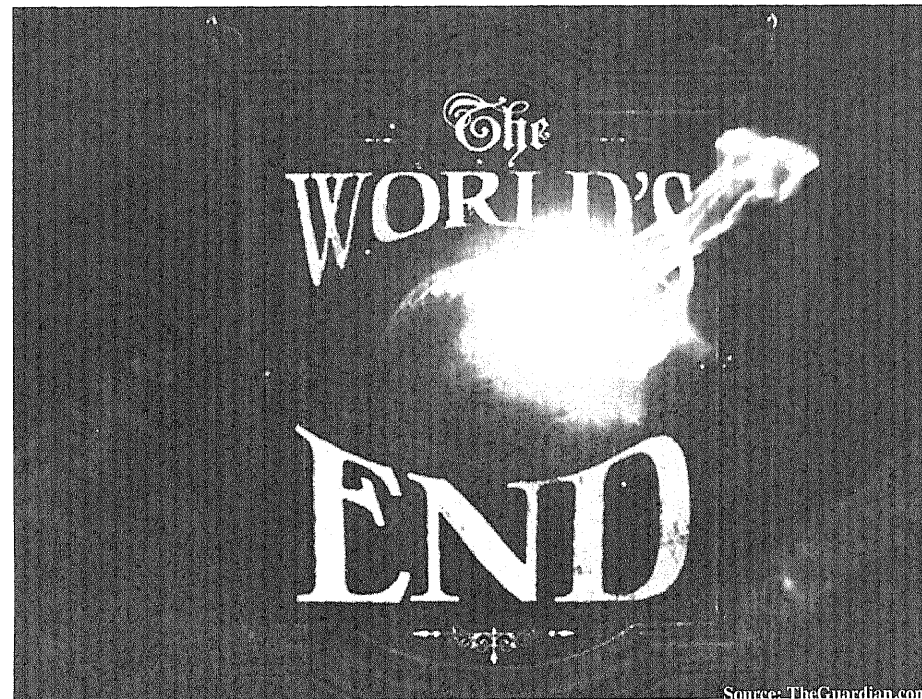
The sense of humor is commonly with Wright's past films; if you don't agree or enjoy that type of humor then this movie isn't for you. The humor is very immature but that aspect could be positive or negative depending on how you look at it.

Some critics believe that it was repetitive, but the scenes, although very similar to each other, always brought something new and exciting factor that wasn't there previously. It also seemed clear that this film practically mirrored Shaun of the Dead's formula. The two movies are very similar which made it bit more predictable and less surprising.

Some critics also said that Gary King isn't a relatable character. This comment is somewhat subjective to the viewer and the truth is that this character is like none Pegg has ever played before.

This film is actually very difficult to review because it did so well in ratings and exceeded its box-office expectations. Choosing between This Is The End and The World's End is hard but The World's End eventually pulls ahead. This was is definitely a winner compared to most apocalypse films made this year.

If you plan on seeing this movie, or want to see it again, Wright and Pegg admitted to making the various pub names like Tarot cards; each pub name foreshadows an event in the story. Keep that in mind!



It may not really be the end of the world, but this Simon Pegg film will have you laughing like it is

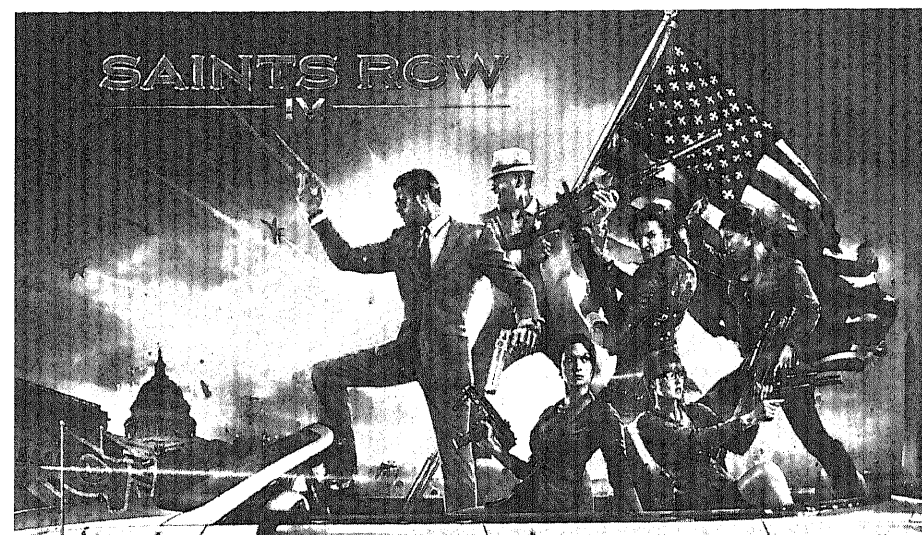
Saint's Row 5 is as Funny, Addictive, and Fun As Ever When These Saints Come Marching In You'll Know It

BY STEPHEN KLEIN

Saints Row IV proves that not all video games have to strive to be art in order to provide an amazing experience. That's not to say that artsy games like Journey or even BioShock are bad by any means but I'll admit that an extremely good time was had playing Saints Row IV. The game shines between the new superpowers added to the mix and the hilarious writing, complete with parodies of Mass Effect and Metal Gear Solid.

Although, for one thing, the game did freeze quite a few times during my play-through and it was usually at inopportune times such as accessing the menu or right in the heat of action. Also later in the game, some of the superpowers that you acquire just aren't as cool or as useful as some of the others. That being said, I actually really liked the use of superpowers in this game.

Why? Well, I have to admit that I was actually a big fan of the Prototype series before it got canned by Activision. When it was announced that Radical Entertainment would be stricken to a mere support team, I was heartbroken. Now with Saints Row IV, I felt right at home. Some of your abilities such as gliding, jumping at high altitudes, and running



Guts, glory, bright colors, and ridiculous supernatural powers all combine for one terrific gameplay experience

up buildings are reminiscent of Prototype and just how much of a blast having superhuman abilities can be. I likened Saints Row IV to a Prototype game with better controls.

Many would argue that the graphics haven't improved that much since the last game in the series and that driving vehicles is useless since it's more convenient to use your powers to sprint at high speeds, but some video games, and Saints Row is a perfect

example, aren't always about having the best graphics. For some games, graphics and realism are important, but you don't need that kind of detail realism for a game like Saints Row where everything is overtly zany and completely unrealistic.

As far as driving vehicles go, I hands down preferred using my powers to get from point A to point B, but at least the option to drive or customize my favorite car was still

there. Saints Row has always been about choice. While one choice may have been preferable to the other, at least the other option was there, and either way it was fun.

While the game is extremely fun, I couldn't help but feel as though it was a little too easy. I could probably count the number of times that I died during my play-through. Also, for an open world game, I felt that it was a tad too short with little to do after completing just about everything, a problem that I feel its predecessor also suffered from. I know it may seem like a lot of criticism, but this is by far one of the best games that I've played in quite some time, and it reminded me why I even play video games in the first place.

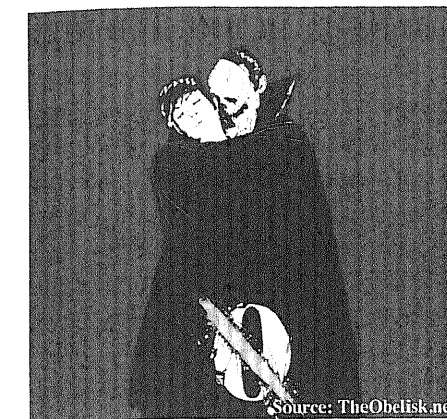
How pumped was I about Saints Row IV? When I found out that it was too late to pre-order the "Game of the Generation" edition, I flocked to eBay only to pay an extra \$70 than I should've in order to get it. Still, I questioned myself as to whether or not paying \$200 was really worth it. Now, I can honestly say that it absolutely was.

If there was ever a game that completely solidified the difference between Saints Row and Grand Theft Auto, this is it. Saints Row IV is awarded with a 10 out of 10.

BANNER ARTS

Four Albums You May Have Missed by Mid-Year LP's From Every Season That Deserve Your Attention

BY MARK REVELLO

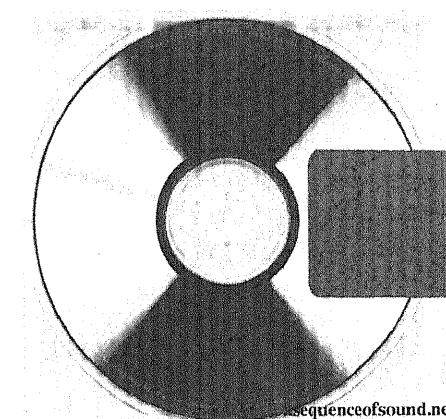


Queens of the Stone Age -
...Like Clockwork

After Queens of the Stone Age released the disappointing *Era Vulgaris* in 2007, there had been a long but busy hiatus after the album tour concluded. Josh Homme went back to his old bandmates Kyuss, formed Them Crooked Vultures with Dave Grohl and John-Paul Jones of Led Zeppelin. Then toured a debut album, before breaking out Queens of the Stone Age again to tour the re-release of the eponymous first album.

The first new material in six years is everything you could have wanted from them. Josh Homme's heart attack and near-death experience, as well as some other introspective nuggets packed into a fantastic album. The single from the album, "My God is the Sun" is a typical QOTSA radio friendly hit with the tempo and feel of earlier hits like "Go With the Flow". This, as well as other songs like "Smooth Sailing" and "If I had a Tail", is crammed in against slower, more reflective songs like "The Vampyre of Time and Memory" that make for complete success.

The album also happens to be stuffed with cameos featuring the likes of Trent Reznor, Elton John, and Dave Grohl doing some serious drumming. Other small goodies are slyly inserted into the album, and you'll have to listen to it yourself to catch everything.



Kanye West -
Yeezus

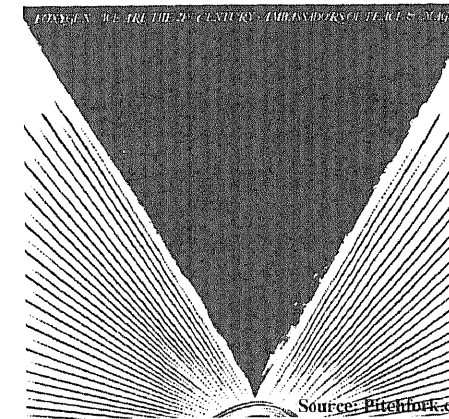
It is nice to be reassured that, in between bouts of crazy and naming his children after cardinal directions, Kanye West is still a solid entertainer at the top of his songwriting and producing game.

Yeezus, released on June 18 to very little promotion, (the cover art was non-existent, no single, the physical copies of the album might be indistinguishable from a CD you burned your friends ages ago, and he only unveiled songs from the album nine days before its release at Governors Ball), is a slight departure from business as usual Kanye.

The incorporation of more elements of electronic, (the French Duo that make up Daft Punk produced four out of the album's ten tracks), continuing use of unconventional samples and strong lyrics make this departure, growth, artistic merit, or whatever you want to call it, simply outstanding.

"Black Skinhead" pounds in your ears from beginning to end while "Blood on the Leaves" samples Nina Simone in a wonderfully unorthodox way.

Though fans have been less impressed than critics in the last few months, it definitely an effort worth checking out even though it only clocks in at about only forty minutes.



Foxygen - We Are the 21st Century
Ambassadors of Peace and Magic

The San Francisco based duo that make up Foxygen, Sam France and Jonathan Rado, have been craftily emulating the sounds and feel of the best groups from the '60s rock era since 2005.

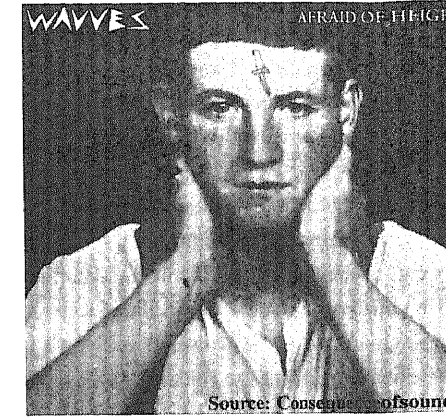
Like good friends have a tendency to do, Foxygen built from something they loved and created a sound akin to the minimalistic, yet pop friendly tunes of American Garage rock bands of that same time period.

The groups' sophomore EP, *We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace and Magic* is the perfect follow up to *Take The Kids Off Broadway*.

These albums take all the heart of the their first EP and combine it with the refinement and reverb the duo needed to get past West Coast music circles.

The album is an assorted collection of three and four minute tracks that are as diverse as they are eerily similar to the artists they pay tribute to.

The pair not only knew their roots, they knew how to take them and build a wonderful little niche rock club on the foundation. If it were a real place, you'd probably run into more than the fair share of artists, singers, and songwriters, which Foxygen deftly manages to spin in a fresh way, something you may have forgotten about since it's release in January.



Wavves -
Afraid of Heights

Wavves fourth studio album in five years is a positive, yet remarkable, refinement of their sound with the right amount of maturation in lyric writing to back it.

Based out of San Diego the American surf rock band was created in 2008 by frontman Nathan Williams.

Afraid of Heights still contains that surf-rock sound that we have come to expect from the previous Wavves releases, but there are more attempts to explore less superficial things.

Tracks such as "Demon To Lean On", the single from the album that reached a respectable thirtysix on the Billboard Alternative Chart, and "Afraid of Heights" delve into more than just the merits of the California surf scene like tracks on *King of The Beach* did.

The deeper, more exploratory lyrics make for an excellent juxtaposition against the lighter, more typical Wavves fare. Those lighter, airy, quick tempo songs are still there with the improvement of sounding slightly cleaner and slightly better produced, an overall positive. While other bands have tried to grow or refine their sound, with some unsuccessfully losing some of their essence in the process, Wavves have managed to retain their sound, with more subtle nuances.

The Butler Serves the Audience With Satisfaction

BY MATT MCKENNA

The Butler is based on the true story about an African American servant named Cecil Gaines, played by Forest Whitaker, who was born poor on a cotton farm who and later grew up to be a butler in the White House. In the film Gaines works for President Eisenhower, played briefly by Robin Williams, all the way through to Ronald Reagan, performed by Alan Rickman. Other well known actors play significant roles in the movie like Oprah Winfrey as Cecil's wife, David Oyelowo as his eldest son Louis, and Cuba Gooding Jr. as another worker in the White House who is the comedic relief in the film.

What makes this movie so memorable is not just the performance given by the actors, but the historically accurate clothes, buildings, people, and events. Particularly accurate details such as the Freedom Fighters, who only wish to integrate peacefully with white people are

revoked and attacked are shown how they were assaulted horrifically.

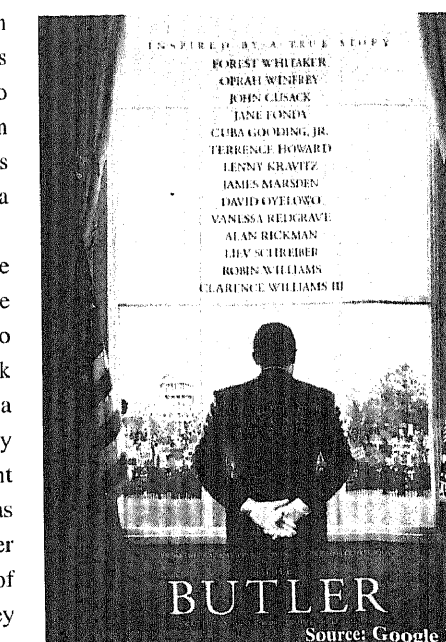
Depiction of the violence escalates in the film with scenes of dogs, fire hoses, and lynchings on the peaceful protesters. Other events include Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and his attempts to resolve integration peacefully until his assassination, and John F. Kennedy's belief in equal Rights, showed in his sympathies towards Cecil's son, who kept getting arrested as being a part of the Freedom Fighters, and how he had a big effect on the American people before and after his assassination. The Butler also brought both sides of the Civil Rights Movement into perspective with Malcolm X, and the Black Panthers, a "political party" that tried to enforce integration with violence.

In the film we witness Cecil became popular among the servants and therefore the presidents would ask for his point of view on things. Cecil would be the one who would ask

for a larger salary and promotions for all the African American staff though they never would receive them. Also shown is how his son Louis went from being arrested many times as peaceful protester, to a Black Panther, to then go onto college and receive a degree, and then become a member of Congress. It also shows how the two lived long enough to see Obama become the first African American president.

This movie is one of the best of the summer. The movie will make even make the strongest man cry and realize what people who wished for racial integration had to suffer back then in the graphic visuals. Lee Daniels has a definite shot in winning an Oscar award by reevaluating the Civil Rights Movement through a refreshing twist. The Butler stands as one of the best true stories brought to the silver screen this moviegoer has ever seen. People of this generation will feel the truth on what they have heard about the fight for Equal Rights for

African Americans through the voice of a workingman. I give this movie 4 out of 5 stars.



BUTLER

Source: Google Images

BANNER OPINIONS

Students Voice Their Opinions on the Successor to eSIMS

An Early Assessment on the CUNYFirst System

BY JEAN-CLAUDE QUINTYNE

CUNYfirst, the new system designed to simplify the way students can register for classes and review financial aid information, officially introduced to the College of Staten Island on April 1, 2013, evoked mixed reactions in students throughout the campus.

One of the major criticisms of the service amongst students is its difficult navigability. Kaitlin Jardine, a senior at CSI, asserts that "CUNYfirst isn't only not user friendly, it's a labyrinth of unnecessary folders and [gives] the appearance of being easy and friendly when in truth, it isn't."

In June 2010, students at CUNY Queens College and CUNY Queensborough Community College surveyed the system. The results were used to create a team composed of students and faculty who taught training workshops that focused on teaching students and staff how to use the basic features of the system.

From that point forward, the system spread to other CUNY institutions including Brooklyn College, Lehman College, York College, and LaGuardia Community College.

Approximately two years ago, the CUNYfirst reached CSI's Human Resources Department, and grew from there.

The college's website features a CUNYfirst page, where students have access to a range of "How To" tutorials that give a brief overview of the systems basic functions.

I recall one experience I had attempting to pay my tuition, something that, at first glance, appears to be basic. After half an hour of giving myself an unsolicited tour of the Financial Aid tab, I gave in and clicked on the "Help" link, which was hidden underneath the "My Links" dropdown menu in microscopic print to the far right of the page.

Clicking the link opened a new tab in my

browser window entitled "PeopleSoft Enterprise Campus Self Service 9.0 PeopleBook", a twenty-five "chapter" tutorial book that describes how to use the Student Center.

The book features chapters that cover setting up Financial Aid Self-Service to how to use Self-Service Student Admissions.

I discovered an option to show and hide graphics, located in the upper right-hand corner, which basically were screenshots of the different modules including Personal Information and Financial Aid Awards, that I had already spent half an hour staring at before.

Next to the graphics button was an option to show or hide a reference pane, which enabled me to skip to different chapters of the book so that I could skip to the information I needed without wasting time scrolling through the page.

The book does a decent job of organizing and describing the many different categories of the Self-Service page, but if you aren't a fan of reading descriptions of things that are pretty self-explanatory, then prepare for a frustrating experience.

Students find it very difficult to have the aspects of CUNYfirst that they like outweigh its shortcomings.

"I like how easy it is to sign up for classes and how you can view them all in the same window," says Mariah Metzger. "But the weekly view option makes it incredibly difficult for me to view my classes for a general week."

Another displeasure among students is the fact that it was released in the middle of last semester, a crucial period of time during which students are heavily focused on preparing for final projects and examinations, as well as registering for the following semesters' classes.

Although registration was pushed back to May 22, the poorly timed release date added a complicated task to many of students' to-do lists.

English Writing for Adolescent Education major at CSI Anna Tam expresses that she "felt like a freshman again." She was annoyed that she had to "relearn how to register, check grades and everything!"

"It's annoying at first, and I wouldn't say I'm satisfied," said Tam. "But I'd prefer if we stuck with the old system."

The thing about CUNYfirst that nags me the most is that it is incomplete. Following my first use of it, I had to wait three days because of "down time" which is a monthly maintenance period that lasts two to three days in order to update its current features, add new ones.

I likened the experience to my one-month affair with Windows Vista, back in 2007, a beta release that masquerades as an official operating system.

The CUNY website features a two-paragraph description of CUNYfirst, describing it in the first as "a massive upgrade in how we'll do things in the future." The following paragraph, states that it will be "implemented in phases," prioritizing academic structure and adding more features within the next few years.

It is disturbing that this service is out there with a lot of itself missing. Students should not have to deal with glitches and unresponsive links on a consistent basis.

"It could potentially be useful, but it just seems really buggy", says CSI student Alex Caroleo. "I had to wait three hours to register for a class because the website just wasn't processing my prerequisites; eSIMS was much easier and I never had those problems with it."

For nearly a month, there has been a

notification in the "CUNYfirst Alerts and Notices" module that states that the "Financial Aid tab is active only for Queensborough Community College, Hostos Community College, Guttman Community College, Lehman College, and CUNY Law School students."

No date referring to when it will be active for every institution using CUNYfirst has been posted. Accessing Financial Aid information is essential to every college student. Why would, if academic structure was prioritized in this system, the full features of the financial aid tab not be accessible to everybody?

Cynthia Prenelon, a former CSI student who currently attends Brooklyn College expresses her displeasure, "I sure can tell you the service sucks. Whenever there's an update and I have deadlines to meet, the website begins acting up."

"There are way too many glitches in that system," said Prenelon. "Most of the time my financial aid and classes get messed up, it doesn't even show that I've graduated which is ridiculous!"

The signs posted in the grass all over campus last semester as part of the marketing campaign might as well have been picket signs, a physical representation of the frustrations felt by many.

I do not understand why the City University of New York could not wait until all the components of CUNYfirst were ready and running smoothly before it ripped eSIMS out from under everybody.

A number of students will miss eSIMS, but it seems as though CUNYfirst is here to stay. It is normal to have the reactions that students are having now but such things come with change.

I am certain that CUNYfirst will get easier to use with time, so, for now, let's give it a chance.

Freshman Convocation Disaster

BY EDWARD ANGELL

On August 26, 2013 the College of Staten Island held its first ever freshman convocation event that welcomed more than 2,000 new students to the college.

That being said, the event from start to finish was completely unorganized and poorly planned. You would expect with over 2,000 attendees it to be very carefully thought out and coordinated. In fact it was the quite the opposite which had many incoming freshman confused and frustrated.

The very beginning of the event saw a line that stretched at its height over half the great lawn just to register for the event. Freshman were given a paper detailing what the event was going to consist of which was a series of speeches from current and past students of the school.

However even before the speeches themselves there was more confusion as to where the event was going to end up taking

place. The day of the event saw a heavy overcast settling over the area and a slight drizzle started which caused a large group of people to move towards the auditorium in fear of heavy rain.

The group of hundreds of students were turned back at the auditorium doors toward the great lawn, which left more students upset and frustrated at the lack of planning the event consisted of.

The end result was everyone herding towards the upper half of the great lawn facing the hastily assembled stage struggling to see over one another. Along with the event program, students were also given a ridiculously small seat to sit on for when they would inevitably have to sit on the lawn itself.

Mind you this poses a health hazard as the local geese have no problem leaving their droppings all over the field. For those that do not know, geese droppings are very

hazardous for your health, carrying bacteria like E.Coli and salmonella. Both are potentially deadly with symptoms such as nausea, diarrhea and abdominal pain.

With the droppings all over the lawn coming into contact with the hazardous waste was very likely. After finally settling in on the uncomfortable and filthy grass students were forced to sit and listen to two hours of speeches from the College of Staten Island's current students and also the Alumni of the school. After two torturous hours of bland speeches the huge mob of students was to head back towards the auditorium for snacks and refreshments leaving even more students to question why it couldn't be held there in the first place. The snacks were consisting of peanuts, dry over salted pretzels and ice cream bars.

With all these snacks you would figure they would have enough drinks to help ingest the salty food but they ended up

running out of refreshments at the very beginning due to the rush of students stampeding the stands, along with people in the crowd using the plastic seats as discs and flinging them into the crowd hitting students and faculty alike.

Some students could be seen flinging the seats as hard as they could purposely into the crowds to possibly hurt innocent bystanders.

As the event finally came to a close the aftermath was many of the seats and countless peanut shells littering the grass and walkways of the campus. If the college has plans to make this an annual event then the next one had better be thought out way in advance or risk the same horrible outcome as this one.

Hopefully the College will get it together for the next attempt at welcoming another freshman class and not leave a bad taste in their mouths.

SEX AND THE ISLAND

Social Media and Long Distance Relationships

Is Being Able to Track Everything A Blessing or A Curse?

BY: VICTORIA CAROCCIA

As members of the Digital Age, we are constantly connected. No sane person is willing to go longer than an hour without checking his or her smartphone for Facebook and Twitter updates. In recent years, social scientists and scholars have criticized our generation's dependence on technology and fear that social networking has diminished the value of face-to-face interaction.

Although obsessive Internet usage can

him, he asked me if I wanted our relationship to be Facebook official. Although part of me was a bit skeptic of allowing social media to dictate my relationship status, I happily accepted.

Before Andrew came along, I was never big on real life relationships, let alone ones that develop over social networking sites. My friends thought I was crazy for dating him at first; I didn't even know if he was a good kisser or not! But something about him reassured me that I made the right

was a potential threat.

After a while, I realized how ridiculous my antics were. Andrew and I had a great relationship despite the distance and I realized that he would never do anything to hurt me. The Facebook stalking calmed down quite a bit, but didn't completely go away.

During our daily Skype calls, I'd often question him about females that would pop up on his timeline. He would promptly respond, saying she was a girl from his Biology class or a friend of a friend. I would sometimes feel guilty about interrogating him, but constantly assured him that he's not the one I didn't trust, it was the thirsty hoard of females.

Our relationship continued to thrive despite torturous distance and my crippling anxiety. Things started falling apart around last year, when insecurities and lack of communication from both of us began to take its toll. We decided to take a break from each other in the hopes of developing a better understanding of what we wanted from the relationship.

For a few weeks, Andrew and I completely ignored each other. No texts, no

weeks. Her name was Michaela, a sorority girl he had met in one of his Biology classes. They were acquaintances up until the night him and I broke up. He had gotten belligerently drunk and hooked up with her that weekend because she was "there." To Michaela, his drunken misfortune was her ticket to a new relationship.

Andrew assured me that she meant nothing to him and that he wanted to be with me. I believed him, but knew that she wasn't going to go away so easily. He promised to sit her down and talk to her, but until then, all I could do is wait.

In the days following their supposed conversation, I continued to closely observe her social media accounts. She continued to tag him in every other Twitter post, make Vine videos of them hanging out with one another, and even went so far as to call him "babe" on Facebook. Naturally, I fucking lost it.

I called him up screaming one morning after I had read through her entire Twitter feed. Andrew assured me that there was still nothing going on between them and that she was just some crazy bitch who couldn't take a hint. He vowed to stop hanging out with her and apologized profusely.

I wanted to hate Andrew for all the nonsense Michaela was putting me through, but I knew that I couldn't. However, I could hate her for it. I wanted to light this girl on fire with gasoline and a match. Instead, I settled for following her on Twitter and favorite-ing all of the sub-tweets she posted about my boyfriend and I.

Once the summer came around, the social media fire had ceased. Andrew went back up to school last week and discovered that Michaela was in a few of his classes. If he sees her at a bar and has a five-minute conversation with her to be polite, she takes to Twitter and gushes about how much fun she had hanging out with him all night long.

It's hard to tell who's more pathetic: Michaela for posting lies to piss me off, or me for getting pissed off about her lies. I still check her Twitter almost as frequently as I check my own, only now it's for comedic purposes.

Vine. I was absolutely devastated, but because we weren't together, there was nothing I could do.

Things began falling back into place when we both realized that we were not only crazy, but also crazy about each other. We gradually started talking again and decided to take things slow. During our trial period, he told me about the mystery girl who had been mentally harassing me for

It's hard to tell who's more pathetic: Michaela for posting lies to piss me off, or me for getting pissed off about her lies. I still check her Twitter almost as frequently as I check my own, only now it's for comedic purposes. We're willing to let the past be the past and try not to sweat the small stuff.

Plus, a thirsty bitch, that's that shit I don't like.

Although obsessive Internet usage can have negative effects, there are some aspects of social networking sites that have improved our communication.

have negative effects, there are some aspects of social networking sites that have improved our communication. Thanks to Facebook, people are able to connect with friends and family from all over the world and build relationships with people they would never meet in real life. Video chatting still allows for face-to-face interaction and can strengthen a relationship that was once thought to be impossible.

A prime example of this glimmer of hope is my long distance boyfriend of three years, Andrew. I became Facebook friends with him when I was a junior in high school. He was a year older than me and we had a lot of mutual friends, so I didn't suspect that he was a creeper. We were Facebook friends for about a year with very little interaction other than stalking each other's profile pictures and casually liking statuses. That changed as soon as Michael Jackson died.

Through pathetic status updates and some serious profile investigation, we discovered that we were both huge MJ fans. The two of us expressed our sadness and bonded by sharing music videos on each other's walls. After a few months of shameless flirtation, I received an inbox message saying he was coming home for the weekend and wanted to see me.

He picked me up in Union Square and whisked me off to Max Brenner's for a coffee date. I learned that he was born in California, moved to Manhattan when he was 10, and now goes to school in Rochester. Despite the distance, we spent the whole weekend together while he was still home.

Once he went back to school, we had already established somewhat of a long distance relationship. We texted throughout the day, had Skype calls every night, and mercilessly stalked each other's Facebook pages. One day, after telling me stories about the various girls that throw himself at

choice.

The first few months of a relationship are crucial for developing a strong foundation of trust and communication between one another. But because we were 300 miles apart, this was a serious challenge. As we each got busier with

What I loved most about him was his magnetic personality. He just had this aura about him that made anyone want to be his friend. Not to mention that fact that he was really hot.

school, it was harder to keep in constant contact. On top of that, my insecurities were getting the best of me.

I always thought of Andrew as the big man on campus; he had a ton of friends up at school and spent most of his weekend's party hopping with his fraternity brothers. What I loved most about him was his magnetic personality. He just had this aura about him that made anyone want to be his friend. Not to mention that fact that he was really hot.

While I knew his inner circle of male friends, I was deeply concerned with his circle of female friends. The same thing that attracted me to Andrew was the same thing that attracted Lindsay, Lena, Elisha, and countless other girls before me. Although he assured me that his friends took care of him and he went home alone every night, I was still very suspicious and extremely jealous.

My envious tendencies led to a number of screaming matches, angry phone calls in the middle of the night, and some serious Facebook stalking. I would spend hours every night going through pages of girls who like his pictures or recently added him as a friend. To me, anyone with a vagina

BANNER SPORTS

Women's Soccer is Ready After Third Trip to the CUNYAC Championship *Women's Soccer Fall 2013 Season Preview*

BY MICHAEL PAPANDREA

The Dolphins strong 2012 season ended in disappointment after losing the CUNYAC to City College, 1-0, and then losing in the ECAC a few days later. The team is looking to put the past behind them as they have gotten off to a fast start in 2013.

The Dolphins are 2-0 after shutting out both John Jay and NJ City University. The team's defense has been lights out as they have allowed just six shot attempts against opponents compared to their 63 shots. One of the CSI's most important pieces on the defensive side is goalie, Victoria Donegan, who suffered a season ending injury last year.

"Having Tori back in net helps us out tremendously because now we can keep Samantha Wysokowski on the field," said defender Melissa Gelardi. "Last season we lost talent because we had to put her in net."

Donegan has saved four shots on goal, but has not seen nearly as much action as the opposing goalies. In fact, she has saved less shots than her teammate and team captain, Demi-Jean Martorano has scored thus far.

Martorano has been filling up the stat sheet as she has scored five goals, including a hat trick against NJCU. In her senior year, she looks to go out with more than just the all-time

CSI goals record.

"My main goal is to win the CUNY championships with the help of my team," said Martorano. "Since my freshman year we have only had the pleasure of winning two years ago. I very much would love this year, with the newly developed team we have, to not only win the CUNY championships but qualify for NCAA's and have a good run in the tournament."

It seems like every Dolphin is on the same page with that thought process. Players are putting personal goals aside in order to achieve the most important goal of all. In order to do that, ninth year coach, John Guagliardo, has his girl's working hard in practice to develop chemistry with one another.

"Honestly, when we are moving the ball well, we can be unstoppable," Coach Guagliardo told the CSI Dolphins website. "It's nice that we only lost a small handful of players from last year. Soccer takes some chemistry and we will have a lot of built-in cohesion this year. This will help us focus on improving because many of players already know their roles and what we need to do."

Connecting on the field is important, especially for the new incoming freshman and transfers, which have impressed the veterans on the team through the first two games. Junior



Women's Soccer Captain Demi-Jean Martorano has been filling up the stat sheet scoring five goals against NJCU

and newcomer, Danielle Smith, has recorded an assist in each of the first two games and freshman Senda Karagozler picked up her first goal of her career in her first game.

"I feel that this year we were able to get a few more girls that will help us fill in the gaps on our team," said Martorano. "I'm expecting a lot from the freshman we have picked up for this 2013 season because I feel they will make a big impact on our team in their own ways. It is looking good so far, so hopefully we can continue it all the way to championships!"

CSI has the talent to put up huge offensive numbers as seen early on in the season. With last season's leading scorer, Wysokowski, and Martorano at the forward positions and Donegan in the net, this team is primed to make a huge run right now, and it appears everyone on the team is buying into that idea.

"We have one goal: to get to the national tournament," Guagliardo said. "After that, it's a roll of the dice and we see what happens, but for now, all we want is a championship."

Men's Soccer Team Looks to Put CSI on the Map *A Young Dolphin Team and the Quest for the Title*

BY BRADLEY POPKIN

The latest CSI Men's Soccer campaign ended at the hands of NYU in the ECAC Metro NY/NJ Tournament and yielded a 11-11-1 record, the third highest win total in team history.

Head Coach John Tardy, now in his second year, is preaching commitment and responsibility which he hopes will result in a more focused team this upcoming season.

"Once you get a set of boys that get that sense of family and are willing to fight for each other; that's kind of what we got last year," said Tardy. "The commitment level is up. The work the guys put in this off-season is remarkable."

One of the biggest victories of the season for the Dolphins came in the postseason. The club, playing the role of spoiler, upset Rutgers-Newark for the win on penalty kicks in the first round of the ECAC Metro NY/NJ Tournament.

For CSI, it marked their first advance in the ECAC postseason since 1990.

Expectations are high around the club despite losing four senior stalwarts like Ahmed El-Ghareib and Giovanni Cortese. Tardy knows that building a good foundation of players to win and grow with takes time but both himself and his young team know that if

they play like they're capable of than they can reach the NCAA Tournament.

"We brought in 15 Freshman. I think we have a little more talent than we did last year," said Tardy. "The new guys we have coming in bring a lot to the table."

Tardy's team consists of hard workers who put the good of the team before their individual stats.

Hard work begins in the off-season which is why Tardy has stressed dieting and conditioning; hoping it will sustain them over the course of the long season.

"They have to pass several fitness tests before they can actually step on the field like the Cooper test, the beep test," said Tardy. "Certain guys are put on diets because they need to lose a little weight."

Returning to the action for the Dolphins this trip are Junior captain Alfonso Castaneda, Sophomore (MF) Brandon Cadmen and Junior (F) Michele Kissi. After not having a full off-season to recruit, Coach Tardy made full use of it this time bringing in names like Sophomore (MF/F) Arlind Nika and Junior (MF) Thomas Vasquez, a former star in Puerto Rico whose new teammates are excited to play with.

"He's a really good, smart player," said Freshman (MF/D) Nobel Habgu. "He sees the game 2 or 3 steps ahead of most other guys."



The Dolphin's postseason consisted of a victory against Rutgers-Newark in the ECAC Metro NY/NJ Tournament

Defense is a vital part of every sport and soccer is no different. The team gave up double digit shots on goal in five of their eleven losses.

"A lot of the games last season we lost in overtime, the last minute of the game," said Cadmen. "We have a lot of variables in the midfield and a good defense (which) is going to help us in not conceding goals."

Part of the club's 11-11-1 record is a 4-4 conference record which has to improve in order for them to win their conference and capture a CUNY title. The Dolphin's first test is a home contest versus M.I.T. on Saturday

August 31, at 4pm.

"Four of the first five teams we play were ranked Top 25 during the course of last year," said Tardy. "Four very challenging teams right off of the bat to kind of test ourselves and get our guys playing at a faster speed and a higher level."

A rematch of the ECAC Tournament game at Rutgers-Newark is slated for September 14, at 5pm. The season will culminate in early-November with the CUNYAC Championship which will be played for the first time at Brooklyn College.