

THE BANNER

December 6, 2004

OH NO! IT'S FINALS

*A Guide to Surviving
that Last, Awful Week*

Pamela Zambrano

College can sometimes be a stressful place, and that stress seems to rise as finals week draws closer. During that week, many students have their time filled up with work, holiday preparations, study sessions, writing papers, and class registration. With so much to do it's no wonder that many students get stressed out. But there are some things students can do.

1 Don't procrastinate. Some people don't do as well as they could have on a test because they get test anxiety. "A significant cause of test anxiety is lack of preparation", said Ms. Nynka, a counselor at CSI's Counseling Center. "Cramming is actually a good way to increase test anxiety. One symptom of test anxiety is mental block, where you just don't remember, you can also have a hard time organizing your answers." Pace yourself. It is better to study moderately for a few days before the exam than it is to read 150 pages the night before.

2 Don't be afraid to ask for help if you're having trouble understanding a class. CSI has a tutoring staff and a writing center. All professors

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Morreale Makes Jazz Happen at CSI



After dismissing his music class, CSI adjunct professor Michael Morreale cools down to his own cool tunes.

David Maltz

CSI Music Professor Michael Morreale's Jazz Ensemble students filed into a classroom, eager to rehearse for their recital on December 9th. His students regard him as one of the best musicians they have ever played with.

"I think that he's very passionate about what he does," said John Lynch, sophomore. "And he is very dedicated compared to other musicians that I've worked with."

Professor Morreale first came to CSI in 1995, and now is currently the longest serving professor of the department. Over the course of his time here, Morreale has seen the department improve. "When I first got here, I thought this was going to be a disaster," he said. "The Music

Department has improved a lot since I got here."

Despite being an adjunct professor, Morreale helped contribute to the improvements. He lobbied for the college to offer a sequence of Jazz classes, including at least one Jazz course per semester. "We got the Jazz sequence going," he said. "Including the ensemble, you can take about 16 credits of Jazz here now, which is nice." Morreale teaches Jazz classes at all levels of skill, including MUS 108: Intro to Jazz History, and MUS 144 and 145: Jazz Ensemble I and II.

In addition to his role as a professor, Morreale is a freelance Jazz musician. He plays trumpet as a primary instrument and piano as a second instrument. He is affiliated with the Staten Island Chamber of Music Players, where he has run the Jazz Quartet since 1983. He has recorded several times, in conjunction with other artists; he has also recorded jazz solos with them. More recently, he has recorded with and traveled to perform with a group called "Straight Up," which is a group of Staten Islanders who have relocated to New Mexico.

Morreale grew up on Staten Island, and came from a strong musical background. Both of his parents graduated from The Julliard School in Manhattan, a famous performing arts college. "I come from a musical family," said Morreale. "My father was a semi-legendary music teacher in New

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PRESIDENTS GALORE

**Springer to be
Evaluated by Visiting
College Presidents**

*Team to meet
Department Chairs
and student representatives*

Mellissa Secharan

Four college presidents will visit CSI during the week of December 12th as part of a five year evaluation of CUNY presidents. Over a three day period an Evaluation Team will conduct numerous meetings with President Springer, and groups consisting of faculty, students, administrators, staff, alumni, and community representatives.

"CUNY on behalf of the of the Board of trustees conducts an evaluation of its presidents, said Mirella Affron, Liaison to the evaluation Team. "It is based on academic, administrative, and community relationships.

Also scheduled to meet with the team is CSI's ex-Provost, Mirella Affron. The Evaluation team will also meet with CUNY's Chancellor and Vice Chancellor during a series of three meetings set to take place at the Staten Island Hilton on December 12th.

Once all of the meetings have been completed, the Chair of the Evaluation Team, Dr. Adrian Tinsley, President Emerita of Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts, will write a final report. This report will be submitted to Chancellor Matthew Goldstein and CUNY's Board of Trustees for further review.

The CSI Bulletin of November 19th stated, "should a member of the College community who is not already scheduled to participate in one of the constituted meetings also wish to meet with the Evaluation Team, arrangements can be made through Elaine Bowden by calling 1-718-982-2443 no later than Wednesday, December 8."

Other members of the Evaluation Team include Dr. Sean Fanellia, President of Nassau Community College in New York, Dr. Better Landman, President Emerita of Arcadia University in Pennsylvania, and Dr. Roy Saigo, President of St. Cloud State University in Minnesota.

"President Springer's last evaluation was positive and kept CSI on an academic course," said Affron.

CSI STUDENTS SERVE COCKTAILS AT 40TH BIRTHDAY OF THE BRIDGE

Marcel Sandougout

Friday November 19th-Students in CSI's Emerging Leaders Program (EPL) participated in the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge. The four students who volunteered, worked as bartenders, cocktail waiters, and waitresses. They did a wonderful job and officials made sure to salute their effort. "It's terrific to have CSI students volunteering," Vice President Carol Jackson said. "They did a great job," said Barbara Devitto, who supervised the volunteers. "It was very good."

The event took place at the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, and was attended by State Senator Joseph Marchi and Borough



President James P. Molinaro, Governor George Pataki and Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg respectively sent Nicol Mallotakis and Tom

Curitora to represent them. Vice President Carol Jackson attended on behalf of CSI and Paul Ferrara, Joseph

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One Small Step for Republicans, One Giant Stumble for American Democracy

Matt Safford

Last month, after a messy election night for the whole country, US Secretary of State Colin Powell held a press conference in Washington, and told reporters "We cannot accept this result as legitimate because it does not meet international standards and because there has not been an investigation of the numerous and credible reports of fraud and abuse." Regardless, officials stuck to the count, and the opposing candidate who many favored, and worked tirelessly to elect, was narrowly defeated by just over 22 percentage points. In a massive move to fight for the survival of real Democracy, hundreds of thousands of protestors thronged the streets in the days following the election, and the government was brought to a standstill.

Unfortunately, though Colin Powell and I could have been talking about the US elections, we are of course speaking of recent events in the Ukraine. Though there were mass reports of fraud, faulty voting machines, and strange differences between exit polls which even Republican Dick Morris admitted, were "almost never wrong" and the final tally in our own country, the mainstream press swept it all nicely under the rug. And why shouldn't they? Their fingers are after all, sunk deep in the sticky, deregulatory gooiness of the Republican money pie. Instead, they towed the line, telling us all that everything was hunky dory, and that Bush won fair and square by a "landslide" of 2 or 3 percentage points.

But here's the truth: Several people in at least six states reported that when they pressed the button on their

newfangled electronic voting machines for Kerry, Bush's name appeared on the screen. Meanwhile in Florida and elsewhere, even stranger things were going on. In Democratic Broward County, the voting tabulators began counting in reverse after it hit 32,000 votes, subtracting all subsequent votes, instead of adding them to the tally. In some Florida counties, Bush received upwards of 200-300% more votes than there were actual registered Republicans in the district. There are enough other notable irregularities to fill a book.

But none of that matters, because as Bev Harris of www.blackboxvoting.org pointed out so clearly (see www.votergate.tv) the central tabulating of all votes were done on unsecured Windows-based PCs. As Harris has demonstrated, it takes no more than your average 8th grader's "computer proficiency and about 90 seconds" to change the vote count to whatever you want.

So if it isn't shocking that voter fraud may have taken place on a mass scale, that Diebold machines manufactured by a company run by a Republican may have malfunctioned in ways strikingly convenient for our incumbent, or even that the current administration is chastising another country for an election far less noxious than the putrid stench emanating from our own—then what is? We, meanwhile, are bowing our heads to the almighty power of the corporate media, and going on with our banal Christmas shopping. In doing so, we have taken our Democracy one step closer to the grave. And that grave is just around the corner. Maybe all that's left to decide is what we should put on the tombstone, and who should give the eulogy.

The People vs. The New York Times

Jorge A. Cotto, Jr.

The New York Times is highly regarded around the world for journalistic excellence. In the world of the educated, the wealthy and the intellectual, it is a source of information that the well-heeled masses are loyal to. Yet, in spite of the overwhelming success and their irrefutable reputation, there remains a faction of Americans, equal in education, wealth, and intellect that have a very contrasting image of this newspaper. Many feel that the New York Times is not the good angel of journalistic integrity that many regard it as.

On November 16, 2004, there was a gathering of the minds, intent on exposing the New York Times editorial section. A panel of seven speakers was invited, all of which had written books on this very issue. Each speaker gave a brief presentation, but what they had to say about the New York Times was, for me, almost culture shock. Never had I heard such allegations of misconduct when speaking about the Times. It was definitely an enlightening experience.

Howard Friel was the first and most prolific speaker of the evening. Friel is the author of *The Record of Paper*, which is basically a history of print media.

He also spoke about what he calls "The language of evil," which is what he described as verbal war against a people, a religion, that make up a very large part of world population. His most interesting point came when he pointed out the fact that the sale of *The Qu'raan* in the U.S. has skyrocketed in the United States since September 11, 2001, and questioned whether or not the Bible has increased in sales in Fallujah. This

was a very direct strike at the manner in which the Times has covered the war since it began.

Mahmood Mamdani, the author of *Good Muslim, Bad Muslim* spoke as well. He also felt that the Muslim community had been portrayed negatively by the Times. This reputation led to a misconception and misinterpretation of this very popular religion, and Mamdani compared it to the racism of the segregated south in the United States prior to the Civil Rights movement of the 1960's. Mamdani's main point was not only the racist portrayal of Muslims. He compared the Bush administration to gangsters that have terrorized much of the unseen world for many years, profiteering into the billions while laundering the money through huge oil corporations. Many agreed that the Bush Administration was responsible for war crimes against humanity that will never be reported in the Times because it protects the President.

Amy Goodman, the author of *The Exception To The Rules* and Laura Flanders, author of *The W Effect* spoke in the colloquium as well. Flanders' most interesting metaphor was a 3-step dance, as she referred to it—a dance between the Times, The Presidency and the People.

First, the Times fails to report breaking news, for whatever reason. When the story finally breaks elsewhere, if indeed it ever does, the Presidency hides behind the incompetence of the Times to report the news, and, in return, he remains innocent in the eyes of the public. According to Flanders, as a reward, the President gives certain leads of breaking news to the Times, in order to protect their own interest for the future.

MORALITY IS BACK

Matthew Beck

It is finally out: America still cares about morality. Secular humanism hasn't defeated it after all. The now infamous exit polls showed that (whether you like it or not) President George W. Bush defeated Senator John F. Kerry by more than three million votes; almost half of Bush's voters supported their candidate, because of his stance on moral issues and values alone. Not Iraq, which the liberal media ranted and raved would be his downfall, nor the economy, outsourcing, taxes or jobs, all which Kerry spent a ridiculous

and inordinate amount of time in the debates lecturing about. No, when dawn arrived on November 2nd, all those issues couldn't hold a candle to that forgotten and stifled human institution called decency.

We live under a representative government, where it is perfectly legal for a person to vote for a candidate who shares their same values, and who will use their office to enact laws based upon the convictions of the people who voted for him or her. The President doesn't use the White House as his personal playground, where he makes up all the rules that everyone plays by. The President represents the views of the millions of Americans who fairly and justly chose him as their

leader.

Yet, this very process that liberals or "progressives" champion and hail when they win the game, is what makes them absolutely furious, enraged, and incensed when they lose the game. With "HELP IS ON THE WAY" as the rallying cry, they set forth to protest that redneck idiot and make propaganda movies about him. But to be defeated so soundly—how could it have happened? Their wrath must be directed on someone besides than Dubya. But whom shall it be? Ah, yes those damn christians! Those intolerant, close-minded puritans, how dare they vote! It was they who road-blocked the liberal agenda. (Never mind they would have instated all their

philosophies and doctrines onto government if their guy had won, they still must demonize Bush and his "Bible thumpers" for having the audacity to speak up).

To the liberals, it is paramount that christians don't grow and multiply. They must screech out that any moral voice is bad, that moronic morality is trying to inhibit the "freedom" to do and say whatever they please. but "moronic morality" is alive and well. It is black and white, blue and red. They can protest as much as they like, but the divide has been established and it will not go away. Why are we the divided States of America? Because morality has finally come out of the closet.

BANNER

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CONTRIBUTORS

RON AGUILARA
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 ALICIA SULLIVAN
 SUSAN GRIGOLI

FACULTY ADVISOR

FREDERICK KAUFMAN

SURVIVING FINALS

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have designated office hours when students can come in with questions.

3 Talk to someone if the stress feels like it's too much. CSI has a Counseling Center in 1A-109 where students can talk to advisors about any personal or academic problem they may be having. Feeling stressed is normal, but many college students get symptoms of depression or other mental health problems at some point. According to the data from a survey conducted by the American College Health Association, nearly 15% of college students have reported being diagnosed with depression. According to articles in the New York Times, USA Today, and Psychology Today, depression among college students has risen during the past 3 years. Treating depression is important because it can be one cause of suicide. Since last year, seven NYU students have committed suicide and NYU is not the only school where suicide has occurred. Student suicides have also occurred at Princeton and George Washington University.

4 Remain calm. CSI will offer a workshop on test anxiety on December 14. Similar workshops and discussions on mediation and stress management are also offered through the year. Yoga classes are also offered every week on building 1R.

5 After a week of knowledge overload, sleepless nights, and caffeine frenzies, treat yourself to a night devoted to getting your social life back. Head to the nearest Blockbuster, concert, shopping mall, or favorite restaurant and reward yourself for all that hard studying. Might as well enjoy the much needed break. After all, you get to do this all over again next semester.

MORREALE MAKES JAZZ HAPPEN

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Dorp High School; he taught there for 28 years. Before that he was a commercial musician. I have two uncles that are trumpet players and two uncles that are pianists, and my mom was a pianist. So I had to become a musician."

Morreale started taking piano lessons at age 5 and quit when he was 8. He started playing trumpet under pressure from his father. "My father said I had to play something," Morreale said. "So I decided to play Trumpet."

Morreale's interest in playing waned until high school. "I kind of

CSI Emerging Leaders Attend 40th Anniversary of the Verrazano-Narrows

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Scaccia and Charles LaGanga co-chaired the event. Minerva Inigo, Kelly Cotton, Vincent Sobal, Doris Fernandez and Marc Inigo had the privilege to volunteer and also the opportunity to meet important personalities. "This is a very nice event," said Senator Marchi. "I'm very happy to see CSI students here."

Attendees enjoyed cocktails and appetizers, while waiting for Paul Ferrara, Staten Island's Museum president, to officially start the exposition. After forty-five minutes, the crowd went to the basement where Mr. Ferrara welcomed them, and introduced the officials, who helped to launch this exposition. He thanked Mr. Scaccia and Mr. LaGanga for the role they had played in the building process of the bridge, back in the mid-sixties. Mr. Ferrara also recognized CSI and the work of the volunteers. "I would like to thank Dr. Springer of the College of Staten Island," he said, "and all the students who volunteered to serve wine and cocktails."

Charles LaGanga followed Mr. Ferrara to the microphone and he was equally thankful of CSI's involvement in this event. "I'd like to thank Dr. Springer and Carol Jackson for giving me the opportunity to teach at CSI," he said. "I had the opportunity to teach the students what the community is about and how to be involved."

The launching of the exposition ended with Dorothy Pietracella giving three renditions of Carmen's "l'amour enfant de boheme," "Sorrento" and "God bless America," which brought tears and emotion to many among the crowd.

The Emerging Program Leader helps students learn about leadership skills and how to develop them. Guest speakers frequently come and give speeches, the goals of which are to teach students how to be good

leaders. "Mr. LaGanga's speech was very inspiring," said sophomore Minerva Inigo. "He taught us how to work together."

Three of the volunteers were ELP students and put their private time aside in order to serve the community. "I approached Mr. LaGanga and told him that I was interested in working with him," Minerva Inigo said. "It was a learning experience." The only non-ELP student was Doris Fernandez. "It was great fun," she said, "I made some contacts." At the end of the ceremony, the volunteers donated their tips, which totalled \$150, to the museum on behalf of the Leadership program.

The Verrazano-Narrows Bridge opened in 1964. Originally, Erastus Wiman, a man who had previously worked hard for the development of Staten Island in the 19th century, envisioned the construction of a tunnel to connect Staten Island and Brooklyn. His proposal was ignored and discussions for a bridge resurfaced in 1946, when the Triborough Bridge Authority and the NYC Tunnel Authority joined forces and became Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority (TBTA).

Swizzman Othmar Hermann, the designer of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco and the Goethals Bridge, designed the future bridge, which would, upon completion, become the largest of its kind in North America. Once completed, the bridge was named after Giovanni da Verrazano, the Italian navigator who was the first European to pass by the Narrows in 1524.

Joseph Scaccia and Charles LaGanga, who attended the opening day festivities in 1964, remembered that important day. "We had dinner at the tavern on the Green," Mr. LaGanga said, "and then we stayed up and sang all night."

dabbled. I didn't take things to seriously, but I knew deep down I was going to play," he explained. "I didn't take it seriously until high school when I started taking formal lessons with my Uncle Jack."

Morreale started playing in the Farrell High School Marching Band, where he met Don Joseph, the Assistant Band director, and a Jazz musician who Morreale says influenced him. "At Farrell, there was a marching band, which wasn't that great at the time," he said. "But I met Don Joseph. Later on we became very tight and he was an important person in my jazz development."

Morreale offered the following

advice for music majors. "Play as much on the outside as you can. Write as much on the outside as you can. You don't learn to play in college. You don't learn to write in college. You learn how to learn how to play and how to learn to write, not what to look for, or what to search for, that's what you learn in college."

Morreale's students appear to like his approach towards teaching. "He's unbelievable with his work," said David Immiti, freshman. "No matter what he does he makes the best of two hours. Even though it's one class a week he makes the class the best. I enjoy it and I learn a lot from him. He's an unbelievable teacher."

CPA Visits CSI: Gives Exam Tips

Marcel Sandougout

The Accounting Club in partnership with Becker Conviser held a seminar on the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam, in building 1P's recital hall. "The CPA is distinguished from other accountants because all CPAs are accountants but all accountants are not CPA," said Accounting Club President Taiwoo Olasupo. "This presentation would give the student an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the new CPA exam."

Mr. John Dispenziere and Ms. Joanne Veiga, who represented Becker Conviser, conducted this seminar, which lasted for an hour and thirty minutes. They primarily insisted that student start to study for the exam as soon as they are out of school. "The day you graduate is the day you start to prepare for the exam." Mr. Dispenziere said. "The sooner you get in the better you are," he added. "It's important to have a CPA if you want to be in the field."

The entire seminar dealt with the new CPA and how to pass the exam successfully. Ms. Veiga distributed a brochure of Becker Conviser to the attendees. The brochure covered information about preparation for the exam, either in class or on online. In addition, students could find useful directives on how to apply to the exam and also when to take the new computer based CPA examination (CBT).

Mr. Dispenziere, a seventeen year experienced CPA teacher, started the presentation by saying that student mainly fail the exam because they are not prepared and do not know what the exam is about. "Too many student wait for the end of their studies to decide their career," he said. "I'm happy to see sophomore and freshman." He then started to give an

explanation of the brochure page by page. Students in the attendance found the explanation very useful and asked extra questions about the conditions of the exam. For instance, they asked about the price, the grading process, the different kind of questions on the exam and its longevity, to name a few. "The exam used to be 15 Hours 30 minutes in two days," Mr. Dispenziere said. "Now, we shrank it down to 14 Hours and you can take it four times a year."

In the second part of the seminar, Mr. Dispenziere mainly promoted the advantages of joining Becker Conviser for a successful CPA. He ensured students that by joining them, they will work questions such as the one shown in the brochure and that this was the best way possible to pass the exam. "We are the best and biggest on the market to prepare for the CPA," he said. "76 percent of the students who passed the exam were with Becker Conviser, and 38 percent passed the exam without it."

Student enjoyed the seminar and found it interesting. "It was good and informative," said sophomore Chris Cabane. "I have two more years and he gave me some new tips."

Accounting advisor Professor Christopher R. Smith congratulated the Accounting Club for bringing Becker Conviser to CSI. "The Accounting Club was dormant for two years," he said. "Under Taiwoo's leadership, it is thriving." Mr. Olasupo brought a totally different energy to the club and the CPA exam presentation was the fruit of his labor. "I called them and it took them two weeks to return my call," he said. "At the end, it was a great opportunity to about the format and technique to pass the exam."

"MEET ME IN THE BOARDROOM"

Carla Rengifo

In early November, The Office of Career Placement, Scholarships, and Awards and the Counseling Center hosted an informative workshop. "Meet me in the Boardroom" navigated students from resume writing through the thank you letter.

Joanne Hollan, Assistant Director of Career Placement and Student Affairs, did her share of recruiting students to the Clue certified opportunity. "This is open for all students," she said. "Not just those expecting to graduate soon."

The Center for the Performing Arts East Lounge welcomed this event. Free refreshments, T-shirt giveaways and raffles lured approximately 40 students. Chairs in neat rows faced a brown rectangular table with two microphones.

Guest speaker Kay Pesile, a Trustee and CUNY Director, shared job interviewing techniques. Pesile, once a recruiter for J.P. Morgan, shared the thoughts of an interviewee and promoted the importance of creating a good presentation. When Pesile spoke, the audience was silent. her presence exuded power and confidence while being friendly and empathetic to students who might have missed opportunities because of lack of skills.

According to Pesile, presentation is key to success. Presenting a resume is the first step in pursuing a job. "Larger print and less material," she said, "and it will be read." A polished resume consists of clear and crisp language. Recruiters are constantly screening resumes, preferring organized, bulleted lists of specific duties and skills. Emphasizing strengths without being wordy will

make a resume stand out.

Mock interviews provide visual elements that help identify good and bad interview techniques. Pesile "interviewed" with select faculty and staff. Caryl Watkins, Director of Student Affairs, and Dr. Edward Osusu-Ansah, were interviewees in the mock sessions. Watkins portrayed what not to do during an interview, by lacking enthusiasm. Her answers were vague and she did not ask questions. In contrast, Dr. Osusu-Ansah, became the more confident interviewee, creative and prepared with his responses. Many times, nervousness can hinder your progress.

Crystal Vale, a junior, realizes that a 4.0 GPA and a degree does not guarantee getting the job. "I know people with degrees, who held a 3.5 or higher and are still looking," she said. "Right now, I'm looking for an internship. This will help me in future interviews."

Estelle Pavis, a one-time office manager, found herself immersed in the workshop. "I feel like I just learned how to interview," she said.

Another topic discussed was lunch etiquette. Some recruiters may test the waters by conducting an interview during lunch. It is best not to order alcohol, even if the employer does. Today, many interviews occur over the telephone. It may be in the candidates' interest to follow up or research the company to get a notion of that organization's culture.

Pesile hoped that everyone would consider the significance of pursuing a good work ethic. "Money should not be the basis," she said. When aiming for a career, positive attitude is best.

Your Parking Questions Answered

Annemarie Dooling

While many students think parking attendants on campus give tickets randomly, there's actually a list of the classifications of violations. This list is available at Parking Services (1A 102) and is given to students who apply for a decal for campus parking.

Listed in the manual of Parking Services Information as a Grade III Violation are your typical parking mishaps: parking without a decal, an improperly placed decal, parking in a reserved space, and parking overnight without authorization. One of these violations will cost you \$15.

Slightly higher up on the violation food chain is Grade II. You'll pay a \$20 fee for obstructing campus operations, or parking on a lawn, sidewalk, or in fire zones.

Grade I violations stray away from parking mishaps altogether. Exceeding speed limits, driving in an unsafe manner, and unauthorized use of a disabled

parking zone will cost you \$40.

All violations can be challenged. On the back of your ticket, is the directions necessary to appeal your violation. Students have 10 days to do so, and must write them on the special Appeals Form, available in the Office of Parking Services.

The decision to not pay your violation could result in your parking privileges being suspended, your car being outfitted in a boot, registration stops, and holds on transcripts and even graduation. If you are simply late paying your ticket, you will receive a \$5 late charge.

The money you pay for a parking decal goes to CSI, who distributes it to Parking Services. Director of Parking Services Mary Jeanne Hennessy admits part of it does go to staff, but the bulk of the money goes to the parking areas themselves. The office is in charge of keeping the grounds, shoveling the snow, as well as salting the roads, stripping the lots and graveling.

CSI Jazz Goes Live December 9th

Joseph Fago

In just three weeks before the holidays; December 9th at 7:30 p.m. the CSI Jazz Ensemble will be performing at the lab theater in building 1P.

The ensemble puts on a recital every semester to present talent to the music world, it is also good preparation for when the ensemble appears at the CUNY Jazz Festival at City College in Aaron Davis Hall in early May (TBA). The CSI Jazz Ensemble has given performances there for the past 3 years. "It makes me feel good when the staff over there give us rave reviews," Morreale said. "It's a great accomplishment." He has been head of the CSI Jazz Ensemble since 1998, and is never too busy to play a few tunes with his future virtuosos.

Dr. Sylvia Kahan is head of CSI's Performing and Creative Arts department. "I always feel such enormous pride watching students who have worked very hard to learn new musical

skills, or get better at existing ones," Kahan said. "Plus to be able to get up in public and show what they've got."

The small Jazz ensemble will open up for the first half of the performance. Students Robert Kipp, Izzy Ramkissoon, Phillip Oppenheim, and Robert Stumpf. The pieces that they will play December 9th will consist of music from Tadd Damoran, Benny Golson, and Wes Montgomery, plus a special original from Kipp's collection.

The large ensemble features Martin Bough, Kate Farley, Kevin Hartje, Jeremy Heuler, Kushaiah Hooper, David Immiti, John Lynch, Anthony Parente, Sean Torres, and Gus Trombetta along with the small ensemble. They will play new renditions of Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk, and Benny Golson.

At the recital, senior Eric Siegel will have a solo during *I Remember Clifford*. "Playing in the ensemble, there is many different areas to learn," Siegel said, "But learning to play in the bars is different."

Letter From the Editor...

2004 has almost come to an end. Isn't that crazy? And the holidays are rushing in and, damnit, I'm just not ready for them yet. (Have noticed the lack of holiday cheer in this issue).

In my old age I've come to learn that the holidays really bite. How does a broke-ass college student afford presents for everyone? They can't! I keep telling myself that the frenzy of gift shopping is the product of corporate America. Jesus doesn't want us knocking down old people for the last Bratz Doll...Or does he?

My first semester as Editor-in-Chief has left me an exhausted shell of a woman with a chronic caffeine addiction. Not to mention the carpal tunnel that has ravaged my left arm.

Besides my physical and mental anguish, I had a blast working with all of the staff, and contributors. We had some great times and, some tense ones, these past couple of months. You don't even want to know what went on in our office Thursday as we worked to get this issue finished... I don't know, call it end of the semester hysteria? All I know is that it involved a camera.

So, what will The Banner grace our campus with next year? We'll have complete coverage on the new campus bar unveiling in January, along with exclusive shots of the CSI administration getting sh*t-faced... Ha. I wish.

No but we will bring you up to date on the outcome of the Presidential Evaluation, and let you know how CSI's buildings would hold up in a fire (and if you would be able to get of it). Wow, just as I'm writing this letter, the fire alarm in 1C went off and we had to evacuate the office. It was only a false alarm though.

I'm excited to welcome Dirty Sanchez back to the Banner family. Don't worry, no jokes about the girl's volleyball team this time.

Besides my bestest-kitty-ever dying in August, 2004 has been good to me, and to The Banner. I hope 2005 will be just as good. Oh, wait, it can't. The Banner's 2003-2004 editor-turned-associate editor, Diana Illuzzi, will be leaving us for an actual job. (What's that?) Ms. Illuzzi has been a huge asset to the paper this semester, she taught me how to deal with all of the bureaucratic bull that comes along with the position. Good luck Diana!

Jessica Mendez will be weening herself away from The Banner to pursue other artistic endeavors on campus. Congratulations on your new position as Co-Editor of U Magazine! No need to despair, her famous and, seemingly, infamous sex column will still be here for your enjoyment.

I urge anyone who actually wants a future at the banner to come on by the office at the beginning of the semester. More than half of us our graduating in June, so we need newbies. Happy (ahem) Holidays!

--Jen Mossrop

Letters to the Editor

CSI's Hallowed and Haunting History

This article was very interesting and disturbing. I have read articles before about CSI's past in newspapers, magazines, and websites. But for some reason, it felt creepier reading about it in CSI's own newspaper, and while sitting in one of CSI's classrooms. Thanks for freaking me out Diana.

Eleanor Guerrieri, Senior

It's hard to believe that the Willowbrook State School issue was real and true, but it was. I found it very interesting and many people wonder what those buildings were. Now we know.

Michael DiSilvestri

I never knew that its history went as far back as World War II. It was horrible to hear about the conditions and the way they treated their patients at the Willowbrook State School. Reading this article may make some students look at the campus differently.

Stacy D'Agostino

An Argument Against Abortion

It is about time that such an issue graced The Banner. To this day, abortion is debatable and politicians are trying to dictate to women what to do with an unborn child. The most important thing is for women to make an educated decision.

Carla Rengifo, Junior

Letter From the Editor

Thank you for putting a stop to this war within the Banner. I think that everyone involved has a right to say what they want to, but we don't want the Banner to turn into a tabloid. It was fun to read the op-eds, but I don't want to end up reading the same stuff over and over again.

Kevin S.P. Mamakas

24 Hours on Campus

Activities, or even something as simple as a building that is

"WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT?"

In the last issue of The Banner, student Michael Konstantinidis asked, "What are the duties of the Student Government?"

The Student President presides over the Student Government meetings, so that meetings flow smoothly and the Student Government can accomplish its goals.

The President automatically sits on the Board of Directors of the CSI Association, which allocates the student activity fee that you pay, and also the Auxiliary Services Corporation which runs the parking decal program, the bookstore, and the food service in the Library and Campus Center. Right now I am working to see how campus parking can be improved in the coming semesters.

As your president, I represent students before the college faculty, administration, and the CUNY Chancellery and Board of Trustees. Working with my fellow senators on the Student Government, we have to fight an expected tuition hike, and work to fix other problems to make life better for us students. This year we are also working hard to tell students more about the things we do, like sponsoring scholarships, and providing free coffee in the green Dolphin Lounge for evening students. If you want to know more, visit our office in 1C 207.

Dwight Dunkley
Student Government President

always open, would make this school seem like a more traditional university.

Michael Konstantinidis

I just want to commend Luke for actually spending a full day at CSI. I don't think he is crazy - I think it is really cool that he did it. I honestly just can't believe he did it alone. I hate walking around here by myself during the day.

Jaqui Adams, Senior

THE VOCABULARY LIST

Well, it seems that once again, I've gotten everyone's knickers in a twist, now haven't I? My goodness, with all of this controversy, you would have thought I killed someone! According to some (as I am not allowed to use—gasp!—names), I'm only one step down from a murderer, anyway. (Which, by the way, is the most idiotic thing I have ever heard). I've been called worse; I'll survive. The sad thing about this whole debacle is that it showed me just how ignorant some people are. The fact is, three articles in the last issue of the paper attempted to discredit my views and me (two directly using my name, one not using my name but provoked by my pro-choice column.) Considering the aforementioned articles were peppered with half-truths and complete falsehoods, I really wouldn't take anything said in any of them too seriously.

met-a-phor \m t -fôr, -fr\ n. A figure of speech in which a word or phrase that ordinarily designates one thing is used to designate another, thus making an implicit comparison

Yes, people, p---y was a metaphor! I was questioning and dispelling the misogynist connotations of another writer! The constant use of the word was not gratuitous; rather, it was reclamation of a word that has apparently become some sort of code for "weak." When it was used in this context, it was easy to understand and even praise. Somehow, my version came across as more vulgar.

pro-mis-cu-ous \pr -m s ky -s\ adj. Having casual sexual relations frequently with different partners; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners

sex (s ks)n. The sexual urge or instinct as it manifests itself in behavior.

Promiscuity education? No, it is sex education. Someone intelligent knows the vast difference between embracing one's sexuality and promiscuity. In fact, a decrease in teen pregnancy in Canada has been credited to sexual health education, along with an increase in pregnancies for women over 30. When you know your options, you can make intelligent decisions and family planning that will allow for a healthy child when (or if) the time is right. Abortion shouldn't be used as a substitute for birth control or education. The

more we know about birth control and the inner workings of our own bodies, the more informed decisions we can make about sex and protecting ourselves.

As for the founding mothers of feminism, the Suffragettes, I am very thankful that they fought for my right to vote. However, not only were Mary Wollstonecraft, Susan B. Anthony, and their ilk anti-choice, they were anti-birth control. They thought women who used any sort of birth control were immoral; sex made you weak, according to Wollstonecraft and Victoria Woodhull, among others. As blessedly advanced they were in some areas, it seems they were a bit behind the times on others. So, if you're going to throw that one at me, I hope you've never had sex, used birth control or advocate media such as Stuff or Playboy magazines. Hypocrisy really isn't becoming.

The myth of abortion leading to breast cancer has been thoroughly debunked by the American Cancer Society and the World Health Organization, among others. Louisiana's Department of Health and Hospitals has corrected the false information. Unfortunately, not all states are following, which is most likely how some of our writers got their statistics.

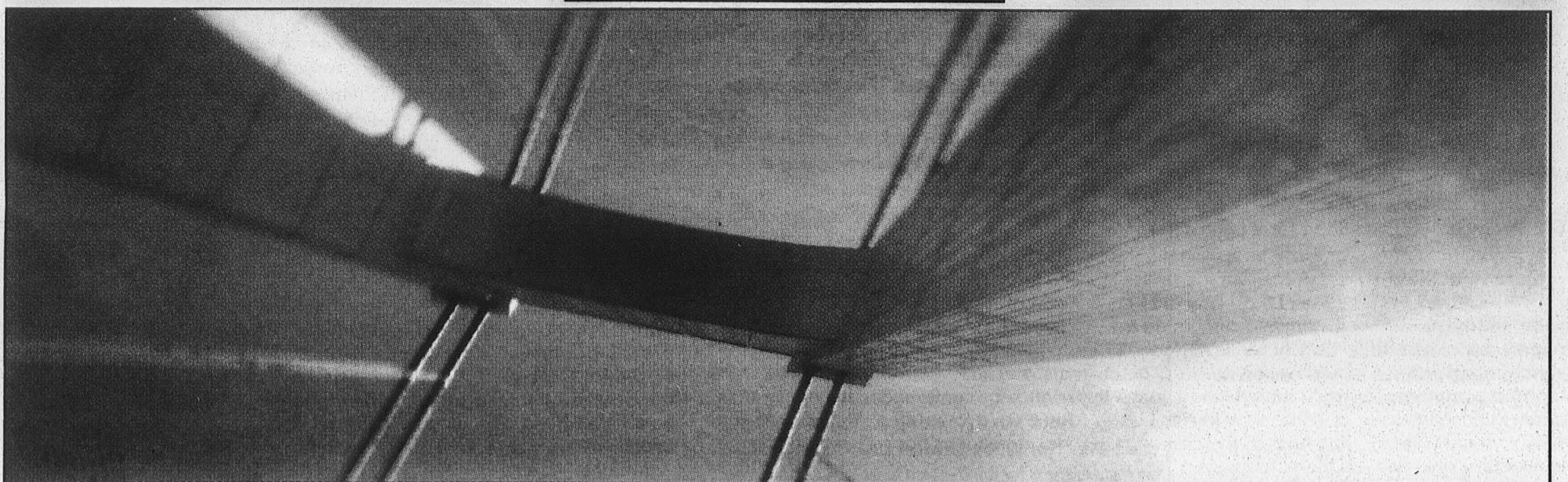
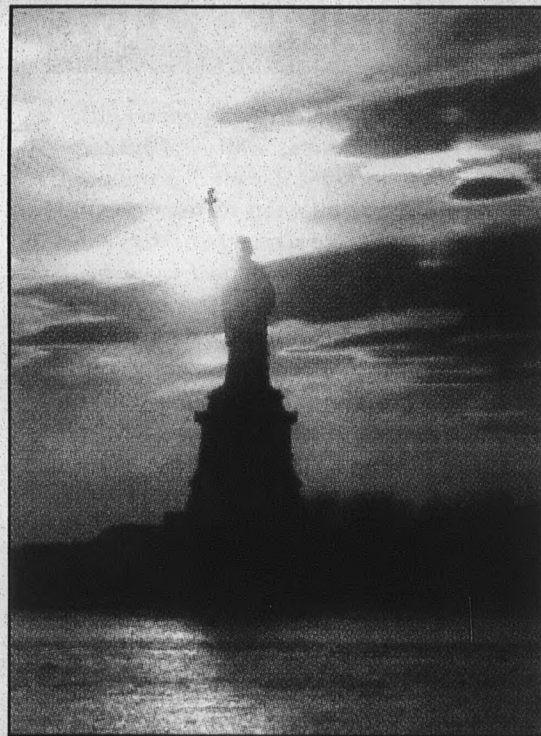
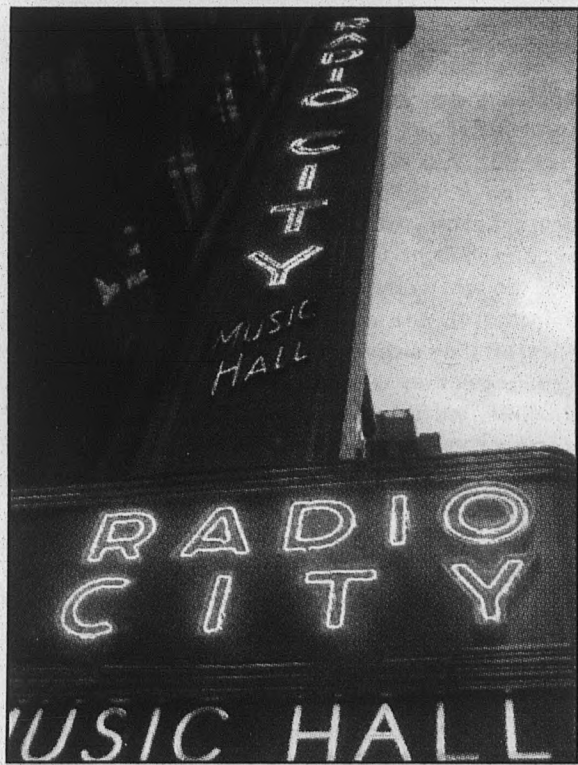
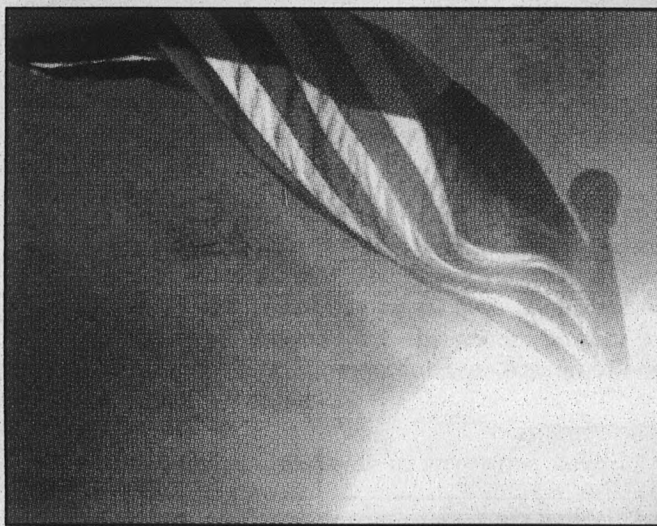
When I spoke of the benefits of the mifepristone (the "abortion pill," or "RU-486), I was speaking of the clinical trials showing that mifepristone has amazing potential to shrink fibroid tumors, treat psychotic depression and HIV, act as an oral contraceptive for both men and women...shall I go on?

I wasn't even going to address this one, but apparently, some people need to be taught what yet another word means: *fa-vor-it-ism* \Fa"vor"it*ism\n 1: an inclination to favor some person or group [syn: favouritism] 2: unfair treatment of a person or group on the basis of prejudice [syn: discrimination, favouritism]

The Banner was actually accused of playing favorites, something that is not only wrong but also downright laughable. I repeat, three articles in the last issue attempted to discredit my views and me. That's not to mention the hordes of letters that piled in, questioning and/or blatantly blasting me. It is clear that some students have a very distorted view of favoritism.

Only In New York... Scenes from the City

By Luke Crisalli



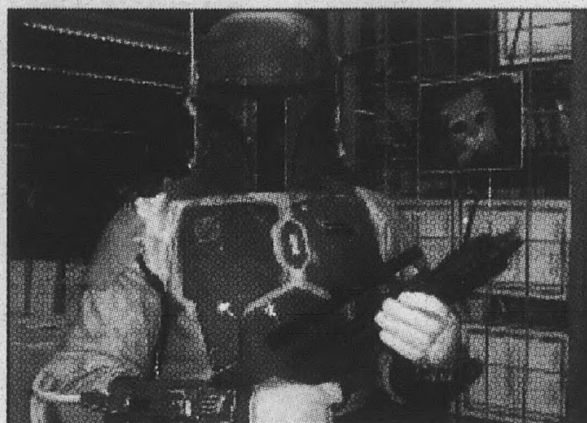
Comic Convention in NYC

The biggest annual comic and sci-fi convention in NYC is known only as The National, and this year's was certainly no disappointment. Put together by the Big Apple Con, the event ran Nov. 19-21 at the Penn Plaza Pavilion, boasting a roster of some of the greatest comic creators who ever hit the industry. Big name draws such as John Romita Sr. (Spider-Man), Jerry Robinson (creator of the Joker), Dick Ayers (Fantastic Four), Tom Palmer (Avengers), Adam Hughes (Wonder Woman), Howard Chaykin (American Flagg), Mike Oeming (Powers), Lee Weeks (Gambit), Billy Tucci (Shi), Marc Sparacio (Green Lantern), and Buzz (JSA) were only a few of the friendly stars signing autographs and meeting with fans.

You might think that this is an event reserved only for those who

love comic books, but this isn't boasted as the biggest event of the year for nothing. Acclaimed Star Wars actors such as Peter Mayhew (Chewbacca) and David Prowse (Darth Vader). Beautiful pin-up babes such as Jasmine Mai, Dazza, and 2004 Penthouse pet of the year, Victoria Zdrock also made guest appearances. With several panels all weekend long, including Neal Adams (Batman/X-men) interviewed by Frank Miller (Dark Knight Returns/Sin City), and comics writing seminar with Jim Kreuger (Earth X) a dull moment could not be found.

The Banner will be bringing you several interviews in our upcoming issues with a few of the incredible comic superstars named above that took place during the convention. The next Big Apple Con event will take place on January 22-23, 2005 at the Penn Plaza Pavilion. Don't miss it.



Adam Hughes is one of the premier cover artists in comics today. His impressive career boasts work for every major publisher and comic character. He recently finished working on a long run of Wonder Woman covers and past credits include X-men, Vampirella, Ghost, Tomb Raider, Star Trek and the Justice League. Visit www.comicbookpros.com/adamhughes for more info on Adam.

Greg T: What inspired you to get into the comics field in the first place?

Adam H: I've just always known that I'd end up in comics and once I became an adult I realized it's because I wasn't qualified to do anything else (laughs), and just basic love for the medium.

GT: What inspires you now?

AH: Bills. The IRS. Unfortunately nowadays it's practical necessity rather than inspiration. There's so many times I get the job done not because I'm "I can't wait to draw this, I get it done because "wow, rent's due."

But every once in a while you'll see something and you'll get to a certain point where the strangest thing will inspire you. You'll see someone walking or you'll overhear something in a conversation and you'll just go "wow, now I've got the perfect idea for a Doctor Octopus cover." And I don't know how you come up with that, but every now and then inspiration just flies in through the rear window and you don't know where it comes from.

GT: How much formal training have you had?

AH: None. I never went to college and I barely made it out of high school. So I'm self-taught as far as art's concerned which most of the time consists of either figuring it out on your own or hunting down somebody who knows what they're doing.

GT: I've heard you use both actual and digital paint. Is that true?

AH: It used to be true. My medium is almost exclusively digital now but I used to paint. Mostly water based, mixed media.

GT: Did you have a lot of problems converting to digital painting?

AH: No, I made the transition because I found it easier. I don't feel that digital media is a short cut to faking analog media; it's its own art form. Everyone has their one particular media that they're comfortable with. I wanted to paint but I always struggled to paint and I took to digital media like a duck to water. But because of all those years of trying to paint I had a lot of knowledge and I could apply that to coloring in the digital medium.

GT: How long does it take you to finish a cover?

AH: All depends on what I'm going for. Anywhere from 2 days to 14 days depending on the cover.

GT: Ever wish you had done something differently?

AH: Yeah, but I'm one of those people that if you're gonna have regrets, I would rather regret the choices I made, not the things I didn't do. I'm glad I have a 17-year career that I can regret. Like, "why did I draw her that way?" Or, "why did I color her that way?" But I learned something from it. Every time you put pencil to paper, you're a better artist when you're done. Doesn't matter how awful the personal experience is, you're going to be a better artist because you will have learned something or you'll have gained some experience or confidence. It's a tough thing to tell someone that drawing isn't always fun but it's rewarding. That's what I've got from looking back at my career. I did make mistakes but I learned from every single one of them.

GT: What do you strive to convey in your artwork? Is there a theme you usually try to go for?

AH: I'm one of the people who believe that if you start with a theme, you end up with very preachy art. The theme presents itself while you're working. If you look at any Playboy centerfold, they're always looking at you. That's the secret to good girl art; the viewer, usually male, looking at the pretty girl and just having a moment. So I think that's what I do in comics most of the time. I try to put some sort of personality, some sort of intelligence into the character I draw. I want you to believe that she's a person.

You have to draw a character from the inside out. You can't just sit there and go, "how do I draw a sexy babe?" You gotta figure out who she is. You gotta figure out what she likes. Who is she? Where does she come from? Get inside her head and then whatever situation the story puts her in, you can go "at this moment she's feeling this. She's in this mood." If you know who the character is whether it's male or female, they'll dictate their pose and their facial expression and how they act.

The biggest secret to any successful Wonder Woman covers I've done is that I've figured out who she is and in my mind, she's a beautiful person. She's actually the most amazing person you'll ever meet and that comes through. Now I will admit I am being a bit of a hypocrite because I do draw a size 10 Wonder Woman in a size 6 costume just in case I don't pull it off. I put her in an extra skimpy costume just to make sure things work.

GT: The comic industry has changed since you began your career. What are the biggest differences?

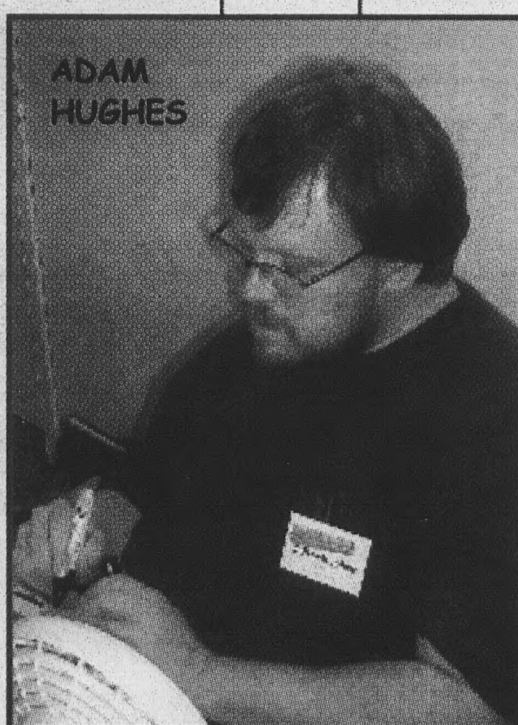
AH: I think the change has been the demand for comics, which is tough. You don't see as many kids reading comics. The majority of adults that read comics were kids that grew up reading comics and never lost their love of it. Only a very small percentage of the audience is an adult who never read a comic and discovered it.

GT: Do you have any plans to do interior artwork for comics in the near future?

AH: Yes. I can't say what it is yet, but I have a 6 issue series for DC Comics coming out in 2006. In the meantime it looks like I'm going to be the regular cover artist on Catwoman.

GT: Do you have any advice for those aspiring to break into comics?

AH: The one thing to keep in mind is: if there's anything that shakes you from your resolve to work in comics, you probably didn't have the resolve to work in comics to begin with, so keep that in mind when something bad happens to you. You bend with it; you don't let it break you. Try to learn from it, even the crummy experiences.



COMICS

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!!!
THE NEW ADVENTURES OF DIRTY SANCHEZ
 SAYING THE WORLD AND KEEPIN' IT DIRTY!

ORIGIN AFTER DEVASTATING WARFARE DESTROYED HIS HOMEWORLD OF NALGA, HIS PARENTS BLASTED HIM INTO SPACE TO HOPEFULLY GROW UP IN A MORE PEACEFUL WORLD.

UNFORTUNATELY, HE LANDS ON THE EQUALLY SELF-DESTRUCTIVE PLANET EARTH.

ON THE UPSIDE, A LOVING SINGLE MOTHER FOUND AND RAISED HIM AS IF HE WAS ONE OF HER OWN ILLEGITIMATE KIDS. SHE NAMED HIM SANCHEZ JESUS DE LA SOL HERNANDEZ.

BY THE ARTIST, ENRIQUE IGNACIO INOCENTE 8-5-04

NOW FEATURING HIS TRUSTY SIDEKICK **EL NINITO TONTO** (KITO FOR SHORT)

AS HE MATURED, SANCHEZ REALIZED HE HAD SPECIAL POWERS. POWERS TOO EXPLICIT TO SHOW, BUT WITH A NAME LIKE DIRTY SANCHEZ... HEH-HEH-HEH... EH... UM, ANYWAY--

I HAVE THE ULTIMATE POWER.

HE BID HIS SURROGATE FAMILY FAREWELL AND WENT TO MANHATTAN TO BE A SUPERHERO AND BATTLE CRIME, BUT THE RENTS WERE TOO EXPENSIVE. HE EVENTUALLY SETTLED ON PROTECTING STATEN ISLAND 'CAUSE STUDIO APARTMENTS THERE WERE CHEAPER.

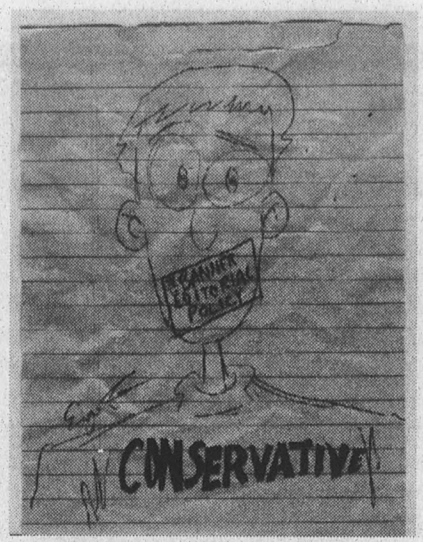
TITO - HIS TRUSTY SIDEKICK, BORROWS MONEY BUT DOESN'T PAY IT BACK.

CHULA - HIS LOVE INTEREST, A MYSTERIOUS GIRL WITH A MYSTERIOUS PAST, DUH!

FF - HIS ARCH-NEMESIS, FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS LOVELY LADY ON FRIENDSTER.COM.

CLORFLYCAST OF CHARACTERS

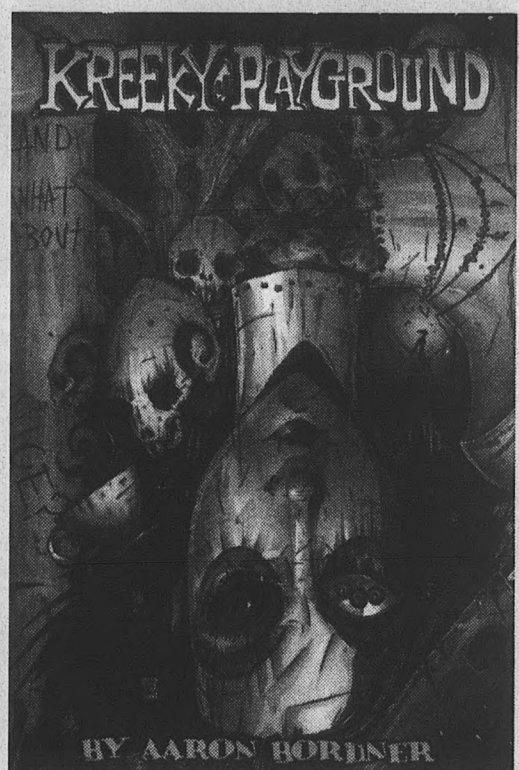
Filler Material
 Enrique Ignacio Inocente



COMIC SPOTLIGHT

Enrique Inocente

Title: Kreeky Playground
Artist: Aaron Bordner
Publisher: Sirius, 2003
Graphic Novel, \$9.99



Kreeky Playground is a dark collection of oddly disturbing and wickedly funny cult comics dredged up from the twisted psyche of underground cartoonist Aaron Border. The graphic novel is separated into three chapters, each with unique storylines. The first is Alice Sinn, a tragic young girl who disembowels her boyfriend, and is haunted in her nightmares by a malevolent serial killer by the name of Springheel Jack. The next story is a little more lighthearted, a tale of a scarecrow rag doll with a malicious sense of humor, and lastly is Monster High. It follows the lives of a clique of female monsters and their zany adventures at Monster High. Kreeky Playground is good reading for anybody into dark comedy. The squeamish need not apply.



Johnny Isn't Evil. He's Just A Maniac.



Enrique Ignacio inocente

Comic Editor's Pick of the Month

By Enrique Ignacio Inocente

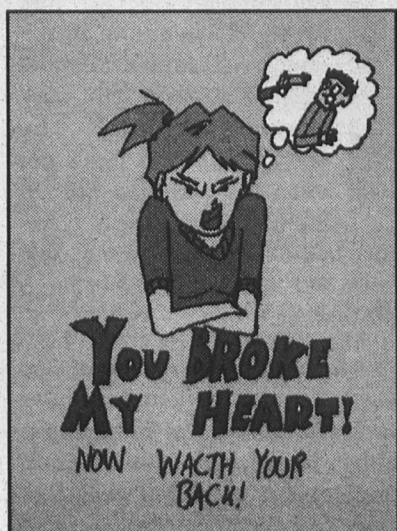
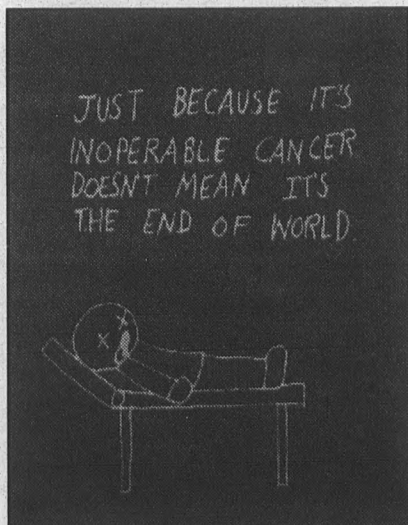
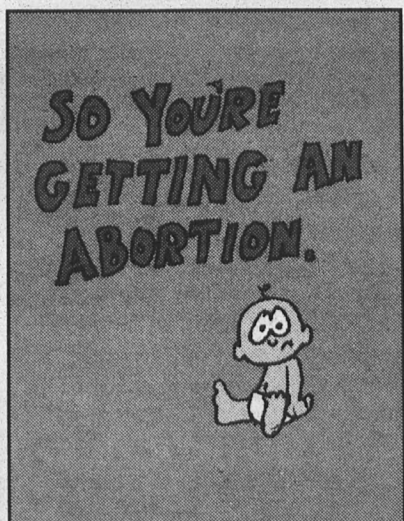
Anybody who knows me knows I'm the biggest Johnny the Homicidal Maniac fan, and if you do know me but didn't know I was a fan, I guess that means we were never really friends. Anyway, one friend I'd like to give a shout out to is Jewel, who bought me this graphic novel for my birthday. JTHM has since influenced me a great deal, and it's obvious to see from my recent work. At least, it will be obvious to those who've actually been reading the Comics section and not skipping it to go straight to the sex column. But I digress. As a treat to my loyal readers, here's an excerpt from JTHM Director's Cut. I love this comic, and if you give it a chance in hell you'll love it too. So go out to your nearest bookseller (Barnes and Nobles carries it as well) and buy this graphic novel. Buy it today or I'll murder your family.



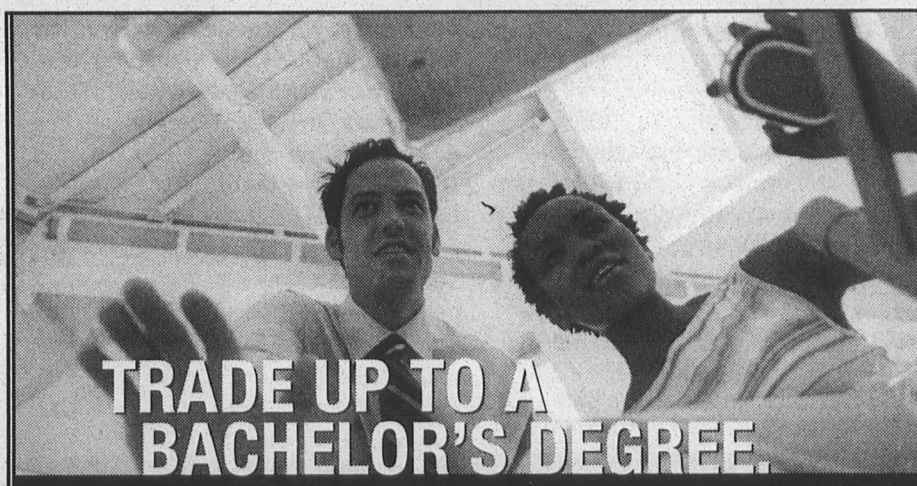
Title: Johnny the Homicidal Maniac the Directos Cut
Creator: Jhonen Vasquez
Publisher: Slave Labor, 2003
Graphic Novel, \$19.95

Rejected Greeting Cards

By Enrique Ignacio Inocente



Join us next semester where we will continue to please our fellow comic fans with more irreverant humor. And make sure to start writing those angry letters because Dirty Sanchez will be back bigger, badder, harder than ever.



Take your Associate Degree to the next level with a Bachelor's Degree from DeVry Institute of Technology. Our business and technology programs fit your schedule with classes offered days, nights and weekends. With our convenient location near where you live or work, you can take advantage of our year-round programs. Our fast and flexible schedules allow you to earn a Bachelor's Degree on your terms. Then add to it with a Master's Degree from our Keller Graduate School of Management. Either way, you'll be on your way to a career that takes you to the top.

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Life....

Love...

&

SEX

Jessica Mendez

Love in A Time of Cynicism

"A Cynic is just a disappointed romantic, and that sounds like me...." Sarah Bunting, tomatonation.com

This quote has been running through my mind, my veins and, most disparaging, my heart lately. It became etched in my memory as I boarded a train home from Rahway, New Jersey, after waiting on a platform for over an hour for my friend Jerod. Jerod and I had been friends for a while, and during that time, he had revealed that he had feelings for me. I had agreed to meet up with him that night to see where things were headed. When I finally realized, after several calls to his (shut off) cell phone, that he wasn't coming, I crossed the platform, and those words haven't left me since.

Jerod's excuse was understandable. You see, his wife's plans had been cancelled, and so he couldn't escape his house nor could he answer his phone. (I said understandable; did I fail to mention unforgivable?) Yes, his wife. No, I had no idea that he was married. Over the next two days, Jerod IM'd me at work repeatedly, asking for forgiveness, telling me how much he missed me. He said I was important to him. He didn't want to lose my friendship. I, in turn, ranted, guilt-tripped, and blatantly ignored him. Then, finally, one day, I had to ask him: "Why did you even get married?"

His reply was swift: "I was stupid three years ago when I asked her."

Needless to say, Jerod and I are no longer friends.

My disastrous encounter with Jerod wasn't the only incidence of relationship restlessness I have come across, particularly in the past month or so. Perhaps it's because I'm a sex columnist; maybe I'm just a good listener. Whatever the case, a lot of people have confided in me that they are terribly unhappy with their significant other. This is so disheartening, especially to a single person like me who cherishes my freedom but would like to believe that, someday, love will come into my life, and I will be ready to accept it.

Hell, I have been in love before, and, though nothing will ever capture the intensity and innocence of my first love, I believe that a more knowing, calmer love would permeate my existence. But have I been just completely delusional this entire time? Does love actually exist?

"No." Ah, cynical, succinct Bro. I clutched the phone and sank into my steamy, bubbly bath water. (Yes, I do conduct phone calls in the bubble bath. Bro thought this was weird, but he got used to it. After all, once you've slept with someone, aren't bubble bath phone calls an odd thing to get weird about? But I digress.) "You're asking for too much," he insisted.

"So, let me get this straight," I replied. "If I were to wish for a million

dollars, that's perfectly reasonable, but if I were to hope for love and a mutually respectful partnership, that's too much?"

Bro chuckled. "Love and a million dollars are two very different things." He sighed as if having to explain something to a child. "It's all about settling, Jess." I brought up the fact that I had been in love in the past. "You were a kid!" Um, I was 21. "Exactly, a kid! That's kid stuff!" Ugh, this is why 50% of marriages end up in divorce. "Yes, because of people like you!" Bro exclaimed. I hung up feeling depressed, sinking into my bubbles to wash away the cynical layer of grime that had begun creeping onto my skin.

The next day, I sought solace en la case de Phoenix with Kali. Despite all of my musings, I was determined to be optimistic and lighthearted. Within five minutes, some of the most depressing music ever was playing, and both were bemoaning past relationships and current loneliness. The conversation was something like this:

Phoenix: Girls are fucking crazy! They all...

Kali: Guys are all assholes. God, if they only wouldn't....

I sat, thoughtfully munching on some pathetically misshapen vanilla bundt cake when the realization smacked me like a pimp. Love cynicism abounds because the sexes are so busy trying to figure out the "other

gender." STOP! While there are gender differences that are inherent, NOT ALL GUYS ARE THE SAME! NOT ALL GIRLS ARE THE SAME! I have certainly had my share of heartbreak from an array of morons. This doesn't mean, however, that all guys are morons. It means I'm having a really shitty run of luck with men. When you give up hope on an entire gender, then yes, love seems impossible. And please, ladies, cut it with the "I should just be a lesbian" bullshit. (Oddly enough, I have never once heard a man threatening to resort to homosexuality. Perhaps this is one of those inherent differences I alluded to.) A relationship is a relationship. Every relationship has its problems because people are individuals and will never agree on every topic. That's where compromise comes in. We can compromise for love without settling because we feel we should. There is a huge difference, and I hope that someday, more people will see this. And please, cherish your relationships. If you're unhappy, talk to your partner. Sometimes, relationships just can't work. Don't stay because you're scared of being alone, and my God, don't just commit to a life of cheating on your significant other. That's a cop out. Be a brave individual and walk away. Everyone should have a chance at real love.

Bad Ben Franklin Rocks Thanksgiving Eve at the Muddy Cup

Jessica Mendez

Thanksgiving Rockin' Eve, (Wednesday November 24, 2004) at Staten Island's Muddy Cup was great this year! Oh, you've never heard of Thanksgiving Rockin' Eve? That's because Staten Island's champions of independent filmmaking, Bad Ben Franklin, made it up. Thanksgiving Eve at the Muddy Cup never looked so deranged...in a good way.

For those of you not in the know, Bad Ben Franklin consists of CSI graduates Chris Sorrentino and John Szeluga, student and everyone's favorite Film Lab smart ass Bryan McGuckin, and fellow alumnus Frank LaMonaca. For years, the guys of BBF have been making film shorts. Hordes of Islanders descended upon the Muddy Cup. The buzz for this event has been strong, with tireless promotion, including some insanely funny promotional spots that ran on Wednesdays. (My favorite: a hirsute Sorrentino with greasy black curls, in tighty-whities smacking his ass and

demanding we "rassle" with him. The tagline: "Better than Wrestling with Your Uncle in His Underwear." If that doesn't capture your interest, you are dead inside. BBF kicked off Thanksgiving Rockin' Eve with "live satellite coverage" from Times Square with CSI's very own Professor George Sanchez giving a hysterical performance as Chief Tony Tonto Tatanka, Dick Clark's worst nightmare: a Native American (headdress included) slowly morphing from cheerful symbol of Turkey Day to disgruntled Indian whose rants about the desecration of his Native land were superbly matched by Bad Ben Franklin's live sketch performance. In between these segments, film fans were treated to a feast of classic Bad Ben Franklin shorts, including *Dead Baby Factory*, *He Finally Did It*, and



Passion of the Christ: Deleted Scene (Jesus as played by Bryan McGuckin given the Benny Hill treatment? Good Times). Another standout was the black-and-white B-Movie homage

The Thing in the Car, guest-starring Sally Polizzi as wife of John, a man whose car is plagued by sounds that don't belong in any engine. They bring the car to a body shop, where the owner Chris and his "special" son, Bryan discover the problem: a miniature Michael Jackson (voiced with surprising accuracy by Sorrentino). And that's not even the weirdest part of the film. Biting social commentary in the form of B-movie, with signature BBF humor make this film a definite winner.

There was also coverage of *The 2004 International Rock-Paper-Scissors Championship*, featuring a hilarious interview with Scott (Sorrentino), the stuttering geek that

you would figure any Rock-Paper-Scissors champion would be. (A cameo by yours truly didn't exactly hurt.) Also shown was a trailer for the Bad Ben Franklin DVD, featuring *Girl Arm* and lots of other goodies.

The real treat, however, was the Staten Island premiere of *The Adventures of Chubbi-Wan Kenobi*, the Star Wars fan film that has become BBF's labor of love. McGuckin plays the snack obsessed Obi-Wan with a mix of indignation and humor. McGuckin's humorous performance is enhanced by some brilliant special effects by the crew, particularly Szeluga and LaMonaca, wonderful props by Dan Johnson (who also designed the amazing theatrical poster for Chubbi-Wan) and a great supporting cast particularly Eric Beyer, as an antagonistic Jedi. Bad Ben Franklin just keep getting better, and I'm waiting eagerly for their next big move. In the meantime, satiate your BBF desire with a Bad Ben Franklin DVD, coming soon. Go to www.badbenfranklin.com for news.

A 90's Revival, Already?

Diana Illuzzi

I am beginning to think that popular culture is trying to age the "Y" generation before its time. The revival of 80's



music and fashion were welcomed with open arms the past couple of years, after all trends

such as these are cyclical. In the 90's it was the 70's that were throw in the faces of American youth. So why is it that not even halfway through this decade we are forced to relive the previous one.

The 90s were great. Come on Forrest Gump, Beverly Hills 90210, grunge, The Spice Girls, who can manage not to smile when they look back? The point that remains that it is way too soon to look back. Seriously, some people who had acne in the 90s are still picking their faces.



VH1's I Love the 80's was fantastic, I sat, I pointed, I laughed and relived some fond childhood memories. A short time later, to my dismay I noticed that the station had released I Love the 90's. Why? In the spirit of nostalgia I decided to tune in, against my better



judgment. The breakdowns of 1990 and 1991 were cool, but as the documentary wore on, I realized how futile it was. "Wow, do you remember Heather Locklear being on Melrose Place?" Of course I remember, it wasn't all that long ago. Saved by the Bell is now being placed in the same category as Welcome Back Kotter. Classic

rock radio stations are now playing songs from Bat Out of Hell II. They should stick to the first version, you know, the one that is actually a classic.



As if this was not enough, the 90s are being revived in several other ways. The television phenomenon, The OC is a direct throw back to the days of the Aaron Spelling primetime soap operas. Britney Spears, who only reached stardom in the late 90s is releasing a greatest hits collection, and other artists are recording cover versions of songs that have not even had a decade to collect dust on the shelf. I can't help but wonder why.

Perhaps the entertainment industry believes that it can draw in a bigger profit if they try and recycle the success of a decade that has just come and gone. I hope that the fashion industry does not try to jump on the bandwagon, cause I am not wearing flannel again any time soon.



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Top Ten Holiday List

Dominic Fiduccia

It's the holiday season. That means it's time for great games that come out just in time for this time of year for the Playstation 2, Nintendo Game Cube, and Xbox. So which ones are the best of the best? Take a look at this list and you'll see that there are plenty of great games to choose from:

1. Paper Mario: The Thousand Year Door

Mario must save Princess Toadstool in the mysterious city of Rougeport in this Mario-style RPG.

2. Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas

Live the ghetto life as CJ out in the west coast in the fifth game of this controversial game series.

3. Halo 2

The long awaited sequel to this original Xbox release was well worth the wait with new space shooting Earth saving missions.

4. Tony Hawk's Underground

Join Tony as you head on an international road trip. New features include the "Create a Graphic," which enables you to produce custom logos and graffiti.

5. Metroid Prime 2: Echoes

Samus Aran returns in this sequel to the 2002 game. In this new game, Samus explores a new planet that is experiencing inter-dimensional issues after a meter crash.

6. WWE Smackdown vs. Raw

The sixth installment to the Smackdown series features over 50 Superstars and including 11 Legends like Bret 'Hitman' Hart. Also, new game modes like Tornado Tag Elimination Chamber.

7. Godzilla: Save the Earth

In the sequel to the 2002 game, Destroy All Monsters Melee. Godzilla and all the other classic Toho created monsters return to battle it out in another round in this fighting game. New monsters include Space Godzilla and Mothra. Also new cities to destroy like Paris and New York City.

8. Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2005

In the newest installment to this game is not only includes "Tiger-proofing" where you can customize the golf course anyway you like, but you can now face off against golf greatest legends like Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer.

9. NBA Live 2005

You can put your skills to the test with the Freestyle Air or take your game above the rim like never before like the high dunks, and devastating shot block abilities.

10. Crash Twinsanity

This time Crash isn't saving the world from his arch-nemesis, Dr Cortex, but they team-up in an uneasy alliance to stop an evil more powerful menace.

Legend of the Wu-Tang: Wu-Tang Clan's Greatest Hits

Jonathan "Mumblezz" Bolarinwa

Every couple of years in music, a person, or group come in and shake the music industry off its foundation. The super stellar nine man crew from the slums of Shaolin, the Wu-Tang Clan took the fifth borough of Staten Island into the hip hop forefront.

Their classic 1993 debut album "Enter The Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)" on Loud Records. The Rza, the Gza, Ol' Dirty Bastard (R.I.P.), Inspectah Deck, Raekwon the Chef, U-God, Ghostface Killah, Method Man, Masta Killa, and later Cappadonna, burst on the scene with hard rugged street poems that wouldn't be compromised. What makes the group so great was the uniqueness of each member. No wonder they are heralded around the world.

The Wu left its mark in hip hop since they bum-rushed the scene in 93' and made their marks on the charts. The decade long run is cele-

brated by BMG with their latest release "Legend of The Wu-Tang: Wu-Tang Clan's Greatest Hits." This cd brings us through a time warp from a decade ago till' now of the classics that we know and all love, and were hard street anthems. Sixteen straight cuts from albums, as well as compilations from soundtracks, fill the disc.

C.R.E.A.M., a ghetto tale of the streets of Shaolin, is here as well as other heaters from the debut, "Shame on a N..." featuring Mr. Meth and wild out O.D.B., "Protect your Neck," "Can it Be all So Simple," "Da Mystery of Da Chessboxin." The Method Man remix

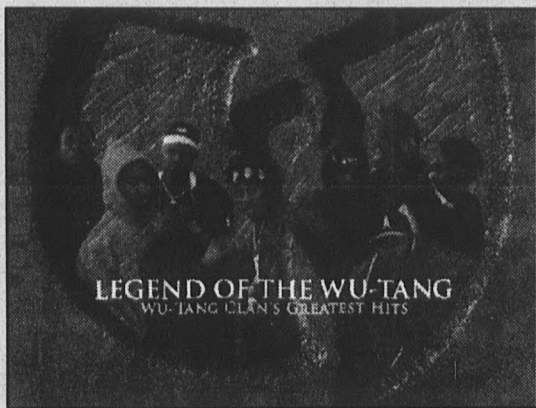
is a little disappointing though, the original would have been more suitable. Other cuts off the "Forever" album include "Reunited," "It's Yourz," and the "Triumph" featuring Cappadonna take the cuts off the second album. "The W" hot tracks include Gravel Pit As well as others. Pinky Ring ends the last in the saga on the

"Iron Flag" album. Compilations include a rendition of Run Dmc's classic "Sucker M.C.'s" off the In the Beginning...there was rap soundtrack, a cut off the Soul in the Hole soundtrack entitled "Diesel." And "Shaolin Worldwide" off the Next Friday movie soundtrack. Rza's killer production is all over the cd, you'll see why his artistic style has made him one of the

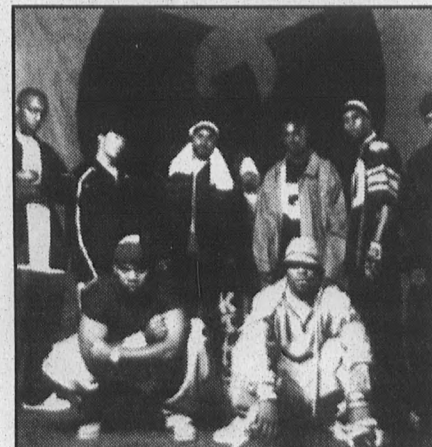
most sought out producers along with co-production credits with other members.

This cd is an alright purchase. If you're an avid fan and own all of the albums, there is no need to buy this particular compilation. All of their best tracks couldn't be fit on one cd, only 16 were chose.

This is alright for beginners who are just wanting to get a taste of what the group is about, not the diehard listener. This album is a 4 outta 5.



The legend of the Wu-Tang: Wu-Tang's Greatest Hits is in stores now. Photo courtesy of BMG Strategic Marketing Group



SPORTS

December 6, 2004

Courage Wasn't Enough: FDU-Florham Beats CSI After 3 Years

Ron Aguilera

The Dolphins played strong and with a lot of heart, but that wasn't enough to defeat the FDU-Florham Devils in a non-conference game played at home (7:30 p.m.) in front of 222 spectators on November 29. The New Jersey team won 80-72.

CSI won the last three confrontations but this time the story was different. The Dolphins, with an overall record of 2-1, couldn't beat the Devils' (overall 1-2) in a game where the lead changed 4 times during the first 4 minutes of the first half and after that, FDU-Florham maintained the lead throughout the whole game.

"The team played hard," CSI graduate and former member of the men's basketball team Stanley Ethridge said. "But hard is not good enough." Then he added, "It's early and they still need some time together."

They may need more time together because there are 6 new players on the team. But in this match, the problem was not the lack of opportunities. The Dolphins shot more



field goals, 66 converting 27. That includes 7 three-pointers out 27 attempts. Whereas, FDU-Florham shot 56 field goals and made 26 of them, including 5 out of 19 three-pointers.

CSI grabbed more total rebounds, 39-35. CSI also had more blocks 3-2. Both team had same amount of personal fouls 21. So what went wrong? Maybe that the Dolphins had more turnovers (14-12), less steals

(3-8), less assistances (13-23), but most of all, they were less efficient on the three categories that win the games: total field goals (40.9%-46.4%), 3-Pt (25.9%-26.3%), and free throws (55%-79.3%).

Spectators had diverse opinions. "I think they need to play more defense," Junior Edwina Rogers said. "It was a good effort by the guys," Senior Leia Albano said. "But we got outplayed." She also added "Stewart's early foul trouble didn't help."

Michael Stewart, who was part of last year's First Team All-CUNY, had 3 personal fouls by the end of the first half, 2 of them were made (committed) in the first five minutes of the game. He finished with 10 points and 2 rebounds.

John Smith scored the most points for the Dolphins, 22, and grabbed the most rebounds, 14. For Coach Tony Petosa, the team "didn't play as hard" but the season just started and team has potential. The Dolphins play their first CUNYAC game on December 1st against York College in Queens.

'Sign' of the Times

Kevin S.P. Mamakas

At a regular game, the Dolphins usually play an instrumental recording of the national anthem before they start the game. However on Monday, the fans had a rare treat when CSI's American Sign Language 213 class signed our National Anthem prior to the start of the game.

Once a semester, the ASL 213 class goes to a Dolphins game and signs the National Anthem. In the fall the class usually goes to either a Men's or Women's Basketball game. In the spring the class usually goes to a Baseball game and the Commencement Ceremony.

The interpretation brought new people to watch the basketball game. Some people involved had never been to a basketball game. Some didn't know what the rules were to the game. But they stayed the whole game. At least half of the seats were taken in the basketball court, which is better than usual for most CSI sporting events.

Can CSI Finally Hammer Hunter College at the 2005 Swim Meet?

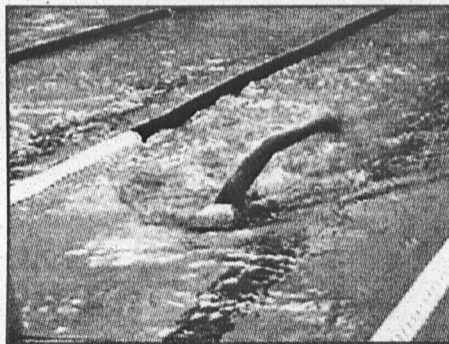
Alicia Sullivan

The College of Staten Island's women's swimming team is set to take on Hunter College yet again. On December 6th, 2004 at 6 pm The Dolphins will meet their biggest archrival in a CUNY conference meet held at home. "I believe that we have what it takes to beat them," said head coach Oleg Soloviev. "We have a very strong team this year."

During last year's swim season CSI had a victory over every other team in the CUNYAC Regular Season except to Hunter. The Dolphins have lost three years in a row to Hunter. "We are going to break the curse this year," says Kerry Thomson. "It's about time."

On January 19th, 2004 The College of Staten Island women's swim team lost 51-44 to Hunter College at an away meet held at Hunter College. Both CSI and Hunter put up a good fight, but the women of CSI couldn't quite hack it. "Our weak spot was the 100m breast," said assistant coach Holly Block. "We lost the most points in the breast stroke." "Now we know what to work on for next year," said head coach Oleg.

The meet came to a close with the



200m freestyle relays. The Hawks took first and second place. While the disappointed Dolphins took third and fourth place. "There the only team that manages to beat us in the last relay," said Ahlam Jaoui. "But not this year!"

"We lost three very valuable women this year due to graduation," says Oleg. "But they were replaced by several very strong freshman, that I believe have the potential to go far over the next four years here at CSI."

Despite last year's loss, the women's team seems to have a very good outlook for this year's upcoming game. "I am depending on some of these new freshmen," says Head Coach Oleg. "They have a lot of talent."

The Hunter/CSI meets are always the most exciting because the two teams are the most evenly matched in

the division. "The meets are usually neck and neck right until the very end, when one team always manages to pull away," says Rosemary Gwizdaloski (3 year swim team member). "I can't wait for this years meet," says Kerry Thomson. "I'm so excited."

"This year we have the home advantage," said head coach Oleg. "I have these girls practicing every day." "It's all about the conditioning," said Assistant Coach Block.

Practices are held everyday from 7-8:30 am and 3-4:30 pm. During practices, Coach Oleg makes the women's team do something he likes to call "buckets." "I have the women strap a belt around their waist, which has a long string and a bucket attached to the end of it," says Oleg. "Then they swim from one end of the pool to another with it on. Buckets are for strength endurance," says Oleg. "The water resistance helps to build up their muscles so they can be stronger during a meet. Buckets are not the girls favorite," said coach Block.

"Hunter has some strong women on their team this year," says coach Oleg. "I believe that the CSI women are in better shape this year," said Holly Block. "And a win over Hunter is very possible and very overdue."

Renaissance Woman

Playing on the CSI's women's volleyball team, softball team, and basketball team sounds tough enough, especially when you are a full-time student

It's not too difficult for Senior Melissa Quiles who has been involved in 3 sports teams since her year at CSI and when the annual CSI athletes golf outing took place on May 1, 2004 at South Shore course Quiles also proved that she can play golf.

"I love playing sports," Quiles said. "It makes me happy."

Quiles finds time to practice, study, write papers, and work at Just-A-Buck in the Staten Island mall for the past 4 years. S

While taking 14 credits, Quiles manages to maintain her grades and gain statistical leads on volleyball. As of October 16th Quiles has the team high of 153 digs. Quiles wiped her face, changed her clothes and immediately walked to the other side the gym for a 2-hour basketball practice.

Melissa Quiles shows incredible responsibility, dedication, and athletic abilities and once the softball and basketball seasons begin we will be hearing a lot more about Melissa Quiles.

--Susane Grigoli