

THE COLLEGE

VOICE

VOL. XIV • ISSUE NO. 9 • MAY 13, 1994

*An Open
Letter To
Students
page 9*

NON-TOXIC?



Partial Report Gives Insight Into Sick Building

*By Peter C. Guagenti
College Voice Staff Writer*

2N is open once again. After the publication of a "partial report," prepared by Terra Bio Chem Environmental Services, TDX Construction, who was responsible for the air-circulation system in 2N, has completed a cleaning in the Political Science building which supposedly has ridden the so-called "Toxic Building" of any Bio-Hazards to students, faculty and staff.

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**South Africans Elections:
ANC Victory or Defeat**
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***A Tale Of Three
Campuses***

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Sick Building

continued from page one

On March 28, 1994, Terra Bio Chem Environmental Services stepped in, at the request of TDX, to conduct a visual inspection, air-quality test and swab surface testing. What was found in these tests has raised some interesting questions concerning the responsibilities of the college in matters of the welfare of the staff and student body. According to the report, a visual inspection of 2N "showed several areas where water has accumulated on the floor. The walls in these areas were wet to the touch indicating that water is seeping through the walls and the foundation." This created a serious hazard, being that these pools of water became a breeding ground for bacteria detrimental to those who breathe these germs in.

Normally, the air-filtration systems could filter most of these organics from the air, yet, according to the report, these air cleaning units were not working due to serious disrepair. "CAC [air handling] units were found to be dirty ... some showed oxidation and accumulations of rust in the bottom of the pan." The report went on in like manner, stating, "The filter assemblies were heavily loaded with soil, dust and a variety of fibers and other materials. In some units, there was visible bypass of the filter elements." The "visible signs" of bypass was found in the form of dust accumulation down stream of the filter. This dust went through a 1" gap on the sides of the filter once the filter is loaded.

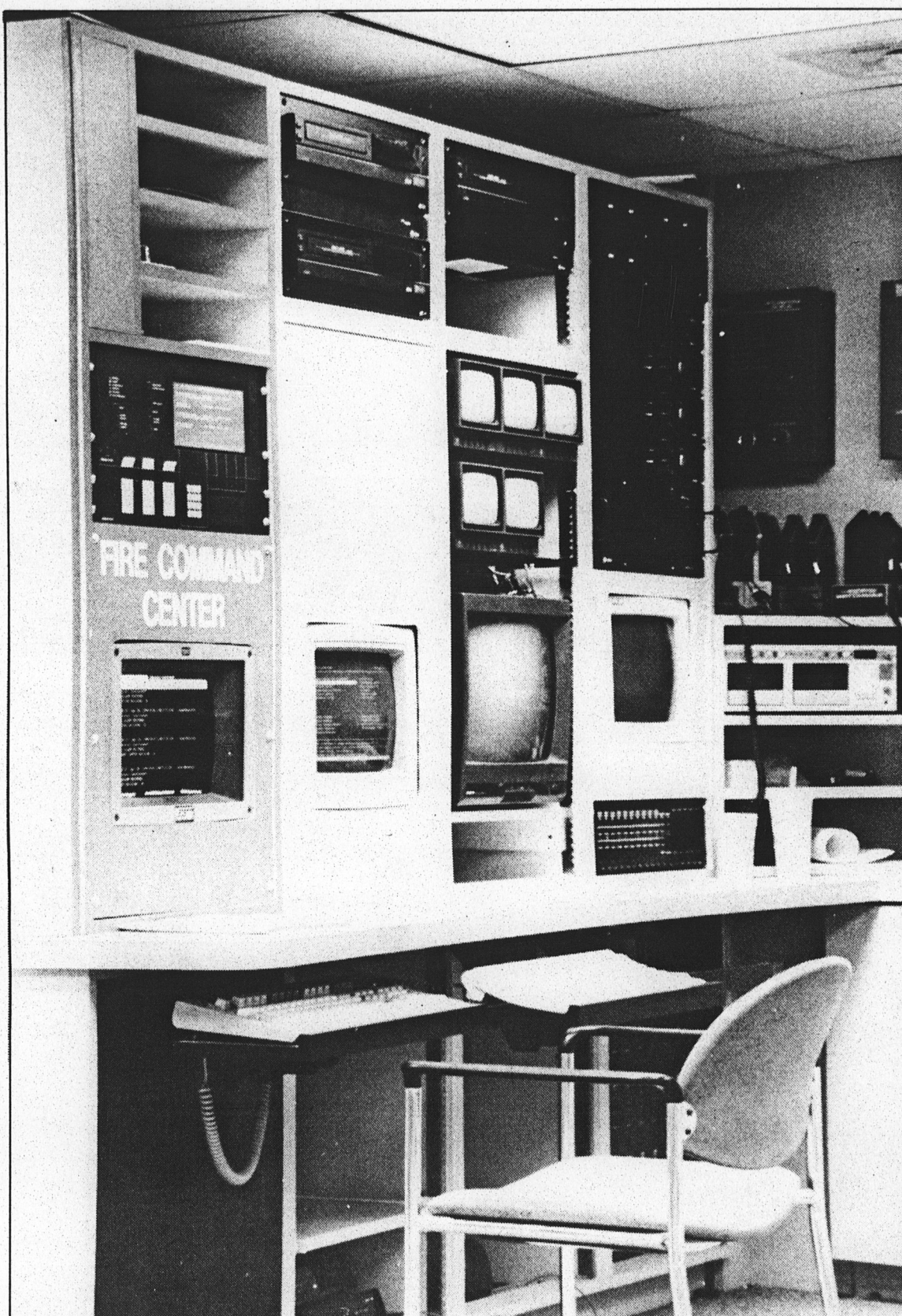
These filters also showed physical damage. "There were visible holes and tears to the medium and there was obvious damage to the hardware of the filter."

The air handling units and the pools of water which formed on the floor in the basement were proven to be the bacterial amplification sites. Among the terrifying bacteria and fungi found throughout the structure, there was one bacteria which stands out from all others. Its name is *Aspergillus Flavus*, and it is usually found in agricultural products. It was published in the report that "Organic fertilizer was spread on the grounds surrounding the building for Fall planting."

A Fungi like *A. Flavus* is considered rare indoors, and the only way it could have made its way into the building is by seeping in through the walls. After entering the building, it proliferated in pools of unclean water laying throughout the structure. The water becomes aerosolized and then spreads throughout the structure via the air ducts. This could be one explanation why *A. Flavus*, a possible carcinogen, made its way into seven sites around the building; three of those sights being areas where the levels of bacteria and fungi were proven to be "too numerous to count."

The question being raised now seems to be how could the building fall into such disrepair and uncleanness when over 1600 people were in the Political Science building every day. The answer seems to be that Buildings and Grounds, who is operating on the same funding as they had at Sunnyside and is now handling both campuses, just doesn't have enough manpower to take care of the campus properly. Out of the twenty recommendations made by Terra Bio Chem, all could have been avoided had Buildings and Grounds taken care of such a simple thing like preparing "a maintenance schedule for humidification water system and filter change-out."

Photo: P.C. Guagenti



Big Brother is watching...

By Peter C. Guagenti
College Voice Staff Writer

Did you ever get that sneaky feeling someone is watching? Well, if you're a student at CSI, you may be right. As of this upcoming summer, the College of Staten Island at Willowbrook will have a closed circuit television system completed and on line, with cameras in various spots on Campus.

These cameras are most obviously seen in building 1C, the Campus Center. At four points on the ceiling of the rotunda, inconspicuous cameras have been placed to monitor goings on in any portion of the main dining area. According to Raymond Pavia, Dean of Administration, cameras have also been placed in the parking areas. These cameras are all linked to a main television bank placed in the Security office; located in building 2A. From these terminals, almost the entire campus can be seen at the touch of a button. Some students have seen this as a means of "keeping tabs" on students and faculty. When questioned as to the Administration's motives in setting up the system, Dean Pavia said, "This is not the CIA. It [the monitoring] is about public safety." One engineering student, who prefers to remain anonymous, stated, "I don't care what the school says, I still feel like Security sees us like sheep to be tended to and kept in line."

A notice put out by CUNY's University Director of Security states, "All persons wishing to enter ... are required to submit to a metal detector scan and to a "patdown" or more intrusive personal search if necessary... Bags and parcels also may be searched by means of metal detecting devices, by hand, or otherwise." The director of Security at 80th street was unavailable for comment as to what a "more intrusive personal search" was or what would make it "necessary." With notices like this, the new security system at the college is beginning to be seen by those asked as more of a bane than a boon.

**Congratulations
&
Good Luck to the
graduating class.**

**(Somewhere out there is
a job that pays well, with
benefits and security.
Unfortunately union
jobs are hard to find.)**

NYPIRG's EARTH DAY FLOPS

by Edwin Luciano
On Wednesday, April 20, Earth Day came to CSI. One reason that this NYPIRG and WSIA sponsored event was set up was to raise consciousness about the ecosystem. Eight organizations, including State, private and not-for-profit, attended. These groups included; the New York City Department of Sanitation, Gay Men's Health Crisis, the Staten Island Botanical Garden, the Hayden Planetarium, Greenpeace, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream, and NYPIRG; all of whom set up tables and gave out flyers about their various causes (at the Ben and Jerry's table, NYPIRG members gave out a free sample of their ice cream). The culmination of the proceedings came at 2:30 with the rock band, "Serious Pilgrim"; which played a few songs at the

entrance of 1C, where the Earth Day gathering took place. Although there was quite a crowd gathered to listen to the band; the Earth Day volunteers running the event, who sometimes seemed to outnumber the students, expressed disappointment. After the band played its closing song, the crowd dispersed. Deana Marazzo, a volunteer for the Greenpeace group and a CSI student, said she was quite disappointed with the turnout. This despite the fact that NYPIRG members expressed surprise that the number of people who showed up was as large as it was. The Greenpeace volunteer felt that students were generally apathetic to the event, and the environmental cause in general. She felt it ironic that in a borough that houses the world's largest landfill, students tend to be less environmentally con-

scious, environmentally active, and recycle less than in other Colleges around the country. The NYPIRG sponsored event was very well publicized around campus, and many posters were set up around the different buildings, which led many students to ask if these leaflets (although printed on recycled paper) were going to be recycled or just dumped in the landfill like most of the paper on this campus. The Event included a relatively large amount of literature on the environment, yet nowhere did it address the lack of recycling facilities on the Willowbrook campus. Ironically, after the event, the floor at the entrance of the 1C building, which was polluted with various leaflets and soft drink bottles, gave very little indication that an environment protection event had taken place or that anyone at the event had learned anything about cleaning up our habitat. There was a small bin near the NYPIRG table for recycling bottles, but it was promptly removed after the event. Another very important issue not raised was the hazardous condition of this campus that has caused the closing of the 2N building because of a disfunctional air filtering system that helped various fungus and bacteria to perpetuate at the health risk of thousands of students and faculty. Another issue is the sad state of the water supply system at the College of Staten Island where a high level of E. Coli bacteria has been breeding. What measures must students take to protect themselves from immediate environmental dangers? These issues were not addressed by the organizers of Earth Day. Earth Day comes at a time when the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) has been under fire by Student Government; who was making an effort to defund the organization due to purported mis-appropriation of funds. In the past month, Student Government had asked NYPIRG to publicly divulge their budget and had a petition, which failed, that would have made the obligatory \$3 funding of NYPIRG by the students of this college optional. One self-expressed "environmentally conscious" student, who preferred to remain nameless, remarked that NYPIRG used the event as, "a last ditch effort to save their necks..." But what about the hazardous conditions of this College? It seems that "Earth Day" was just another opportunistic campaign for NYPIRG. Students must be made aware of the grave environmental dangers currently at C.S.I but there is no independent organization that will provide information nor take steps to resolve these extreme issues. Student Government and NYPIRG will spend their time fighting one another while administration is busy trying to brush these problems under the rug.



Serious Pilgrim played in front of the Camopus center as part of the Earth Day celebration.

SEARCH KEPT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS PROCESS KEPT OUT OF THE HANDS OF THE FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS

By J.P. Patafio
The search for the next President of CSI has few students interested, but the process of selecting the next president is cause for concern. Up until now only a favored group of students, faculty and high level administrators have been privy to the process picking. The Search Committee is made up of a chosen group of students faculty and administrators with the task of sifting through applications until there are only three remaining candidates who will then meet the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor for the final selection. At this stage of the game there are five applicants left who will be visiting the campus during the week of May 9. However, in spirit of the behind the doors process which has taken place only the chosen students, faculty and top administrators will be allowed to meet the finalist. The press is even denied access to the meetings. One member of the committee suggested that the press go anyway since the decision to keep the meetings closed to the public was decided by Central Administration on East 80 street. "The rules that is being handed down by 80 street say you [the press] can not. I'm concerned this is making it a covert process." remarked SG senator Tom Taaffe who is currently a member of the Search Committee and one of the students who will be meeting the finalist. When asked if the issue ever came for a vote he commented, "It was not a votable issue." The bureaucratic manner in which the next President will be "elected" is made clear through such undemocratic maneuvers. He questioned why the "gag order," which applies to every member of the committee, and the secretive process is still in effect since the candidates have been made public. One student summed up the irony of the process. "Why is the process so secretive since most of the students will never even see the President while they are in school. I've never even seen ex-President Volpe and I have been going

to CSI for the past two years." The selection of the next President is expected to take place during the summer recess, sometime in June.

Schedule for Presidential Candidates' Visits
All meetings with candidates will be in 1a-406 (President's Conference Room)

8:30	Arrival on Campus
8:45 - 9:45	Senior Adminstrators
10 - 11	Faculty
*11:15 - 12:15	Chairs
12:30 - 1	Lunch/Rest Period
1 - 2	Campus Tour
*2 - 3	Staff
3:15 - 4:15	Students
4:30 - 5:30	Alumni

***Please note changes in the above on Thursday, May 12, only:**
11:15 - 12:15 Staff
2 - 3 Chair

The Collge Voice invites any and all students who are concerned to crash the meetings.

The Finalist

- Robert L. Carret**- Currently acting provost and vice chancellor of Towson State University, Maryland.
- Robert W. Carrubba** - Currently provost and vice chancellor of the University of Wisconsin, Madison.
- James Russell Nazzaro** - Currently vice president of academic affairs at Stockton State College, New Jersey.
- Michael Riccards**- Currently president of Shepard College, West Virginia.
- Marlene Springer** - Currently vice chancellor of academic affairs for East Carolina University, Greenville, N. C.

What difference will the next President make anyway?

Students Rally

To Take Back CUNY

by Manjula Wijerama
College Voice Staff Writer

Students at Hunter held a rally to "Take Back CUNY" on Wednesday April 27. The rally was organized by the International Socialist Club. Roughly seventy students attended. The speakers included student militants from Hunter, Queens College, "A Job Is A Right Campaign", "Students Against Racism and Poverty".

Amongst other concerns students at Hunter were pissed off about the disclosure of CUNY Chancellor Reynolds being on the Board of Directors of several major corporations in addition to her duties of carrying out the downsizing or privatization of CUNY. Hunter student Bilal explained the need for "the working class and minority students of CUNY to reorganize to confront the continuing assault on their ability to get a quality education".

CUNY along with other public services has been undergoing a major assault by the ruling financial and political interests of the city and state who are attempting to "balance the budget" on the backs of working people and the services they depend on. These attacks have a racist character since public sector jobs are largely the result of the struggles of workers, particularly Black and Latino, and thus less open to the arbitrary and racist hiring practices of private enterprise. Ben from "Youth Against Racism and Poverty", a campus based anti-capitalist organization, explained, "In the 1960s it was Black and Latino youth who organized and won open admissions and free tuition at CUNY."

Students pointed out the expansion of the police and security apparatus in the city. Buckley T Mitchell from "A Job is a Right Campaign" argued, "If you don't have an education you can't get a job. They hire more cops to control the increasing mass of those of us who are denied education and jobs." CUNY under the direction of Chancellor Reynolds has launched a centralized security apparatus as a means of containing student expression or protest. Since 1989 CUNY students have responded to tuition hikes and budget cuts by organizing militant demonstrations and in 1991 a wave of building occupations. Several dozen students who led the demonstrations are ensnared in costly and humiliating legal battles to fight their expulsions.

Although relatively modest in turnout, the students who gathered were determined to continue the fight to preserve quality and accessible higher education for those of us who do not have the class privileges of attending Ivy League universities.

Volpe Retirement Celebrated At Dinner

by Peter C. Guagenti
College Voice Staff Writer

On April 30, an era ended in the history of CSI. On behalf of the college, state Senator John Marchi and Norma D'Arrigo held a testimonial dinner in the library at the Willowbrook campus to honor President Edmond L. Volpe. After 20 years of service to the College of Staten Island, President Volpe is stepping down. The list of those who came to celebrate with the retiring president reads like a who's who of the New York political scene; Assemblyman Robert Strainere, Representative Susan Molinari, state Senator Robert DiCarlo, Councilman Jerome X. O'Donovan, New York State Lieutenant Governor Stan Lundine, Succession Commissioner Kathryn Rooney and presidents of the other CUNY schools. Unsurprisingly absent was CUNY Chancellor Wynetka Ann Reynolds.

Volpe has been on so-called "study leave" since the beginning of the year; after he struck a deal with the Board of Trustees. In October, the Board of Trustees made a move to fire the president; and Volpe asked that he be put on leave and retire on his own in June. A leaked memo written by the chancellor's representative on the Academic Program Planning (APP) committee, Susan Cole, stated that funding for CSI would be withheld until Volpe was replaced. This hints that Volpe, an outspoken opponent of the Chancellor's "cost-cutting measures," was removed at the request of the Chancellor herself. This was backed up by sources within CUNY central administration, who said that Chancellor Reynolds treated the situation with a "he goes or I go" attitude.

Regardless of the circumstances over which he left, Volpe has departed leaving behind quite a legacy at the new Willowbrook campus. In the new library, a symbolic cornerstone, an oil painting of Volpe and a time capsule commemorating the history of the campus was installed. The president was also recognized by acting President Felix F. Cardegna for his contributions; including adding baccalaureates in Business, Accounting and International Studies to the curriculum, as well as masters programs in Cinema Studies and Liberal Arts.

Volpe has also left one last contribution to the college, the dinner raised \$50,000 for a library endowment in the retiring president's name. Senator Marchi said to the Staten Island Advance that the endowment will "enable the college to strengthen its collection as a permanent tribute to him and to his accomplishments as founding president of the College of Staten Island."

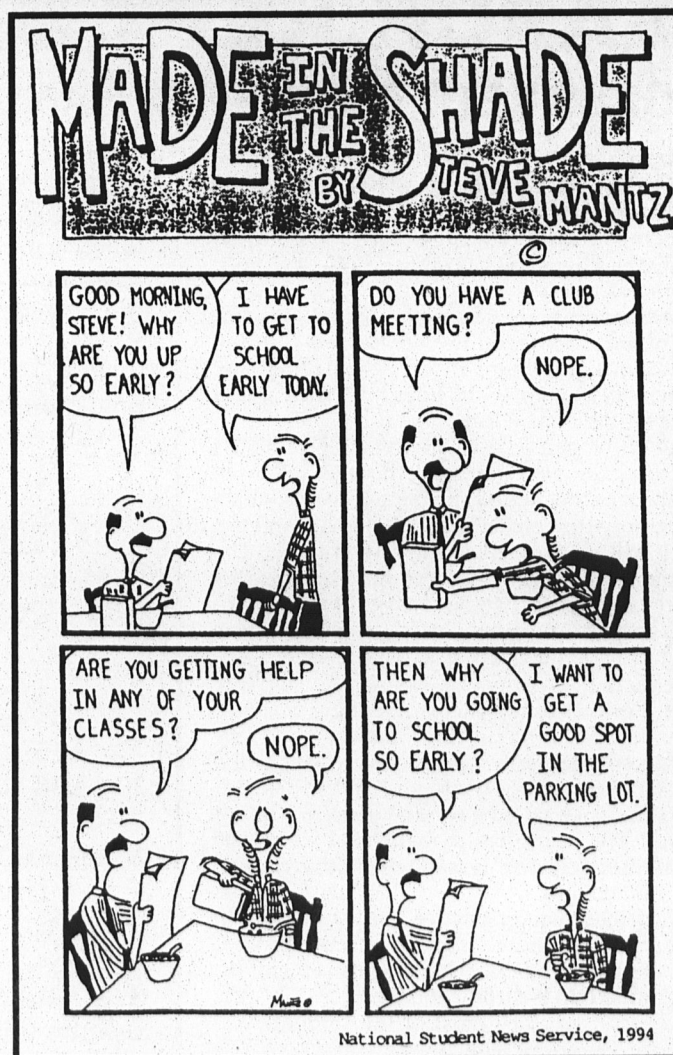
The College Voice will be holding an open meeting Wednesday, May 18, at 4 pm. The meeting will be held in Bldg 1c-Rm 230.

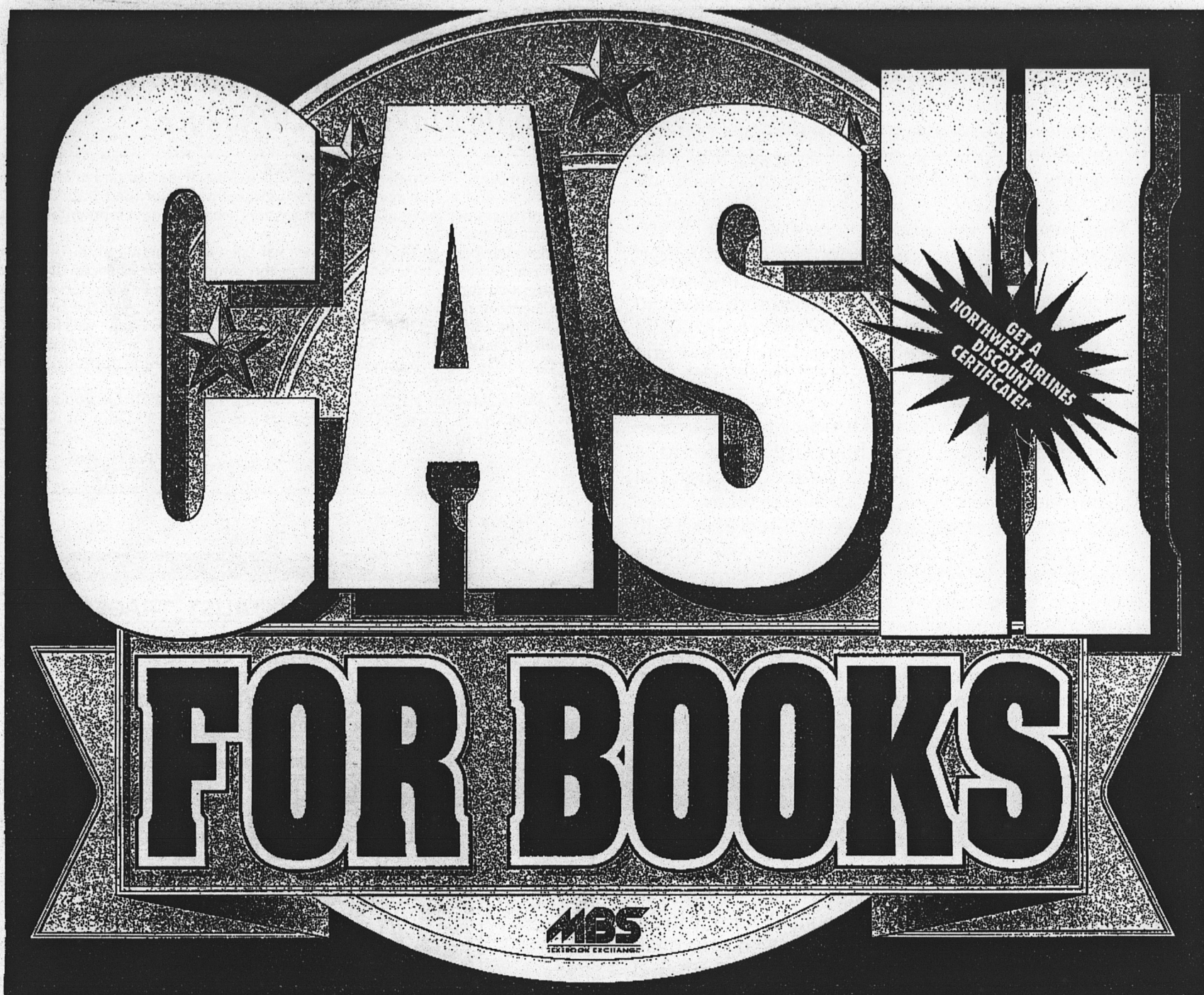
Photo: PC Guagenti



Trash Fills Walkway Gutter By PCA

Large amounts of litter have filled gutleys running along side the path by the Performing and Creative Arts building; showing an obvious disregard for the trash containers located nearby.





Monday, May 16th thru
Tuesday, May 31st
Enter to **WIN** a
18" Mountain Bike

CSI Bookstore
Campus Center

All Hail King Willowbrook

Stress. That seems to be the word crammed in to everyone's hearts in the past month. One casual stroll (as if those are possible nowadays) around the campus will bring a sorry sight to your eyes; people dragging their tired minds to wherever they are going (usually the Campus Center or the Library) with an expression on their faces usually only seen on zombies. We at the College Voice know this well. There is not one person on the staff that does not have at least two 6-8 page reports due in the next week, and collectively we still haven't had enough sleep to constitute one healthy person. Vivarin and NoDoz seem to be the watch words and coffee sales have gone up so much as to bring the standard of living drastically up in Columbia (that's a joke, by the way).

In this grim future which we are all heading towards, there may be a small reprieve coming. Library hours are expected to be extended and the food seems to be getting better (although not cheaper) at the Campus Center. Also, just in time to relieve some pressure is the performance of Misanthrope in 1C on May 11-13 at 7:00 pm. The play seems to be quite hilarious and will bring a much needed break from the routine of wake up, study, go to class, study, write final papers, study, go to sleep. The staff of CV would like to wish all students luck on their tests and papers and hope to see all of you back next term. For those students who are going to be here for the summer session, CV is planning on publishing one issue per month over the break and we hope you would pick it up. CV is planning a new look and angle next term and we would like to welcome all interested in journalism or photo-journalism to join us.

Who's the criminal?

On a sadder note, we would like to give our condolences and support to the family and friends of Ernest "Kase" Sayon. His death has been quite a media blitz, exposing police brutality in the inner city as a very real problem which is forcing itself to be dealt with. Regardless of personal beliefs in this matter, this death, and others like it over the past years, is tragic to say the least. Many people are condemning Kase as a criminal, but the death of a 22 year old man, which was in the least caused by his arrest, is a horrible occurrence and one which we should all be angry. Over 42 youth have died from violence in the ghettos on Staten Island since the beginning of 1992 alone. Staten Island is a community with racial, cultural, and economic differences that are delineated by the "Mason Dixon Line," i.e., the highway that divides the South shore from the North shore. In the ghettos, violence has made itself much more apparent than in neighborhoods like posh Emerson Hill. A chief cause of this violence has recently been shown to be in the hands of the elected officials and other men sworn to protect the community. The greatest cause of violence, but one which is insipid, is poverty. In Parkhill the major cause of violence, outside of the police, is unemployment, poor housing and the racist institutions that contain the problem in segregated communities.

On Monday, May 9, a group of over 150 people marched in a candlelight vigil to Borough Hall; requesting answers from Mayor Giuliani in the case of the prosecution of Officers involved in the Sayon case. The mayor refused to make a statement to the crowd and the police were deployed in military style double formation around the perimeter of the structure. The police hassled everyone, including some members of the press, and denied the press access to a meeting where he spoke with 10 community activists. This treatment of a very serious request for aid and help from a man who, supposedly, represents the people of this city is atrocious and bias to the needs of the people of the inner city; a people who make up the vast majority of the population. However, few people in Parkhill expect justice from the Mayor, or for that matter, any state institution. The reason for this "lack of faith" is based on the history of injustice that the black community historically (up to this day) has faced. What the black working class and ghetto youth understand is that the only way that "justice" will be served is through the self-organization and to expose the class bias (in favor of the rich) nature of the capitalist state

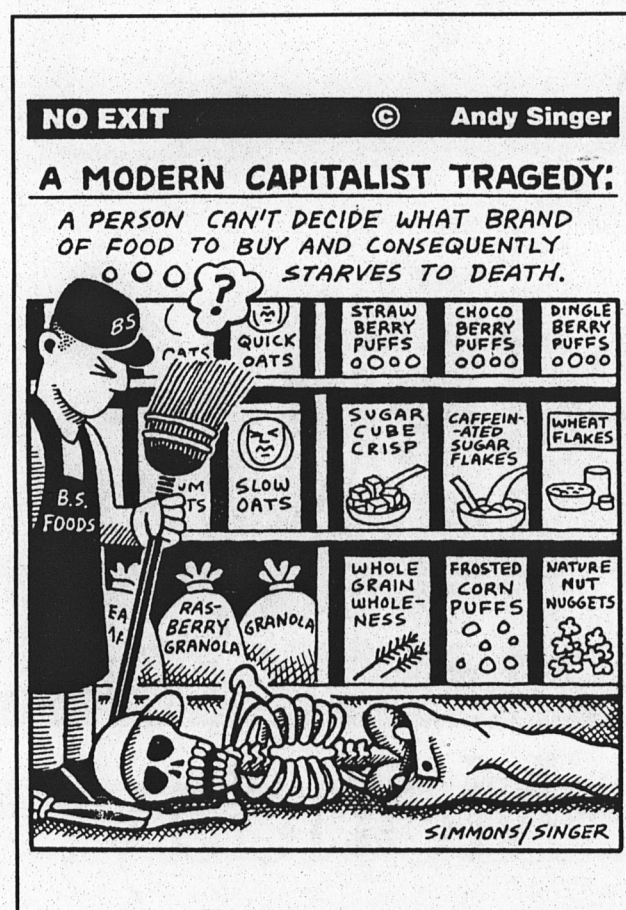
S.I. Retardation and Disabilities Council People Making a Difference

The Staten Island Retardation and Disabilities Council is an organization of not-for-profit, private and public agencies, parent groups and interested individuals. The purpose of the council is to make sure that services needed by developmentally disabled individuals are available.

Since its inception in 1974, the Council has been instrumental in the development of diagnostic services, sheltered workshops and community residences. It also serves in an advisory capacity to governmental bodies concerned with services for the developmentally disabled population. It is through the efforts of the Staten Island Retardation and Disabilities Council that the Information Exchange was formed. The Information Exchange is a free service which serves as a central directory for the developmentally disabled on Staten Island. It assists in locating appropriate services and programs for any developmentally disabled person.

For further information call (718) 983-5395 or (718) 351-7701. Or, you may write to Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Services Office at 26 Dumont Ave., Staten Island New York 10305.

Pat Hazard



THE COLLEGE VOICE

The College of Staten Island Student Newspaper

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Moliere's



The Misanthrope

Directed by
Robert Hulton-Baker

A new adaptation from the
College of Staten Island
by Elizabeth Kash

Performances will be in
The Campus Center
Green Dolphin Lounge

Opening Night
Wednesday, May 11, 8 pm

Thursday, May 12, 8 pm

Friday, May 13, 8 pm

Saturday, May 14, 3 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, May 15, 3 pm

Admission is free.

The Wednesday, Friday and Saturday
3:00 pm shows feature the following
cast members:

Celeste	<i>Maria Corso</i>
Ann Marie	<i>Beth Krivorchuk</i>
Ellie	<i>Tina Jefferson</i>
Alphonse	<i>Joe Lucci</i>
Phil	<i>Mike Noto</i>
Frank	<i>Jamal Holmes</i>
Carmine	<i>Chris Gonzalez</i>
Tone	<i>C.J. Morgan</i>

The Thursday and Saturday 8:00 pm
shows, and the Sunday 3:00 pm show
feature the following cast members:

Celeste	<i>Stella Rivera</i>
Ann Marie	<i>Roe Polizzi</i>
Ellie	<i>Linda Spadaro</i>
Alphonse	<i>Eric Minton</i>
Phil	<i>Matt Larson</i>
Frank	<i>Jamal Holmes</i>
Carmine	<i>Chris Gonzalez</i>
Tone	<i>C.J. Morgan</i>

Mr. Terry Leong will be designing sets and costumes.
Reservations can be made by calling (718) 982-3658.
Please leave a message.

Sponsored by the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences
and by the Program in Dramatic arts.

ADULT LANGUAGE MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

Shooting the Philosophic Breeze

by Peter Simpson

Is there an objective right and wrong? I mean, is it the case that what is right is right simply and what is wrong is wrong simply, or is it instead the case that there is no such right and wrong but that is right for me which I think is right and it need not be right for you?

This would seem an important, indeed vital, question, would it not? Yet hardly anyone ever asks it. Instead everyone automatically assumes they have no need to ask it because they already know the answer. The answer is that there is no objective right and wrong: everything is subjective and relative.

One of the great puzzles that this state of affairs has always raised for me is why in the world everyone claims to know the answer to this question, though they are happily prepared to admit they are ignorant about lots of other things (like mathematics). What puzzles me just as much is why everyone gives the same answer. I cannot remember the last time I came across someone (someone not professionally involved in philosophy, that is) who said he did not know the answer, or gave the opposite answer or who said that while he knew there must be an objective right and wrong he did not know what they were.

Yet there is a further puzzle still, and it is perhaps the most perplexing of them all. While everyone says they have the answer and while everyone agrees in giving the same answer, not one of them can give a good reason that this is or must be the answer. When I ask for a reason I always get the same response. People have different views about what is right and wrong and what I or you think is right or wrong someone else might think is not right or wrong. But the trouble with this answer is that it is both false as to the fact and, even if true, is irrelevant.

It is false as to the fact because just about everyone in this country, and in fact throughout the Western world, has, not

different, but the same opinions about what is right and wrong. We all think that we all have certain rights and that these rights are essentially the right to live our lives the way we wish and to say and do whatever we wish. These rights we certainly regard as moral rights for they constitute for us social justice and justice is part of morality. Moreover we are fierce in the defense of these rights and regard it as downright wrong and criminal for anyone to try to deprive us of them.

But there are countries in the world where they think the opposite, and that people should instead follow the law of God or Allah or Marx and that if they do not they should be imprisoned, exiled or even killed. And we of course think these countries are wrong, and wrong simply, not just wrong for us. In other words we believe what we say we do not believe, that there is an objective right and wrong after all.

But not only is it false to say we have different views about what is right and wrong, it is also false to say we even desire to do different things. On the contrary, to quote a little known law: "when people are free to do what they like they imitate each other." As proof of this consider the phenomenon of fashion, especially in things like clothes. Fashion precisely means what everyone is doing and what everyone wants to do, and the pursuit of fashion in this country and the West generally is a veritable craze. We all want to be up with the fashion and to wear the latest clothes, have the latest computer, own the latest gadget, etc. People who have different opinions simply do not follow fashions, for then they would not be having different opinions.

Well, just as we imitate each other in clothing and what not so we imitate each other in moral opinions. Of course, we disagree about some things, like abortion, capital punishment, homosexuality; but these disagreements are superficial in comparison and are really exceptions that prove

the rule. On just about everything else we agree.

But even suppose we did hold different moral opinions, how does this show that there is no objective right and wrong? It could only do so if people are always right in what they think, for then, if people think differently about morality and whatever they think is right, there cannot be any objective thing the same for all that they are thinking about. But is it the case that people are always right in what they think? Of course not. We all know that just because you think something is so it need not be so. Many people think New York City is the capital of New York State but it isn't.

Now whenever I make this point in conversation, I always get the same immediate response. "But that Albany and not New York City is the capital of New York is a fact and that is not like morality for morality is different." People who say this mean that morality is different because morality is not about facts but opinions. And they say this with a straight face, as if it somehow settled the question and as if they were not committing a most egregious fallacy in the process.

The fallacy I have in mind is that of *petitio principii* or, to use the vulgar tongue, *begging the question*. For the question at issue is whether morality is a matter of opinion or of objective fact, and the argument that it is a matter of opinion and not of fact is that people have different opinions about it. Then, in response to the objection that the fact people have different opinions about something does not mean the thing is not a matter of fact since people can have opinions about something and be in error, they say that this objection has no place in the case of morality (but only in the case of math or science or whatever) because morality is a matter of opinion and not of fact.

But whether morality is a matter of opinion is precisely what was supposed to be being proved and to use your conclusion to

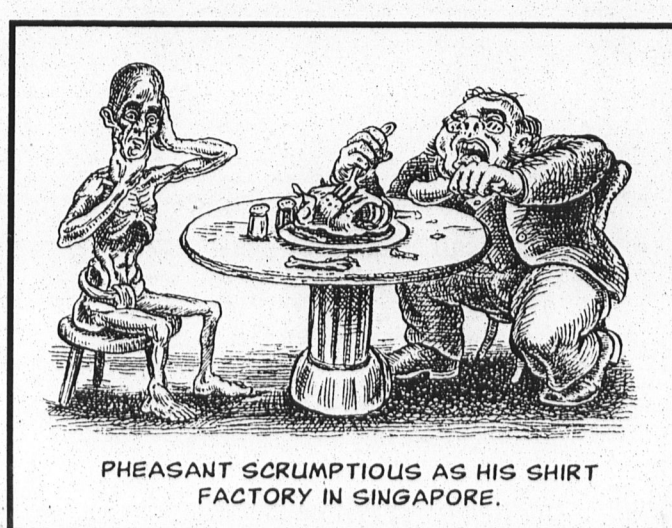
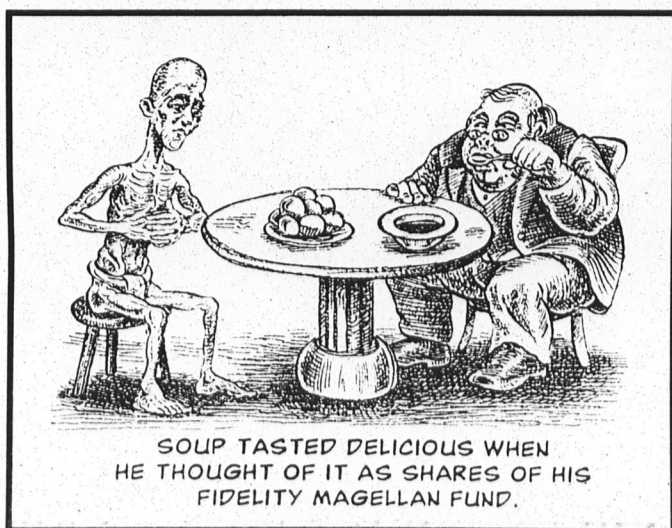
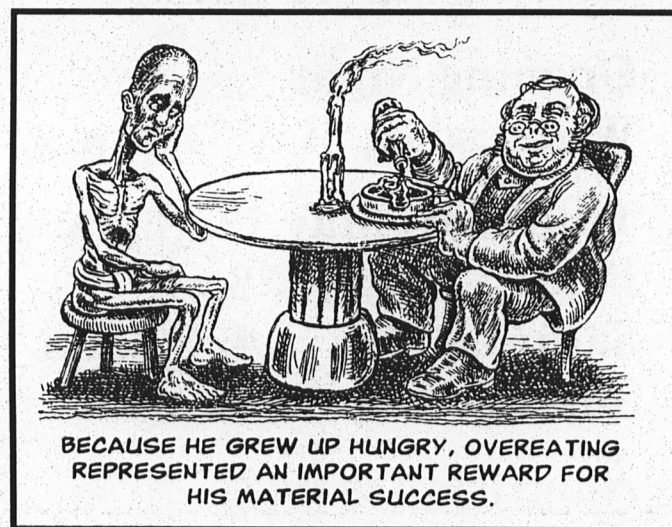
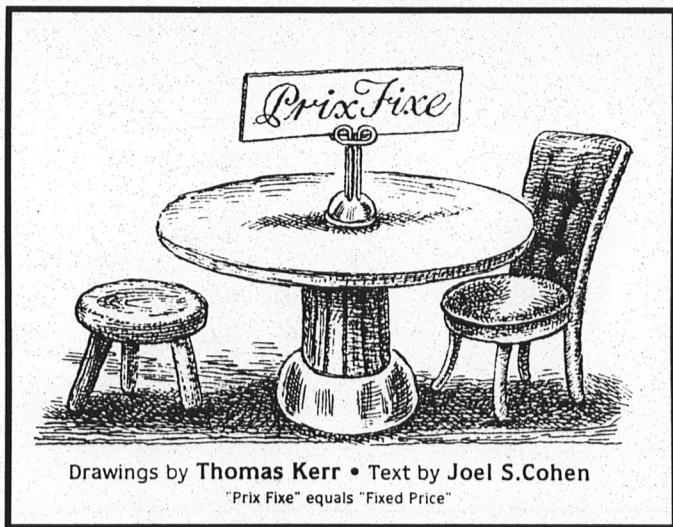
prove your conclusion is no proof at all. It is really a sort of insolence: morality is a matter of opinion because morality is a matter of opinion, and that is that and don't you ever dare tell me otherwise!

I do not think, I must confess, that I have ever come across so much begging the question in all my life, and begging that is carried on with so much ease and unconcern and so little worry when the fallacy of this way of arguing is pointed out.

What can the explanation be? Why so much and so universal an agreement on so important an issue as the objectivity of morality? Why so much egregious question begging and so much egregious inconsistency? Is it some diabolical conspiracy, perhaps?

Well before I charge off down the road of demons and demon possession (I'll leave that to the other Simpson, the one who professes to be a theologian—the insolence of the man!—and writes for that upstart rag that flutters all over the campus these days), let me simply suggest the following. It is because we all agree about what is objectively right and wrong that we all think there is no objective right and wrong. We all agree that the moral right and wrong are defined by the right to do and say pretty much whatever you like. And if we all have the right to do and say whatever we like, then whatever I say or do is right for me and whatever you say or do is right for you and no one has the right to tell us nay or say we are wrong.

But I wonder how much all this matters in the end. Since we all choose to do and say the same things, we all follow the same moral norms even while fiercely proclaiming our right to follow different ones. Ah! What would I not give for a real bit of difference now and then! All this sameness is beginning to kill me. I need a break. So I'm off next year and I'll be shooting no more breezes for a while. I'll come back when the grass is full and a luscious green and 2N and all the other Ns and Ss really are safe to be in. Valet.



An Open Letter To CSI Students

by Harry T. Cason

Harry Cason is a Political Science Adjunct Lecturer at the College of Staten Island, and has taught at CSI in the PEP Department for the past six years.

Life is a struggle. If you get what you want or need, it is generally a result of past struggles (quite often struggles that your parents, grandparents, or some other relative has been involved in), or present

The reason for cutting education, as it is currently presented, is because of government budget deficits which, it is reasoned, must be lowered. Furthermore, it is said that we Americans are and have, for some time now, been living beyond our means, and by cutting education this is one way that we can save a few dollars! (I leave this one to your imagination.) Few of us would

deny the importance of living within our means, and cutting unreasonable deficits. But, the real question involves the struggle over this country's

resources. Who's got them and how are they being used.

Put succinctly, a very small percentage of the American population has control of this country's resources. They have struggled (to varying degrees and in some cases not a lot) and can thus be classified (in some peoples' book) as "successful". What this group is doing with these resources vary, but it would be a big mistake to think that what they want to do with this country's resources is necessarily what you would like to do with these resources. It is in the struggle over choices like these that the life and death of human existence is played out.

So what would you like to see happen at this new educational facility that was (presumably) built to serve human need? Would you like to see a greater variety and number of courses offered so that you could graduate in four years as expected, and so that your school schedule could fit your personal (work) schedule better? Would you like to have greater resources put into loans and grants so that your personal

struggle could be lightened? Would you like to have professors who are more available so that your educational problems and questions could be dealt with more efficiently? Would you like to have more books in the library? Would you like to have this potentially wonderful facility maintained so that respect for ourselves and our environment could be nurtured?

There is also another group on this campus with needs that directly connect-up with and effect your educational needs. This is our adjunct (part-time) faculty. The use of adjunct faculty here at CSI and around the country is done primarily to cut costs (remember the budget deficits). We represent approximately one half of the faculty and are paid a third to a half of what the lowest-rung full time non-tenured professors make. We are not paid to be involved in campus life, and we are not paid to meet with students. We do not know with any certainty that we will have employment once the semester is over, and you do not know if your teacher will be available to

settle incomplete or disputed grades. It is believed by many that this kind of student-faculty relationship can reflect negatively on your education.

For myself, the department for which I have worked for some time now has been good to me. However, the problems to which I refer are to a good extent beyond this college and even CUNY. Education should not be taken for granted, and it should be obvious, from your personal experiences that resources are needed for (your) education.

This is not a poor country. This country

does not lack for technical capacity. Our resources have not been exhausted, even though this is a topic we need to urgently address. How do we address all these problems? Through struggle! There is no alternative as of yet! Greed has not ended! Self-centered egotism has not ended! Domination and exploitation of some by others has not ended! Racism has not ended! Sexism has not ended! Homophobia has not ended! Nationalism has not ended!

While there is no guarantee that we humans can or ever will ameliorate these problems, education (short of catastrophic disaster - ironically enough) is our only hope. We can begin to address these problems only after information has been collected on these problems, thoughtful reflection has been applied and honest, sincere effort to work on these problems has been implemented. While many argue that little can be done about these human problems, the eternal optimist holds on to hope, good will and a willingness to work with others to make this a more sane world.

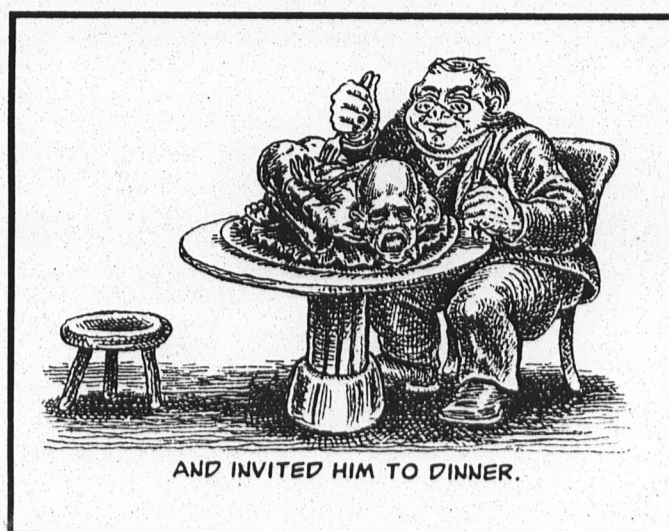
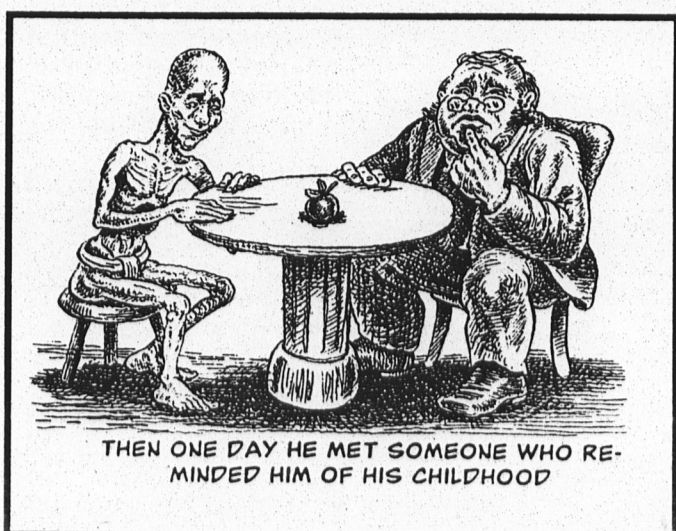
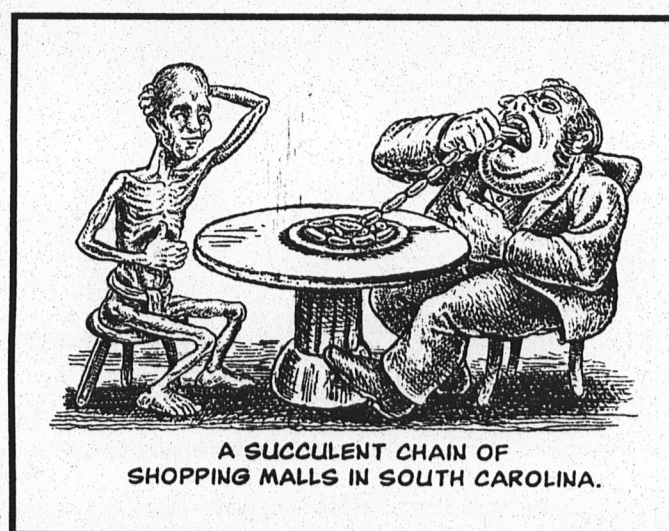
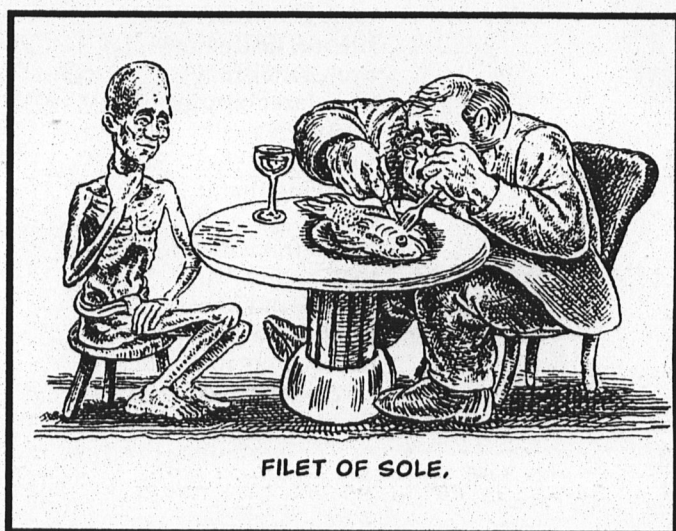
How do we address all these problems?

struggles that you yourself have been engaged in. While this axiom is understood by each of you here at the College of Staten Island, its significance does not seem to be fully realized by all. Otherwise, the struggle over higher education that is presently going on in this country would likely occupy more of your attention. After all, unlike so many other struggles that appear not to involve you, this one directly affects your life. (To the few of you who are and have been involved in this struggle, this obviously does not apply to, and to you I tip my hat).

Given the present state of organized human life, nothing can or should be taken for granted, and that includes any right that you may feel is yours. While many people feel (including myself) that education is one of those rights that we should be able to depend on, others, including your government, do not agree. Your government has never affirmed that education is your right. As a matter of fact, your government is currently cutting support for education, while expanding its support for prisons.

Through struggle! There is no alternative as of yet!

So what will you do? Will you at least fight for your immediate interest? And what about your long term interest? Life is a struggle, and if you try to avoid it you will be left behind. You could, however, commit to struggle to make this world less of a struggle. If you do not do it, it will not get done. As Spike Lee said, get up and "Do the Right Thing".



THE COLD WAR

by Debra Behr

A victim of Mother's kisses
 The Madonna rapist
 Kill the bastard Just tear him from the cross
 A sucker to his own circumstances
 Pretending to be the holy one
The cold war has just begun Is he real
 Can he feel Just fuck him
 This asshole should be wearing Satan's crown
 Can't be blinded anymore
 He was never a righteous one
 Laughing like a jerk Stupid bastard
The cold war has just begun
 Lets tear him down Tear him down
 Let him sink to his knees Mother fucker
 Pretending to be the blessed one
 The Aristocrat Back stabber
 Righteous coward
The cold war has just begun

A FORMER CONSTELLATION

by Sal Branciforte

Wanting desire, nowhere, skyrockets with messages of courage, turned to ashes. I see shattered glass in the spotlight of my dreams. Hope has flown away with the owl of wisdom spinning across the sky, in a wind of obliterated dust. Where are the lights of the ecclesiastical harmony? Are they only through the doorways, for the hollowed comers of destiny? A monster is clawing my heart against the possibility of peace by ripping away the roots of my strength. Wait! I hear the sound, the sound of spikes breaking through the frozen cavern of desire. Warmth has come to the once pulsating courage in my ventricles. Hope calls in with it's vacuum of low beckoning echoes. Wisdom looks to restore it's ancient ways of reasoning and in the process soon answer it's question in accordance with the rock of power. The rock of power will dominate the scene by carrying out the final implosion of will.

WASTED YOUTH

by David Lipp

Σsegregated
 and degraded
 push away
 understated.

look down upon
 by shaking heads
 judged too soon
 already dead.

judged them, judge them
 before they're gone
 gun toting druggies
 who won't live on.

remembered only
 for what we hate
 pushed away
 to segregate.

they say we're bad
 you don't understand
 your not a part of it.

taken for fools
 ignorant and strange
 unable to cope
 too far gone to change.

losers among losers
 trapped and insane
 who don't want to be thrown
 in your infamous fame.

rejected by majority
 insolent freaks
 another generation lost
 to being unique.

"BEAUTY"

by Sammy Samtani

THE LAST I SHALL NAME TO YOU NOW.....

IS A BEAUTY THAT ALL MUST ADMIRE.....

SHE'S JUST TO A TITLE...

I VOW...

THE THING ONE WOULD WISH AND DESIRE.....

HER COMEDY-LOOKING SWEET FACE.....

SPREADS A JOY ROUND WHEREVER SHE GOES.....

AND VIVACITY CHOSE IT HER PLACE.....

FOR TO DWELL WITH GOOD-NATUR'D REPOSE.....

AFFABILITY MARKS HER ADDRESS.....

SHE WITH CHEERFULNESS EVER APPEARS.....

AND PAUNCEFORT.....

WE ALL MUST CONFESS.....

WOU'D ROUSE PASSION.....

THO'BURY'D IN YEARS.....

CHINA

by Victoria Seretis

I am chipped,
 cracked in two
 All this breakage
 It makes loud
 NOISE
 Dis
 rupts trains
 of thought, some
 with no destination
 And then it's that
 huge chasm of
 silence, deafening
 drives me crazy
 So I start chipping
 at myself again
 Slowly, surely
 knowing that if
 I stop,
 It will force me to
 look and feel and
 realize and know.
 I'm the fearful,
 industrious romantic.
 I work at it.
 I'm good at what I do.

“THE MAY SHROUD “
by Sammy Samtani

THAT SAME MONTH HAS RETURNED
OF RED ROSES AND
BLOOD-RED REMEMBRANCES
WITH THE CRIES OF THE SHATTERED HEART
AND MYSTERY OF THAT NIGHT'S PAIN
THE UNPLEASANT SEASON HAS ARRIVED
BUT THE SEASONS THAT WE BELIEVED IN
WEREN'T ONLY OF IDEOLOGIES
THIS HABIT
OF STANDING ALONE IN THE CROWD
OF MEMORIES
IS THE HERITAGE ONLY FOR A DAY
THAT DAY?
YES.
IT WAS THE SAME DAY OF
THE SAME MONTH
AN INEXPLICABLE FRIGHT
ON THE FACE OF TIME
IN THE LAST HOUR OF A GLOOMY EVENING
UNDER A SHOWER OF TEARS
BEFORE FALLING ASLEEP
I GLANCED AT THE COURTYARD
A FEW HALF OPENED BUDS OF SMILES
AND HOPE WERE SWINGING IN THE AIR
CUCKOO WAS QUIET AND THE WIND BLEW
AS IF A TRAVELER IN A FOREIGN LAND
AND THE WAVE OF BITTERSWEET PAIN
BLEW SLOWLY
STOPPING AT SOME CLOSED DOOR
IT'S TRUE
THE WIND DIDN'T KNOCK AT ANY CLOSED DOOR
THAT NIGHT
BUT WITH DARKNESS CAME A MURDEROUS RAIN
THEN
THE SPECTACLE
HORROR.....HORROR.....
A RAVAGED GARDEN, BLOOD-DEWED BUDS
WHAT A DAWN IT WAS
THE CUCKOO SCREECHED AND THE SUN THREW
ASHES
WHERE WERE WE
IN A BATTLE GROUND
OR UNDER A MERCILESS SUN
HANGING BY A THREAD
LOST IN DESPAIR
WHEN HOPE GOT LOST
INCREDIBLE SCENES WERE ENACTED
FORMING AN ALLIANCE AGAINST INNOCENT MASSES
A BATTLE FRONT WITH ARMIES FACE TO FACE
POWER AND MONEY ON THEIR SIDE
EMPTY HANDS ON OURS
THE ENDEAVOR OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTER
THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE
THE WRATH OF THE GOD
AND MORE.....!!!!!!!

REFLECTIONS OF PAIN
by Louis Bardel

No book has ever been written
About the sting that scratches my brain
In search of something so elusive
The bliss guitar has stopped playing

Lonely man in the mirror
Does anyone understand
The story of the stoned walk
A friend and his purple legion
He's disgusted in every way
The mystery is now history
Too much has killed the king

Bored and tired
His mind has failed me

Every girl I meet
I crumble at their feet
I'm searching for love inside of dirty glove

That man in the mirror cannot be me
I think I'm getting old
My soul has been sold

I'm dying and I don't know what to do

SUMMON THE GODS
by Louis Bardel

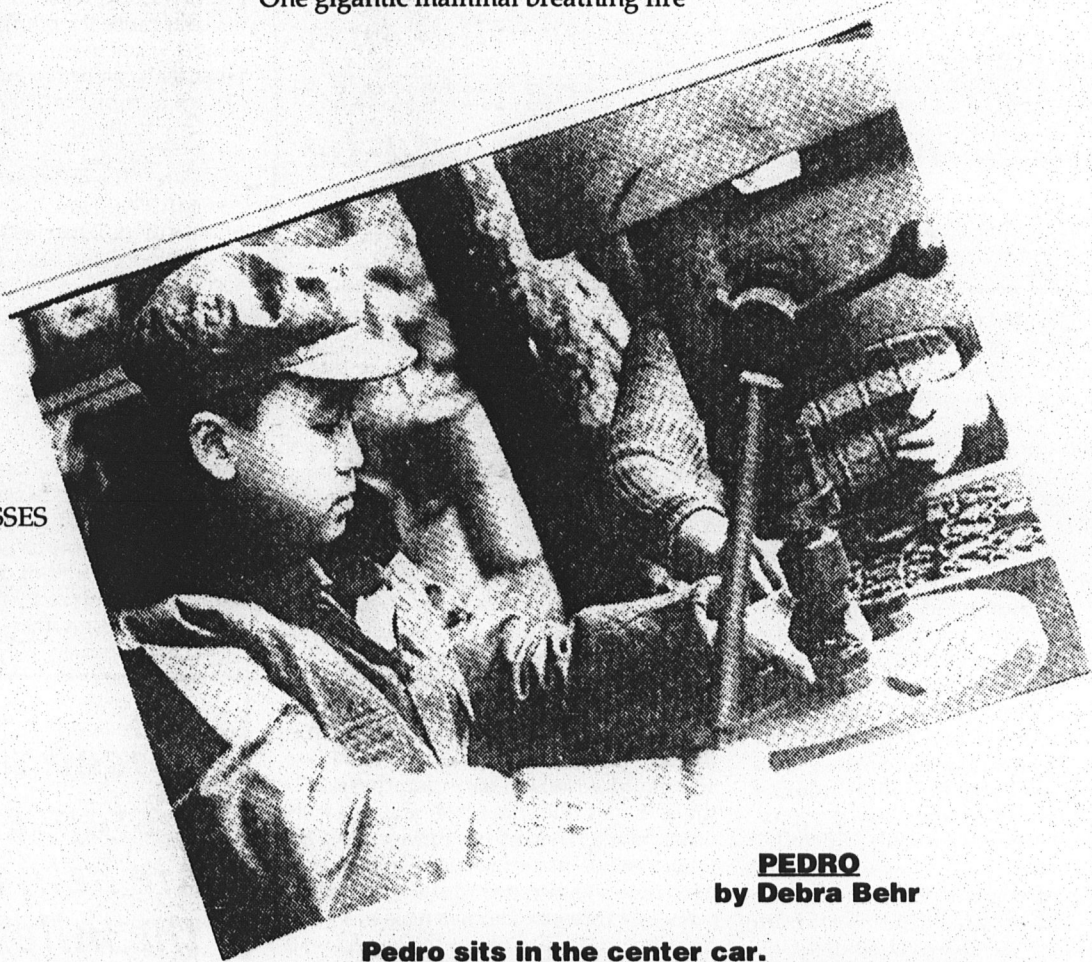
Paper palaces folded neatly in the sky
One last chance to sip at thunderous wine

The night was unveiled as a canvas
And later as a sponge
I was at peace with guilt

Unbridled worship of the pleasure that blackness conceals
Cocktails and strapless dresses
Soft to the touch
Reminding me of warmer rain
Cascading down silky skin

One summer night
Without remorse
We closed our eyes
And played games in the breeze
Asked questions about who we are
And what we've done

Slowly
Beige hills of powder grew before me
Women of all ages sang aloud
And fields of green danced alive
We walk further along the thunderous road
Watching insane children play
A soft wanton dynasty
One gigantic mammal breathing fire



PEDRO
by Debra Behr

**Pedro sits in the center car.
He hasn't realized that he missed his stop.
This tube of oppression wasn't moving anyway.
He stares at the man in the Gucci tie filing his nails.
Pedro is too tired from working for \$ 5.83 .
Today he realized "There's no American dream".
It's just a fuckin bureaucracy.
Pedro is going to die in the same dirty jeans.**

**Pedro rides the elevator.
He hasn't realized that he missed his floor.
This box of oppression wasn't moving anyway.
He holds a stack of bills in his right hand.
His left is too tired to rise from working that machine.
Pedro is too scared to say "There's no American dream."
It's just a fuckin legacy.
He doesn't want to die in the same dirty jeans.**

A TALE OF THREE CAMPUSES OR THE YEAR I OCCUPIED SEVEN OFFICES

BY PROF. CHARLES THOMAS

Well here we were! It was the glorious fall of 1993. Everyone was filled with great anticipation with the opening of the new, long awaited campus of CSI! Despite demonstrations against the Chancellor, the Governor and the power-that-be, everyone was excitedly scurrying to and fro finding the way to new classrooms, offices and other designated spaces. After having come on foot, by car, plane, bus, ferry, train, shuttle, loop bus, roller skates, bicycle and maybe even helicopter—the fervor and delight of the moment was not diminished. We had indeed reached the Promised Land; that is, everyone save the Department of Performing and Creative Arts Health and Physical Education. PANIC! Had we been left behind? Were we being phased out gradually? RELIEF! NO. Our multi-million dollar Center was not completed and it would take another semester to

of the bookstore—No Keys! I looked for a place to call security—all abandoned offices, Ghost Town. Suddenly I heard a noise. LIFE! I followed the flow of light into the Health Education office. A kind instructor let me use the phone. I waited for security. The guard sauntered down the long hallway. "You're Professor Thomas?" "Yes." The keys jingled opening the one time bookstore. No lights! Where the H— is the switch. We searched. Nothing. They must be inside the locked offices within the bookstore. NO KEY! "I'll be back", the guard states. I heard the static from his walkie-talkie as he disappeared leaving me in the dark to continue the search. He reappears. KEYS! "Now let's see." Flashlight on lock. "that's Key #1B." Door opens—an office! two, in fact, joined together. Flashlight reveals a long panel. Switches. Main switch found. Light floods

here on Mondays, but try any other day before five." ANGER!

On Wednesday, I arrive early. The key is there, but with a note stating "make sure he deposits a dollar because keys ain't free!" INSULTED! I pay my dollar, take my key and GO. I unlock the door the office space. Real desks, spacious surroundings, cubicles and phones. I choose an area, drop my brief and settle down to work. PEACE! My third office on Sunnyside.

ST. GEORGE CAMPUS

I am informed that all my belongings, save a box of delicate instruments and art works, have been moved to 120 Stuyvesant. I obtain the key to this new office space from the Secretary, open the door to find all my boxes neatly placed on and underneath a long table. The office is of fair size having been used by a tutoring program. There are a couple of bright orange, comfortable upholstered chairs which help to cheer me up. I push the desk flush to the wall, inspect the drawers, arrange the cabinets and boxes and settle in. For atmosphere, I take a few posters from the boxes and hang them on the walls. NICE! A knock at the door. I have a call waiting which I can't accept in my office because the phone was disconnected when the last parties moved. I inquire as to whether it can be reconnected. I am told to call an administrative office to see if this can be arranged. I must send a written office request. My answer comes some days later. It would cost the college unnecessary funds. I am, however free to use the phones in the Chairperson's office or in the office where the mail is kept and which accommodates Adjunct faculty, thereby making it necessary for me to utilize three offices at St. George!

WILLOWBROOK

I approach the campus with great expectations. Let's see. I took the train from Manhattan, the ferry to the Island, the shuttle bus from St. George to Sunnyside, a second shuttle bus from Sunnyside to and finally the Loop Bus from the Campus entrance to the campus Center. I then proceeded on the trail of dust from the Loop stop. A car whizzed past stirring up more dust. I noted another vehicle on its way down and avoided a few clouds of dust by

went on to say that it needed counseling and was searching for my office. I looked up from the delectable sandwich to note a student from the previous semester. I motioned for him to sit down but found it difficult to explain just when and where I was in terms of office space and hours. He being similarly confused made an appointment on agreement with me. SOLUTION! We would meet right there in the Campus Center around five the following week. Same spot. Same table. AGREED!

THE FOLLOWING WEEK

I emerge from the Loop Bus after my usual marathon of transportation from Manhattan. I enter the Campus Center, buy refreshments and flop down in the designated meeting spot. I am five minutes into my meal as the student enters the room I have informed Security of my whereabouts if the student asks for me. He smiles, waves and saunters over. After the meeting I am somewhat drained and am in need of a quiet spot where I can prepare for my 6:50 PM class. I walk diagonally to building 2N where the class is scheduled and sit in the small lounge only to be approached by several students who ask questions that should be saved for the classroom discussion to follow. Realizing I will have no moment of respite before teaching, I retreat to the Campus Center again and move to a comfortable spot in the lounge. I take papers from my bag and begin reading only to be disturbed by the slam of dominoes on a table and some very audible interjections of language from a card game. (now banned from that area). I gather my things and walk upstairs to another lounge. EUREKA! Peace and quiet! Only a student couple meeting a sharing a few quiet moments of ecstasy. I look out over the school grounds and succeed in grading several papers.

8 NOVEMBER 1993, MEMO FROM PCA CHAIRMAN

I have been informed by Security that keys are now available for you to obtain access to 4S211, a single faculty office which is generously being lent to us as a "pied-a-terre" of sorts this semester. Please see Mr. (?) in security for your key.

I rush to Security and pick up my key. It is a small key in a brown envelope. I

Our multi-million dollar Center was not completed and it would take another semester to insure that this most delicate, artistic and intricate bastion of construction would be given its just attentions.

insure that this most delicate, artistic and intricate bastion of construction would be given its just attentions. So we waited, strengthening our positions at good ol' ST. George.

As I filled out my seven program cards "all truly having their designated places", (a constant reminder by our secretary) I noted that on Monday I was scheduled to teach a class from 4:40 to 6:20 at Willowbrook campus and another beginning at 6:30 on Sunny Side Campus. IMPOSSIBLE! unless we had jet service between campuses or I could devise a new method of flying myself as I did sometimes in my dreams. REALITY! I called the Dean and both classes were scheduled for Sunnyside. I was to also teach a third class on Thursday evenings at Willowbrook. I acquiesced only to note on my program card the office hour mandate. PANIC! How and where?

At the time I was intensely involved in moving my office of fifteen or so years from 130 Stuyvesant to 120 next door at St. George. This is where the PCA department was to continue its major functions for the remainder of our exile. If my main office was to be here, my classes at Sunnyside and Willowbrook, where would I go to grade papers, prepare for classes, counsel students, meet with my colleagues, hang my coat and hat, or for that matter just prop up my feet? PANIC!

SUNNYSIDE

Having taught a Dance Workshop at this campus, I shared an office in "K" building with the dance faculty. I approached the locked building one day during the semester only to find that we had been move, without notice, to what was once the bookstore in "C" building, but told not to worry, a nice protective dance floor covering had been laid down to replace the usual wooden ones used in dance studios. I stood in front

the area. RELIEF! I thank him, throw my brief on the desk, flop in the chair exhausted if not stressed. My students are due in fifteen minutes. I call to see whether we may obtain keys to the designated spaces and offices. NO. Security will have to open up for us each time we meet. "What about my office?" I inquire. "We're working on it." SILENCE!

WEDNESDAY

I take the shuttle from St. George to Sunnyside, with hopes of reaching the office early in order to go over student papers and make other preparations for class. The bookstore (dance studio must be opened to get to the inner office (mine). I must call security. No phone. I again seek an office to make the call. I find one in "B" building. The guard is making his rounds but will be there. I wait. He shoes later and opens the outer door but had no key to the inner office where some materials and equipment I need for my lecture are. He uses his walkie-talkie. "Professor Thomas needs to get in his office and I don't have the key." I wait. It is now 5:30 and time for my class to begin. I rush to "J" Building only to find we have been moved across the hall to J0. A friendly face occupying the room informs me. I rush over and find thirty or more students sitting in semi-darkness. I switch on the lights, regretting the disturbance, manage a half smile and proceed to call the roll as other lost souls file into the class room that is already overcrowded. CLASS OVER!

MONDAY

I call the Dean. I must have an office space that is available to me at all times here at Sunnyside so that I can get on with the business of teaching! I can't spend by time finding and waiting on security guards. GIVE US KEYS! The Dean informs me I am to use a space in "C" building and a key will be issued. I run to security office with great anticipation. "He who issues the key ain't

I realize that Building 4S is quite a distance from 2N where my classes are held and that by the time I walk the mile or so or wait on the Loop, I will still be unprepared as ever.

moving closer to the parking lot curb. The cafeteria was bustling with activity and excitement. Several students conversed with me asked questions or directions, general complaining, anxiety, etc.. thinking I was one of them. I enjoyed these few moments of non-identification and slipped into a feeling of first time, first semester, freshman oriented subconscious's. ECSTASY!

As I sat at one of the tables with a sandwich and drink I had purchased from the nice cafeteria, the neophyte spell was broken by a voice. "Hello, Professor Thomas, I've been looking for you!" The voice

make my usual visit to the Campus Center. Looking at the map, I realize that Building 4S is quite a distance from 2N where my classes are held and that by the time I walk the mile or so or wait on the Loop, I will still be unprepared as ever.

QUID PRO QUO! I decide to stick with the Campus Center and rely on friends and colleagues in the various offices there who were all gracious and kind during my dilemma and long distance from OFFICE #7!

ANGUISH...



photo/Peter Guagenti

& OUTRAGE

to serve and protect...?

BY SHAISTA HUSAIN

Some will argue that there are bad cops and good cops and that bad cops make all the good cops seem bad... This is the bullshit that Giuliani and the Police commissioner Bratton will always give. The Cops are the hired thugs who defend the interests of the ruling rich. The segregated ghettos are the concentration camps that these pigs with guns keep us penned in.

Ernest Sayon's death comes as a shock, although police brutality is a common occurrence. He was a 22 year old man that allegedly resisted arrest. Anyone in his right mind, being chased by these tried and true killers will run. After being caught and handcuffed he was beaten to death. There is no other truth: he was not tried, but the media and the prevailing system will make it easier for all concerned to believe that he was the criminal.

Theso-called "war on drugs" that Ernest Sayons and countless Black youth have been victims of is nothing else but a war against the Black community. When our youth are denied jobs, decent housing, education, healthcare what other options are left? The peddling of drugs is the only version of the "American Dream" made available to us. As the conditions we are forced to live in worsen, the system builds more prisons and hires more cops so they can keep us in order.

Will the death of Ernest Sayons be avenged in the justice system of this na-

tion? No way! As the whole world saw in the case of the beating of Rodney King in Los Angeles, as we have seen with countless other cases of police brutality, which were not videotaped, the court system exists to defend only the police murderers and not the victims of their violence. We need only to look into America's jails, filled with Black youth—not cops, to see who the courts punish.

It is not through more cops or electing a Democrat as opposed to a Republican that we can expect this crisis in our communities to be solved. The Democrat David Dinkins with all his promises of help to the Black community only managed to carry out the largest expansion of the police force in New York City history. Now the out-right racist, Republican Giuliani, who is carrying out massive cuts in social services and jobs has unleashed these hired thugs to kill and brutalize us when we resist. We must build a mass workers party based on our own community organizations and trade unions to smash this racist system based on profit for the few and cop terror and unemployment for the rest of us.

**"No Justice!
No Peace!"**

• Parkhill community

The death of Ernest "Kase" Sayon has shaken up the Park Hill community. The community has set to task the objective of building an organization, a united front to confront the racist police that has for so long victimized the black youth, males in particular. This should come as a surprise to those who are ignorant of the real conditions of the Black neighborhoods in every urban center across the U.S. This should be a warning to all those who refuse to search for answers to the most pressing issue of this nation's history: racism, economic oppression and Klan/police brutality; that we will get justice.

In the late sixties the Black Power movement was born out of the disappointment to the reformist agenda of the Civil Rights Movement. The Black Power vision saw nothing other than a radical restructuring of the economy and turning over every institution that has marginalized and denied Black people the very basics of inalienable rights. This can be the only solution to the massive oppression of the racist/capitalist system. We will confront every case of police brutality and every case of fraud and misinformation that is committed by the organs of this state. The whole nation will turn to Staten Island as we, two years ago, turned to observe L.A... BURN during the Rodney King case, a whole nation waits for justice.

For those still wondering, it can not be

denied that Ernest was unarmed and defenseless as he was killed in cold blooded murder while he was handcuffed, with too many witnesses. Police brutality and cop corruption will be addressed at every level, at every precinct. They will be driven out of the community with the drugs they bring in. The only thing we can do now is to organize ourselves so that this outrage is stopped once and for all. We have nothing to lose but our chains.

Chronology of Events:

- Earnest Sayon arrested April 30 at 6 p, pronounced dead in police custody at 7 pm.
- Parkhill community rallies against police brutality and their presence in the community the following two days.
- Tuesday, May 3, a rally is held by Gracie Mansion.
- Thursday, May 5, the Parkhill community holds an organizing to fight against police repression.
- Monday, May 9, candle light vigil and march to Borough Hall to address the Mayor and Borough President.
- Tuesday, May 10, Autopsy reports that it was homicide, Giuliani proclaims that a homicide is not murder. The Mayor continues to stall investigation and no Grand Jury is called.

IN THE NAME OF OBJECTIVITY; HE WAS GUILTY

By John Paul Patafio

American capitalism is preserved by essential and integral factors: fraud and force.

Force is the essence of Black underdevelopment under capitalism: to be black in capitalist America is to be prisoner to the reality of coercion.

How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America, Manning Marable

The physical repression that the Black working class community is subject to in the US is distorted by the media. The role of the media is to legitimize the policies of the racist/capitalist state. This is crucial to maintaining the hegemony of capital, and keeping the working class divided along race lines. In the latest scenario of police brutality Staten Island's own, the *Advance*, displays how "objective" journalism can support the occupation of a community by the police.

After the killing of Ernest Sayon at the hands of New York's finest the propaganda machine began to subject the issue to ambiguity. The "uncertainty" of the events that took place was put forward from the beginning. In the article Death ... Then Outrage (4-30-94) the police were the first to give their view of the incident. Afterwards the readers were reminded that there are "varying accounts" about the incident. The *Advance* did include one witness who confirmed that Ernest Sayon was beaten by the cops. The inclusion of the "other side" is given as proof to their commitment to objective journalism. However, what is wrong is not that the "other side" of the story is missing, but the method from which the paper proceeds.

The article later goes on to quote Staten Island's favorite son Mayor Guliani. Now if there is a voice that could speak about the concerns of the Black community it must be the Mayor. He warned the readers not to believe "unfounded rumors," such as crooked cops who take money from drug dealers and antagonize and physically abuse people in the community. The Mayor explained how he stayed away from the community because he thought his visit would only instigate more tension. At least on one level he acknowledged his prejudiced conceptions.

The article later went on to assure its readers that the "angry" crowd was kept under control by over 400 police in riot gear. The *Advance* has to assure the South Shore that there white middle-class haven will be protected from the angry Black community. One could count on the *Advance* to reassure the prejudices of their readers. It only serves their interest to do so for in the end the ones who are most threatened are those who own the most, such as the New House family that owns the *Advance*.

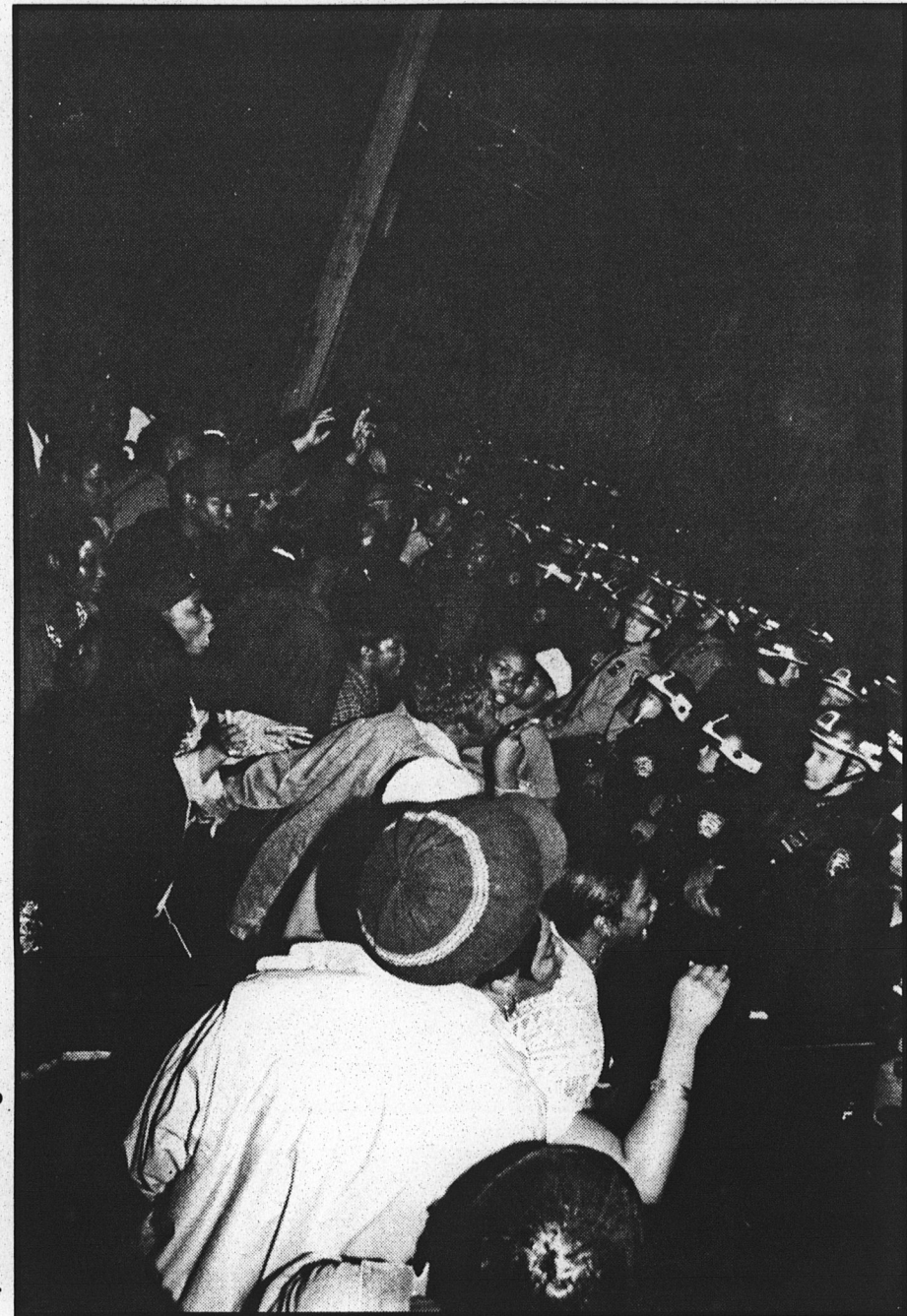
In an article on the front page of the Sunday (5-1-94) edition, *Aftermath*, what

was the first thing reported on? How many cops were injured. Those poor police in their riot gear, their riot shields and batons are not enough against the unruly crowd. The paper went on to quote a female cop who sprained her neck. Never mind all the people who were jabbed, beaten and arrested by the police over the weekend. That would only jeopardize the development of the security state, and the Clinton administration will not be able to hire a hundred thousand more cops.

The article went on to report how the first autopsy revealed, to the amazement of all those who witnessed the beating, that there were no bruises or broken bones. Never mind the day before that the paper reported in a photo caption that there was a pool of blood where Ernest was murdered. The obvious cover up must have passed the astute reporter for the logical question was not posed; How can there be a pool of blood if there were no lacerations? However, the *Advance* assured its readers that the "war on drugs" will continue and top cop Bratton was quoted as saying that the "police would not retreat from their battle against crime and drug trafficking." I'm sure that the residents of Parkhill are reassured, but what about all the drug trafficking and crime that is taking place in the lily white part of the Island, the South Shore. I suppose those good old Italian boys are just a bunch of coke sniffing, bat wielding law abiding citizens.

The article went on to incriminate the victim by pointing out how he had a record and pointed out how "community leaders" respected officer Brown. The usual sequence of demonizing the oppressed and legitimizing the force of the oppressor; Ernest the victim of police brutality bad, the "crime fighting" cop good. Communicated to the readers through the regurgitation of selected quotes by selected individuals the status quo is secured. Instead of critical analysis the *Advance* reporter simply writes down what is given to them. The article ended on a positive note - it reminded the reader that the community is plagued with violence and crime which is why the police are needed. The superficial, surface reporting based upon observation and empirical data is given as "truth" once again reinforcing whatever prejudices and stereotypes that exist throughout the white community.

A running theme through many of the articles was that the "war on drugs" must continue. The Mayor and the NYPD can not let one "bad," "isolated" incident detract from their commitment to rid the community of drug dealers and violent criminals, such as Ernest Sayon. The article, Bratton Vows to Keep Heat on Drug Dealers (5-1-94), depicted communities like Parkhill as the source drugs and vio-



April 30; Police headoff protest march at Van Duzer and Baltic streets in Stapleton

lence. Bratton vowed to "bolster patrols" in Parkhill "to crack down on the drug dealers." The advance reporter writing the article should have reminded the Commissioner that many of the drugs that mysteriously (CIA, FBI?) find their way into the community are with the assistance of some police officers themselves. The problems of the 30th precinct in Harlem is not an isolated incident. Many people in Parkhill will attest to the crooked cops who take drugs away from dealers only to resell them later, or those who are paid off.

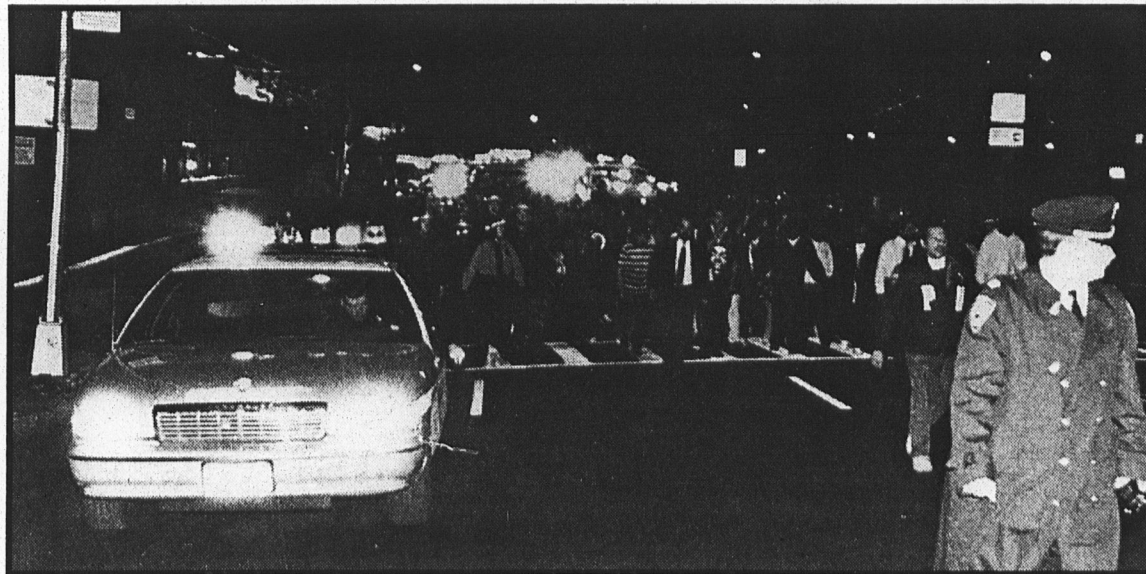
In order to convince the reader that this is what the community wants they appropriately quote your local "community leader." The idea of identity politics runs deep; if one person from the community wants cops then all people from the community must want cops. One need only spend a small amount of time in the neighborhood to understand what the majority of the people think about the police. They are seen as an oppressive force which restricts the rights of the people in the community, not as

a source of peace.

In the same issue another regurgitation of information, Early Medical Report: No Internal Injuries, helps to make the issue of police brutality ambiguous. The article opened up with the amazing findings from the coronary office that there were no internal injuries and that there were no lacerations. The article did interview the lawyer representing the Sayon family, Murphy, who said that he had spoken to many witnesses who saw the beating and blood of Ernest Sayon. One would think that a reporter would talk to someone at the hospital, or from the community about the conflicting accounts. However, the reason for the article is not to clarify the issue by determining what is true or false but to serve as a "source" of information that is unprejudiced by political persuasion. The article remains in the spectrum of liberal discourse and the nature of the state is questioned as far as reform is capable. The idea of revolutionary solutions to critical social problems is out of the question absolutely.

One of the more outwardly absurd articles presented to the public (with the intent to insult one's intelligence?) posed the startling question as headline, Was it Brutality or Violent Arrest. Accompanying the stalwart article was a picture of your patriarch type friendly officer gesturing assuredly "all is calm."

At first one is thrown off by the premise that there is a difference between a "violent



Marchers are flanked by police as they head towards the 120th precinct.

WAR ON DRUGS: RACIST WAR ON BLACKS

“Staten Island NYPD 'Operation Recovery' Launches Open Season On Blacks”

by Manjula Wijerama

After the ascendancy of Giuliani on an openly racist vote, the new regime began to make more efficient use of the 8000 new cops that were hired under leadership of Democrat Dinkins. The total police force in NYC now stands at 37,000 the largest in the US. With thousands of layoffs in public sector jobs and services being carried out Giuliani has raised a hysteria about "crime" and "drugs". This has been a cynical, thinly veiled attempt to demonise those who suffer most from the policies of budget cuts and firings and reorient the frustration of whites, particularly middle class whites, who are quickly becoming downwardly mobile towards Blacks.

Giuliani's choice for Police Commissioner, William Bratton, made it known that he will mobilize his cops to terrorize the city. One of his first acts as top cop was to arm the police with powerful 9mm semi-automatic guns. Bratton blathered, "We will fight for every house in this city. We will fight for every street. We will fight for every borough." Cops were elated by the frothing at the mouth venom of Bratton and described him as a "morale booster". Bratton and Giuliani want to reorganize the NYPD, Housing Police and Transit Police under one centralized umbrella.

In the carefully isolated, poverty stricken public housing developments of Staten Island the "war on drugs" has taken monstrous proportions. Daily harassment of neighborhood youth, including public strip searches, has created an atmosphere of occupation. Housing Police Borough Commander Capt. John R. Lyons expressed this occupying force mentality with great lucidity: "We're going to take back **our** housing developments, one by one, building by building and block by block". He was quite honest about whom he represented

and who was the problem: “the drug problem stems from **housing projects** and has a ripple effect on the **rest of Staten Island**. The 120th Precinct which controls the North Shore was granted a special anti-drug squad on April 7 under the direct command of Precinct commander Capt. Lehan to “stabilize” Clifton and Stapleton.

Neighborhood residents in ParkHill and other housing

of living for its people in terms of jobs, healthcare, education and infant mortality than these oppressed communities in the heart of the wealthiest nation on the planet.

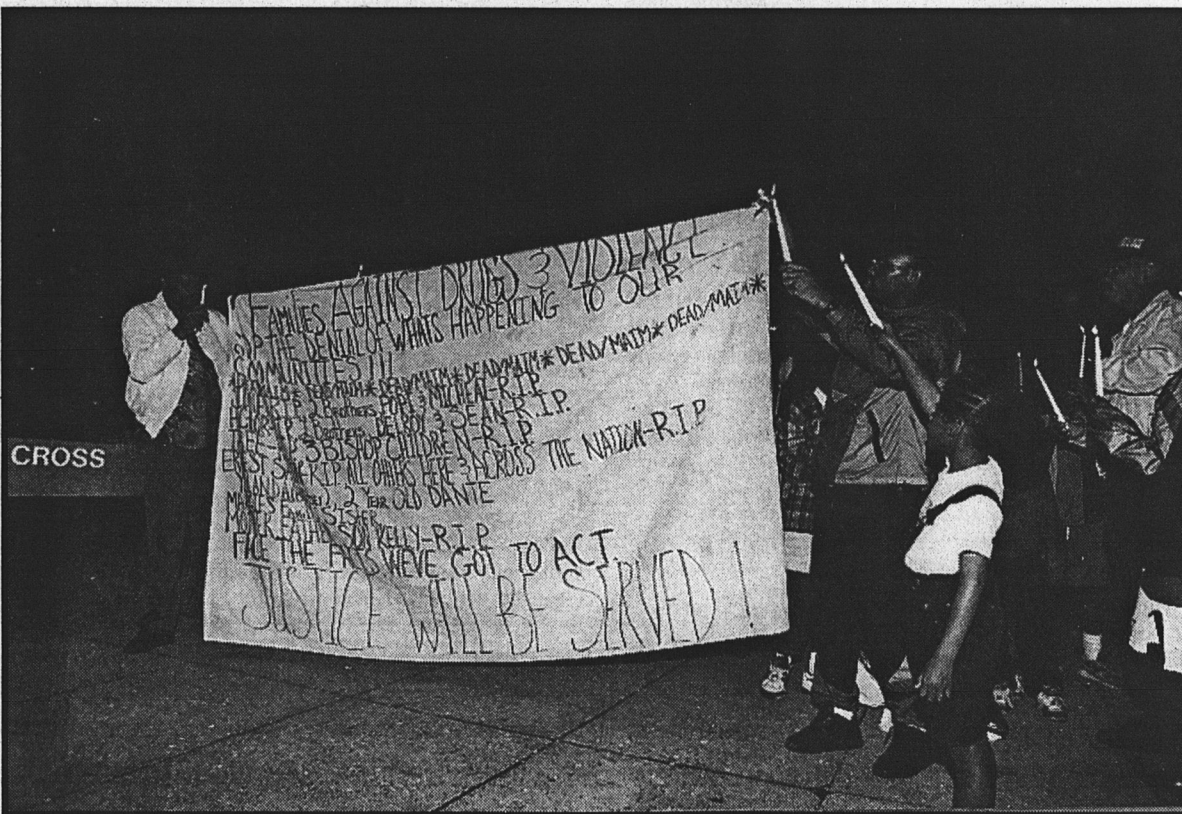
Wall Street and their political cronies have launched a program very similar to the phony development schemes that they impose on Third World countries. The March 31 issue of the SI Advance reported on the creation of "The

Staten Island economic development zone" to stretch from Mariners Harbor to Stapleton. The idea behind this is to create a sort of "free trade zone" where businesses will be given "tax and utility incentives" or in other words be subsidized by the government to set up shop and exploit the cheap and plentiful unorganized labor in these areas.

The anger and suffering of the residents of these concentration camps that they call projects has not forged into a organized attack on the ruling system. However a very healthy distrust of Uncle Tom administrators of pain like the NAACP and Urban League who pose as spokespersons of the people does exist in the community. "Tell me what does someone like Al Curtis (President of the island chapter of the NAACP) know about Park Hill?" asked a women resident of Park Hill.

The brutal murder of Ernest Sayon in broad daylight has sparked a wave of organizing and protest. A new layer of mili-

tant young leaders is emerging from Park Hill who don't have the time for NAACP ass kissing or for the Republicans and Democrats' electoral games. The hard struggle to find an alternative to police terror and the system that supports it is underway. This struggle will and must coincide with the struggle of organized labor to fight the massive layoffs and cutbacks that the ruling class of this city has initiated.



projects complain of widespread corruption and sale of drugs by police. Recent disclosures of drug rings run by cops in Brooklyn and Manhattan give more than a hint of credibility to these allegations.

These North Shore communities are rife with unemployment and the quality of life is lower than those in many Third World countries. Socialist Cuba which is being strangled by a US led trade embargo has a higher standard

...Guilty

arrest" and brutality? At what point does violence become brutality? The article goes on to portray the NYPD as public service, with the function of bringing peace and security to the community. Nothing is further from the truth. To start off, every arrest by the police is violent for Blacks, except some petit-bourgeois elements.. Coercion is fundamental in a class based society. The function of the police is to protect private property first and foremost. The propertyless black working class and the unemployed Black youth represent the sharpest critique and threat to the minority of rich white property owners (property ownership necessarily includes finance capital.) The police serve to break-up, sabotage, any political resistance to the class/race oppression. The media seeks to contain the class struggle to "just a community," and the "war on drugs." The mythical "war" serves to legitimize the increasing restriction of civil liberties. Police harassment is quite frequent in the Black community. The cops are looked upon by the majority of the community as occupiers, enforcing the laws of an illegitimate state.

The article is developed around an anonymous officer who happened to be at the scene. How credible of a witness is a cop, who took part in the killing of Earnest Sayon (the officers who stood by and watched are just as guilty as those who committed the crime)? The article passively lets the unknown officer explain "rationally" what had happened that night. He was big, he resisted arrest, he was responsible for the violence, his pants fell off somehow, the cut on his forehead did not appear serious. The cop is given a platform from which to distort the reality of the situation. The stubborn logic of the *Advance* moves on; cops good victim bad.

To top off this nauseating piece of news was the article in the May 7 issue. On the front page appeared an article, Family Wants Outside Probe, basically confirming what many in the community already understood, that an independent investigation is going to be needed because the state can not provide a fair investigation. The article concentrated more on the *difficulties* of acquiring an

independent investigator, and the credible words of Guliani who asked the community to have faith in the Internal Agency Bureau (IAB). Who in their right mind trust the IAB to investigate fairly their own kind? What past experiences beside repeated failures and bureaucratic mishaps can the Mayor point to? Any critical minded reporter or editor would have pointed out the problems with the Mayors inconsiderate and prejudice comments? However, this is not the article which confirmed the child like reporting that comes out of the *Advance*.

It was the deep investigative reporting by Anne Marie Calzolari who penetrated the depths of brilliance in her article, Students Write Letters of Support For officer. The article is an outright apologetic piece for the still yet unconvicted officer/NYPD based upon the written letters of kindergarten students. This piece tops the article in which the "anonymous" police officer was given carte blanche to tell the readers what really happened. Anne's article is an insult to anyone beyond the kindergarten. Do the letters of impressionistic five year old really reflect the role of the police in the community? I suppose the reporter felt reassured when she quoted the head of one of the security firms in the Parkhill projects. "When it came to arresting drug dealers and other criminals in the community, this officer not only showed concern for the welfare of the victims, in my presence I also noticed his compassion and concern for the criminal he had just arrested." Is the reporter for real? I wonder how the Sayon family, and all the other people who spoke of the harassment by the police in general, and officer Brown in particular, felt after reading this article.

The brutal force of the state needs to be legitimized by the velvet glove of corporate propaganda. The black working class and ghetto youth are subject to the dual oppression of the racist/capitalist state. The "problems of the community" can never be resolved by the most repressive arm of the state the police. Only one thing can be expected from the cops; beatings and protection of the interest of the ruling rich. The problems facing Black youth are unem-

ployment, poor living conditions, class exploitation and racist institutions that force bourgeois integration down their throats. The function of the *Advance*, as well as other "objective" capitalist newspapers, is to perpetuate the stereotypes that keep the working class divided and antagonistic. It becomes easier to legitimize the outright oppression of an entire community if you convince people that "they" are criminal and drug dealers. Rarely do we find the Bush's, Oliver North's and Clifton's being posed as the source of the problem. Mass killers, like Nixon, are praised as American Hero's and history is written by the propaganda machines of the ruling class. The brutal killing of Earnest Sayon and countless other Black youth will be accounted for and the role of corporate media will be unveiled in all its ugliness. The forced coercion of the state will be dealt the crushing blow of a united, black and white, male and female, working class that will rid itself of oppressive institutions such as the police and sources of misinformation like the *Advance*.

"There is no justice, just us..."

**-demonstrator at
Borough Hall, May 9**

From Deklerk To Mandela: The Restructuring Of Apartheid

by Petka Orlivic

On Friday, May 6th, a forum was held around the demise of Apartheid. Mfanafuthi Prof' Ndlovu, a party member of Workers organization for Socialist Action (WOSA) was giving a lecture on the current situation in South Africa. Prof' is a long time activist among the South African militant labor and youths. His participation in mass uprisings has made him a problem for the South African military. At fourteen years of age he was tortured and kept in solitary confinement. Prof' is in New York, hopefully to enhance black working class consciousness in the US, as well as to expose the state of affairs of the destitute in South Africa. Prof' Ndlovu's presence in New York reaffirms the need for an International mass movement to organize itself, even though the African National Congress is now implemented.

ANC - Administrators Of A Reorganized Racism

The capitalist system in South Africa has simply changed its tactic to one which is inclusive yet no less bigoted.

Nelson Mandela's ANC will not have leadership of the country, as a government supposedly has. The formulation of the "New" South Africa includes binding principles which have been established by the "old" Apartheid Regime. This regime includes white racist leaders such as Willem Verwoerd, son in law of Hendrick Verwoerd. Hendrick Verwoerd was the architect of the Apartheid system and was governor of indigenous affairs and created the homelands or "Bantustans" on the bases of racial classifications and residential segregation. Nelson Mandela led the ANC, yet the party still has fallen into the trap of the bigoted capitalist regime.

The constitution of the new South Africa consists of pre-arranged binding principles. Two of its main clauses include legislation related to business, trade, land ownership and the public sector. The public sector represents the largest employing sector, 95% of which were employed by the previous gov't. The ANC will have no power to eradicate or change those clauses which have been voted on by the De Clerk gov't. These pre-established rules will remain unaltered until 1999. The Constitutional Court will have some "power", only to resolve minor disputes. In the mean time there is no provision for restitution of land. This means that the original land owners will have no right to recover lands from which they were relocated. Appointed by De Klerk are also the Army generals. The military will have to wait another five years before it could be reorganized.

The new structure will introduce private business, which will restructure the Black working class by creating a black middle class. Formerly, the middle class was exclusively made up of privileged white Afrikaners who also represented the most destitute of the established white community out from the periods of colonization. These include some of the 9% of the illiterate white population today. The wave of extreme bureaucratization that South Africa is undergoing will compell the new regime to focus on restricting all mass action. As a small layer of ANC functionaries enter the this new bureaucracy 70% of the population will remain marginalized.

The capitalist system in South Africa has simply changed its tactic to one which is inclusive yet no less bigoted. A labor elite including the ANC leaders from COSATU will be instituted to reorganize the Black working class through various social contracts. The populist organizations that Black communities in South Africa were organized around will be incorporated into the state apparatus of a refurbished capitalism. This will not solve the problem of underdevelopment but only organize the image of the "demise" of Apartheid. The process of reconstruction of the established Apartheid Regime, is reinstituted through the ANC leadership.

Imperialist Intrigue In Southern Africa - A Brief History

Ian Smith's white supremacists in Rhodesia obtained independent leadership from England in 1965. Rhodesia was a British colony. The "seizure" of power only extended to the white elites. The Central Intelligence Organization (CIO) remained part of the state apparatus. The nationalist guerrillas (popular fronts) who were fighting Smith and British imperialism were infiltrated by the CIO, the intelligence apparatus of the regime. The divisions fostered by the CIO infiltration are the source of antagonisms in the Nationalist regime presently, even in the aftermath of their victory.

The Selous Scout, a branch of the Rhodesian military organized by the CIO conducted chemical and biological warfare against the guerillas and their popular base. Countless forms of contamination were prevalent in the late 70's, eg.- ANTHRAX. Due to the Scout's warfare, splits were created among nationalist and leftist oppositions inciting internecine warfare among the various guerillas. The Selous Scout base of operations was relocated to Pretoria, South Africa. Also the base of the Apartheid regime.

In the late 70's, there was another wave of extensive uprisings among populist and left guerrilla groups in South Africa, Mozambique, Angola. The power of these mass movements organized as popular fronts or Radical left united fronts had the potential to tear apart the racist, military states that tyrannized the peoples of Southern Africa. Suppressing their imminent victories became the new tasks of CIO branches located in those states. It is not surprising that at a time when Reagan and Thatcher were escalating the war against "Communism" and the working class internationally, the war to suppress any form of political upsurges in South Africa and Rhodesia similarly intensified.

The great international capitalist powers organize themselves for military, economic, and political domination of profitable territory. The major international powers with capital investment in South Africa are United Kingdom, Germany, US and Japan. They continue to have a hold on the major trading Industries.

ANC Social Democrats Re-organize Capitalism! Down With ANC and Their Imperialist Rulers! Workers To Power!

The African National Congress has not led a revolution but rather supports the establishing of the western bourgeois "social democratic" model of co-opting revolution. Their program for the transitional period calls for simply the re-organizing of capitalism. The restructuring of the South African class

make up involves the incorporation of some blacks into the middle class while laying off the predominantly white civil servant middle class that administrated Apartheid. This transformation produces a polarization of the masses into sectors of class strata. There will be more black managers in companies, like the dominating Industry in South Africa, Mining which has had the same manager for 17 years.

The International Monetary Fund has recently invested 800 million dollars to finance public work programs and create new schools. Also, State companies are being privatized. They are establishing private businesses within sectors where the unemployed could be localized. Having a change in the class structure will in these particular cases reinforce black on black violence, where private business owners will come in conflict with the destitute community. Seven million live in shacks, 12 million have no water and 23 million no electricity. Fifty percent of blacks and 9% of whites are illiterate, 45% of the unemployed are situated in sectors for unemployed. The uprisings of the 70's by workers and peasants represents the struggle of these destitute groups and plays a central role in developing an interna-

tional revolutionary party that can smash the genocidal Imperialist powers and their senseless wars for control of markets.

The African National Congress has not led a revolution but rather supports the establishing of the western bourgeois "social democratic" model of co-opting revolution.

The College Voice will be coming out over the summer. If you are interested in writing you can either drop by the office or if your shy you can slide your material under the door. We are located in BLDG 1c-rm 230

A new look at the old neighborhood from the acclaimed director of "Do The Right Thing" and "Malcolm X."

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The Voice That Is Great Within Us

C.S.I. Poets Create And Unleash

by Lou Bardel

Poets in Progress, in association with the Program Development Committee, presented a poetry reading this past April 27 featuring three Nuyorican voices, Jackie "Buckwheat" Seaton, Yvette Davillia, and Lorna "Bones" Sheldon. The three poets caressed the ears of the audience with a good dose of in your face sex, street, and soul told from women's point of view. The poetry can best be described as new-style Langston Hughes, Harlem Renaissance of the late 20s, and the crowd seemed to really appreciate it. The topics ranged from Lorna "Bones" description of a "Minute Man" to Yvette's metaphor for writer's block, "Literary Constipation".

By the time the three fiery poets were done the crowd was abuzz and primed for a rather unordinary night of poetry at C.S.I.. Competing in the slam were Lisa Quinn;

Christine Collins; Kevin Canning; Warren Ortega; Sal Brancifonte; Kerri Dunkerton; Lysandra Rodriguez; Louis Bardel; Lucy Ledesma; Pete Giangrande; David Lipp; and Jennifer Valle. All of the contestants were allowed to read two short poems and one long one and competed for the top three spots in the prized second round. A one hundred dollar gift certificate to the Wiz was awarded to the first place winner, fifty for second and twenty-five for third. Those who made it were Kevin Canning, Lucy Ledesma, and Pete Giangrande. The three Nuyoricans played the role of judges.

Reading first was Kevin who eked out a win (9.0) over Lucy who read second (8.9), coming in third was Pete, who I must say lit up the crowd with his screaming rendition of "Helldog", unfortunately for him the judges didn't like his

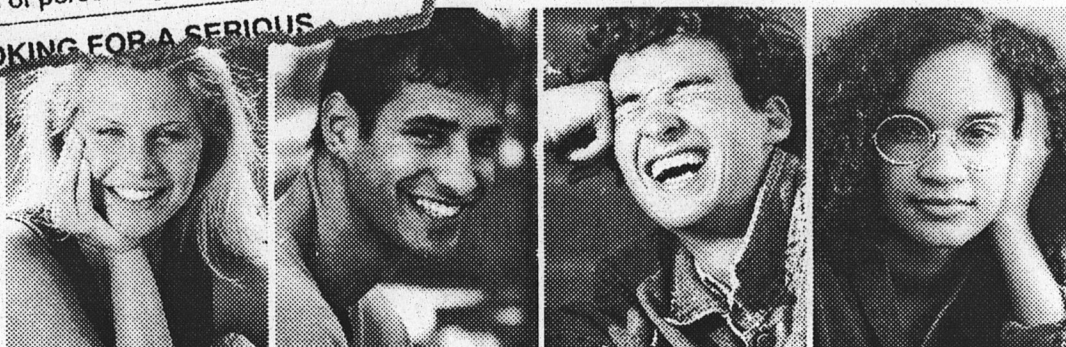
final poem as much landing him a third place spot (8.2).

Overall, it was a good night of poetry in a rather culturally dead C.S.I. society and credit has to be given to Vera Saverino for setting it all up and bringing the three featured poets to the Green Dolphin Lounge. So all you poets out there keep your ears open and come on down to the next open reading. Unfortunately no one knows when the hell the next one is, but I think it will be well worth the wait. One thing about reading in front of a crowd, especially when competing for a judge's favor, is that showmanship is first and content second, so leave the long trilogies of your life at home. Sorry but that is the cold hard facts, when you get up in front of the crowd you are the entertainer. You might bomb and then again you might set the motherfucker on fire. Take the chance, no one's going to pistol whip you if you suck.

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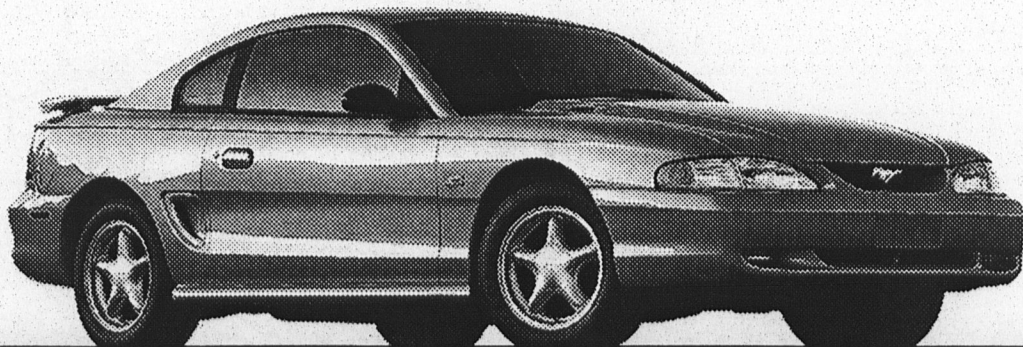
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A Cinematic View

With Honors

* * 1/2

by Darrin DeRosa

While *With Honors* has some truly sentimental moments and provokes the members of its audience to reevaluate their beliefs, the film suffers from an implausible premise and an uneven storyline.

Monty Kessler (Brendan Fraser) is a senior at Harvard who has an excellent chance of graduating with highest honors, providing his thesis impresses his advisor, Professor Philip Pitkannan (Gore Vidal). While writing the thesis, a winter storm disrupts the area's electrical power, causing Monty's computer to crash. In fear of losing everything, Monty runs off to copy the eighty-eight pages he has already printed, but accidentally drops the envelope holding his work into a sidewalk grating next to the school library.

After sneaking into the building, Monty encounters Simon Wilder (Joe Pesci), a homeless man who has been living in the boiler room of the library. Simon has found Monty's thesis and is throwing it into the fire of the boiler one page at a time. Desperate to save the remaining pages, Monty strikes a deal with the man who literally holds his academic career in his hands: for everything Monty gets Simon (food, clothing, etc.) he will receive one page of his thesis.

Matters worsen when Monty decides to call campus security to get his paper back, for Simon is thrown out of his shelter, taking Monty's work with him. Bailing Simon out of jail, Monty lets Simon stay in a beat up Volks Wagon van outside his boarding house, much to the chagrin of his three roommates, Courtney Blumenthal (Moirra Kelly), Everett Calloway (Patrick Dempsey), and Jeff Hawkes (Josh Hamilton).

From here the film takes us on a journey of personal growth as the lives of the homeless man and the college students begin to mix.

Written by William Mastrosimon and directed by Alek Keshishian, *With Honors* had the potential to be a true hit, yet the unevenness of the story keeps it at an average level. Most of this unevenness comes from the implausible nature of the story. For starters, if the thesis was so critically important to Monty, why did he have only one copy?

Also, given the fact that Simon is presented throughout the later half of the film as someone who is intelligent, knows the law, and believes in honesty, why then does he use the childish "Finders keepers, losers weepers" to justify his essential theft of Monty's paper, not to mention attack the young man with a metal pipe? Questions about character traits and actions abound in this film, forcing the audience to constantly reevaluate the people presented by the story. The need to continually assess the motives of the characters detracts from the story, and lessens the overall impact of the message the film tries to convey: that we must forgo the outward appearance of people, instead concentrating on the fact that they are human beings like us, and have much to offer. One has difficulty accepting this message, for just when we are ready to receive Simon as a likable fellow, the plot shifts gears again, throwing the audience off track and causing us to recollect the scene in which Simon goes after Monty with the pipe.

Still, the talent of the cast overshadows many of the film's problems, and allows us some moments where we are truly touched by the story. Usually this comes through the development of one of the characters, as they come to a realization about one aspect of their life or another.

At the head of this troupe is, of course, Pesci, who prefers to think of Simon as a "bum" rather than "homeless." As he puts it: "I liked the idea of playing a bum, as I prefer to call Simon. I think a bum is different than a homeless person because the bum has more of a choice. For me, he can do whatever he wants to do, and that has a lot of appeal. Not all are without education, and many are bright; they've simply chosen to drop out. A homeless person, on the other hand, has no choice. Often he is someone who wants to be back in society, to help himself." This is key to the film's premise, for Monty learns from Simon the lesson of not giving up the fight of life.

On the average, the film is enjoyable enough; though most will be somewhat put off by the unevenness of the story.

Rated: PG-13

A student filmmaker on making films:

"Life sucks, and film is bigger than life."

— nuff sed

Cinematheque Presents

The 9th Annual Elliot Awards

Honoring the best student film and videomakers of CSI

Thursday, May 26, 1994
Building 1P, Room 223
6:30 - 10:30 PM

Clean Slate

* * *

by Darrin DeRosa

While *Clean Slate* is more amusing than funny, the film still makes for an enjoyable escape.

Maurice Pogue (Dana Carvey) is a former cop turned private investigator who is suffering from a rare form of amnesia which causes him to lose his memory every time he goes to sleep. He keeps track of his identity by recording his life story on a tape recorder each night and then playing it back for himself the following morning.

Pogue is scheduled to be the key witness at the trial of a mobster (Michael Gambon) who is accused of the murder of Sarah (Valeria Golino), a model Pogue had been falling in love with. As if this wasn't bad enough, Sarah shows up at Pogue's office, claiming that people are trying to kill her. Poor Pogue, with his failing memory, doesn't even know that the woman is supposed to be dead already.

Trying to figure out why everyone reacts strangely when Pogue mentions that he has just spoken to Sarah, Pogue finds himself facing another dilemma: he is not permitted to tell anyone about his memory problem, for it may jeopardize his credibility as a witness at the trial.

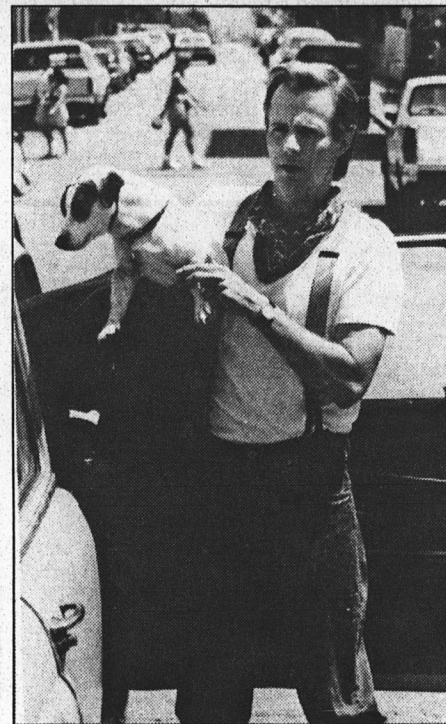
Complicating matters further still is Pogue's personal life, which is proving hazardous to the continually memory deprived investigator.

Even Pogue's dog has troubles; due to the fact that he wears a patch over one eye, he suffers from a depth perception problem which causes him to run into walls and require help finding his food dish.

All in all, the film is entertaining. The script is fresh, the pace lively, and the cast seems to be having fun with the story. The only fault the film can be said to have is that it doesn't always live up to its comedic potential; the only truly hilarious moments come from the scenes that play up the dog's eye trouble. Still, while the movie may not keep you in stitches from beginning to end, it will keep a smile on your face.

Much of this is due to the situations created by Pogue's memory disorder, which force him to bluff his way through such things as birthday parties where he can't remember anyone's name, and put him in danger when he doesn't even realize it, such as when he mistakes the mobster for his landlord.

Carvey is pleasant to watch as Pogue, creating a sympathy with the audience



Dana Carvey and Barkley in *Clean Slate*.

as we watch him try to piece his life together from scattered clues. Known for playing many different characters during his *Saturday Night Live* career, Carvey doesn't disappoint as Pogue, who takes on different personalities within himself as he learns more about his past.

Golino mixes the farce of her *Hot Shots* character with the sensuality of her role in *Rain Man* to create a truly intriguing Sarah. Her accent also provides some comedic ammunition for Carvey. James Earl Jones has a part as the District Attorney, who is worried about Pogue's insistence that he has seen Sarah alive, and Kevin Pollak stars as Pogue's best friend, who thinks his girlfriend is cheating on him and asks Pogue to find out who the guy is. This subplot reaches a hilarious climax during the trial scene.

Special mention must be made about the canine costar of the film, Barkley, for the dog steals just about every scene he's in, and provides some of the funniest moments of the film.

On the whole, if you're looking for a laugh-a-minute riot, then *Clean Slate* will probably leave you somewhat disappointed; if you're looking for an enjoyable little comedy with a good cast, however, then do yourself a favor and catch this film.

Rated: PG-13

Upcoming Video Releases

<i>Addams Family</i>		<i>Ace Ventura:</i>	
<i>Values</i>	May 11	<i>Pet Detective</i>	June 14
<i>Orlando</i>	May 11	<i>The Air Up There</i>	June 15
<i>Into the West</i>	May 11	<i>Flight of the</i>	
<i>The Three</i>		<i>Innocent</i>	June 15
<i>Musketeers</i>	May 11	<i>Dangerous Game</i>	June 15
<i>A Dangerous</i>		<i>Six Degrees of</i>	
<i>Woman</i>	May 18	<i>Separation</i>	June 22
<i>Look Who's</i>		<i>In the Name of</i>	
<i>Talking Now</i>	May 18	<i>the Father</i>	June 29
<i>The Piano</i>	May 25	<i>Iron Will</i>	June 29
<i>Short Cuts</i>	June 1	<i>The Pelican Brief</i>	June 29
<i>Wayne's World2</i>	June 8	<i>Romeo is Bleeding</i>	July 6

Summer Months Promise Hit Entertainment

by Maria Linda Scarcella

Ahhh, the final days of yet another semester are upon us. Students are cramming for finals and typing up those last minute papers for the year (or maybe forever as in the case of the Graduating Class of 1994 - Best of Luck!) Another school year is ending and you know what that means - summer is right around the corner! Back to the beach, fire up those barbecues, whip out those shorts and bathing suits and, of course, don't forget the suntan lotion; yes another year of fun in the sun is arriving, but before we even think about summer, I'm sure we have a million and one things to do. Don't worry though, you'll have a lot to look forward to after everything is done, including blockbuster films, rock concerts, and Broadway plays.

The summer film releases will offer an animated film, a film derived from an animated show, an action-thriller, and several comedies. As reported in the *Staten Island Advance*, "60 films are scheduled for release between the week before the Memorial Day weekend at the end of this month and Labor Day weekend in September." These summer releases will include: Universal Pictures' *The Flintstones* starring John Goodman (of television's *Roseanne*, *King Ralph*), Rosie O'Donnell (*A League of their Own*), Rick Moranis (*Honey, I Shrunk the Kids*), and Elizabeth Perkins, with the theme song sung by the B-52's - which sounds great, I might add; Walt Disney's animated *The Lion King* with music by Elton John including the theme song; 20th Century Fox's *True Lies* starring Arnold Schwarzenegger (he's back!) and Jamie Lee Curtis. MGM also gets in on the summer action with *Blown Away*, *It Runs in the Family*, and *Getting Even with Dad*.

Blown Away will feature Jeff Bridges (*Fearless*), Tommy Lee Jones (*JFK*, *The Fugitive*), Forest Whitaker (*The Crying Game*), Lloyd Bridges (*Hot Shots I and Deux*) and Suzy Amis (*The Ballad of Little Joe*). This action-thriller has Bridges, a leader of the elite Boston Bomb Squad, and Jones, an ingenious bomber, going at it head-to-head. The film is directed by Stephen Hopkins (*Judgment Night*, *Predator 2*) and is expected to come out the 4th of July weekend.

It Runs in the Family, a follow-up to the holiday favorite *A Christmas Story*, casts Charles Grodin (*Beethoven*), Kieran Culkin (*Nowhere to Run*), and Mary Steenburgen (*Philadelphia*). This time the Parker family will take us through a memorable summer and the film will reunite the producer and screenwriters along with director Bob Clark from the first feature. Expected release will be in August.

Getting Even with Dad which will come out Father's Day weekend, which seems very appropriate, will cast two big stars, Macaulay Culkin (*Home Alone I & II*) and Ted Danson from television's *Cheers* and *Made in America*. A comedy about an enterprising young boy who resorts to blackmail to force his ex-con father to turn over a new leaf. Directed by Howard Deutch (*Pretty in Pink*, *Article 99*) with a screenplay by Tom S. Parker and Jim Jennewein (co-writers of *The Flintstones* and *Richie Rich*).

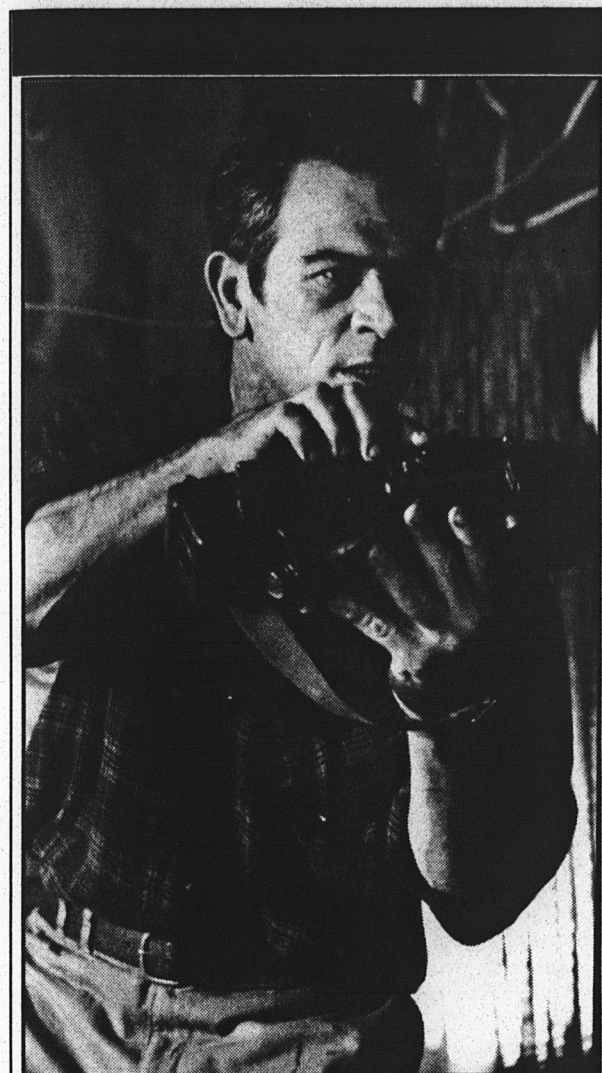
Originally scheduled as a summer release but now postponed until the fall, *Canadian Bacon* will join comedy favorites John Candy (*Planes, Trains and Automobiles*), in his last starring role, Rhea Perlman (television's *Cheers*) and Alan Alda (television's *M*A*S*H*). The film, which deals with a contemporary send-up of politics, the military and ultra-patriotism, is directed and written by Michael Moore (*Roger and Me*).

Of the 60 expected film releases, at least 15 will be from independent companies, including: New Line Cinema's *The Mask*, a film about special effects, IRS Media's *The Beans of Egypt, Maine*, and Sony Pictures Classics' *Mi Vida Loca*, both of which will be dramas dealing with human themes.

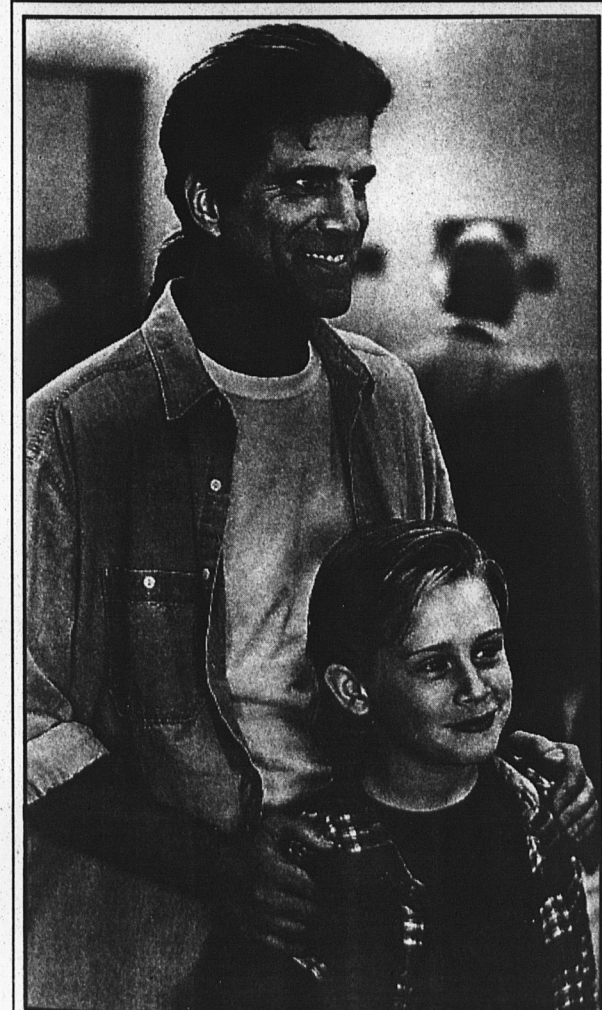
Broadway will also be a source of entertainment this summer with productions of *Grease*, which is in previews at the moment and has an opening date of May 11th, *Beauty and the Beast*, which opened about two weeks ago, *Blood Brothers*, which will feature a new cast after June 5th, and *Sunset Boulevard* will be in preparation over the summer for its opening come November.

Last but certainly not least (this is my favorite part), the concert side will bring us performances by Phil Collins, Bryan Adams, The Rolling Stones, Barbra Streisand, Bette Midler, and of course, the most talked about for this summer "The Face to Face Concert" with Billy Joel and Elton John, just to name a few.

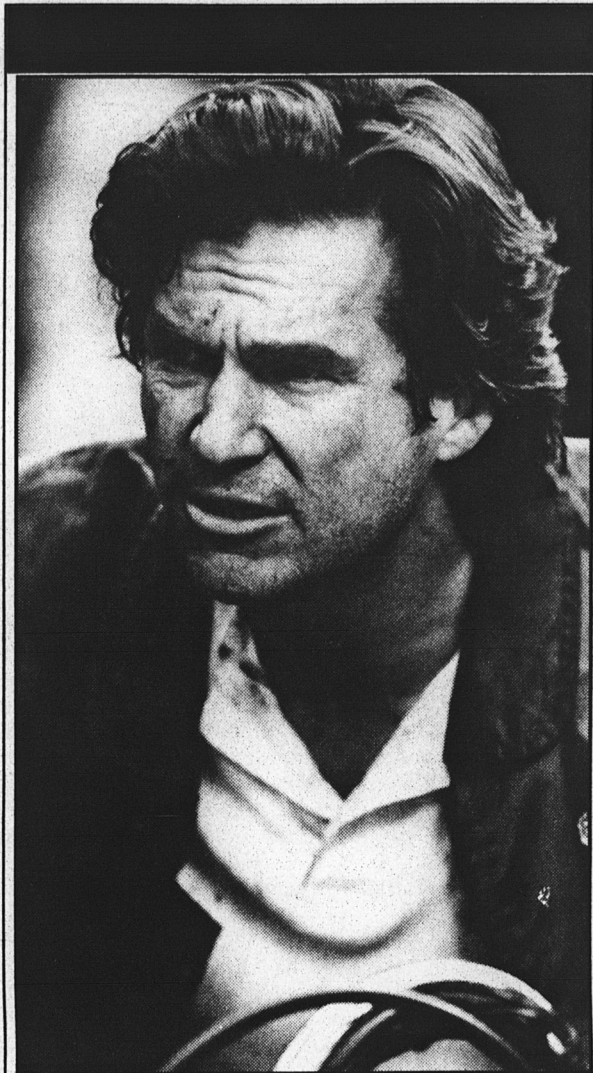
Yes this summer certainly will have a lot to offer. Enjoy it and have a great one! See you either next semester, because I'll still be here, or out in the "real world" once I get out there.



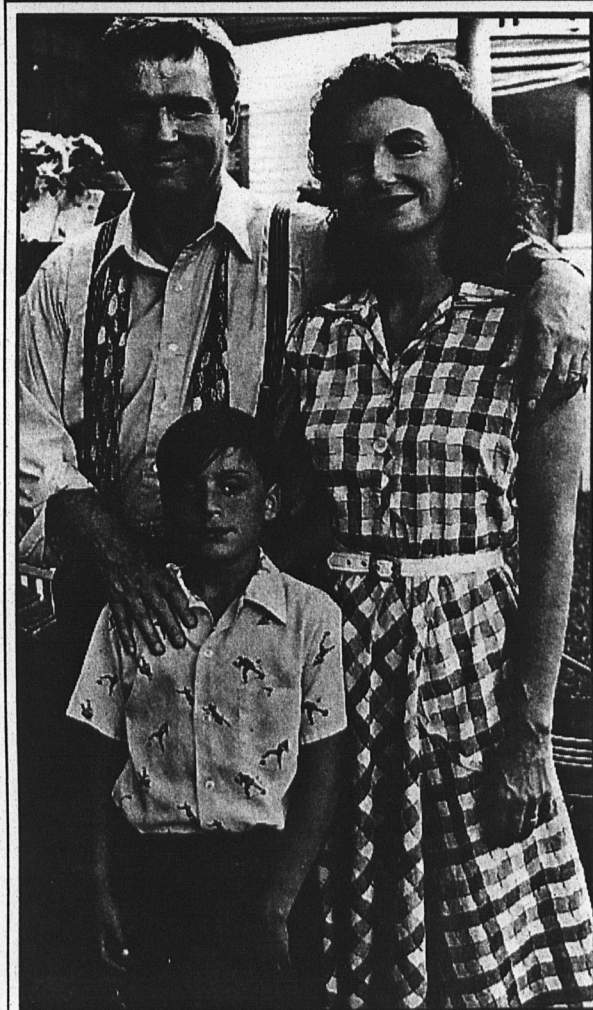
Tommy Lee Jones stars as an ingenious bomber in MGM's *Blown Away*.



Ted Danson and Macaulay Culkin star in MGM's *Getting Even with Dad*.



Jeff Bridges is the head of the Boston bomb squad in MGM's *Blown Away*.



Charles Grodin, Kieran Culkin, and Mary Steenburgen star in MGM's *It Runs in the Family*.

DOLPHIN SPORTS

Vol. XIV

Issue No. 9

MAY 13th, 1994

Behind the Scenes at the Mr. CSI Competition: Creating Fitness Awareness — Naturally

by Darrin DeRosa

The Williamson Theater was host to the fifth annual Mr. CSI bodybuilding competition on Friday, April 29. Sponsoring the popular event for the second year was Gold's Gym, who's Staten Island location is one of the largest in the chain.

The Mr. CSI show is both produced and directed by Barry Brown, who has been involved with the show since its inception: "Five years ago, a friend of mine had an idea to put a bodybuilding show on; he heard there had been a show years ago, and wanted to start it up again. He asked me to join, and since then I've taken over the show, which has been one of the most successful events in the college for the past four or five years."

Putting on a show such as the Mr. CSI competition has required Mr. Brown to face many considerations, such as determining just how far he would like to see the show expand. Already looking forward to the 1995 show, which he feels will be much bigger than this year's event, Mr. Brown realizes that with a large show comes an inherent difficulty plaguing almost all of today's professional sporting events—drug use: "Every year I come up with decisions on how to build the show, and [whether or not to drug test] is one of the decisions I've had to make. Many people have said to me 'Well why don't you offer them money, you'll get more contestants...' and I think that [if we were to] offer money for this show, that's where steroids would come into play. People who use steroids look for shows that are going to pay money. We have to be real careful if we're going to move in that direction, and I personally feel that I don't want to move in that direction yet, because I know that the more money we offer, there's going to be a problem with steroids. I feel that I want to always have a natural show here at the college, whether I'm here or not; even if I were to pass it on, I would pass it on to someone who feels the

same way I do—that the show has to be natural."

Those judging the contest express similar sentiments to those of Mr. Brown. Scott Appelbaum, Head Judge and a trainer at Gold's, comments that the over-emphasis on size contributes to the drug factor: "There's too much stress on overall size. I think the important things should be shape, presentation, and symmetry, as well as muscularity. Unfortunately, everyone is looking for mass, and genetically, for most people, that is not attainable without the use of an artificial hormone, so I'd like to see contests, especially in this type of environment, go more towards realistic goals so people don't tend to choose the wrong path, so to speak."

Michele Serpe, herself a competitive bodybuilder from 1989 through 1991, expressed her concern about the unfair advantage drug use creates: "People who train naturally train twice as hard as anyone who uses any kind of drug; I encourage people to get involved in fitness completely, but it has to be done naturally."

Aside from fostering a drug free environment, the judges hope that the contestants will learn from the experience they get from competing. This is reflected in the fact that overall muscularity is not the sole judging criteria. Mr. Appelbaum sums it up: "Choreography, originality of presentation, your overall package—every facet of it—will count during judging." Ms. Serpe, as well as fellow judges Michele Herman, James Raffone, and Richie Sere, were also looking for traits besides muscularity, including confidence, potential, and presence on stage.

All those involved with the show hope that the competition will have the effect of increasing fitness awareness among the CSI community, and encouraging people to get involved. Karie Gonzalez, the Assistant Director of the show, who is herself planning to compete in an all natural body-

building competition come October, feels there is a misconception about fitness in general: "It's not necessarily lifting weights and getting big; you can get fit by doing aerobics all the time, bicycling...there are a lot of things that will get you fit cardiovascularly as well as muscularly. A fit body doesn't have to be muscular and big, it just has to be toned, and you can be slim and small yet still be toned."

Mr. Appelbaum also points out the advantage student involvement can create, such as updating CSI's inadequate weight room: "I went to a SUNY school when I went to college, and we had a weight room similar [to CSI's current room,] so we got a weight training club recognized by the student association, and were able to access funds from Student Government and become an organization, and it's now probably one of the largest facilities in the SUNY system. I see a lot of things that could happen here, but it has to be driven and motivated [by the students]."

One of the largest changes to the popular Mr. CSI event will be the addition of a Ms. CSI Fitness Competition in April of 1995. There were plans to create the contest for this year's event, but due to time constraints, the project had to be postponed: "We started too late with the idea," says Mr. Brown, "We had two women interested, but it took a long time for me to get the person I felt I wanted to run the show, so by the time we started to advertise it, the show date was coming up, and we couldn't get the women for it."

The Ms. CSI Fitness Competition will focus more on athletic prowess than muscularity. Ms. Gonzalez, who will be coordinating the new event, explains: "I think that people in college might shy away from a bodybuilding show for women, so to gear it so that people would be more comfortable with the show, we decided to go with a Ms. Fitness show." With this in mind, Mr. Brown explains, judges for the Ms. CSI competition will not be looking for muscularity so much as they will "athletic ability, strength, endurance, and cardiovascular training."

Ms. Gonzalez feels the competition will be a much needed boost to the effort of fitness awareness at the college: "I just want to see a lot of people get involved in the fitness aspect since it's not really stressed these days, especially here at the college."

Behind the scenes, an entire team assisted Mr. Brown in the production of the show: Micheline Nehme, Asst. Producer and Art Director; Ernst P. Rodriguez Jr., Stage Director; Felicia J. Ruff, Stage Coordinator; Eric Norberg, host; Benny Ma, sound; Joe Nicolosi, videographer; Clark F. Gambarotti, photographer; Carla Quiroz and Vera Saverino, trophy models; and Thomas Larosa, Edward Buttle, and Dr. Farley, special personnel.

If you are interested in being a part of the 1995 Mr. CSI or Ms. Fitness Expo, you may contact either Mr. Brown or Ms. Gonzalez; exact offices and phone numbers will be announced in the near future.

1994 Mr. CSI Placings

Lightweight Division

1st Place — Walid Abelfatah
2nd Place — Fred Arane
3rd Place — Mike Schwartz

Middleweight Division

1st Place — William Nunez
2nd Place — Klinzor Nelson

Overall Champions

1st Place — Walid Abelfatah
2nd Place — William Nunez
3rd Place — Brian Wright

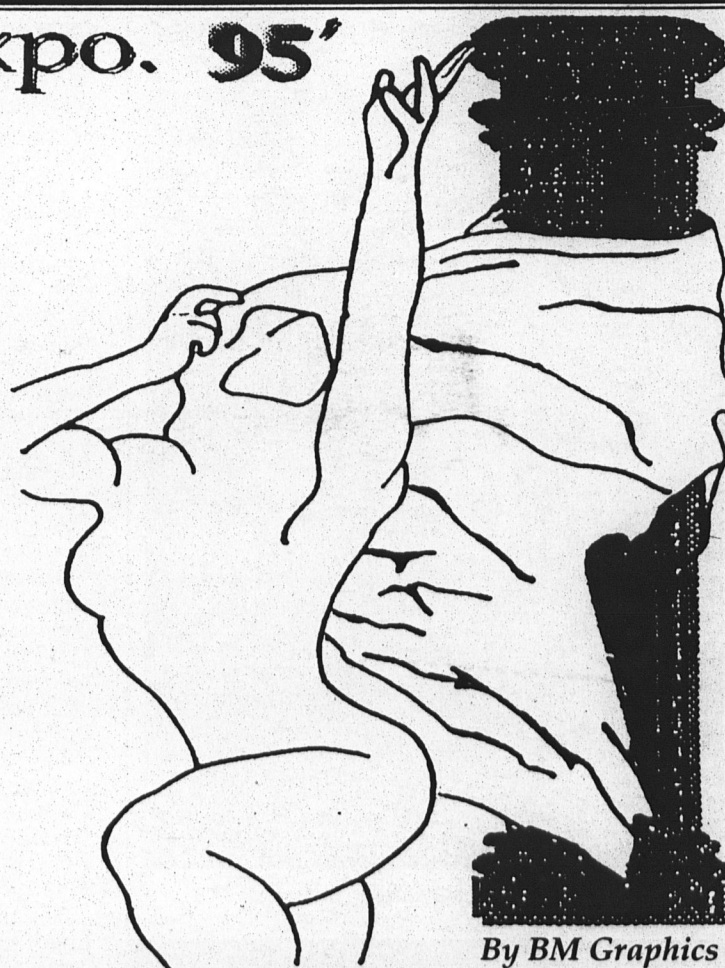
Heavyweight Division

1st Place — Brian Wright
2nd Place — Edwin Serrano

1994 Mr. CSI
Walid Abelfatah

Expo. '95

1st Annual Ms. Fitness



By BM Graphics