THE

CSI'S OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER

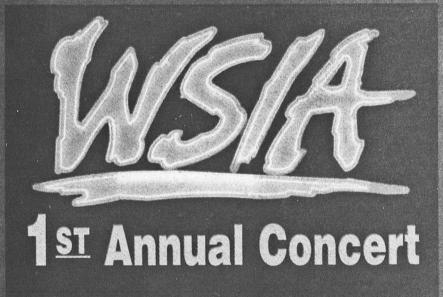


VOLUME IV, ISSUE V

• Special Halloween Issue •

October 31, 1996









Photos • Michael Garofalo

WSIA celebrates its 15th anniversary with Jane Kelly Williams, Tialo, and The Toasters

TERROR TOWER

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More Campus Fires





Thursday, October 31, 1996 • BANNER

WSIA Celebrates 15th Anniversary

Ron Magnusson and Chris Zeyer

A variety of music was heard from the Williamson Theater October 18th to celebrate the birthday of the College's radio station. The event was labeled WSIA 15th Anniversary Concert. It was brought about by the station and the Program Development Committee.

The opening act was a Staten Island band named Tialo. It consisted of two percussionists and one wind instrument player. Their influence came from African and Caribbean beats. They played a type of rhythm music that relaxed the audience. When they were

finished, Jane Kelly Williams came on the

Williams is part of the revival of folk and rock we see across America today with acts like Jewel and Hootie and the Blowfish. She has been on the road promoting and performing her debut album. She sang songs about her family, friends, and her where she grew up. As one student said while listening to set, "This is so beautiful, I can't believe the campus got someone like her to perform here. Williams was like a Joan Osborne on valium, but still very entertaining."

The headlining band was The Toasters, a New York City, lower east side

band that got there start in 1982. With the release of there first album in 1983 along with their constant touring schedule around the country and Europe, The Toasters soon became the premier Ska band of America. Ska is an up tempo version of reggae. "The Toaster aren't what they used to be. They sped up their old pieces and they're new ones are of a different vain," said one alumnist who came back to the campus to hear them.

This person appeared to be the only one with this opinion. The majority of the people there were *Skanking* (dancing) to the sound of New York Ska. In fact, security kept to either side of the stage

because of the number of fans that rushed the front. Security did not have to deal with any confrontations with any of the audience.

The event, by the reaction of the crowd was a success. This may be the first in a series of concerts here at CSI. "We hope to have another concert in the spring. If we can get more money from the college, we can have more bands come down and maybe charge less money," explained Bill Powell, the engineering director for WSIA.

More Fires

John LaMantia

Parking Lot 4 was filled with smoke last Tuesday, October 22nd at approximately 10:00 am when a maroon Chevrolette Montecarlo went up in flames. The car was located towards the back of the lot, adjacent to the loop road. Thick clouds of smoke poured from the burning vehicle and could be seen from over a two hundred foot distance.

According to reports, the fire occurred shortly after the owner of the vehicle parked the car and left to go to class. Second year student and witness to this tragedy, Greg Janover said, "I seen the smoke clear across campus and I ran in fear thinking that it was my car ... I'm thankful it wasn't my car but I feel bad for the owner of the car." The Campus Public Safety team responded in a matter of minutes to the scene. Fire extinguishers from various building located around Parking Lot 4 was used to extinguish the fire in the vehicle.

Sergeant at the scene, Officer Landstrom commented to reporters, "We tried to put the fire out with the fire extinguishers but realize that we should have waited for the fire department to arrive on the scene. They can do more than we can in this situation." After much investigation done by the fire department, the cause of the fire was determined to be purely electrical. "The fire department believes it to be an electrical problem which triggered the fire," said Landstrom.

Although reporters tried to speak with the owner of the vehicle, the student was too upset to comment about the incident.

In related news...

A rubbish fire occurred between 1N and 2N, last Friday, October 18. Officer Chris Adams quickly extinguished this fire with his water bottle.



President Springer Responds To The Banner

By Christopher Zeyer

In Volume IV, Issue III, of *The Banner*, an article was written about allegations against the CUNY SAFE (Special Assistance For Events) team. The paper tried to contact President Springer before press time, but was unable to. It did however send a memo to her with a list of questions. Here are those questions, and her responses:

Q. Has Chancellor Reynolds ever sent you a memo, letter, notice, or anything asking about students that have been arrested in protests?

A. No.

Q. What has Chancellor Reynolds asked for in these memos, letters, notices, or anything?A. Not applicable.

Q. Are you aware that CUNY security videotapes protests?
A. No.

Q. Are you aware that CUNY security is allowed to videotape protests?

Q. Would ever have a protest that is held on campus videotaped?

A. It is not the act itself, but the purpose for which it is done that should be the subject of concern. If any video taping is done it should be solely to ensure that the actions of public safety personnel are documented so any issues or complaints can be resolved. The tape should be erased if they are used in this regard after a period of time.

Q. What is The College of Staten Island's policy on arresting students (as in what would constitute an arrestable offense)?

A. The Campus Peace Officers employed at our College are designated by the City of New York as Peace Officers. As such they are empowered with legal authority to undertake an arrest without consultation with anyone. The policy of the College of Staten Island Public Safety Department is for an officer to consult with the Director or Assistant Director on duty prior to affecting an arrest in non-emergency situations The Officers initiate arrests whenever there is risk of personal injury or a real threat of the individual fleeing. The importance of consulting with the Director or Assistant Director before initiating an arrest in non-emergency situations is an important policy. It is our policy to try to address as many circumstances as possible within the College's student/faculty disciplinary proceedings, rather than through the use of the criminal justice system.

Q. What is the CUNY SAFE team's policy?
A. CUNY SAFE team's policies and procedures can best be articulated in specifics to your inquiry by contacting Jose A. Elique, University Director of Security and Public Safety.

Q. It has already been established that security are permitted to carry firearms at the request of a college's president (as Lehman college has done). Would you ever have campus security, SAFE team, or any other type of security (other than the police) to carry firearms on our campus?

A. At the present time I do not see any circumstances within the environment of the College that would require or would justify the carrying of fire arms.

Q. Do you feel too much money has been spent on security?

A. I do not believe that too much money has been spent at the College of Staten Island to protect the safety and health of our students, faculty, and staff. We have tried to manage our public safety resources in the most effective ways possible by using Public Safety Officers and contract guards. The safety and security of the College community is a high priority.

Q. What is your opinion of campus security?

A. We have a very professional and well-trained campus security force under the direction of an individual who has more than 20 years experience in the New York City Police Department, and who has a strong commitment to the security and safety of the College Community. The tone of the implementing that policy in a professional manner sensitive to the needs of the students.

Q. What is your opinion of the CUNY SAFE team?

A. I have no direct experience with the CUNY SAFE team. I would expect them to display the same degree of professionalism and sensitivity to the unique nature of the College community, which I have set as the standard for our own security force.

Q. What is your opinion on Chancellor Reynolds's security methods?

A. The security methods of Chancellor Reynolds that have directly impacted this campus have been the staffing initiative. In this regard Federal funds have been acquired in order to have additional CUNY personnel to be employed by the College as Public Safety Officers.

BANNER • Thursday, October 31, 1996

Student Organizations in Voter Registration

NEW CAMPUS ART

By Michael Garofalo (Photo by Me too!)

Neo-Classical polygons. The first piece is in a vivid orange, while the other uses the

Joe Shmoe commented, "Why have light when we can be enlightened? Sure I could

be rape or killed here at night... so what. It's worth the risk. I can run away from a

now spending their time around the fountain. They stare at these things all day. I

Volpe replied, "Like 'em or not they're staying. Lamps cost money... but these

pieces come with cash. Personally I find them ugly, but they grow more comfort-

end up teaching to empty classrooms. At least I get to go home early."

use of symmetry is far superior to anything else on campus."

killer most of the time, but good art is hard to find."

Light must make way for art. Two lamppost have been removed for two

"I love these new pieces," states Designer Chuck Yeager. He adds, "Their

Students have also accepted these new pieces with open arms. Freshman

Faculty on the other hand does not welcome the new art. "Students are

Campus administrators also had a response to the art. President Dead

By John La Mantia

NYPIRG, WSIA, the Program Development Committee (PDC) and Student Government worked together to give students at CSI a chance to register to vote last Thursday, October 3rd at the campus center. NYPIRG and Student Government had tables set up, giving information to students about voter registration. Nicole Sabado from NYPIRG commented, "I hope this is the first step for the 18 to 24 age group to become a powerful voting block." She added, "It's good to see all of these groups working together."

Student Government Senator and PDC member Vincent Cobb also help out with the event. Mr. Cobb commented, "I believe that supplying the incentive to vote is by no account a small matter. Inspiring and encouraging students to vote supplies every person with an improved standard of living and a better education." WSIA, the college radio station, also had a table set up outside. The radio station handed out free CDs, WSIA key chains and

"Natural" technique.

able with a million dollar check."

bumper stickers to everyone who registered to vote.

The day's entertainment, a live band who just released their debut album called "Whatever" was the Tone Poets. The Tone Poets lead singer Mark Houck took part by giving students a chance to get a free copy of their album by coming up to the stage after they registered to vote. Students would tell what political party they joined or who they going to vote for in order to get the CDs. Student Jessica said, "I got a CD and I'm so happy. I think that the band is good and did all right."

When asked why WSIA took such a large role in helping out during Get Out and Vote Day, WSIA DJ Nikki said, "Rock the vote has to do with music and I think that we should do this more often."

Altogether there were over two hundred CSI students that

registered to vote. Advisor to PDC, Alexandra Duggan commented, "Everyone who took part in today's events worked hard and did a good job."

Near Student Arrest

By Jennifer Valle

Student Martha Tejada was placed under arrest for reckless endangerment by Head of Security Eugene Martinez Friday, October 25th at 9:45 pm. She was charged with an alleged attempted vehicular assault on Security Officer Demby. She was released shortly afterward.

Ms. Tejada was parked in the loading dock of the Library at 6:25 pm.

Eyewitness Carlos Gonzales said, We [Demby and Gonzales] were walking out of the Library cafeteria. The car was waiting there in the loading dock. I think Demby was trying to tell them to move the car 'cause it's not suppose to be there. I walking away." Gonzales continued, "I was

over 100 feet away, I was just about to open my car door... that's when I heard him [Demby] scream 'Patrol to 1L'."

According to security, Tejada came close to striking Demby with her vehicle as she left the scene. Student Kevin Goudie said, "I had just gotten off the school bus when I saw the security car searching around the Lot 3 area with search lights... it was about 6:35 pm." A brief description of the vehicle was dispatched over the security radios, and road blocks at both the front and back entrances were immediately set up. It was alleged by security that after spotting the roadblock, Tejada turned her car around and parked it on campus.

After a twenty minute search, Tejada's 1989 Gray Oldsmobile was spotted in the gravel lot adjacent to the 1

North Building at 7:08 pm. Tejada was no where to be seen. After a quick briefing, security began a stake out of the area. The description of her was given as a "midsized Caucasian female."

Two security vehicles where stationed in the

stationed in the L forest area behind the 1 North Building, as well as a third security vehicle circling around the campus. Director Martinez was called in and arrived at the stake out at approximately 8:20 pm. In a brief statement to reporters Martinez said, "We are investigating a charge of reckless endangerment and hopefully we can resolve this probably by the end of the night."

At 9:40 pm, Tejada and an unidentified female approached the Gray oldsmobile but quickly turned to leave when the boot on the car was discovered. Martinez and Officer Castelli immediately called out to Tejada asking, "Excuse me Miss, is that your vehicle?" Tejada first responded, "No, that's not my car" and then pointed at the boot on the tire and questioned, "Why is that thing on my car"

Martinez began to question Tejada who screamed back, "This is ridiculous, I didn't do nothing." Officer Demby came on the scene and made a positive identification of Tejada. Tejada was told by Martinez that there was a reckless endangerment charge and she was identified. "I was just going to make copies on a copy machine that didn't even work, " said Tejada.

"You almost struck the officer with your car when you left the scene,"

Martinez. said Angered, Tejada shot back Demby, "I almost hit you? You're a liar, I didn't do nothing." At this time, Tejada attempted leave the scene, Martinez but grabbed her arm and said, "This is a serious offense, when you pulled away, you almost struck the officer."

Photo • Michael Garofalo

Security booted Ms. Trejada's car.

Iliar, I didn' nothing." At time, To attempted leave the so but Mar grabbed her and said, "Tl a serious off when you p away, you all struck the off

Tejada screamed back, "Let go of me, I didn't do nothing." Martinez continued, "There is a police report already taken on this incident, the New York police department was here about this. This is very serious."

Martinez - "Are you a student here?" Tejada - "Yes"

Martinez - "Will you please tell me your name?"

Tejada - "No"

Martinez - "I am the Director of Campus Security and when I ask you to identify yourself, you need to do it."

Tejada continued to struggle against Martinez screaming, "Let me go, Let me go... I didn't do nothing!" Martinez held on to her but Tejada

yanked free of his grasp, dropping her jacket and books to the floor. After asking three times for identification and denied, being Martinez grabbed Tejada and stated, "That's it, you are under arrest for reckless endangerment." Tejada continued



Photo • Michael Garofalo

Martinez confronts Tejada with charges

struggle against Martinez screaming and crying, "No, let me go," as Officer Castelli pulled out a pair of handcuffs.

Martinez explained to Tejada, "You can cooperate and we can go to the security office and talk for fifteen minutes, or you can resist and go to prison for two days." Tejada agreed and everyone at the scene went to the 2A building for discussion of the situation.

At 10:35 pm, Tejada was released and was escorted to her vehicle where the boot was promptly removed. She was then allowed to exit the campus. No tickets were issued in this case. The matter is currently being brought to the attention of the Student Affairs Department. Officer Demby refused to comment on the evening's incidents.

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Obviously,

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campus.

The poor

design is

simply

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blood.



hile CSI has undergone dramatic battles in the past, it is still quite the wonderland. True, we have fires, car thefts, rallies against budget cuts, and other extracurricular Despite this, our campus has maintained a certain amount of tranquillity.

Michael Garofalo Now, I'm not here to say that we have a crime free environment. This is far from the case. There are many people who rightfully worry for their safety when nightfall hits this campus. Our college is not a nirvana free from the

ills of society, but there are people who fight to make it so... the Peace Officers.

underpaid These and understaffed "do-gooders" receive zero recognition for their professionalism. Not to mention, they get no respect from students. That's not surprising at all. Gun carrying NYPD Police Officers are often disrespected.

We have an open campus. Any psycho off the street could theoretically walk into this campus and start blowing people away with an assault-rifle. I'm sure this is not a concern of people. It is just not likely. What is likely is another death from a car crash.

Obviously, parking is a joke on this campus. The poor design is simply begging for blood. Who do you think picks up the slack? Our campus security does... that who. Every day our security

is out there trying to keep the campus as safe as possible.

The flaws of the college inhibits security. Poor parking, poor lighting, and the immense size of this campus makes their job harder. Somehow, the Peace Officers manage to cope. If they didn't do their job as good as they do, there'd probably be more dead students.

CSI is quite serene most of the time. There have been many slow news days. I must be one of the few Editors who enjoys them. It gives me more time to play video games. I'd rather do that then to take another photo of somebody's corpse. This is why I believe that security deserves our respect and our support. They save lives.

Administrators must hate security. For one, would it kill the budget to get some lighting on the campus? The dark void that engulfs our walk-

ways is not even beneficial for the Astrophysical Observatory. The lamppost illuminate the sky not the ground. You know, the cracked pavement... where people tend to walk.

Every parking related accident or death is on the heads of the administrators... not the security. Maybe it is just me who sees the problem of cars pulling out of makeshift gravel lots onto two lane traffic. CSI's hierarchy has chosen to ignore the justified request for better parking. There will be another day when I will have to take another morbid photo. To all of you making over \$90,000.00, you can give your excuses to the families of the

Considering that we have fires every few

weeks on this campus, the fire alarms should be in proper working order. Long before the police or the fire department arrive on scene, security is there doing what they can. It is shocking to see that no one died from any of last year fires. Security is the reason

Security does have its flaws. I'll be the first to admit that many use this campus as a stopover to the police academy. We do have gung-ho peace officers who look to make arrests. It gives them a feeling of glory. It also looks good on their application into the force. This is relatively harmless, considering that the administration frowns upon arrests. Do understand that the crime chart in the student handbook is for "reported incidents". This is why you'll see nothing but goose eggs in the columns.

Security does the best they can to maintain the fragile peace that is CSI. If officers are too aggressive or restrictive they lose respect with students. If they are too loose with the rules, anarchy ensues and then death. Nobody likes rules. Everyone hates following them, and security hates enforcing them.

Overall, CSI is one of the safest CUNY colleges. While it may be because the surrounding atmosphere is not so hostile, credit must be given to security. Whenever there is a life threatening emergency security handles it with the professionalism we deserve.

Of course, nobody really thinks about the effort it takes to secure this campus. Why should you? You have more important things to worry about. Peace is supposed to be taken for granted. How calm is serenity if you're constantly worrying about someone taking it away?

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TCHR INTERVIEW **PREPARATION**

By Retired Assistant Examiner

The BANNER % Mikey 2800 Victory Blvd. 1C - 228

As director of the Wellness Program and as Erica Polakoff's supervisor, I would like to respond to your article "Another Student Advocate Vanished".

I chaired the search committee that recommended Dr. Erica Polakoff; she reported directly to me. It surprises me that confidential information related to a personnel decision has been made public. What Allan DiBiase wrote in a confidential letter to the then Provost, Felix Cardegna, should be taken as his view alone, to which, of course, he has a perfect right. I would also like to state that Vice President Jackson carefully followed the bylaws of the City University in all personnel matters.

Having known Mr. DiBiase for almost twenty years, I find it difficult to imagine that he would see fit to make public a confidential letter whose contents had heretofore been known only to Allan and to the Provost.

Sincerely, Audrey Glynn

Wow... you called me Mikey. That's so cute! Let's see the Editor of The New York Times respond to a nickname. I'm actually glad that you wrote this. This gives The BANNER a chance to address this issue. Let me explain how it went down.

Yes, Mr DiBiase did in fact give us this confidential letter. We were shocked ourselves. He sorta passed it to us under the Poem he submitted to us. This poem was about his love for his wife. I found it quite ironic... considering the whole story (which is not yet fit for print). Like kids with a new toy, we did the only thing we could... we printed it.

Hey maybe this letter was given to us accidentally. Have you ever seen DiBiase's desk? This, however, is quite doubtful, considering the grin on his face when it was given to our News Editor. We don't fully understand the struggle between Carol Jackson and Allan DiBiase. We are still looking to find out.

~Editor

Concerned Student

Student Government (SG) members should have respect for themselves, each other, and faculty. This respect should include the way they carry themselves, the way they conduct their responsibilities, and the way they deal with the constituents that they represent.

As a student, I have great interest in how competent my student senators are in fulfilling the responsibilities of their positions. Therefore, I would expect to see the people I have voted for representing me in a tactful manner at all times.

Having these expectations of how senators should conduct themselves, I was particularly struck to see one of the more experienced members of SG, Natalie Williams, do otherwise.

This senator's vulgarities include her holding her crotch while saying, "eat this bitch." This behavior was not acceptable to many of the students who were looking on, and knowing that she was a senator greatly offended them.

The action I have just described is not merely an isolated act of tactless behavior by this senator. On any given day, it is not uncommon to witness Natalie Williams swearing and acting boisterously and vulgarly, whether she is attending to student matters, talking to authorities, or dealing with students in person.

Assuming that there is a code of conduct to which every senator is held accountable, it is my sincerest hope that some person of high morality aggressively polices her behavior in order to hold her to an appropriate standard of ethics.

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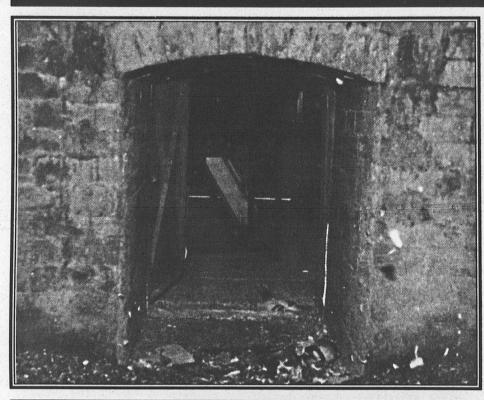
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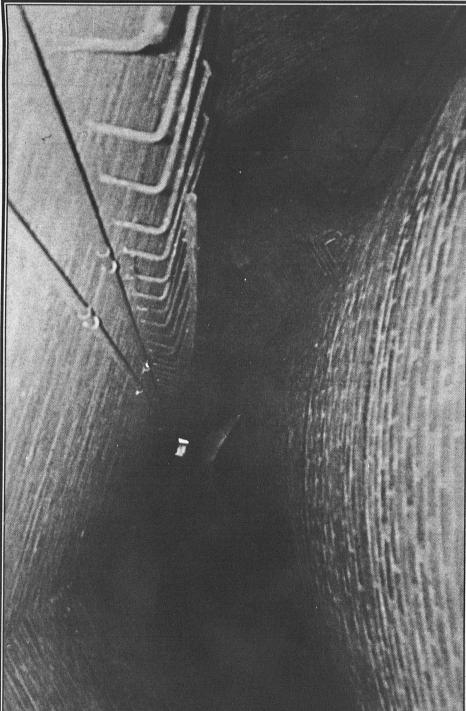
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TERROR IN





The mysterious Halloween writer strikes again.
The Banner has receive yet another bizarre article.
We don't recommend you follow in this psycho's footsteps. Just take it for what it's worth... a good story.

It is almost impossible not to notice the tower when you're entering the

campus. It is the creepiest MF'in thing here. Ever wonder what the hell it is? Well, I can't help you there, but I can show you what's inside.

Do you remember last year's Banner Halloween issue? My photos made the front page in

full color, for we were the ones who went spelunking in the tunnels below CSI. If you remember the issue, the tunnels linked the basements of many of the older buildings at Willowbrook. The 1M building was one of them. It was when we came out in that building's basement that inspiration to get into the tower occurred. And we were going to do it, if we could.

First we tried to get in through the tunnels, but that pathway leads into a large open room grating. One day, I got overzealous and ran across the grating. The end of it was at a staircase- the top of which sported a security guard at a desk. After a short heart attack and a mad dash back into the tunnels, it was decided that this was a bad way to get into the tower.

Our second attempt was to try to get into the building directly. We walked through the gate on the left side of the front of 1M. On the right was that huge thing that throws of toxic-looking steam. On the left was a door. An open door. After a few

See all of that

weird chunky stuff

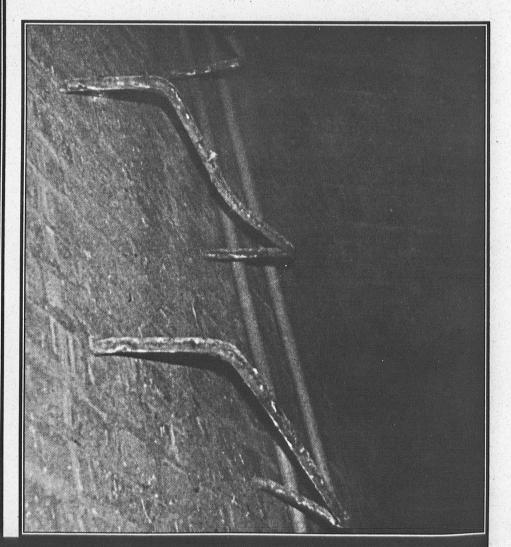
on the floor?

Know what that is?

It is pigeon crap.

minutes of looking around, I entered a small area where I felt a draft. Ignorantly, I looked up, and realized where it was. "Holy shit!" I said, "I'm in the fucking tower!"

The tower, from the inside, is two tall cylinders. The inside chamber lies behind a pretty awful looking metal door. It is almost a crawl space to get inside. See all of that weird chunky stuff on the floor? Know what that is? It is pigeon crap. Tons and tons of it. Dozens of pigeons live in the tower, and this place probably hasn't been visited in decades, much less cleaned up. The outside of the inner cylinder is where you can climb There isn't much space between the two, and there's just as



Thursday, October 31, 1996 •

BANNER

THE

TOWER

much pigeon crap. Rusty metal rungs lead up to the top. So, we climbed. A ways up is a grating where there could be anywhere between a few, and several dozen pigeons. Do not underestimate their power. Let me explain.

By the time you've climbed to the grating, a fall would mean death. To give you an idea of how high up that is, I took a picture down. The first time we went up, there were scores of pigeons. One of them got startled by my presence and flew out-clinging to the brick wall right above me. Trying to move it away proved to be extreme-

ly difficult. I didn't want to let go of the rungs, but at the same time, didn't want the pigeon there. What if it got flustered and drove the others into a frenzy? There would be a frantic confusion of wings and claws, followed by a few horriblelooking deaths that would do Alfred Hitchkock's "The Birds" proud. So, I leaned forward and began spitting on it. The thing would not move. It just hung there while a vomitous mixture of saliva and mucus ran off its back.

We went back down. Those damned pigeons foiled our first attempt.

Anyway, if this looks far up, you've got to realize that this is only about thirty feet up. From the outside, you can see that this is only the begin-

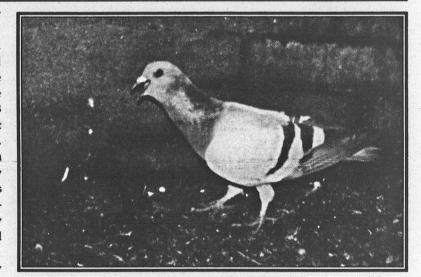
ning of the climb. Although there were only a few pigeons the next time, there were other problems.

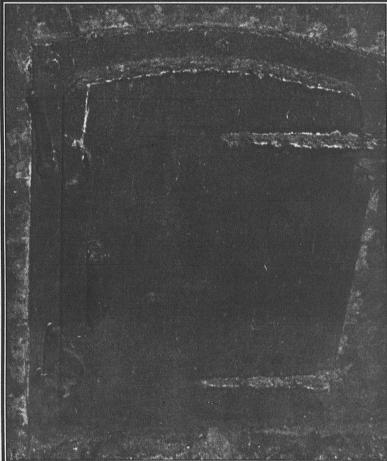
I'm sorry guys, we didn't get to the top. The air is extremely muggy on the inside, and breathing becomes a conscious effort. The ledge that can be seen from the outside is at the top of the rungs. The path out is a small hatchway about 3 feet by 3 feet. It looked (from where we were) that to get out, you'd have to do a pull up through it. With the tiring climb, the sweat, the realization that I was carrying too much gear, and the heavy air, we decided not to go through with it (which is

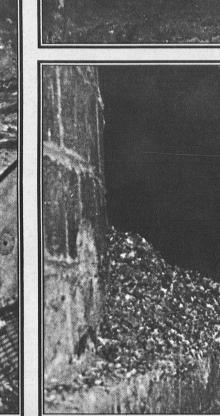
not to say that we didn't try this again by the time you read this).

Let me end by saying that I don't suggest you try this yourselves. I know that I told all of you to have fun spelunking in the tunnels, but this is serious shit. The only reason we climbed this tower is that we're psychos with nothing to live for. I'm sure many of you have lives, friends, family, and

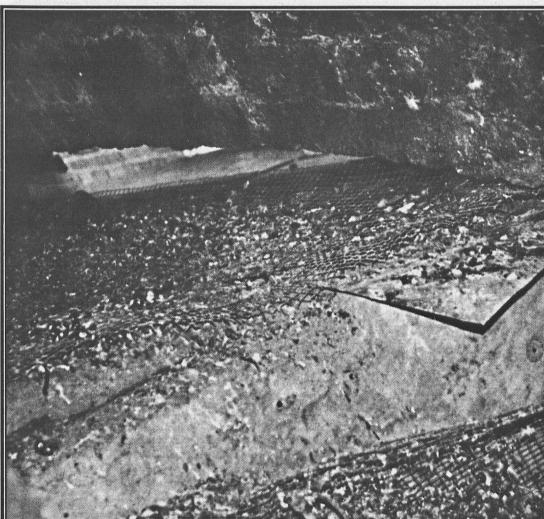
the lot that you don't want to jeapordize. Just read the story, look at the neat pictures, and tell it to your many children and grandchildren at bedtime (without the obscenities). You'll hear from us again.







http://www.csi.cuny.edu/unauthorized/the_banner.



I know that I told all of

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ursday, October 31, 1996

Yankee FanFARE?

By Dana Russo



Masses of people came together on October 13th with a purpose. Friends and families united; strangers became pals. It was a wonderful night filled with pride and determination. Well... not exactly.

By nine o'clock that Sunday night, Yankee Stadium was mobbed.

Thousands of Bronx Bomber fans flocked to the holy grounds, anticipating the sale of World Series tickets the following morning. The bulk of the people sprawled along the stadium's sidewalk was overwhelming.

Barricades attempted to provide order and direction for the ever-growing populace. Police officers outlined the perimeter, serving as a human wall of blue against the crowd. As the night progressed and the temperature dropped, the number of baseball patrons steadily increased. "By midnight, I'd say there were approximately 15,000 people surrounding the stadium," estimated John Spano, a police officer on duty during the event.

Many of the thousands were huddled in groups.

Knowing that the night would be long and tiresome, fans prepared themselves for the treacherous wait. Some were housed in tents; others reclined in chairs or resorted to the pavement, with or without the insulating shields of sleeping bags.

Conversation was strong; chatter blended to create a constant buzzing that became harmonic yet disruptive. Voices boasted with pride as loyal fans spoke of the Yankees' victory over the Baltimore Orioles in the final game of their Playoff Series, which had officially ended just minutes before. Some discussed and exchanged predictions about the Playoff Series between the Atlanta Braves and the St. Louis Cardinals, which was still in progress. Opinions clashed and statistics were thrown about as each party defended their theory. The buzzing grew louder. Ecstatic fans joined in conversations with other fans. Shortly, clusters of Yankees devotees expanded and temporary friendships flourished.

These fleeting friendships served as a defense system, warding off line-evaders. "Cutter, cutter," chanted alliances of irate fans. The accusations were sometimes followed by threats. "Everyone knew who was in front of and behind them on line... and especially who wasn't. If you saw an unfamiliar face, you knew that person had cut in line," remembers Steve Kenul, a twenty year old, bornand raised Yankee fan. Although they were a nuisance, line-cutters were not the only source of disruption.

The line, which grew out of control, snaked around the stadium's grounds. At about three o'clock in the morning, police officers transferred a multitude of fans off of the line and onto a field across from the stadium. This was an attempt to break up the chaos brewing around the Yankees' turf. As fans tried to gather their belongings (including, in some cases, the burden of a tent), others decided to rush the line, causing unexpected disorder and hazardous conditions. Ambulances arrived shortly after to provide care for the injured.

"Many of us were trampled on, lost our belongings and our places on line," recollected Andrew Melisi, a very distressed 21 year old fan who was on line within the area of relocation. Melisi and his friends, who were about one thousandth on line, were pushed back an additional thousand places. This unfortunate setback caused many frustrated and discourages fans to leave the stadium at five o'clock in the morning, almost twelve hours after their arrival. Others, such as Melisi, remained determined to survive the morning and face the day with World Series tickets in their possession.

"I've waited fifteen years for this," said Mike Bacolo, one of the many irate fans. "There's no way I'm leaving here without tickets because of a group of impatient morons who decided to bum-rush the line." His two sons, aged 12 and 9, nodded their heads sleepily in agreement.

PUBLIC MEETING - Resume Time!

By Jennifer Valle

"Oh, am I suppose to stop speaking now?" asked speaker Henry Wosnoosky during the Board of Trustees Public Hearing on October 23rd. This was after exceeding his three minute time limit. Before he stopped, Dr. Wosnoosky capped his presentation with the history of the Disabilities Service Department and promptly sat down, making way for the next speaker to present his three minute history report about his department.

This meeting was the college's chance to tell the Board of Trustees members that we won't stand for any more reductions to our budget. This was our moment to ask why the CUNY Security budget has doubled (\$20 million to \$40 million), while SEEK was converted to a mere program. Just last year, the college said goodbye to its Physical Education Department and hello to a PED requirement. Also, the Mechanical and Engineering Departments were forced to merge and their funding cut by more than a third.

This Board of Trustees has recently implemented a plan known as the ACE exam. Despite your grades and the time put into your education, you will no longer be allowed the courtesy of taking a Bachelor's Degree program. This 'standardized' test will be issued to all students in BA programs who have reached 60 credits or more. A student who fails this test will not be allowed to continue towards a BA Degree, and will be placed on the road to an Associates Degree.

Several faculty members are tied up in court cases attempting to fight all these changes. At the meeting, the college had a chance to state that we will not stand for such treatment. Instead, all sixty five speakers chose to glorify themselves in a resume-presentation contest.

One by one, speakers from various fields of the college gave three minute histories regarding their departments. Forget the fact that this body of Trustees used Fiscal Exigency as an excuse to make curriculum changes in every CUNY College without approval from any of the campuses' Presidents. This Public Meeting was nothing

more than a pure, unadulterated public kiss-up fest.

Once again, the faculty and administrators of our institution failed to come together and fight. Maybe the speakers felt these little self-glorifying histories would get the point across that CSI is a wonderful college that deserves funding. All of our 'esteemed' Board members will just view this as our way of saying, "Hey, we love you guys, and by the way, you should cut us again...don't you see we have more than enough funding? In case the last sixty speakers didn't say it enough... that is one great looking suit."

When will these top educators realize that sucking up doesn't pay? Will anyone ever understand that in order to stop further reductions to the college's budget, we need to have a strong block made up of students, faculty, staff and administrators? I'd just like to take this moment to thank all of our educators for dropping the ball on the students, yet again disappointing us like that... hell, it's not like you need students in your little underfunded college.

VOTER REGISTRATION:

MAKING 'EM SIT UP AND KNOW YOU ARE ALIVE

By Robert Lauro

The College of Staten Island, with the help of WSIA-FM and PDC, held a voter registration drive on October 3rd. Free food and live music were available, and a generally good time was had by all. Many students registered, and yet many others did not. This short essay is being written so that those of you who failed to register for some reason or another will contemplate rethinking your decision.

Each time elections come around, I ask people why they didn't vote. The primary answer is that it doesn't seem to make a difference. People feel that the candidates are really just two sides of the same coin. They certainly may be; however, I'm not writing this to try and tell you either whom to vote for or that the main candidates aren't, in fact, those two sides. I am saying that it is in your best interest to register to vote, even if you have no intention of voting come November.

Potential is the operative word I'd like you to keep in mind as you read this. You may rightfully ask, "What potential?" As soon as you register to vote, you are



included in every calculation the power brokers have to consider to get their candidate elected. Can you realize the power you wield when tens of thousands of people under twenty-one suddenly show up on the Board of Elections' voter rolls? And you haven't even voted! It doesn't matter at this point if you do or don't.

Anyone planning a campaign must assume that you will vote, and so must tailor their candidate and his/her platform with these ten thousand new voters in mind. This would probably cause all candidates to moderate their attitude in the areas that would pertain to persons under twenty-one. One area would be education. (No candidate ever got hurt by pushing for more education opportunities.) Another area may be job opportunities for young adults, other than low pay "McJobs" that are used as employment data, taking the place of "real" jobs.

Registering to vote immediately gives you the status of being someone whom politicians must take seriously. After all, you just might vote for the "other" candidate and put him out of a job! As always, it's in your hands. What do you have to lose?

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BANNER

Genetic Mutation Connected to AIDS Resistance

By Michael A. Imbriano

Researchers have found that a certain genetic mutation protects some individuals from infection with the AIDS virus. The studies investigating this phenomenon may inform the scientific community about how certain people manage to resist the AIDS virus, even when they are repeatedly exposed to it.

HIV has long been known to infect the cell by attaching itself to the CD4 receptor, an anchorage site on the surface of T-lymphocyte immune cells. However, studies over the past three months have shown that HIV requires at least one other surface glycoprotein called the CC-Chemokine receptor 5(CCR-5), that allows the AIDS virus to enter the cell. It's a protein that is normally a receptor for proteins known as chemokines.

Chemokines became an interest of study when it was shown last year that they can inhibit infection by HIV-1 strains that target CD4-T helper cells. According to reports published in Cell and Nature (1996), scientists have been able to identify a gene called CKR-5 that codes for production of the chemokine receptor. Specifically, according to Dr. Liu and colleagues from New York, it is the homozygous mutant allele (two inherited copies of the mutant gene from both parents) of CKR-5 that prevents the HIV virus from entering the uninfected cell. This mutant allele is a 32 base pair deletion that results in a truncated protein which fails to relay chemokine signaling and HIV infection in cells. Also, there seems to be another co-receptor, known as Fusin or LESTER, a stray receptor belonging to the chemokine family, which is not yet characterized functionally.

A group of Belgian scien-

tists set out to determine whether CKR-5 provided insight into the rate that asymptomatic HIV infection progresses to full-blown AIDS. It seems that the mutant gene's effect is an additive one, whereby slow progressors (individuals who take 15 or more years to develop AIDS) inherit only one copy of the mutant CKR-5 allele. Also, according to Liu and colleagues at the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center, the distribution of the heterozygous CKR-5 allele varies from one population to another. For instance, about 15 to 20 percent of the Caucasian population is heterozygous for the mutation, while about one percent is homozygous. Conversely, no mutation is present in African or Asian populations.

It is still too early to conclude that the absence of functional CCR-5 predicts HIV resistance, since the number of subjects studied is relatively low and it is not clear whether resistance of HIV depends on the mode of viral transmission. Moreover, there may be other genetic predispositions that permit and add to the effect of HIV resistance for exposed, uninfected individuals.

Interestingly, the individuals that do have this mutant allele appear to be healthy. This may be due to the documented redundancy chemokines and their receptors in the body. It still remains to be studied what subtle diseases may be caused by the lack of the proper chemokine receptor.

Researches believe that new findings may lead to drugs that are able to prevent HIV infection, or work with existing treatments. The possibility of chemokine inactivation in the body suggests that blocking the ability of HIV-1 to bind the CCR-5 receptor may be an effective way of preventing the disease.

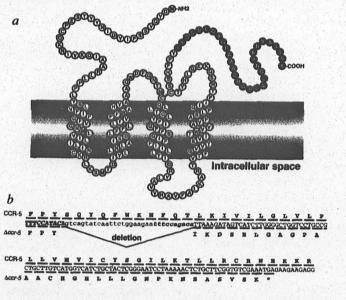


FIG. 1 Structure of the mutant form of human CCR-5. a, The amino-acid sequence of the non-functional $\Delta ccr-5$ protein. The transmembrane ation is given by analogy with the predicted transmembrane structure of the wild-type CCR-5, although the correct maturation of the mutant protein up to the plasma membrane has not been demonstrated. Amino acids represented in black correspond to unnatural residues resulting from the frame shift caused by the deletion. The mutant protein lacks the last three transmembrane segments of CCR-5, as well as the regions involved in G-protein-coupling. b, Nucleotide sequence of the CCR-5 gene surrounding the deleted region, and translation into the normal receptor (top) or the truncated mutant (Δccr-5, bottom). The 10-bp direct repeat is represented in bold italics.

Source • Nature August 1996



SP.V

By Shawn Fisher

Halloween is near and it's time once again for comic companies to scare us. For the second straight year Bongo comics manages to serve up the top fright, with "Bart Simpson's Treehouse of Horror. With Bongo's books you needn't be a fan of the cartoon to enjoy this comical horror fest. The first two tales contained in this book deals with Bart's archenemies Sideshow Bob. Who is turned into a large blob of living mucous by a medical experiment gone bad. Now only Bart and his sister Lisa can save their town from the wrath of Sideshow Blob. The second story is by far the scariest horror story I have ever read, as Lisa becomes possessed by the spirit of Madonna. Reverend Lovejoy has his work cut out for him as he tries to exorcise the spirit from her. The scariest line of the story has to be when Lisa say's "why do I suddenly feel the urge to buy an Amy Grant album?!" Now folks that's horror!

This horrid holiday is cool but has one down fall, it only lasts for a day. Fortunately DC comics has come up with a solution to this dilemma. Beginning this October DC

will start a new aptly titled thirteen issue maxi series featuring Batman in "The Long Holloween". The story takes place during the early years of the Darknight's career as he tracks down a bizarre serial killer known as Holiday. Throughout the story Batman will meet up with all the well known Bat mythos villains such as the Joker and Twoface. The story will then climax a year from when it began Halloween '97. DC will also release the "Lobo/Demon: Halloween #1." If this book is half as good as Lobo's xmas specials it will be worth the read.

In the small press check out Harris and Chaos comic companies. Harris puts out the classic Vampirella, a book about a female. Chaos offers the maniacal Evil Ernie and the lovacious Lady Death, two very interesting books. Acadamy comics is releasing a Robotech halloween special, don't expect much from it. Only Comico could produce a good Robotech book. Back in the big companies Image has smartend up and let the monster ego that is Rob Liefeld loose from the company. To which Marvel will of course continue to scare us by releasing more materiel by Rob Liefeld, what a hor-

I KILLED BARNEY RUBBLE

By Ron Magnusson

I killed Barney Rubble, because he pissed me off. Got him with a club, his thick skull was rather soft.

Not the Barney I've grown to love, the devoted family man. always there to be a friend, whenever shit would hit the fan.

I killed the Barney Rubble, the one on Saturday morning T.V. who stole my lousy cereal, forgetting all about me.

But I did sell out also, those wonderful checks Post used to send Fruity pebbles will rot your teeth, and cause you to lose a friend.

The Panic Squeeze

by James Scotto-Lavino

Drugs and depression spilling the toxins of being- into my soul. Through experiment, I reach the toxins of: being into my soul. Through all the impurities, I write. Suck it all slowly out maybe so something worth while is created. The need shifts. A piece of art or otherwise they'll look at when it's over. Will they know what it means? No matter.

That's never been important, anyway. Same sense we wish as time rolls on, I'm there but not here, and I'm happy, and it's easy. My willing self-damnation is beautiful.

10/96

10/08/96 Carol Vernon Hope

Witness

I Think about going to the Holocaust Museum But I am afraid.

Living in the relative comfort of SSI Maybe I can't take it, seeing what was happening while I was writing cheerful letters to my soldiers.

Maybe I am too old-but, no, there was not a cut -off age for the chambers. The young went, the babies, the fathers and mothers went, only a few kept for digging the graves and for

sorting the loot. Picture the sorting: finding your fathers ring; your baby's shirt after he was carried in by his grandmother; your best friend's hairclip to be put in the box for gold, not stopping for tears, this is beyond tears. Yes I must. They want never to be forgotten to I am I am on of the

Millions who must keep the light of memory, The ghost of teenage children who quit the Brown Shirts, who protested the taking of their neighbors, classmates; All those whose ignorance of the possibilities stored in the minds of evil, the depths of Hell on Earth-I would have disappeared along with them, early before the showers were ever thought up, protesting and shouting defiance. With them I would have been run

over by the juggernaut, before it even got up to speed. For this, for being born in a safe place, in a safe gender, for never knowing until it was over, and, God help me, for having once wished I could meet one of those handsome German

Prisoners of War who were brought here "for the duration." For the Booklet of pictures I could hardly believe, survivors

impossibly skeletal. For them all, I go to shed tears and mourn them and say for them, "Never again!"

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By Tom Krasniqi

They say the more things change, the more they stay the same. The New York Knicks hope to change all that. With the 1996-97 NBA season upon us, the newlook Knicks will try to fulfill that long dry spell of capturing that ever elusive NBA title. A familiar foe will be in their way (Does this guy ever go away?!). His name is Michael Jordan and he enjoys putting an end to a once promising Knicks season. Jordan and the Chicago Bulls are still the team to beat and the always hot Knicks-Bulls rivalry will get a lot hotter this season. These two teams are head and shoulders above the rest of the Eastern Conference. Orlando and Indiana are good teams who simply will not be able to compete with these Knicks. In the end, the Bulls will be the team that goes on to the Finals, leaving the Knicks disappointed again. Here's a look at Kraz' NBA Eastern Conference preview: Atlantic Division

New York Knicks: GM Ernie Grunfeld



gets an A for his off season mastery in finally putting together the pieces around center Patrick Ewing. His rebuilt backcourt came through free agency with the

signings of Chris Childs and star Allan Houston. Childs is tough defensively and Houston gives the Knicks that perimeter threat they've been looking for. The Knicks then traded Anthony Mason for Larry Johnson, whose scoring at small forward will ease the load off Ewing. The reliable rock of this team, Charles Oakley, is back and will provide his usual toughness, leadership, and defense. Veterans Buck Williams and Herb Williams provide depth. Look for rookies John Wallace and Walter McCarty to make an impact on this Knicks team which will easily finish first in this division. John Starks will be the best sixth man in the NBA this season.

Orlando Magic: Losing Shaq was a major blow to this team. I guess the Magic will have to go with Dan Schayes, or they may trade for Rony Seikaly. Penny Hardaway is one of the NBA's best players who will need to step it up. Same goes for Nick Anderson and Horace Grant. Dennis Scott has lost some weight and is therefore not the fallest small forward in basketball. Coach Brian Hill may be in trouble down there in the Kingdom. They still have enough talent to finish second behind the Knicks.

Washington Bullets: This is my surprise team in the East this season. The talent here is tantalizing, if not spectacular. Juwan Howard returns after the NBA voided his contract with Miami. He's as underrated as they come. The enigmatic Chris Webber is a great talent, but will resort to his usual thug-like tactics too often. Bullets dealt for All Star point guard Rod

Strickland, another headcase but should average about ten assists per game if he comes to play every night. Keep an eye out for sharpshooting Tracy Murray, whose deadly outside shot made him appealing enough for the Bullets to sign him. That should open things up inside for Howard, Webber and the ever improving giant, Gheorge Muresan. Coach Jim Lynam has a tough job ahead trying to deal with these thugs. But if he does, watch out! This team will surprise and finish third.

Miami Heat:: Poor Pat Riley. Yeah, right! The Judas of the NBA had this coming to him in a big way. He tried to sneak Juwan Howard's contract past David Stern and the salary cap. Bad move. Howard went back to the Bullets and left Judas Riley sulking. He did re-sign center Alonzo Mourning, who disappeared in the playoffs last year. He also had guard Tim Hardaway bought back and signed free agent forward P.J. Brown. The sleeper of this group will be second year forward Kurt Thomas. He started to blossom into an impact player last year and will continue his progression into stardom. Sasha Danilovic provides outside shooting for this Heat team which will finish out fourth.

Philadelphia 76ers: Top pick Allen Iverson will provide instant excitement and will make a major impact. A slimmed down Derrick Coleman will never reach his potential and will always be a thug. Guard Jerry Stackhouse isn't the second coming of Jordan, but he's an All-Star in waiting. The starting backcourt of Iverson and Stackhouse will be one of the NBA's best for the next ten years. New coach Johnny Davis must get Coleman motivated for this team to flourish. Weatherspoon is an athletic small forward who will score and rebound, a la Barkley, but has developed a punk type mentality which is choking this league out and continues to damage its reputation. Sixers will be fun to watch, but will finish fifth.

New Jersey Nets: New coach John Calipari will be a good one down the line but it will take time with this bunch. Center Shawn Bradley will become an elite center in this league (I've only been saying this for years now). Guard Kendall Gill is explosive and must stay injury free. With David Benoit out for the year, Nets signed tough guy Xavier McDaniel to take his place. The X-Man is 33, but can still play and will provide leadership and toughness. Ed O'Bannon has to step it up or else. He needs to be effective from the perimeter and on defense. Watch for free agent point guard Robert Pack to make an splash with his ability to go up and down the court on the fast break. Calipari wants the Nets to be more of an up-tempo team and Pack is the key to that. Jayson Williams is a great rebounder who will give you an honest day's work. Nets are still young and will finish sixth.

Boston Celtics: What was once one of the more storied franchises in sports has turned into a joke. M.L. Carr is a clown who's probably the Rich Kotite of the NBA. He's not a coach, nor a general manager, nor a basketball man all together. First round pick Antoine Walker will make this pathetic club a little better. He might be a poor man's Scottie Pippen. Dana Barros must play better than he did last year. Dino Radja and Rick Fox are solid performers in the frontcourt but need help from Pervis Ellison. Todd Day will be looked upon to score often but doesn't play defense. Bumblin' Celts will bottom out and take last place.

Central Division

Chicago Bulls: Jordan, coach Phil



Jackson and All-Thug selection Dennis Rodman all re-upped for a year in hopes of getting back to the title. Jordan is the greatest ever, period. He

can go four more years if he wants and shows no signs of slowing down. Scottie Pippen will continue to flourish in his second banana role. He's one of the best all around players in this league. His nose is tremendously large as always. Rodman is of the best rebounders ever. Ron Harper plays a nice role on this team as does Steve Kerr, Bill Wennington and Toni Kukoc. Newly signed center Robert Parish will back up Luc Longley in the middle. Their defense is still superb and that along with Jordan will help Da Bulls finish first in the Central and eventually catapult them back to the Finals.

Indiana Pacers: Reggie Miller is back with a new contract and so are the Davis boys: Antonio and Dale. Rik Smits' foot injury will keep him out for a while. The Pacers also traded Mark Jackson in a package to get Jalen Rose, who will play multiple positions. Travis Best is being looked upon to carry the torch at the point and should perform admirably. Coach Larry Brown is still an excellent coach but look for him to quit on them if they don't win. They'll finish second but look for this team to falter and possibly be knocked out of the first round of the playoffs.

Atlanta Hawks: This may surprise you guys, but I think this team is a sleeper in this division. They signed Dikembe Mutombo to fill the void at center and also re-signed star off-guard Steve Smith. Mookie Blaylock is often overlooked and is a good player. Christian Laetner is a thug on most nights, but he can score a little. Lenny Wilkens is an outstanding coach who always elevated the play of his team up another notch. They won't score much but on some nights, they won't need to. This will also be one of the top three teams defensively in the NBA. They'll finish

Detroit Pistons: They made a big mis-

take when they they let Allan Houston bolt for New York. He supposedley had problems with All Star Grant Hill. Coach Doug Collins is an excellent tactician and motivator. Veteran Joe Dumars is still around and is getting better with age. Lindsay Hunter has been a huge disappointment. Collins is losing his patience and cannot afford to stick with him much longer. The loss of Houston will set this team back. They acquired Stacey Augmon and Grant Long to ease the pain of losing Houston. They'll finish fourth here but would have finished second had they signed Houston.

Milwaukee Bucks: I would have had them higher if they would have kept Stephon Marbury on draft day but they traded him for Ray Allen. Allen will be a very good player, but he's no Marbury. They have All Stars Glenn Robinson and Vin Baker at forward. Mike Dunleavy has talent to work with. This will be an exciting team to watch, but they would have been better off with Marbury. Much better. They'll finish fifth.

Cleveland Cavaliers: Mike Fratello will again have a boring team to watch, but they'll be competitive. Vitaly Potapenko will contribute early on. All Star Terrell Brandon leads the way and there's a decent supporting cast of Chris Mills, Bobby Phills and Tyrone Hill. They'll fight you to the bitter end, but aren't blessed with great talent. They will finish sixth and will pose a problem for the Knicks or Bulls in the first round of the playoffs.

Charlotte Hornets: Anthony Mason is now on board and will provide defense and ballhandling for new coach Dave Cowens. Newly acquired Vlade Divac will play center and Scott Burrell comes back after a knee injury. Muggsy Bogues will have another solid season at the point and will have rookie Tony Delk as his understudy. There isn't much depth on this team and that will hurt them. They'll finish seventh.

Toronto Raptors: New coach Darrell Walker only got this job because he's Isiah Thomas' good friend. Marcus Camby is hurting already and we're not even out of November yet. Last year's Rookie of the Year, Damon Stoudamaire, will be a very good point guard into the future. Hubert Davis is expected to provide offense but they shouldn't be surprised to see that he can't play defense. Popeye Jones should be a plus with his rebounding prowess. This expansion team will still be the doormats of this league for as couple of more years. In other words, they'll finish last.

Kraz' Eastern Conference Finals Pick: Chicago over Knicks

Kraz' Western Conference Finals Pick: Lakers over Houston

Kraz' NBA Finals Pick: Chicago over Lakers

NBA Western Conference Preview

By Michael Anderson

The Western division made some major noise this offseason. Barkley to the Rockets, Shaq to L.A., and Dominique Wilkins is back in the NBA. The Supersonics made it close last year, but close only counts in horseshoes and handgrenades. This year, can they make it back to the promised land, or will someone take over? To find out, read on:

Midwest Division

Houston Rockets- Usually the Rockets don't fare well in their division. You should look at the team that they have assembled for this year because things have changed. To complement the best allaround center in the league, Hakeem Olajuwon, and the Glyde, Clyde Drexler, Houston concentrated on the frontcourt. Charles Barkley was brought in from Phoenix to add punch (scoring and physical). In order to take away the rebounding load from Barkely and Olajuwon, Kevin Willis was brought in. His job is going to be rebound first, score second. To help out the fearsome foursome will be shooting guard Brent Price, forward Mario Elie, and rookie forward/center Othello Harrington. These players could become very instrumental in Houston's chances as their starters are up there in age and injuries can become a factor.

San Antonio Spurs- Last year, center David Robinson finished among the top 5 in scoring (25 ppg), rebounding (12.2 rpg) and blocks (3.3 bpg). This year he will once again carry this team on his back and into the playoffs. Helping out Robinson will be 20 ppg All-Star forward Sean Elliot. After these two, the quality level drops off. Guards Avery Johnson and Vinny Del Negro are not considered your proto-type NBA guards, but they get the job done in the regular season. Starting forward Charles Smith was a has-been with the Knicks and he still is with the Spurs. Other forward helpers include Chuck "The Rifleman" Person and "The Human Highlight Film" Dominique Wilkins.

Utah Jazz- This year the Jazz have a new logo, but they still have the same old team. Forward Karl Malone is still an All-Star, but age is catching up with him as he tries to score more from the perimeter than the key. John Stockton is the all-time assists and steals leader with 11,310 and 2,365, respectively. Once again Stockton remains a constant in the Jazz offense. Shooting guard Jeff Hornacek will continue shooting from downtown. Last year Hornacek did so at a .466 clip. To succeed the Jazz will expect more from forwards Chris Morris and Byron Russell.

Dallas Mavericks- Dallas went out and hired Chicago Bull assistant, Jim Cleamons, to get this team in the right direction. Four young and talented players will try to take Dallas to the promised land. Jason Kidd, Jim Jackson, Tony Dumas and Jamal Mashburn should supply enough offense if all can stay healthy. However, offense isn't the only key. Defense and rebounding wins games, too. That's where centers Loren Meyer and newly acquired

Eric Montross came into play. Add in draft pick forward Semaki Walker from Louisville and you have an infusion of young players that will get Dallas to the playoffs.

Denver Nuggets- This team looks very different from last year. Gone is defensive monster Dikembe Mutombo, Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf, Jalen Rose, and forward Reggie Williams. Brought in were guards Mark Jackson, Ricky Pierce, and Sarunas Marciulionis, along with center Ervin Johnson. Management is hoping that these new men can blend nicely with a nucleus that consists of Antonio McDyess, LaPhonso Ellis, Bryant Stith, Dale Ellis and Tom Hammonds. As a rookie last year, McDyess averaged 13.4 ppg and more is

Pacific Division

Seattle Supersonics- Last year's cham-



pionship losers desire another shot. After last year's 64-18 mark, Seattle returns 10 players from that team and will

rely on the defense as their catalyst. Shawn Kemp just keeps improving and will try to increase from last year's 19.6 ppg. More importantly to the team, their MVP is Gary Payton. In the offseason the Defensive Player of the Year signed a huge contract and will prove that his 19.3 ppg and 2.85

older and more injury-prone, Nash could prove vital.

Sacramento Kings- Do I really think that this team is good? No, but I think there's a chance they could be. Carrying the team for another year is sharp-shooter, All-Star, and Dream Teamer Mitch Richmond. He scores (23.1 ppg), leads, and plays good defense. To help out the scoring load Sacramento brought in guard Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf from Denver. He can't defend and won't believe in the principle of the National Anthem, but he can score quickly and often. The frontcourt looks really good with Brian Grant, Billy Owens, Michael Smith, and Olden Polynice. These guys can determine how far this team goes into the playoffs.

Portland Trailblazers- This team has gotten a major facelift from last year. The new backcourt now consists of Kenny Anderson and Isaiah Rider. Rider is a problem child that can score and Anderson hasn't had a good year since early in his New Jersey Net career. Another problem child, Rasheed Wallace, was brought in from Washington and will start alongside Cliff Robinson. Although center Arvydas Sabonis was a rookie last year, but he didn't play like one. Remember he's been playing overseas and has brought that experience to the NBA.

Golden State Warriors- Here's a team that has two young players and won't give up on the washed-up veteran. Last year, Joe Smith was the first overall pick in last year's draft and showed great signs of living up to his billing. He averaged 15.3 ppg and 8.7 rpg to show the league that he's going to be a force to be reckoned with. The other important player is guard Latrell Sprewell. Sprewell is an important piece to the Warriors puzzle as he can do it all. Proof positive is his stats; 18.9 ppg, 4.9 rpg, 4.2 apg, and 1.63 spg. The veterans they have are Chris Mullin, Mark Price, and B.J. Armstrong. Back in the day they were All-Stars—but that time has passed.

Los Angeles Clippers- If you can name three players on the Clippers then you win a prize. If you can't I'll try to help. The constant last year was Loy Vaught. He averaged 16.2 ppg and 10.1 rpg. Guard Terry Dehere will be asked upon to increase his 12.4 ppg average. In last year's slam dunk championship, rookie guard Brent Barry took home the honor. This year he'll be asked to do more than dunk and provide some spark to a team that is in need of one.

In the finals the Sonics should have learned about the Bulls so look for the Sonics in seven.

expected from him now that Mutombo is gone.

Minnesota Timberwolves- In about five years this team should have the best 1-2 All-Star combo in the league. Unfortunately, for now, the two future All-Stars are just pups, and there's nobody else surrounding them. When Kevin Garnett was drafted fifth overall last year coming out of high school, people wondered how good he can be. Even though he only averaged 10.4 ppg, he showed tremendous promise and more importantly handled the transition from high school life to NBA life smoothly. Their draft pick this year, after a trade, was Coney Island native Stephon Marbury. Here's another guy that shows huge potential, but he's also young. Marbury came out as a freshman so in reality Garnett and Marbury should enjoying their sophomore season; instead they're the cornerstones of a team that needs some

Vancouver Grizzlies- This second year team had some major trouble scoring by averaging a paltry 89.8 ppg. To complement center Bryant "Big Country" Reeves (13.3 ppg and 7.4 rpg) and point guard Greg Anthony (14 ppg and 6.9 apg), management went out and acquired some offensive men. Anthony Peeler was brought in from the Lakers and Lee Mayberry was brought in from the Bucks. nowever, the diggest break came when their expansion neighbor, the Toronto Raptors who passed on California Golden Bear freshman Shareef Abdur-Rahim. The Grizzlies quickly snatched him up and he will pay huge dividends and is my pick for Rookie of the Year. Another draft pick, Alabama center Roy Rogers, will also be expected to help out.

spg wasn't a fluke. Veterans Detlef Schrempf, Nate McMillan, and Sam Perkins will also be back to get this team a championship. Whether or not they make it may depend on newly acquired shotblocking force Jim McIlvaine. If his defense can hold up then the Sonics will be back in the title game.

Los Angeles Lakers- Here's a team that



has some of the most impressive players on their roster. The new focus on their team is Shaquille

O'Neal. Say what you want about Shaq, but he puts up the points and turns teams around. Cedric Ceballos averaged 21.2 ppg last year and although his load will be diminished, he's still an offensive threat. Elden Campbell will supply defense and point guard Nick Van Exel will add explosiveness. Meanwhile, forward Eddie Jones will prove this year he's an All-Star. The most intriguing signing was high school phenom Kobe Bryant. The signing may have paid off as he lit up the summer leagues; however, adjusting to NBA life in Los Angeles could deter his progress.

Phoenix Suns- With Charles Barkley gone, the team will now rely on Danny Manning. Manning is a great player, but must stay healthy. In the Barkley trade Phoenix received Chuckie Brown, Mark Bryant, Sam Cassell and Robert Horry. Sounds a little lop-sided to me as all should pay big dividends for Phoenix. Joining the crowd of ex-Rockets is A.C. Green, Wayman Tisdale, Kevin Johnson, Wesley Person and Michael Finley. Possibly the difference can lie in rookie point guard Steve Nash. With K.J. getting

Final Prediction

In the East it will come down to the Bulls and the Knicks. Since the Bulls seem to master the Knicks in the playoffs, look for the Bulls in seven. In the West it'll come down to the Sonics, Lakers, Spurs, and Rockets. The Lakers have Shaq and he never comes through in the playoffs. The Spurs— same problem only with David Robinson. That leaves the Rockets and the Sonics. Defense should be the key. Since the Sonics have the best defense, and the Rockets have Barkley (one of the worst defenders in the NBA), the edge goes to the Sonics. In the finals the Sonics should have learned about the Bulls so look for the Sonics in seven.



BANNER Thursday, October 31, 1996



RODGER: Halloween Special

By: Ron Magnusson





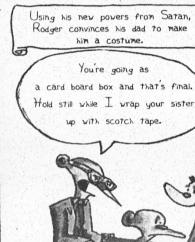








Rodger leaves school early to go home and





When Rodger gets back, he discovers that his little brother gave out daddy's medicine as treats. Now Dad's mentally unstable.









Luckily Rodger's friend, Satan, steps in to

