

THE BANNER

May 2, 2005

First New York State African-American CPA Visits CSI

"I didn't know it was going to be so difficult when I started."

Matthew Beck

April 14, IP—The CSI Accounting Club, under the direction of Student Government



Vice President and Club President Taiwo Olasupo, Faculty Advisor Christopher Smith, and Dept. of

Business Chair Dr. Laura Nowak, hosted a speech by Mrs. Bernadine Coles Gines, who in 1954 became the first female African-American Certified Public Accountant in New York State, and only the 34th female CPA in the nation.

"I didn't know it was going to be so difficult when I started," remembered Mrs. Gines, a sweet, unassuming lady from Charlottesville, Virginia. "It was almost impossible to meet the experience requirements in order to become certified and find somebody who would give you a job". But she did. After earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Virginia State College (where she ranked first in her graduating class), and acquiring her MBA in accounting in 1947 from New York University, she was hired

Continued on Page 3

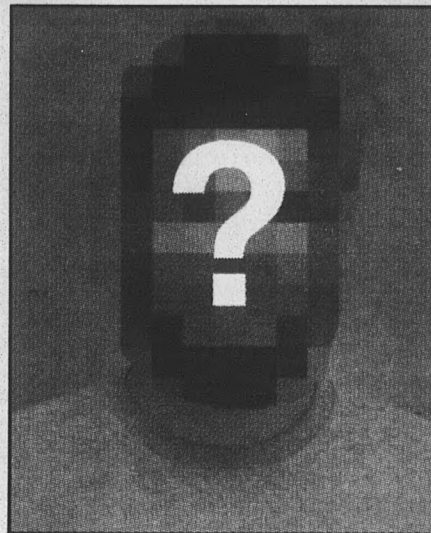
Identity Theft Tops Crimes on Staten Island

Vanessa Leigh DeBello

They purchase big-ticket items, like new televisions, stereos, and even plane tickets to Australia. Meanwhile, these individuals may also be seen rummaging through trash, stealing mail or pick pocketing. They could be your neighbor, co-worker, or even relative. But often, no one knows who they are and what they do, and there are millions of people just like them, people who assume other people's identity.

Identity theft is the number one crime on Staten Island, according to the Advance. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) estimated in a 2003 survey that within a five-year period, 27.3 million Americans were victims. A crime that was once rarely heard of is becoming increasingly common across the globe. People whose identities have been stolen often spend months, sometimes years, repairing the damage done to their good name, their credit, and their hard-earned money. The result of identity theft is bad credit. This causes victims to be refused loans, lose job opportunities or even get arrested for crimes they did not commit.

Victims may not even realize they've been victimized for weeks or months because they did not have direct contact with the perpetrator. "Often you don't even know you've been a victim," said Carol Watkins, Director of Career Placement, Scholarships, and Awards and identity theft survivor. "It's an isolat-



ing crime, you feel as if you're the only one going through it."

A 2003 survey by Gartner, (a Stamford, Connecticut research firm specializing in information technology) found that identity thieves have a slim chance of being apprehended for their crime — just 1 in 700 are caught. "I'm not sure how it was stolen, but my instinct tells me it's from recycling," said Watkins. "If you don't shred properly you're offering a nice neat package of your life for anyone to take."

Sharon Aliseo, another Staten Island victim agrees. "One day I threw out some old pocketbooks and they must have had some old credit card statements in them," she confessed. "Sometimes its poor judgement or plain laziness on our part that eventually catches up with us."

Continued on Page 3

Business Management MS Here This Fall

Jennifer Mossdrop

Students interested in an MS in Business will no longer have to travel to Baruch, Brooklyn or Queens College. Starting this fall, CSI's business department will hold its first graduate classes in business management.

"It took five years to create the program," said Dr. Susan Holak, one of the faculty members who made the new program possible. "I had to see the vote to believe it."

The curriculum will focus on strategic management skills with courses in business/government relations, financial management, international business leadership, and strategic marketing. Graduate students will get to choose from the following electives: accounting, financial planning, human resources, information systems, services marketing

and management, and taxation.

CSI's Business Department Chair, Dr. Laura Nowak, explained how incoming undergraduate accounting majors could benefit from the Master's program when the time comes to graduate. In the year 2009, students will need 150 credits to take the CPA exam instead of 120 credits.

Among others, professors Peters, Garaventa, and Sandler will teach the 10-course, 3-credit per-class curriculum. Professor Sandler is also the director of the program. It should take four semesters to complete program since it is part-time and the classes will primarily be in the evening. "There has been a lot of interest," said Dr. Nowak. "And it hasn't even been advertised much."

Dr. Nowak says that they will be looking for the students with the highest GPAs and GMAT scores. Only 50 stu-

Continued on Page 3

CSI Union Rep Speaks Out

WHEN WILL THE GRIEVANCE PROCESS END?

"Brown's situation is a little unusual because she came to the college already with a distinguished record, including a book highly regarded in the field." —Roslyn Bologh

Kevin S.P. Mamakas

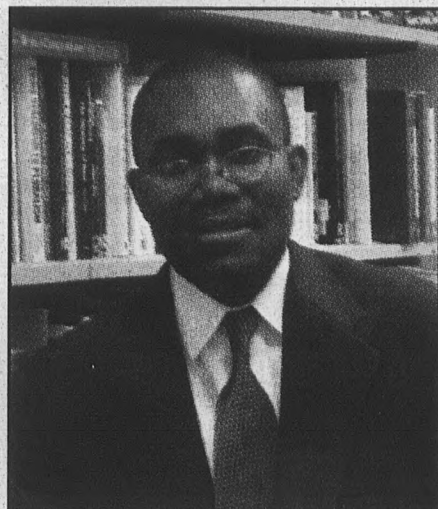
Professor Roslyn Bologh is the Union Grievance Representative for English Professor Fahamisha Brown, whose bid for tenure has been recently denied. Bologh is also a Sociology Professor at CSI, who is trying to ensure that Fahamisha Brown will ultimately receive tenure. "My role as grievance counselor is to present the case on behalf of the candidate," she says. "This is a formal process and the candidate sits next to me during the presentation. [The process] is occurring because the President denied Professor Brown's application for reappointment with tenure. It is this decision that we are grieving."

It is unknown when the process will end because the grievance case has already been presented. Now the CSI community has to wait for a response from President Springer.

"Fahamisha Brown's situation is a little unusual because she came to the college already with a distinguished record of professional accomplishment, including having published a book that is highly regarded in the field," Prof. Bologh said. "She was promoted to Associate Professor soon after she was hired."

The way the tenure track is designed, just getting through the years leading up to the President deciding to grant or deny tenure should prove that a professor deserves tenure. "Each year for the first five years after a full time faculty member is hired, she must apply for reappointment for the following year. This involves submitting an extensive form listing all of her professional activities," Bologh explained.

Continued on Page 3



In Memoriam

François Ngolet
1961-2005

CSI's Memorial service for History Professor François Ngolet will be held on Wednesday, May 18th. The Banner sends condolences to the Ngolet family.

New York Times Holds Symposium for Student Newspaper Editors from Across the Country

Matt Safford

On Monday April 4, The New York Times held an "Inside the Times" symposium at their 43rd street building, for editors of student newspapers that participate in the "American Democracy Project."

More than 200 student editors came from as far away as Alaska, and as close as Hunter College, to participate in a nearly seven hour event which promised to "provide [students] with the opportunity to engage editors, journalists, our advertising acceptability group, and editorial."

As students made their way off the elevators, they were greeted by staff who handed each visitor a copy of the day's NY Times, and a plastic bag filled with a program folder, a handbook on ethical journalism, and a pamphlet entitled

"Standards of Advertising Acceptability." Also in the bag, was a NY Times-branded notepad

and pen, and a spiral-bound book containing student essays on "The Role of a Newspaper in a Democracy," which participants had been required to submit weeks earlier.

After a breakfast of soda, orange juice, muffins and cookies, and a brief introduction by Times College Marketing Manager Felice Nudelman, NY Times Managing Editor Michael Oreskes took the podium, and the event began in earnest. Besides the occasional break, the day moved quickly and close to schedule, as seven other speakers took the stage, each speaking about their particular role at the NY Times, while giving advice and answering questions

from the students in the audience.

Highlights included Senior Editor for Staffing/National Recruiting and former Sports Editor Neil Amdur, who spoke about his long career, and offered to give advice to any student who wished to send their writing to him via email.

In the afternoon, NY Times Training Editor for Copy Editors Don Hecker led a fast-paced and somewhat rigorous interactive editing seminar which had students editing stories and writing headlines under strict deadlines. Several students who completed the tasks correctly were rewarded with NY Times t-shirts.

The day was capped with a speech by Times Executive Editor Bill Keller, who spoke of the difficulties journalism and newspapers face today and in the future, with

Highlights included

Senior Editor for Staffing/National

Recruiting and former Sports Editor Neil Amdur,

who spoke about his long career, and offered

to give advice to any student who wished to

send their writing to him

via email.

shrinking readership, more competition, a distrustful public and secretive administrations.

After Keller's discussion,

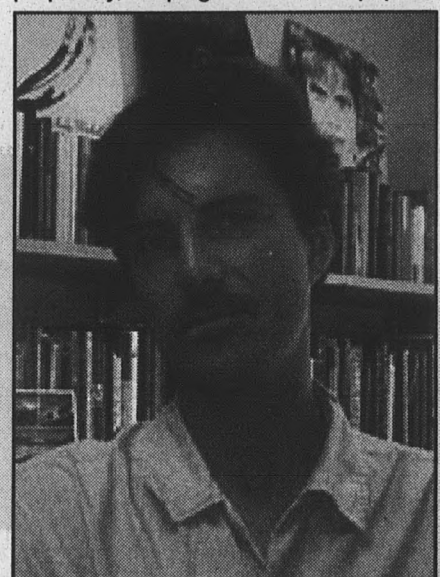
and some eager Q & A, 4 students were chosen at random to attend the New York Times Page One meeting at 4:30. Those not lucky enough to win that great opportunity filed still left the auditorium with a great deal: An inside look at the way the most prestigious newspaper in the country runs from day to day, advice from top professionals in the journalism field, and large collection of essays from student editors from across the country with which to judge their own writing against. That's quite a lot for any aspiring journalist to take home from one day's experience, whether they flew in from across the country, or took the bus across town.

CSI Professor Organizing Anti-War Teach-In

Matt Safford

Inspired by a March conference held at Hunter College High School dealing with militarism and war, CSI Assistant English Professor Ashley Dawson is organizing a teach-in for Thursday May 5th.

"I think it's easy for people to forget that we are occupying Iraq," said Dawson. "The war on terror was framed to be something that could be going on in perpetuity, keeping the American popula-



Ashley Dawson is organizing a teach-in against the War in Iraq on May 5th.

tion locked-down, scared, and obedient."

It's obvious that Dawson has strong feelings about these issues, and therefore no wonder that he is doing what he can to make a difference. While leaving our campus for a position at the CUNY Graduate Center next year, Dawson wanted to do something for students at CSI. "Ideally, I hope that it will engage students, and speak to them," said Dawson. "I would love it if there was more of an active, politicized student population here."

If the teach-in is a success, the event will help to bring that about. Even those students in favor of the war will be forced to think about and articulate their beliefs if they wish to defend their posi-

tions. And that healthy discussion of important issues can only benefit all of us. The alternative of course, is to tune the war out, to go on with our lives as if these events aren't happening. But with thousands continuing to die on both

"I think it's easy for people to forget that we are occupying Iraq," said Dawson. "The war on terror was framed to be something that could be going on in perpetuity, keeping the American population locked-down, scared, and obedient."

sides, the alternative is unconscionable.

Dawson said he also has selfish reasons for the event. "We're in contract negotiations right now, and have been offered a 1.5% pay raise over 4 years. We're just getting slammed," said Dawson. "And obviously, this is going to affect students."

Professor Dawson felt this situation was a symptom of a larger problem, what he called the "corporatization of the university, and the rolling back of public education." These are dangerous trends both for students and society in general. "As [public education] gets rolled back," said Dawson, "there are fewer and fewer options for young people, other than the military."

Details about the event were still sketchy and a bit up in the air at press time, but Professor Dawson noted that he had spoken to organizations such as Goldstar Families For Peace, and the Campus Activist Network, and various other organizations which are involved in counter-recruiting. "As far as I know, there's nothing like that on this campus," said Dawson, "Though I have seen ROTC here, so this seems really important."

While things were far from set in stone as of press time, the plan is for the event to take place right after club hours at 3:30 on May 5. Students interested in finding out more details can contact Professor Ashley Dawson via email at dawson@mail.csi.cuny.edu.

Bigger Better Bottle Bill Just Makes Sense

Kevin SP Mamakas

Members of the CSI chapter of the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG), Student Government, and the American Littoral Society held the third annual Bigger Better Bottle Bill St. Patrick's Day News Conference on March 17, 2005. NYPIRG has been working hard with members of its 21 other college chapters to urge the legislators and Governor Pataki to support

the Bigger Better Bottle Bill.

New York's current Bottle Bill requires a 5 cent refundable deposit on beer and soda containers. More than 80 billion bottles and cans have been returned and recycled through the bottle bill since it was created in 1982; that is more than five million tons of plastic, glass, and metal. NYPIRG has put a lot of effort in making the bottle bill the most successful recycling and litter prevention

program in New York.

"The Green of Saint Patrick's Day represents two different things to this bill," according to Barbara Toborg, the Conservation Coordinator for the American Littoral Society of Jamaica Bay Guardian. "The first is the environment, the second is money."

NYPIRG now wants to update the bottle bill to be bigger and better. Dan Beyer, NYPIRG's Environmental Project Leader, believes that the legislators and Governor Pataki should, "Expand New York's bottle bill to include deposits on

non-carbonated beverages such as bottled water, juice, and sports drinks." He later explained that if the bill required the beverage industry to return all unclaimed deposits, 179 million dollars could be put into local recycling and environmental cleanup programs.

Student Government Senator Joshua Center wore a leprechaun costume to show his support for the bigger better bottle bill. It may sound funny, but Center believes the bottle is no laughing matter. The Bigger Better Bottle Bill will allow the state to reclaim this pot of gold.

Staff and Contributors

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JENNIFER MOSSCROP

MANAGING EDITOR

DAVID MALTZ

COMICS EDITOR

ENRIQUE INOCENTE

ADP EDITOR

MATTHEW SAFFORD

SEX COLUMNIST

JESSICA MENDEZ

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

MELLISSA SEECHARAN

HEAD PHOTOGRAPHER

LUKE CRISALLI

STAFF

ORUME AGBEYEGBE
DOMINIC FIDUCCIA
KEVIN S.P. MAMAKAS

CONTRIBUTORS

ANDREA BATISTA
VANESSA LEIGH DEBELLO
LEE PAPA
CHRISTIAN TUBITO
PAMELA ZAMBRANO

FACULTY ADVISOR

FREDERICK KAUFMAN

IDENTITY THEFT AT CSI

—continued from page 1—

Regardless how personal information is stolen, finding out about what happened to you is never pleasant. "At first I didn't realize how big a problem I had," said Watkins. "It wasn't until I got a call from Capital One Credit one Saturday morning, and they were insisting on payment for purchases I never made, did I realize the scope of the situation. Apparently, whoever opened this account had been able to get access to my mother's maiden name, previous addresses and other very personal information. \$30,000 worth of charges was made. After payment had not been received for three months, the credit card company began to track me down at work and home. Later I found out that a total of 12 credit card accounts had been opened in my name, totaling \$230,000 worth of debt."

Aliseo found out in a similar way. It wasn't until she began receiving calls from creditors did she learn of the theft. "Not only were credit card accounts opened in my name but this person was able to get access to my bank accounts and drain them too," she said. "Later I found out that this woman was even seeing a doctor as me. It really upset me."

For Sharon Aliseo, it went beyond the crime being committed without her knowledge.

Soon she began receiving strange phone calls, which she believed to be from the thief seeking to obtain more information. In a situation like this, victims need to be aware of this possibility and be cautious. Awake! Magazine advises to be leery about giving out personal information over the phone, the internet, or by mail unless you have initiated contact or are sure of whom you are dealing with.

What should you do if you believe you've been a victim of identity theft? Watkins advises getting periodic copies of your credit report, which enables you to review it for any discrepancies. After she learned of the first fraudulent card opened in her name, Watkins investigated the situation further and began contacting the other creditors to explain the situation. Although most didn't believe her at first, consistency and persistency is essential. "Often creditors treat you like a criminal," she said. "They were condescending, talking to me like I was stupid."

After a year and a federal investigation, Watkins was able to repair her credit. Her 350 credit score was brought up to almost its original standing at 750. "What I tell people is that it is not the end of your financial world," she said. "Credit can be repaired rather quickly."

GRIEVANCE OUTCOME AWAITED

—continued from page 1—

If a professor does not complete the minimum criteria at the end of each academic year, they would not be reappointed under this rule. Prof. Brown has been doing an extraordinary amount of work for the literature section of the English department on top of her commitments and responsibilities to her academic community.

"Her teaching must be observed and evaluated by a member of the faculty as well as by students in their student evaluation forms," Bologh said. "She also must have an annual evaluation by the Chair of her department." Prof. Brown admitted that she expects a lot from her students and she sometimes is disliked by them because of her high expectations. Yet she is accepted as an asset to the CSI community by many Professors.

When Professor Fahamisha Brown was denied tenure at CSI by President Marlene

Springer earlier this year, the English department was shocked. Many of them are aware of her academic excellence and they are troubled that most of it does not count towards her tenure.

Professor Matthew Greenfield believes Professor Brown's book "Is the second or third most important book in her field. From an academic standpoint it is a best seller."

Professors all over the college know Professor Brown not only as a fellow faculty member; they recognized her as a very important scholar in her academic field. The Banner previously reported that the English Department Chair Janet Dudley believed it would be hard to fulfill the position because of her academic uniqueness and her success in her field. Dudley said, "We will have to fulfill that position, but we may not be able to."

BUSINESS MASTERS PROGRAM

—continued from page 1—

dents will be accepted the first time around and applications are being accepted now. To improve your chances of being accepted, students should apply as early as possible. You can even submit the applications to the Office of Graduate Admissions before taking the GMAT.

Requirements include a baccalaureate in business, accounting, (or a related field like economics, or corporate communications) with a 3.0 GPA or higher; two letters of recommendations from an employer and instructor; and an adequate GMAT score.

The major draw, besides location, has got to be the tuition, which will be \$230 per credit (\$6,900 all together). Compared to St. John's

whopping \$725 per credit for an MS in Business, and Wagner's even steeper, \$800 per credit, CSI business students will save more than \$10,000 by staying in CUNY.

From a business point of view, CSI's decision to offer an the new MS is a smart move. According to the U.S. Department of Education and the National Center for Education Statistics, 120,785 U.S students were honored with an MS in business management in 2000-2001. This number continues to grow every year.

"We're looking forward to our first grad students," said Dr. Nowak.

For GMAT help, visit www.mba.com.

ACCOUNTING SPEAKER

—continued from page 1—

two years later by the New York law firm of Goodman & Earlich. And a small piece of history was made.

Mrs. Gines fought hard against the odds to fulfill her dream, battling rampant bigotry, the hard times of the Depression, and post WWII upheaval. It seems trailblazers run in her family. Her sister Ruth was the first African-American female CPA in the State of Virginia. "I come from a long line of high achievers," she chuckled. But she remains modest and humble, acknowledging her weaknesses. "I don't really consider myself to be a professional public speaker," she said, after admitting to having pre-speech jitters.

Mrs. Gines expressed that she would be personally gratified if her speech and life could influence and inspire somebody—even if it was only one person—to realize their potential, work hard at it, and not be discouraged by obstacles. "I'll be happy if that happens," she said with a smile. After being warmly introduced by Professor Smith and Mr. Olasupo, she spoke with grace and simple charm, talking frankly about her past, and genially answering questions about her career in business. At the conclusion, she was presented with an award—more than fifty years later—recognizing her unprecedented triumph for her sex and race.

Her success and example has helped to make the fields of accounting much more accessible to African-Americans and women. "In my Accounting class there's more men than women," said student Christine Cowan, a senior who intends to become a CPA after graduation. Not to mention the fact that the Accounting Club president, Taiwo Olasupo, is Black, something that would have been unheard of in a college fifty years ago.

Professor Smith praised Olasupo for his skilled support, crediting him with "single-handedly resurrecting the Accounting Club", which he described as "dead in the water."

Although Mrs. Gines has not attained the same level of recognition for her achievements as other African-American pioneers, such as Jackie Robinson or Martin Luther King Jr., she still paved the way for black women in a time when the majority of her race or gender couldn't get good jobs in white male dominated occupations such business and finance. But she notes that there are other many unsung heroes besides her in the fight for racial equality. "I imagine there's a lot of African-American's you've never heard of that have accomplished something worth while," she said. "But that's the thing with history: it's not told from our perspective." Yet in her own unpretentious, quiet way, Mrs. Bernadine Coles Gines has done her part to fill us all in.

New York Times Holds Symposium for Student Newspaper Editors from Across the Country

Matt Safford

On Monday April 4, The New York Times held an "Inside the Times" symposium at their 43rd street building, for editors of student newspapers that participate in the "American Democracy Project."

More than 200 student editors came from as far away as Alaska, and as close as Hunter College, to participate in a nearly seven hour event which promised to "provide [students] with the opportunity to engage editors, journalists, our advertising acceptability group, and editorial."

As students made their way off the elevators, they were greeted by staff who handed each visitor a copy of the day's NY Times, and a plastic bag filled with a program folder, a handbook on ethical journal-

ism, and a pamphlet entitled "Standards of Advertising Acceptability." Also in the bag, was a NY Times-branded notepad

and pen, and a spiral-bound book containing student essays on "The Role of a Newspaper in a Democracy," which participants had been required to submit weeks earlier.

After a breakfast of soda, orange juice, muffins and cookies, and a brief introduction by Times College Marketing Manager Felice Nudelman, NY Times Managing Editor Michael Oreskes took the podium, and the event began in earnest. Besides the occasional break, the day moved quickly and close to schedule, as seven other speakers took the stage, each speaking about their particular role at the NY Times, while giving advice and answering questions

from the students in the audience.

Highlights included Senior Editor for Staffing/National Recruiting and former Sports Editor Neil Amdur, who spoke about his long career, and offered to give advice to any student who wished to send their writing to him via email.

In the afternoon, NY Times Training Editor for Copy Editors Don Hecker led a fast-paced and somewhat rigorous interactive editing seminar which had students editing stories and writing headlines under strict deadlines. Several students who completed the tasks correctly were rewarded with NY Times t-shirts.

The day was capped with a speech by Times Executive Editor Bill Keller, who spoke of the difficulties journalism and newspapers face today and in the

future, with shrinking readership, more competition, a distrustful public and secretive administrations.

After Keller's dis-

cussion, and some eager Q & A, 4 students were chosen at random to attend the New York Times Page One meeting at 4:30. Those not lucky enough to win that great opportunity filed still left the auditorium with a great deal: An inside look at the way the most prestigious newspaper in the country runs from day to day, advice from top professionals in the journalism field, and large collection of essays from student editors from across the country with which to judge their own writing against. That's quite a lot for any aspiring journalist to take home from one day's experience, whether they flew in from across the country, or took the bus across town.

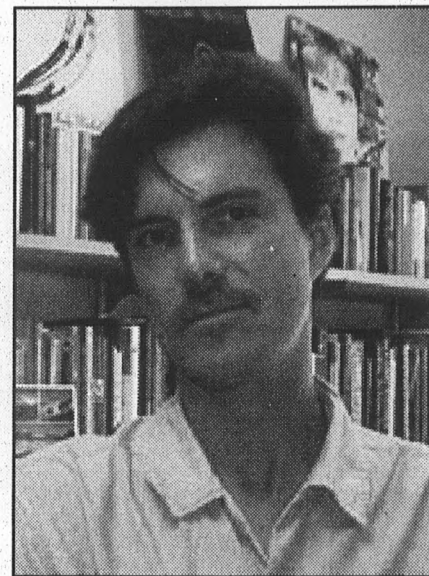
Highlights included Senior Editor for Staffing/National Recruiting and former Sports Editor Neil Amdur, who spoke about his long career, and offered to give advice to any student who wished to send their writing to him via email.

CSI Professor Organizing Anti-War Teach-In

Matt Safford

Inspired by a March conference held at Hunter College High School dealing with militarism and war, CSI Assistant English Professor Ashley Dawson is organizing a teach-in for Thursday May 5th.

"I think it's easy for people to forget that we are occupying Iraq," said Dawson. "The war on terror was framed to be something that could be going on in perpetuity, keeping the American popula-



Ashley Dawson is organizing a teach-in against the War in Iraq on May 5th.

tion locked-down, scared, and obedient."

It's obvious that Dawson has strong feelings about these issues, and therefore no wonder that he is doing what he can to make a difference. While leaving our campus for a position at the CUNY Graduate Center next year, Dawson wanted to do something for students at CSI. "Ideally, I hope that it will engage students, and speak to them," said Dawson. "I would love it if there was more of an active, politicized student population here."

If the teach-in is a success, the event will help to bring that about. Even those students in favor of the war will be forced to think about and articulate their beliefs if they wish to defend their posi-

tions. And that healthy discussion of important issues can only benefit all of us. The alternative of course, is to tune the war out, to go on with our lives as if these events aren't happening. But with thousands continuing to die on both

"I think it's easy for people to forget that we are occupying Iraq," said Dawson. "The war on terror was framed to be something that could be going on in perpetuity, keeping the American population locked-down, scared, and obedient."

sides, the alternative is unconscionable.

Dawson said he also has selfish reasons for the event. "We're in contract negotiations right now, and have been offered a 1.5% pay raise over 4 years. We're just getting slammed," said Dawson. "And obviously, this is going to affect students."

Professor Dawson felt this situation was a symptom of a larger problem, what he called the "corporatization of the university, and the rolling back of public education." These are dangerous trends both for students and society in general. "As [public education] gets rolled back," said Dawson, "there are fewer and fewer options for young people, other than the military."

Details about the event were still sketchy and a bit up in the air at press time, but Professor Dawson noted that he had spoken to organizations such as Goldstar Families For Peace, and the Campus Activist Network, and various other organizations which are involved in counter-recruiting. "As far as I know, there's nothing like that on this campus," said Dawson, "Though I have seen ROTC here, so this seems really important."

While things were far from set in stone as of press time, the plan is for the event to take place right after club hours at 3:30 on May 5. Students interested in finding out more details can contact Professor Ashley Dawson via email at dawson@mail.csi.cuny.edu.

Bigger Better Bottle Bill Just Makes Sense

Kevin SP Mamakas

Members of the CSI chapter of the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG), Student Government, and the American Littoral Society held the third annual Bigger Better Bottle Bill St. Patrick's Day News Conference on March 17, 2005. NYPIRG has been working hard with members of its 21 other college chapters to urge the legislators and Governor Pataki to support

the Bigger Better Bottle Bill.

New York's current Bottle Bill requires a 5 cent refundable deposit on beer and soda containers. More than 80 billion bottles and cans have been returned and recycled through the bottle bill since it was created in 1982; that is more than five million tons of plastic, glass, and metal. NYPIRG has put a lot of effort in making the bottle bill the most successful recycling and litter prevention

program in New York.

"The Green of Saint Patrick's Day represents two different things to this bill," according to Barbara Toborg, the Conservation Coordinator for the American Littoral Society of Jamaica Bay Guardian. "The first is the environment, the second is money."

NYPIRG now wants to update the bottle bill to be bigger and better. Dan Beyer, NYPIRG's Environmental Project Leader, believes that the legislators and Governor Pataki should, "Expand New York's bottle bill to include deposits on

non-carbonated beverages such as bottled water, juice, and sports drinks." He later explained that if the bill required the beverage industry to return all unclaimed deposits, 179 million dollars could be put into local recycling and environmental cleanup programs.

Student Government Senator Joshua Center wore a leprechaun costume to show his support for the bigger better bottle bill. It may sound funny, but Center believes the bottle is no laughing matter. The Bigger Better Bottle Bill will allow the state to reclaim this pot of gold.

Staff and Contributors

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JENNIFER MOSSCROP

MANAGING EDITOR

DAVID MALTZ

COMICS EDITOR

ENRIQUE INOCENTE

ADP EDITOR

MATTHEW SAFFORD

SEX COLUMNIST

JESSICA MENDEZ

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

MELLISSA SEECHARAN

HEAD PHOTOGRAPHER

LUKE CRISALLI

STAFF

ORUME AGBEYEGBE
DOMINIC FIDUCCIA
KEVIN S.P. MAMAKAS

CONTRIBUTORS

ANDREA BATISTA
VANESSA LEIGH DEBELLO
LEE PAPA
CHRISTIAN TUBITO
PAMELA ZAMBRANO

FACULTY ADVISOR

FREDERICK KAUFMAN

IDENTITY THEFT AT CSI

—continued from page 1—

Regardless how personal information is stolen, finding out about what happened to you is never pleasant. "At first I didn't realize how big a problem I had," said Watkins. "It wasn't until I got a call from Capital One Credit one Saturday morning, and they were insisting on payment for purchases I never made, did I realize the scope of the situation. Apparently, whoever opened this account had been able to get access to my mother's maiden name, previous addresses and other very personal information. \$30,000 worth of charges was made. After payment had not been received for three months, the credit card company began to track me down at work and home. Later I found out that a total of 12 credit card accounts had been opened in my name, totaling \$230,000 worth of debt."

Aliseo found out in a similar way. It wasn't until she began receiving calls from creditors did she learn of the theft. "Not only were credit card accounts opened in my name but this person was able to get access to my bank accounts and drain them too," she said. "Later I found out that this woman was even seeing a doctor as me. It really upset me."

For Sharon Aliseo, it went beyond the crime being committed without her knowledge.

Soon she began receiving strange phone calls, which she believed to be from the thief seeking to obtain more information. In a situation like this, victims need to be aware of this possibility and be cautious. Awake! Magazine advises to be leery about giving out personal information over the phone, the internet, or by mail unless you have initiated contact or are sure of whom you are dealing with.

What should you do if you believe you've been a victim of identity theft? Watkins advises getting periodic copies of your credit report, which enables you to review it for any discrepancies. After she learned of the first fraudulent card opened in her name, Watkins investigated the situation further and began contacting the other creditors to explain the situation. Although most didn't believe her at first, consistency and persistency is essential. "Often creditors treat you like a criminal," she said. "They were condescending, talking to me like I was stupid."

After a year and a federal investigation, Watkins was able to repair her credit. Her 350 credit score was brought up to almost its original standing at 750. "What I tell people is that it is not the end of your financial world," she said. "Credit can be repaired rather quickly."

GRIEVANCE OUTCOME AWAITED

—continued from page 1—

If a professor does not complete the minimum criteria at the end of each academic year, they would not be reappointed under this rule. Prof. Brown has been doing an extraordinary amount of work for the literature section of the English department on top of her commitments and responsibilities to her academic community.

"Her teaching must be observed and evaluated by a member of the faculty as well as by students in their student evaluation forms," Bologh said. "She also must have an annual evaluation by the Chair of her department." Prof. Brown admitted that she expects a lot from her students and she sometimes is disliked by them because of her high expectations. Yet she is accepted as an asset to the CSI community by many Professors.

When Professor Fahamisha Brown was denied tenure at CSI by President Marlene

Springer earlier this year, the English department was shocked. Many of them are aware of her academic excellence and they are troubled that most of it does not count towards her tenure.

Professor Matthew Greenfield believes Professor Brown's book "Is the second or third most important book in her field. From an academic standpoint it is a best seller."

Professors all over the college know Professor Brown not only as a fellow faculty member; they recognized her as a very important scholar in her academic field. The Banner previously reported that the English Department Chair Janet Dudley believed it would be hard to fulfill the position because of her academic uniqueness and her success in her field. Dudley said, "We will have to fulfill that position, but we may not be able to."

BUSINESS MASTERS PROGRAM

—continued from page 1—

dents will be accepted the first time around and applications are being accepted now. To improve your chances of being accepted, students should apply as early as possible. You can even submit the applications to the Office of Graduate Admissions before taking the GMAT.

Requirements include a baccalaureate in business, accounting, (or a related field like economics, or corporate communications) with a 3.0 GPA or higher; two letters of recommendations from an employer and instructor; and an adequate GMAT score.

The major draw, besides location, has got to be the tuition, which will be \$230 per credit (\$6,900 all together). Compared to St. John's

whopping \$725 per credit for an MS in Business, and Wagner's even steeper, \$800 per credit, CSI business students will save more than \$10,000 by staying in CUNY.

From a business point of view, CSI's decision to offer an the new MS is a smart move. According to the U.S. Department of Education and the National Center for Education Statistics, 120,785 U.S students were honored with an MS in business management in 2000-2001. This number continues to grow every year.

"We're looking forward to our first grad students," said Dr. Nowak.

For GMAT help, visit www.mba.com.

ACCOUNTING SPEAKER

—continued from page 1—

two years later by the New York law firm of Goodman & Earlich. And a small piece of history was made.

Mrs. Gines fought hard against the odds to fulfill her dream, battling rampant bigotry, the hard times of the Depression, and post WWII upheaval. It seems trailblazers run in her family. Her sister Ruth was the first African-American female CPA in the State of Virginia. "I come from a long line of high achievers," she chuckled. But she remains modest and humble, acknowledging her weaknesses. "I don't really consider myself to be a professional public speaker," she said, after admitting to having pre-speech jitters.

Mrs. Gines expressed that she would be personally gratified if her speech and life could influence and inspire somebody—even if it was only one person—to realize their potential, work hard at it, and not be discouraged by obstacles. "I'll be happy if that happens," she said with a smile. After being warmly introduced by Professor Smith and Mr. Olasupo, she spoke with grace and simple charm, talking frankly about her past, and genially answering questions about her career in business. At the conclusion, she was presented with an award—more than fifty years later—recognizing her unprecedented triumph for her sex and race.

Her success and example has helped to make the fields of accounting much more accessible to African-Americans and women. "In my Accounting class there's more men than women," said student Christine Cowan, a senior who intends to become a CPA after graduation. Not to mention the fact that the Accounting Club president, Taiwo Olasupo, is Black, something that would have been unheard of in a college fifty years ago.

Professor Smith praised Olasupo for his skilled support, crediting him with "single-handedly resurrecting the Accounting Club", which he described as "dead in the water."

Although Mrs. Gines has not attained the same level of recognition for her achievements as other African-American pioneers, such as Jackie Robinson or Martin Luther King Jr., she still paved the way for black women in a time when the majority of her race or gender couldn't get good jobs in white male dominated occupations such as business and finance. But she notes that there are other many unsung heroes besides her in the fight for racial equality. "I imagine there's a lot of African-American's you've never heard of that have accomplished something worth while," she said. "But that's the thing with history: it's not told from our perspective." Yet in her own unpretentious, quiet way, Mrs. Bernadine Coles Gines has done her part to fill us all in.

Eastern Languages Go West: Mandarin Newest CSI Language Offering

Orumé Agbeyegbe

Former Secretary of State, General Colin Powell, a CUNY alumnus from City College utilized a working knowledge of Yiddish, and he also had a staff who spoke the pertinent languages on the international platform. CSI's Director of Modern Languages Media Center John Mark Esposito, speaks four languages, Italian, Spanish, German and English; and he is learning a fifth one. It is increasing apparent that today's global workplace looks favorably toward bilingualism. In addition to American Sign Language, French, Italian, and Spanish, CSI is offering students an opportunity to learn another language—Chinese.

An adjunct at the Business Department, Professor M. Frieland applauded the decision. "I think it's great," he said. "China is going to become an economic powerhouse during the business life of students graduating now and in the future."

Two weeks ago, the Department of Modern Languages held an open house to celebrate the addition of Chinese to the departments' 2005 Fall course offering. Amongst those who attended the event were President Springer, Dean Francisco Soto of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, members of the International Center, Student Academic Advisement officers, as well as staff and faculty of the college. Many

students (current and former), participated in the four-hour event: they played Chinese games, they drank authentic Jasmine tea, and they ate Chinese food. There was also a Chinese artist on the scene who gave each student a souvenir of Chinese calligraphy.

A few days after the open house, Professor Kathryn Talarico, Chair of the Modern Languages Department, explained the origin of the Chinese program. "The whole idea goes back to the thought and the establishment of the new high school that is going to be on our campus." With both Chinese and Spanish being taught at the high school, Professor Talarico said that the school "is going to have a focus on international studies." The idea is that "these students are then going to want to continue at the College of Staten Island." With a program in place, the college will "be able to offer them the opportunity of studying Chinese." She continued, "Given the extraordinary economic and political importance of China in the world economy and in world politics, it is very important for students to have a background in the language."

Before classes can start however, the program had to be organized by an experienced individual. Out of a list of capable candidates from New York's Chinese Teachers Association, Professor Joyce Wang was chosen to be the coordinator of the new Chinese pro-

gram.

Professor Wang, an adjunct professor at Hunter College, which has a well-established foreign language department, began setting up CSI's Chinese program in February. "The main thing for setting up the program is that you have to do the preparation. You have to select the textbook; you have to prepare for the placement tests; you have to set up the website. In addition, Professor Wang has had to organize activities like the open house to promote the Chinese program. It has been "a good collaboration," she said. "Everyone is so supportive. The atmosphere, the department, the teachers, the language lab, the Dean - Dr. Soto., the International Studies program... It is easy to work with such a group."

Professor Wang has been interviewing students for placement in either of the two classes for the fall. The section for absolute beginners is CHN 113, a 4-credit course while the intermediate level is CHN 213. Professor Wang said students who have no prior knowledge of the language are welcome. She said, "Chinese language is a tonal language. It is just like music. The grammar is very easy. They only need to know 3,000 Chinese characters in order to read and write the language." Professors who are native speakers of Chinese will teach the classes. They will meet twice a week and

students are encouraged to use the media lab and hold Chinese conversations in class. "As time goes on," said Professor Wang, "the program will expand and we will be well established in the future."

The Modern Languages Media Center Assistant Director, Valeria Belmonti, describes the place as "a friendly environment ... open to language students." Students can listen to speech tapes, watch foreign films, peruse foreign magazines, and borrow books from the mini library.

Belmonti, a master tutor in Italian, who recently graduated from CSI said, "My boss (John Esposito) and I are studying Chinese, and so I know the difficulty people go through when learning a language. The secret is to do it with fun, and don't be scared of making errors."

One American born Chinese student, Chenting Chan, explained why he registered for the program. "I speak Cantonese. In China, the main dialect is Mandarin." The Cinemas Studies major continued, "It will give me more opportunities. I think it's helpful if I speak Mandarin if I do go to China." Professor Talarico summed it up best, "For students who are interested in broadening their horizons, studying any foreign language won't hurt, but certainly studying Chinese could be one of the most interesting experiences for them."

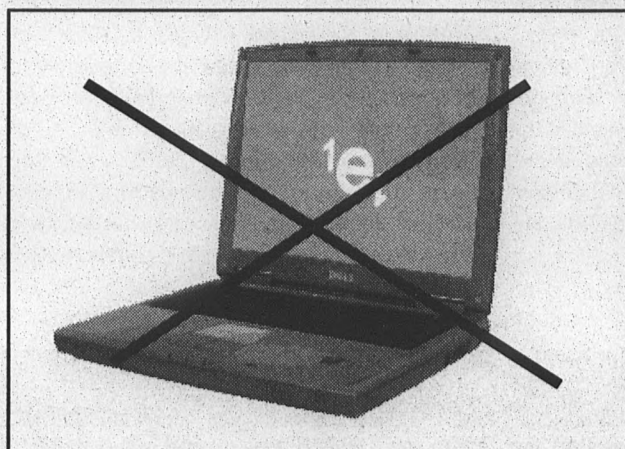
Tired of Lugging Computers Around Campus? Try Laptop Alternatives

Matt Safford

Two ways to always have access to your files, without lugging your computer around campus:

Laptop manufacturers like Michael Dell would like you to believe that no college student should be without a laptop. They'll use every marketing trick up their sleeve. They even offer financing—Dell's is at a nosebleed inducing 20%—since they know many students can't afford to plunk down several hundred dollar bills at once. They want students and parents to believe that laptop computers are as essential to a college education as ballpoints and book bags. But combine the cost, the weight—most laptops are still more than 5 lbs—and the horrible battery life—usually just under a couple hours—with the ever-present danger of getting your laptop stolen, most students might be better off looking for an alternative.

Luckily there are a few decent substitutes which are substantially lighter on your wallet. USB flash drive prices have dropped steeply in the last year. A smart shopper can get their hands on a 128 megabyte version for around \$20, or a 1 gigabyte version—roughly the same storage capacity of 700 floppies—for less than \$100. Search around for one that looks rugged and has a clip for your key-chain—I like Lexar's JumpDrive—and you can carry all your files for the semester in your pocket, and never have to



worry about leaving a paper home again. If you forget to print something, just drop by the library, plug your drive into a USB port on the front of one of the computers there, and print away. If you do all your printing there, you could even save some cash on ink and paper.

But if you are worried about losing your flash drive, or somehow breaking it—though this is unlikely as they have a reputation of surviving trips through washers and dryers—then online storage might be a better option. Upload your files to a password-protected server on the internet and you can go to any computer connected to the web, and all your files are accessible. While there are countless companies which will allow you to do this for a monthly fee, as any college student knows, nothing is better than free.

If you have a Gmail account from Google, there's a great shell extension available for download which allows you to drag files into your Gmail account just like it was a hard drive. Then when you access your Gmail account on the web at another computer, your files are right there for you. If you don't have a Gmail account, have no fear.

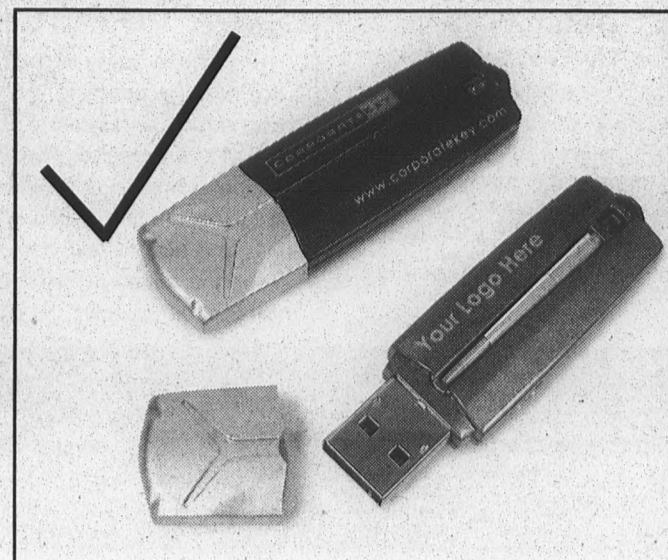
It's easy to get one. All you have to do is get someone who has one to invite you. Ask your friends, or check out the link at the end of this article. It'll give you all the information you need, including where to get the shell extension, and how to set it up. It isn't hard, and shouldn't take you more than ten minutes. After that, you've got all the online storage space—two gigabytes—you'll ever need for documents, even if you're planning on getting a

PhD.

If you already have a laptop, but are sick of lugging it around, one of these options might be better for you as well. Textbooks are enough to drag you down. Students don't need another heavy burden, or one more ounce of debt. Give one of these options a try. Your back and your bank account will thank you.

Check out this link for where to get the shell extension file and how to set it up: <http://www.engadget.com/entry/1234000640033887/>

If you don't already have a Gmail account, check the reader comments at the link above, or send me an email at Matt.Safford@gmail.com. I have 50 invites looking for happy homes.



From the Editor's Desk

Didn't most colleges across the country have their spring break at the end of March? What's up with that? When we get back, we only have three weeks of class left. That means we only have a week to pack in wild hedonism, alcoholism, and criminal activities. Enjoy it! The stereotype attached to Spring Break is the drunken hook-up on a Cancún beach with some random person, from a state you'll probably never visit.

I hear a lot of my friends say how great single life is. But they are the same ones who complain about the guy or girl they hooked up with the night before, how the girl/guy scammed them out or how they can't find anyone normal, etc. When I'm at a club or a bar, I always find myself saying "God I'm glad I'm not single." Take Wednesday night for example. After work, I met my good friend Lou for a few drinks at O'Reilly's pub on W. 31st.

While Lou was giving out his phone number to any girl that looked decent through his beer-goggled eyes, a forty-something with bottle-cap glasses was hitting on me—talking about his eyeglass prescription or some other meaningless drivel. I frantically scanned the bar for my friend to bail me out, but he was talking to a girl from London and laughing at me from afar. Even the good looking guys who I talked to reeked of bad pick-up lines.

Single-life has to be overrated. My boyfriend and I have been together for almost seven years and I've never been happier. We're best friends. When I go out I don't have to worry about impressing someone or acting like someone I'm not. I can have a good time with friends and not worry about someone spiking my cranberry and vodka. Remember this wisdom on the week-long exile from CSI—the one they're passing off as "Spring Break."

By the way, have you taken a look at to the right of this column? What do you see? That's right, Banner sex columnist Jessica Mendez getting bashed—once again—left and right. Of all the writers and columnists who have published in the Banner, no one receives as much of this kind of mail as Jessica Mendez. Is sex still such a controversial topic?

As editor, I should say that The Banner truly appreciates your letters (that's why we publish them) and your close reading (that's why we publish). But as a college student, as a female, as a firm believer in First Amendment privileges, and as someone who does not believe in condemning others for actions that do not hurt other people, I have a couple of questions. What is a better place than a college newspaper to talk about sexual mores? Why must a college newspaper sound like your high school sex education teacher? Haven't we heard enough lectures about contraception? Of course, we should all practice safe sex. And might we not have the right to discuss sex in the context of lingerie, dancing or whatever else floats your boat? Hmm.....

—Jen Moss crop

FIRE THE SEX COLUMNIST!

How much can the smart readers at CSI take before The Banner weeds out that shamelessly sleazy, nauseatingly narcissistic pain-in-the-ass nymphomaniac called Jessica Mendez? I don't know about the staff over there, but I, as well as many other students are just plain sick of her incessant babbling, meaningless rants, and disgusting exhibitionism. Why has she been allowed to stay at The Banner for so long? She has nothing even remotely interesting to say! If she wants to air here menses-saturated laundry, let her do it to a feminist counselor, or a feminist talk show, or better yet, a glass of scotch. But don't let her release her putrid creative juices into a seemingly "respectable" publication that hormonally normal people read to be intellectually (not clitorally) stimulated!

On one hand, it seems like The Banner tries to put forth a creditable image on their first few pages (which I enjoy immensely), but pages 6 through 8 or 9 descend into totally juvenile (and rather blasé) comics, and ridiculously unoriginal, feminist copycat crap! Does the honorable Ms. Mendez believe that she is being "open-minded," or "sexually liberated?" She accomplishes nothing but showing how low her self-esteem really is, because a woman who was confident and mature about her body, sexuality, and attractiveness wouldn't have to keep faithfully reminding people—who don't care—about it! If she chooses to delude herself, let that remain her twisted problem, but don't subject emotionally stable people to her constant stream of written diarrhea.

I daresay that the majority, if not all, of the campus community would gratefully rather read informative, CSI-related articles written by serious journalists rather than the space-consuming, sex-crazed slop that "Leeza Sellabassee" churns out of her "Holy Canal" every issue. Off with her head!

(P.S. I will be watching with great interest to see if you publish this letter in its entirety. Because it hits so close to home, I have a feeling you will "edit" out any little statements that might make for bad PR. But that would be the whole letter. Catch my drift?)

—Briana Holmes-Stevenson

Dear Briana:

Your drift has been caught in its unedited entirety. Thank you for your close reading of the Banner.

FLAY THE SEX COLUMNIST!

There is a thin line between risqué and down right raunchy, and the Life, Love, and Sex column in the March 28th, 2005 issue of The Banner definitely crossed that line.

I understand that as a member of the MTV generation I am obligated to oppose any and all censorship and embrace all instances of free speech, or

free expression of thought, but at running the risk of betraying my peers I have to say that that was pretty much disgusting, irrelevant, and inappropriate!

Reading "Necessary Roughness" was like watching cheesy pornography, or skimming a lusty paperback novel. The last thing I would expect to find in an academic newspaper is a story about a night of rough sex. It is struggling so hard (the story) to be mature, and modern (in the image of shows like our dearly departed "Sex & the City") that it comes off as totally immature. Perhaps if it somehow fit into a larger story having something, anything, to do with the lives of the students on campus, or the dangers of one night stands, just maybe then it would have been more appropriate.

It is irresponsible of the publication as a whole to allow a story about an enjoyable "roll in the hey" without even mentioning ANY form of contraceptive involved. Rough sex may be fun, but there are probably some educators/activists who would argue that things like herpes, gonorrhea, and syphilis are just plain rough.

Beyond inappropriate, it was embarrassing. Think of how many administrators were probably a little thrown off by the content of the column. It's one thing to write about the rise in certain sexual practices and behaviors, but to totally put it all out there for everyone to see has to be a little degrading. Sex is not something that should be exploited as a dirty little secret, but there are some things that should be kept in the bedroom. With STDs spreading like wildfire, and the number of unplanned pregnancies at large number among young girls, maybe an academic paper should take up the quest of educating its readers about how sex affects life and love.

If the column is going to be about dangerous sexual behaviors and vulgar details, why not ask for general submissions of the most explicit sexual tales the students at CSI have to offer, and choose the raunchiest one every two weeks? I'm sure at least male readership would go up significantly.

All in all, I was grossed out (and so was my mom!)

—Tara Mastrangelo

Jessica Mendez responds:

I notice that Tara Mastrangelo used the term "roll in the hey" in her letter. Actually, it should be "roll in the HAY," as in the straw-like substance found in barns and such. Perhaps Mastrangelo should focus on understanding the nature of the euphemism and improving her own writing as opposed to wasting everyone's time criticizing mine. Only then might I consider addressing anything she has to say. In the meantime, she can continue reading the column that incenses her (and her mom!) so much. I was gratified to see how much attention has been paid to it.

CSI REFURBISHES STUDENT COMPUTERS

The student accessible computers needed upgrading, to say the least. The existing machines were decrepit, outdated, and cosmetically unsightly.

Recently, current systems possessing superior quality screens, modern processors, and high-speed internet were placed in the 1L Computer Labs and in that stuffy little back room on the second floor of 1C. Afterwards, the Labs were mobbed, and there was an ardently long wait to use one. Last semester the whole semester was outfitted, even down to most of building lounge areas.

Plus, comfy office-style chairs were installed with the brand-new computers on the Library's first floor. What an improvement! To say nothing of the innovative new College Information Xchange program, which makes networking with professors or classmates and obtaining notification of current events student-oriented. Strangely enough, the most personally gratifying facet of the technology renovation were the stickers that read "Your student technology fees have helped to make this equipment possible." It's refreshing to know that those seemingly valueless fees levied on the bills every semester get recycled in a useful way. Keep it up, CSI!

—Matthew Beck

Did you know?

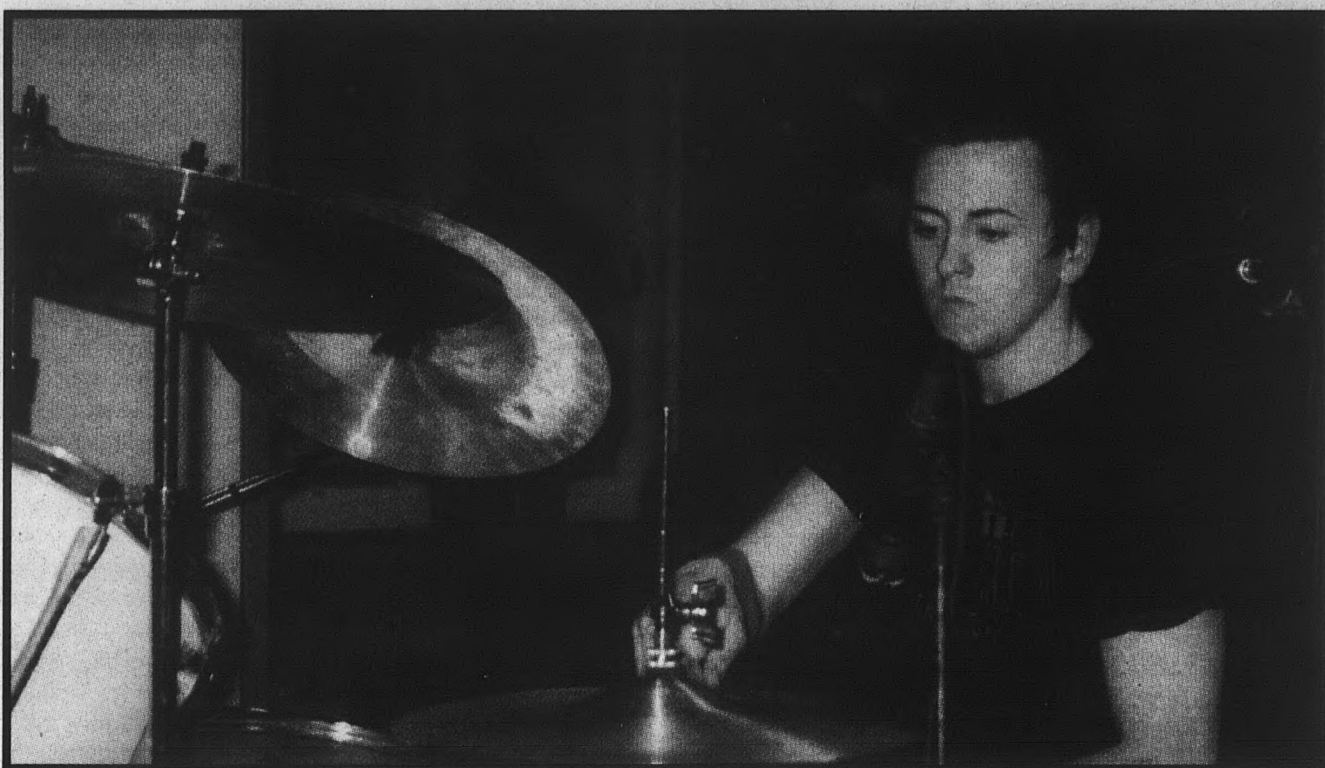
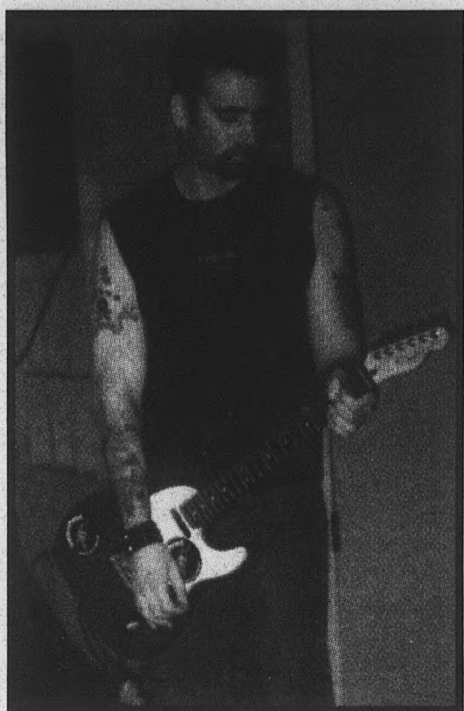
CSI has partnered up with The Princeton Review to offer prep course for the GRE standardized testing, as well as the GMAT, LSAT, and SAT testing. For those who have never even heard of the GRE, it is for students continuing on with their education in graduate programs. The College offers CSI students and alumni who are interested in the prep courses a \$100.00 discount on core course registration.

Of the 12, 422 students that are enrolled in CSI, only 1,373 are enrolled in the graduate program, and only 106 are studying fulltime. As I walked across campus from 1A to 2A, I began to feel a little discouraged or disappointed with the people who are supposed to be providing me with information. The people in career placement were really helpful in helping me out as to where to go and who I should ask to get the information that I need, but it was like once I got there it was as if I was an inconvenience to them. I explained why I was there and what I was looking for, and all I got out of it was a piece of paper with a number to the Princeton Review Information.

Although I may not have had the most positive experience I was pleased to know that the opportunity was there... and we are not at such a disadvantage. So for those who are interested in prep courses following graduate programs, The College of Staten Island does offer them. For more information please visit Room 2A-201 or call (718) 982-2010.

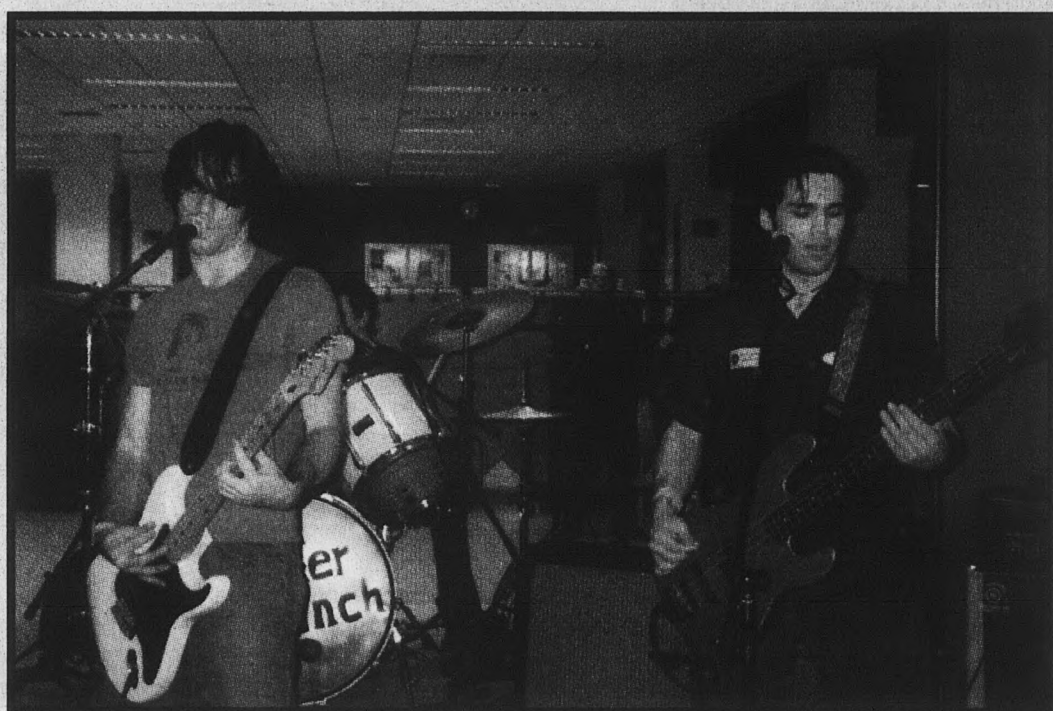
—Tracy Tierney

4/13 at the Campus Center

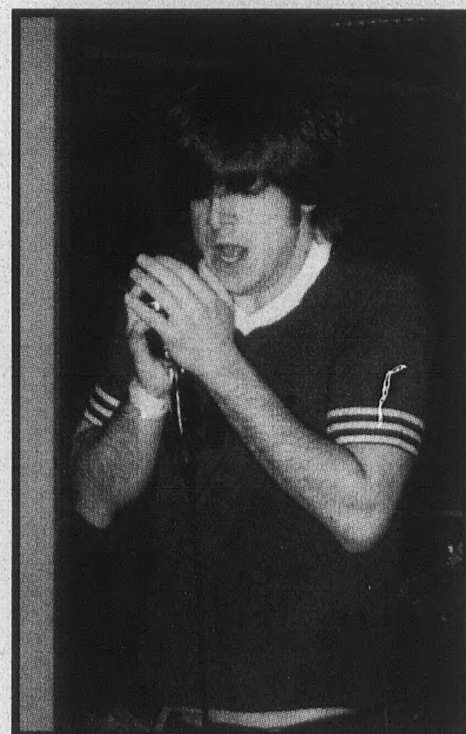


SUCKER

PUNCH



***NEAR FOR-
EVER***



CSI Rocked!

Photography:
Pamela Zambrano



**JOHN
HONEST
AND
THE
LIARS**



**ANOTHER
NOBODY**

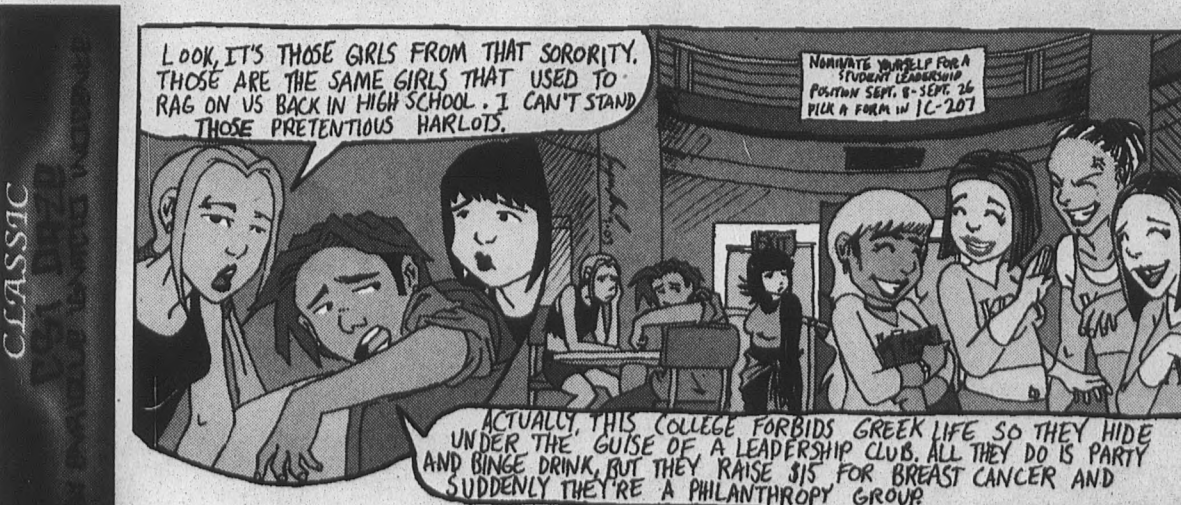
**NEAR FOR-
EVER**



COMICS

SUNDAY SKOOL™

ENRIQUE IGNACIO INOCENTE
DRAWN



GREAT MINDS THINK DIFFERENTLY.

Special Financing and \$400 Rebate Available for College Grads.**



Starting at
xB \$14,245*



Starting at
tC \$16,515*



Starting at
xA \$13,045*

Ask your Scion dealer about the College Graduate Program \$400 Rebate.**

Standard features for all include:

Pioneer CD Stereo / MP3 capable and satellite radio ready / Anti-lock brakes / A/C / Power windows, door locks, and outside mirrors / 5-year, 60,000-mile Powertrain warranty†

To find your nearest Scion dealer, visit scion.com
or call 1-866-70-SCION.



what moves you
scion.com

*MSRP includes delivery, processing, and handling fees. Excludes taxes, title, license, and optional equipment. Actual dealer price may vary. **Rebate is offered by Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. to qualified customers financing the purchase of new, limited Scion vehicles through Scion dealers and Toyota Financial Services. Rebate is non-cash credit to the finance transaction. Available for a limited time. Ask your participating Scion dealer for details. Some restrictions apply. †See your Scion dealer for additional details on the Scion Limited Warranty. ©2005 Scion and the Scion logo are trademarks of Toyota Motor Corporation and Toyota is a registered trademark of Toyota Motor Corporation. For more information, call 866-70-SCION (866-76-2468) or visit scion.com.

CLIMB A DIFFERENT CORPORATE LADDER.



Improve your leadership skills and earn an additional income while you train close to home and family. With over 120 careers to choose from, the Army Reserve is your chance to make a difference in your life and in the future of your country. Find out more at GOARMYRESERVE.COM or call 1-800-USA-ARMY.

Call 718-981-1133 for
more info on serving
**Your Career and
Your Country**

Where: 45 Bay Street, Staten Island, NY
When: MON to SAT 9 am to 6 pm
Who: SSG John Meadows

ARMY RESERVE



AN ARMY OF ONE

Life.... Love... &

SEX

Meta Madness! Where our intrepid sex columnist reflects on controversy . . .

Jessica Mendez

Two columns left. Then, the Fates willing, I will be taking the walk that all college students aspire to. I'm sure this will truly upset those of you who spend your time writing angry letters; what else will you do with your time? You'll actually have to find a hobby! I'm sorry I have to move on and continue living this thing called life, but I'll humor you all and be meta for a moment.

I thought about leaving this reflection until the final column, but when I began writing what would have been this column, I realized that I already knew what would happen: Shock! Outrage! Anger! Fire the sex columnist! Immoral! My editor asked me to address the nature of these letters, and I thought, why not? Besides, arts editor Mellissa Seecharan has done a great job probing the halls of the Museum of Sex.

That being said, I find the entire phenomenon fascinating. I honestly didn't think that I would ever inspire such strong reactions in other people. I came back to the Banner after a semester-long hiatus ready to write anything, I was mad about writing, hungry for it. When Professor Kaufman asked me if I would be interested in writing a sex column, I thought it was a great idea. I had mentioned it in the past, but I never thought it would come to fruition. I admit; I had my fears about writing a column dealing with sex. Believe it or not, I was actually rather shy about sex

in the past, but I thought it was about time I faced my own preconceived notions and challenged the things I had been told about sex. I never expected for people to respond so forcefully.

At first, the novelty of the sex column alone was enough to generate a buzz. Originally, the column was all about the adventures of a single girl. In some way, it still is; however, I wanted to do more than a running story of my friends and me. I realized that I was learning a lot about sex and relationships, and I wanted to share that with others. I wanted to take my readers along with me, to see the mistakes I've made.

Some ask why I would be willing to be so graphic and (dare I say?) pornographic. I say, why not? We are in college; this is the time to mess up, to learn, to share. Sex is a part of that. Writing a clichéd "how-to" column would have been too easy. I wanted to challenge people's conceptions of sex, their ideas about the human body and the stigmas associated with sex.

Sure, I could have gone all Savage Love and answered readers' questions and concerns. (This is not to say I don't admire Dan Savage; the man is a genius and I admire, respect, and adore his writing. But I digress.) That's not my style. Instead, I observed what was going on around me. Surprise, my columns actually deal with

things that are going on around me and (gasp!) other people!

Honestly, this column is not the definitive bible of my life. Sex is important to me, but it's not what makes me who I am. There's a lot more to life than sex, but the philosophy and practices of sex are so complex that it provides me with more than enough material. Most people think that they know me because of my column. Those people are completely delusional and ignorant. Oftentimes, the most intimate details of my life have nothing to do with sex. Those are the things I keep close to my heart, the things that only the closest of friends and family will ever know, if I even choose to share it with them. Only the narrow-minded would ever think that I would be so stupid as to tell everyone all of the things I find most sacred.

There were a few times I did divulge some of the deeper parts of my life; those columns were not nearly so controversial. That, my friends, is the point! Why is sex seen as the most sacred act, while we tend to discard the simple things, the smallest gestures, the sweet hand-holding, the in-jokes that make lovers more than fuck buddies? Sex isn't shameful, which is why I speak so candidly (though not, as you may think, exhaustively) about my own sexual adventures. I want people to reevaluate what really means something in their lives.

I do believe that we should respect our

bodies; I have struggled with mine, something I have discussed in my column. Sex has actually taught me to appreciate my body. Sex, when used in the right way, can absolutely teach us about what our bodies are capable of. That doesn't translate to "GO HAVE SEX WITH EVERYONE!"

One of my close friends recently told me, "Jess, I used to hate you before I met you! I read your column and I thought, 'Who the hell is she?'" That, I responded, is a very common reaction. She then said, "But then I got to know you, and I realized that people are just jealous because you're so open about sex." She now reads my column regularly. Maybe she's right; maybe not. Jealousy, "morals," snobbery—who the hell can dissect a person based simply on a letter? I don't know who these people are that write these letters. What I do know is, that no matter what they say, I won't stop writing what I want and learning from my own experiences and the experiences of others. My readers have always been invited to do the same. If I upset you, you can turn the page. A novel concept, but an effective one.

Phew! Only one more sex column to go. Time for me to slip into saucy sex columnist mode for the last time. What will I write about for the column's climax? You'll have to wait with baited breath and, I'm sure, raised pens.

—Jessica Mendez

Pin-ups and Pornography: Probing the Museum

Mellissa Seecharan

Cavemen did it. The Greeks did it. Your parents do it—don't lie, you know they do. So how do you pay homage to the act that is guaranteed to satisfy and disgust, and be down right salacious and divine as it is continuously considered the most taboo topic in history? Build a museum, of course.

The Museum of Sex holds nothing back as it displays exhibits dealing with sex, sex, and more sex. But fear not! As raunchy and downright unappealing as some of the displays may be, they're all injected with educational eccentricity. Opened in September 2002, the museum has kept New Yorkers and tourists titillated for nearly 3 years, and doesn't appear to be slowing down.

MoSex's building resembles one of its northern, and more upscale neighbors on Fifth Avenue. It's tiny square windows act as teasers for what awaits inside. Everything from faux fur covered (PETA must be happy) handcuffs to books and posters are displayed for passerbys who are either shocked or amused by the



Betty Page: The grand dame of pin-up vixens.

sights. Luckily for them, the gift shop is the first room you enter before getting to the really good stuff. The dimly lit store mainly offers visitors a wide array of books like *You're Not That Into Him* Either, volumes on Japanese sex culture, and pop-up Kama Sutra materials. Games, postcards, and a fairly g-rated selection of sex toys can also be bought.

Once you've spent your last dollar on a "how to get better sex by contorting your body into positions that are not humanly possible" book your only choice is to venture on into an abyss of heavenly sin.

The temporary exhibit, "Vamps & Virgins," chronicles the evolution of the pin-up from 1860-1960. On each brightly colored wall hangs not only the evolution of pin-up girls, but also of women. With its start during the Civil War, pin-ups have come a long way, and then some. The photo timeline displays the poses of the late 19th and early 20th centuries which, although graphic, portrayed women as heavenly bodies. From images depicting a man and woman in four different positions aptly called "Untitled Hardcore Maid and Master," to incredibly short films which show the sensuality of women during each decade, these photos are nothing less than art compared to today's gals with their gratuitous "beaver" shots and failed "ooh" expressions—two poses that have been redefined to the -enth degree.

With sexy pin-ups on the walls and a crowd of men (and women) who yearn for evermore sexual erudition, MoSex's

"Stags, Smokers, & Blue Movies" exhibit gets to the bottom of the origins of American porn films.

The dark gray room, scarcely lit by eight projectors all running numerous early films, feels more like a classy porn store if one were to ever exist. Raised video platforms on the floor are used as movie screens where patrons can watch 5-10 minute silent porn movies, many of which make some of today's porn flicks seem tame. The oldest known surviving American stag film "A Free Ride," from 1915, depicts a threesome, and hides not a single thing. I saw things I thought I'd never see in those movies. Talk about acrobatics . . . Almost every kind of sex can be seen during these films, but some acts may just leave you gagging or giggling like a third grader. And rightfully so.

The Museum of Sex teaches us one thing—sex has played a huge part in shaping society, which means you should embrace it. So, whether you like it passionate, dirty, illegal or you're just a virgin trying to get by in a sexed up world, MoSex is for you. All you need to bring is a friend or two, and an open mind.

Technologically Savvy Revival of Marlowe's Faustus Staged at CSI

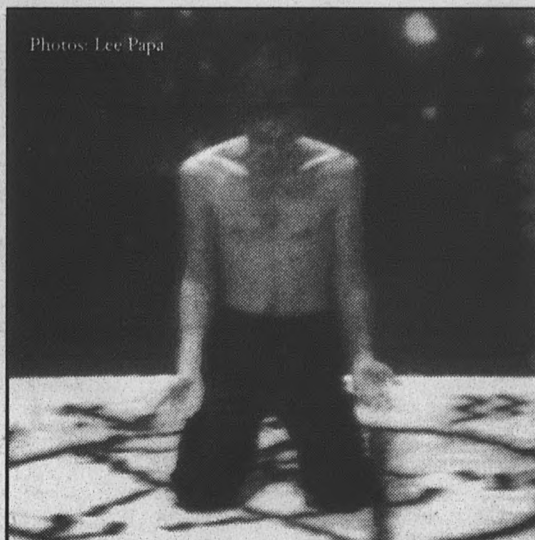
Andrea Batista

In a time when most of us would probably want to sell our soul to the devil to gain the power to simply pass our last week of exams, it is useful to look at others that have done so. The Lab Theater in 1P recently offered up some excellent advice on this matter in the form of a modern adaptation of a popular Renaissance-era play.

Director and CSI English Professor Lee Papa staged an inspired adaptation of "The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus". What set this performance apart from others was its combination of theatrics and technology. With a larger budget and more resources than most Lab Theater productions, the play exceeded expectations.

The set was impressive; several large stacks of books were lit eerily with a purple hue, and a large desk on the left side competed for attention with a large projection screen at the center of the stage.

"What you're seeing here is a greatly cut version of the script: characters, scenes, entire subplots have been edited out, but all the words the actors speak are Marlowe's," wrote Lee Papa about his directorial choices. This allowed for big changes that both enriched and mod-



Photos: Lee Papa

ernized the play, but also drew more attention to the things that did not work in the performance. Some of the new big ideas were the casting of Lauren D'Aversa as Wagner and Michelle Philipin as two scholars in one. One Michelle spoke through a DVD player Michelle's other character carried in her hands, creating an interesting split personality. The real Michelle was deadpan and the digital Michelle's recorded delivery was animated. The director also cut most of Faustus' friends from the play, leaving only Valdes, played by Chris Russell, whose androgynous manner-

isms seduced Faustus into the dark arts in ways quite sensual and intriguing despite the detractors of his costume and make-up which made him seem like a generic modern goth kid.

The most celebrated change was the integration of film into the play, to recreate the short passages in which Faustus displayed his newly acquired powers in ridiculous ways. Some of these

scenes were creative, while others were just silly.

Despite all the production value and the carefully selected music, the performance itself lacked strength in the most essential ingredient, acting. While Director Lee Papa purposefully wished to portray a younger title character, Christopher Wegenaar's portrayal of Faustus captured neither the image nor the appropriate attitude for the role of a doctor. Jamie Lee's barefoot interpretation of Mephistophilis seemed too overpowering and controlling of Faustus, who is supposed to be in control. However,

Wegenaar's almost skeletal appearance did resemble a man who had neglected his body for knowledge.

The staging of the scene in which the seven deadly sins appear to entice Faustus, was a far greater problem. Following nearly incomprehensible recorded introductions by the actor playing



Lucifer, the dance sequences seemed to be too long and not at all thought out. If anything, these sins served as an unrelated independent dance performance rather than an enticement for Faustus. They came off as an indulgence of the director, who perhaps had more resources than he knew what to do with.

The aspects that worked however, far outshined those which didn't, and the show was a success both in terms of staging and ticket sales. Leaving the performance, the few of us that wanted some kind of advisement to decide if we should bargain our soul, ended up with more worries than when we started. But as most of us know, that's exactly how advisement sessions at CSI usually work.

RETROVIEW ICHI THE KILLER RETROVIEW

Enrique Inocente

Ichi the Killer takes place in the gritty underbelly of Shinjuku, a Japanese metropolitan area. It tells the tale of Kakehara (Tadanobu Asano), a sadistic yakuza killer, and Ichi (Nao Omori), an emotionally unhinged killing machine. Determined to find those responsible for murdering his boss, Kakehara tears apart and tortures rival gangs for information. Some of his favorite methods include showing spikes into faces, tearing off cheeks, slicing nipples, and hanging people on hooks by the flesh of their back. This is all shown in unflinching, graphic detail!

As it turns out, ex-cop Jijii (Shinya Tsukamoto) is masterminding everything in an attempt to turn the gangsters of Japan against each other. His weapon in this battle is Ichi. Jijii uses hypnosis to implant false memories into Ichi to make him think he is killing kids that raped a girl he knew in high school.

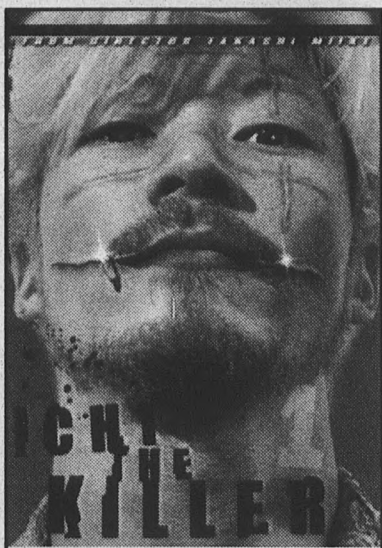
Sadomasochism plays a huge role in this film as a majority of the characters either get off on giving pain, receiving it, or both. One scene in particular has Ichi's love interest Karen (Alien Sun) telling him how sexually aroused she gets thinking about being slowly dis-

membered. She is unpleasantly surprised when Ichi takes her seriously, and regrets ever confining in him. I don't want to give away what happens, but let's just say this scene doesn't end well for Karen.

Ichi the Killer is based upon a popular and ultra violent manga (Japanese comic book), and director Takashi Miike stays true to the stylish violence depicted in manga. The violence in the movie is so outrageous that it's almost like watching a living comic book. People are cut in half and peeled apart like a banana, limbs fly apart with reckless abandon, and blood spurts out of arteries like a wild hose. This is by far the most violent movie ever made in the history of cinema, and if it did have an MPPA Rating, it would probably be X. Hell, the

beginning title of the movie materializes in a splatter of semen.

Takashi Miike is a director noted for breaking taboos, and this film is just another example. Ichi the Killer is definitely not for everyone. I recommend this movie only to genre specialists, cult movie fanatics, and those with a strong stomach. Personally, I loved the movie, but that's because I'm a sick individual. I give this movie my highest rating: four out of four dismembered corpses.



GOSPEL FEST

Featuring
Rev. Timothy Wright
and the
NY Fellowship Mass Choir

Monday, May 9th
8:00pm-10:00pm
1P-Concert Hall



Rev. Timothy Wright is no stranger to gospel music. He has become an anchor for gospel choirs across the country. His music is considered "Sunday Morning Ready" with a diverse array of traditional and contemporary gospel music.

Minister Bruce Emory of the Praise Tabernacle Church will be the M.C.
Additional attractions include:
Praise Dancers, Soloist and a Devotional Team!

Admissions is FREE for CSI students with VALID CSI ID.
All other participants will be required to pay a \$5.00 fee.
For tickets call (718) 982-2780 or go to the 1P-Box Office.
For more information about this event call
(718) 982-3093.



Sponsored by the Program Development Committee.
This event is CLUE certified, Personal Growth (PG)



SPORTS

May 2, 2005

*Baseball's Slow Start Due to Significant Lineup Changes***Christian Tubito**

The CSI Dolphins kicked off the 2005 season with very little success, winning only 1 game in their first 12. This path is similar to the 2004 season, when the team started out by winning only 1 of their first 8 games. Despite their rocky start, the team finished with a respectable record of 14-15, won the CUNYAC against John Jay and was rewarded with five players being chosen for the CUNYAC (City University of New York All Conference) Baseball All-Stars. Since the 2004 season, Coach Cali (who has now won 5 CUNYAC championships) has been forced to make some significant changes to the starting lineup and pitching rotation after losing some of those key players, from the CUNYAC All-Stars list.

Among the CSI players that were honored in the 2004 season by CUNYAC were Nick Secchini, Chris Reyes, Tom Wolhfit, Erik Zinke, and Michael Liconti. In the present 2005 season, only Wolhfit and Liconti have returned for another year.

Secchini, who was awarded as the Most Outstanding pitcher of the 2004 season said, "Last season was great, we played with a lot of heart and you could really feel the team pulling together as the season went along." Secchini was forced to take the 2005 season off, after having shoulder surgery during the summer of 2004. Secchini posted astonishing numbers with a 1.05 ERA and a 6-0 record. He had two appearances in which he pitched shutouts and by the end of the season had struck out 70 batters in only 43 innings pitched.

"My success last year was because of the support my team and coach gave me," said Secchini. "I feel like I've let the team down, not being able to help them out when they need me now. It's painful to watch them lose and know there is nothing I could do to help." Secchini is going through rehabilitation daily and hopes to be fully recuperated by the end of the season. He has not decided if he will return to CSI for the 2006 season, which would be his senior year, or if he will test his skills at a higher level of play.

Reyes, who was awarded Catcher of the Year for the 2004 season, posted high numbers with his bat, making his presence felt throughout the league. "CSI has an underrated baseball program and there is a lot of talent coming out of this school," said Reyes. "But I felt like I needed more. I've played in better leagues with more experienced players, and that's why I felt I needed to move on." Reyes posted a .413 batting average with a .524 slugging percentage and a .479 on-base percentage. Reyes had previously played in New Jersey at Brookdale College, a two-



Only Tom Wolhfit and Michael Liconti have returned for another season of CSI baseball. 2004's star, Nick Secchini has been sidelined with a shoulder injury.

year program that has one of the most prestigious baseball programs in the Tri-State area. He now plays for a Staten Island Men's League and is not attending any college. "We lacked team chemistry at the beginning of the season," said Reyes. "We learned to work as a team and you could see the improvements we made as the season went along."

Reyes' backup in the catcher position, Rich Castaldo, also posted good numbers batting .292 with 3 homeruns and 14 hits. Castaldo, who left the team to play at St. Francis in Brooklyn said, "coach Cali is a great guy and I loved playing for him, but some of the players on our team were more into themselves rather than our team as a whole. I moved to another school for better opportunities, where I'm guaranteed a starting position." At St. Francis now, Castaldo is struggling, batting .222 with 5 hits in 27 at-bats.

Zinke, who was awarded one of the four outfielder awards, left the team after graduation, leaving a mark to be remembered for seasons to come. He had won Rookie of the Year honors in 2001 at Baruch College and transferred the following season, to bring his skills back home. He had an amazing .385 batting average, with 6 doubles, 3 triples, 3 homeruns and a team-leading 32 RBI's and 37 hits in the 2004 season. Zinke, who was unavailable for comment, left the team after 2 Division III All-American sea-

sons and last years CUNYAC All-Star season.

The two remaining CUNYAC All-Stars from the 2004 season, Wolhfit (DH) and LiConti (Utility), need to be leaders in the 2005 season, if the team wants a repeat of last year's success. LiConti has not done too well so far, batting only .222 with 6 hits, after a .380 season last year. Liconti said, "I'm in a small slump right now, I'm putting the bat on the ball and hitting it well, [I'm] just placing it wrong. I need to be a leader on the team this year, and my play so far has been letting the team down. Coach Cali has been giving me a few pointers, and I'm sure my game will improve soon."

On the other hand, Wolhfit, who posted a .407 batting average with 24 hits and 3 homeruns, has continued his all-star ways this season, batting .367 with a team-leading 11 hits. "I'm going to do what I can to help our team win," said Wolhfit, "but there's only so much I can do. We need to make a name for themselves. Just like last year we had a few guys step up, this is others chance to do the same."

If the Dolphins want to make a triumphant run for the title this season, they will need experienced players such as Jaime Lee, Anthony Hillery and Adam Cotayo to create wins for the rest of the season.

Lee, who hit .328 last season with 2

homeruns is hitting .259 with 7 hits. Though these are fairly average numbers, Lee needs to bat well over .300 and distinguish himself among of CUNY's top players.

Hillery who batted .347 with 17 hits last year is moving at a slow pace, only batting .231. Hillery, who leads the team in at-bats, needs to produce more than a .231 average to give the Dolphins a chance. There is no team that can be successful with its leadoff man batting below .250. Hillery will play a major role in the future, and it is doubtful CSI will repeat without production in the number 1 slot.

This season, Adam Cotayo will be the key to the Dolphins pitching. In 2004 Cotayo had a so-so ERA of 6.75 in his 43.2 innings pitched. Cotayo had more innings thrown than CUNYAC all-star Nick Secchini, showing Coach Cali's confidence in Cotayo's arm to keep the runs off of the scoreboard. Cotayo has thrown 20 innings so far this season and improved his ERA to 4.50. If the Dolphins can produce runs similar to last year, Cotayo will lead them to many victories.

The Dolphins, have a ton of talent on the team, it is just a question of who will set up, when will they do it, and will it be in time to save the season. Coach Cali is confident in his team and would agree that this will be a season to remember. As of April 19th, the team has gone 8-14. Against CUNY teams, they are 7-1.