

THE BANNER

March 28, 2005

Tuition Hike and Faculty Diversity Top Concerns at Town Hall Meeting



CSI President, Marlene Springer



CSI Provost, David Podell



Vice President for Student Affairs, Carol Jackson

Melissa Secharan & David Maltz

March 23rd—CSI President Marlene Springer and Student Government sponsored a Town Hall Meeting in the Campus Center where students were able to express their concerns about the college to a panel of seven administration members, including Vice President for Student Affairs, Carol Jackson and Angelo J. Aponte, Vice President for Finance and Administration.

"This meeting brings together the community, where you can share your concerns, ideas, and questions with Deans to the President," said Moderator and Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Michael Daniels.

Following brief opening remarks by President Springer and Student Government President Dwight Dunkley, all in attendance were given two minutes to ask questions or make a statement to the panel.

The primary issue raised during the meeting was the proposed tuition hike that may reach \$250 per semester or

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CSI Scientist Warns of Global Warming *Severe Flooding on Staten Island Possible*

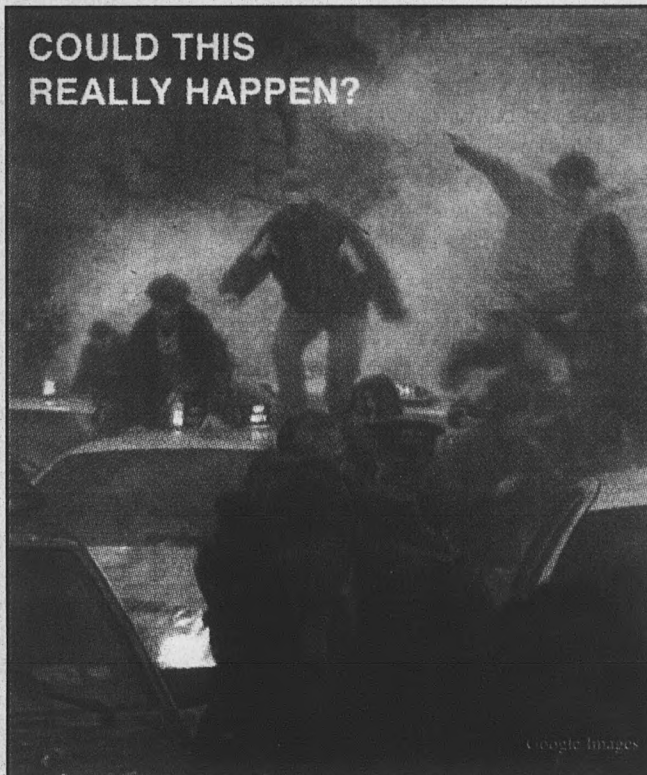
Massimo LoBuglio

When students from SPHERE (Students Promoting a Healthy Environment, Rescuing our Earth) approached President Springer to ask how CSI might raise awareness of global warming, the President agreed to consider a proposal calling on CSI to reduce its contribution to climate change.

Students, with the advisement of Dr. Betram Ploog of the Psychology Department (and a member of the Union of Concerned Scientists), worked on the climate proposal, which calls on CSI to take significant measures to reduce its own impact on global warming. SPHERE members hope that CSI's measures might translate into greater community awareness about the issue.

"The local community should be more informed about the effect they have on global warming," said CSI student Karen Chin, secretary of CSI's environmental campus club SPHERE. "Many Staten Islanders might not even realize that their everyday choices like driving

COULD THIS REALLY HAPPEN?



Google Images

gas guzzling SUV's on some level, are factors involved in the warming of the planet."

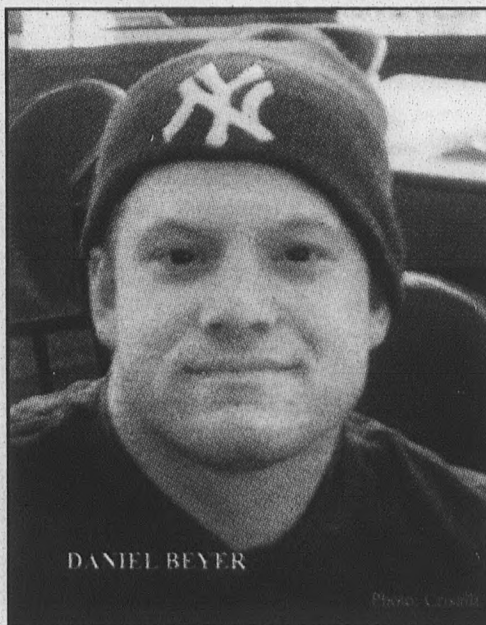
Some of the warmest years on record have occurred within the last 20 years. Now consider that warmer global temperatures contribute to the rising of the sea levels due to melting ice glaciers, some the size of Kentucky. The combination of warmer waters and higher ocean

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Students Elect New NYPIRG State Board Representative

Daniel Beyer has been elected as the third Representative for NYPIRG's Student Board. 192 Students voted during the election which was held, March 2nd and 3rd. His opponent, Michael Gualtieri, pulled in 70 of the votes.

According to NYPIRG, CSI's Student Board Representatives work to recruit and organize students who are interested in creating social change on many issues. In the past, NYPIRG has taken on issues such as Higher Education Funding, Mass Transit, Voter Mobilization, and Environmental Protection. Students interested in joining NYPIRG should contact Dan Botting, at extension 3109. NYPIRG meets daily in 1C 219.



DANIEL BEYER

Photo: Council

FAHAMISHA BROWN DENIED TENURE

Grievance Filed

Last Tenure Denial in
English Department was
also a Minority

Time to review tenure process?

Kevin S.P. Mamakas

Current Advisor for Literature, Professor Fahamisha Brown, has been denied tenure by President Marlene Springer. Prof. Brown has filed a union grievance with PSC-CUNY, but if President Springer does not reverse her judgement, there will be no full-time African-American professor in the English, Speech, and World Literature Department. Chek Jemie, the last full-time African-American English professor at CSI, was denied tenure in the Fall of 1993. If Prof. Brown is not re-instated, the number of full-time black faculty members at CSI will decrease from 11 to 10 people. According to the 2004 Affirmative Action Report for all CUNY colleges, 3.5 percent of CSI's consistent full-time faculty are black, while the CUNY average is 12.2 percent.

In 1999, a year before Prof. Brown came to CSI, she published her acclaimed book "Performing the Word: African American Poetry as Vernacular Culture." According to English Department Chair Janet Dudley, "Her work could get her tenure at Harvard." Yet this book has not counted as a publication towards her tenure.

President Springer wrote Brown's Evaluation Report. "I have examined your record," wrote Springer, "and it is my judgment that your candidacy does not support a positive recommendation with respect to scholarship."

"I am very good at what I do," Prof. Brown asserted as she sat in the middle of her office, surrounded by countless books and research papers. "I am the second black person to be denied tenure. It is a suspicious situation. I think I am more than qualified."

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AMERICAN DEMOCRACY PROJECT



The New York Times

THE BANNER



At the Recent Anti-War Protest.

Linda Appu

The Troops Out Now! protest was organized to mark the second anniversary of "the invasion of Iraq," Saturday March 19, 2005.



Though the march was officially set to begin 9am, I met my friends at Marcus Garvey Park in Harlem at 11:30. From where we were standing, it looked like



we might be able to catch the tail end of the march. Fortunately, we later realized that we were right in the middle of what looked like thousands of people.

Signs varied greatly, indicating the many small groups who formed the coalition that protested the war: "Free Mumia," "Liberate Palestine" signs and banners were held by groups and individuals. No matter the signs, people I spoke to expressed the united disdain for President George W. Bush and his policy on Iraq. They believed that the US policy on Iraq was wrong and they wanted the troops to come home.

The sheer diversity of the people was incredible; ages ranged from the elderly to kids being toted by their parents, blacks, Hispanics, and whites came out, socialists, students, and union workers—they all marched and chanted side by side.

"I volunteered this morning as a bus greeter," said a twenty-seven year old woman. "Buses of people from as far as Minneapolis and Ohio came to march today in New York City. The thing that really upset me is that [I feel] people disagreed with Bush's policies on Iraq, education, and other issues, but they voted for him on the gay issue. They voted him back based on that one thing."

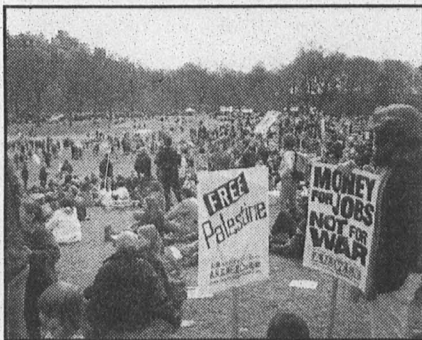
At least a dozen people said that they were glad a march was organized, even though it was last minute. Another volunteer said she was present at a "logistics meeting" days earlier, "and [the organizers] were still working out plans for the protest."

Unfortunately, the lack of planning was more than apparent. There was a stage set, but for the thousands that sat down after marching from Harlem, the sound system was inadequate. Also, there were too many speakers—I stopped counting after twelve—and save for a few exceptions, they were not rallying the people. Most groups began with anti-war statements, but would then move on to their group's issue. It seemed that the coalition was formed on the condition that each organization could have their say.

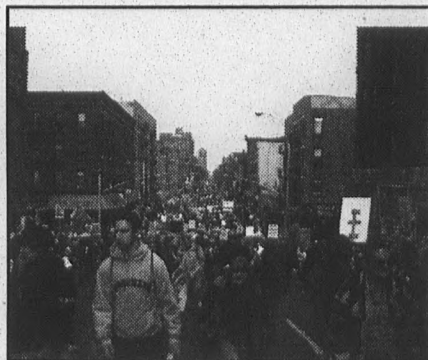
The timing was also off. We shouldn't have spent over three hours listening to ineffectual speakers, only then to march to Mayor Bloomberg's home. The people were restless and had a momentum. A few hundred left early, heading in different directions, including my friends and I.

Overall, it was incredible to be marching in Harlem alongside such a wide variety of people that were united by one belief; the US policy in Iraq was wrong and the troops should come home now.

Just as I finished writing the above article, I got a telephone call my friendly Army Reserve recruiter. Borrowing my pal Sara Butler's response, I told the



recruiter that I would sign up, "right after Jenna and Barbara do." I hold the highest regard for those in the military, fighting in the frontlines and working behind the scenes, but this war will be a blight on the face of American history.



NYPIRG APPLAUDS BUDGET AGREEMENT

NYPIRG Staff

March 23—In response to this Thursday afternoon's higher education conference sub-committee meeting, the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) released the following statement:

"The Senate and Assembly have agreed on a win-win budget for students and families across New York State," said Kate Freitag, Higher Education Project Leader for NYPIRG. "The ball is now in the Governor's court. We urge him to sign off on the higher education budget agreement in the best interests of affordable, accessible, quality education in New York."

The agreement on Higher Education funding between the Senate and Assembly includes the following provisions:

- no tuition hikes at SUNY and CUNY;
- rejects the Governor's and Senate's Article VII versions of language to raise tuition annually and incrementally for incoming students;
- full restoration of the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP);
- full restoration of opportunity programs such as EOP, HEOP, SEEK, and College Discovery to pre-veto levels; and

- adds funding for community colleges by \$115 per FTE (full time equivalent).

NYPIRG representatives at CSI have been working hard to make students aware of and involved in the campaign against the proposed tuition increase, financial aid cuts, and restructuring of opportunity programs. CSI students boarded a Student Government funded bus to Albany to tell their representatives they will not accept another tuition hike. More than a thousand CSI students signed petitions to tell the Governor and Albany leadership that the state budget will not be balanced on the backs of students. And the day of the conference sub-committee decision, March 23, 2005, CSI students made more than 200 phone calls to key senators to tell them to stop the tuition hike.

As students await the passage of the budget through the legislature, we look forward to the last step in the fight. It is not clear whether Governor Pataki will use his new-found constitutional powers to dismiss the legislature's budget, veto the legislative budget, or even sign the legislative budget.

While the battle is not over, congratulations to all whom lobbied, petitioned, and called the Governor and legislature to bring us to this point.

CSI Safety Plans for Terror Attack Unfinished

Luke Crisalli

Recently, a member of Abu Mousab al-Zarqawi's terror organization who was taken into U.S. custody last year admitted that he had talked with Taliban leader Osama bin Laden about hitting U.S. soft targets, such as movie theaters, restaurants and schools.

How safe are we on campus in the event of a terrorist attack? According to Assistant Public Safety Director Robert Yurman, the campus is currently writing plans on how to prevent an incident at CSI, and what to do in the event one does take place.

Both Yurman and CSI Environmental Health and Safety Director Tom Briggs informed the Banner that campus safety officers are currently being trained by the Department of Homeland Security in biohazard tactics in Aniston, Alabama.

"The federal office for domestic preparedness is also providing training for all our officers in how to deal with weapons of mass destruction", adds Briggs.



"We have officers who are trained EMT's and first responders, some of whom are trained in Defibrillator use" says Yurman. "By the end of the year, eighty to ninety percent of our officers will be fully trained," he added.

Yurman also noted that the campus does use metal detectors during special events in both 1P and 1C.

Is this enough though? The jury is still out on that one.

"It's two hundred and four acres, and it's hard to secure all areas" says Yurman.

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TUITION HIKES AND DIVERSITY DISCUSSED AT TOWN HALL MEETING

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more for New York State residents. In her opening address, President Springer blasted New York State for the hike, while reiterating that she has no control over the tuition.

"It's not my fault, I can't do anything about it," she said. "New York is notoriously low for financing higher education. It's a scandal given the wealth that this State has."

Despite her opposition to the hike, Springer later explained how dire the financial situation for CUNY is, by comparing the operating budget for CSI to the budget she had to operate her department in her old job in North Carolina. "I had more money years ago in North Carolina to run Academic Affairs than I do to run this whole college," she said. "That gives you some sense of what New York State is doing to its higher education funding."

Student Government Senator Linda Appu expressed disappointment that CSI English professor Fahamisha Brown was recently denied tenure on campus and demanded an explanation as to why CSI's faculty was not more diverse. "I was shocked to learn that Fahamisha Brown, an African-American professor was denied tenure," she said to the panel.

Appu also questioned the judgment of the President and those involved with Brown's tenure denial, when she brought up the denial of another former long time CSI professor, who is now teaching at Yale.

Springer declined to comment about Brown's case, but conceded that CSI needed more diversity in the faculty. "I cannot comment on personnel issues," said Springer. "Thirty percent of our faculty are people of color. We are working on it. It's very difficult to recruit people." She also added that "if departments have promising people of color, we'll do our best to work with them. However, I will not comment on Professors Brown and Clark."

"We need more African-American faculty, we need more African faculty, we need more Dominican faculty, and we need more Italian faculty," she said. "I have no doubt about that. We're working very hard on it."

CSI's Director of Compliance and Diversity, Kevin Antoine, who was also in attendance, gave a glimpse of steps that CSI is taking to diversify the faculty. "We're looking over the interview list to make sure people aren't excluded because of who they are or what they are," he said. "We recognize that we really aren't where we want to be."

Also discussed at the meeting were plans for a new international studies high school, set to open in September in building 5N. President Springer explained that the school will benefit CSI because the New York City Department of Education will pay to renovate old classrooms. "They will renovate the classrooms," she said. "We'll have a high school there for 2 or 3 years, then it will have to move and we'll have classrooms that we could have never afforded to renovate ourselves."

In other issues raised, President Springer addressed a question about parking stating there would be new parking spots by September 1st. She also addressed the addition of dorms on campus by saying that they are currently undergoing a feasibility study.

We're looking forward to holding these every semester," said Student Body President, Dwight Dunkley. Considering the attendance, the importance of the topics discussed, and the open nature of the discourse, CSI students should show up next time.

However, some students expressed their displeasure with the way in which student concerns are being addressed. "I think Springer's comment that students have a strong voice on campus is laughable," said Linda Appu.

TENURE DENIED

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Currently, professors have to publish a certain amount of work in the four years leading up to their tenure decision. Prof. Brown has published a single, on-line article since she has been at CSI, but has many works in progress.

"I think it is a genuine reason why she was not given tenure," says Dudley. "I disagree on the narrow idea of scholarship. I feel that the paper count is unfair to professors."

Prior to coming to CSI, Prof. Brown published a book, edited a book, wrote countless articles, among other activities that supported her field of study. At CSI, Brown has created 13 new literature courses, given public poetry readings, has a number of publications being "processed and considered by publishers," and has been invited to many different conferences and events about African poetry. She has been a reviewer for "The Gustavis Myers Outstanding Book Award," which reviews from 10 to 15 books a year.

As an African-American professor and scholar, Brown has extra commitments to the CSI community and to the African-American community. The required time an African-American professor puts into the extra work that no other ethnic group is required to do overlaps the time they should be spending on writing articles.

"We will have to fill her position," said English Chair Dudley. "But we may not be able to." Dudley added that it is very hard to find a person who knows a great deal about African American literature and is willing to travel to Staten Island. The island is primarily white and African-American literature is a relatively new program.

The Banner reported in its last issue that Kevin Antoine, Director of Diversity, Compliance, and Affirmative Action, believes there could be some hiring practices left over from the 1960's and 70's that could be prejudicial.

An Affirmative Action Committee will, after a long hiatus, soon be reinstated at CSI. Such a Committee, required in the school's bylaws, will be comprised of both students and faculty. The Diversity, Compliance, and Affirmative Action Department, led by Kevin Antoine, will join faculty and students to work on issues that affect the College.

The current tenure process could be in existence for a long period of time. The only way the tenure process might conceivably be changed is if someone like Prof. Brown sues. If she were to sue, Kevin Antoine would be allowed to step in.

Let's hope that CSI does not lose another great professor as a result of an outdated process.

Global Warming

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levels increases the chances of hurricane surges which can may possibly flood inlands near the Upper East River and Arthur Kill.

While the image of a tsunami coasting down Victory Boulevard seems to be more fitting for a scene in the recent blockbuster, "The Day After Tomorrow," experts in the scientific community warn us not to be so skeptical about this possibility. Some scientists are concerned about possible NYC flooding because of the abrupt temperature changes that are warming the planet. There is a near consensus among scientists that the planet is heating up because of pollution, which comes from the emissions of greenhouse

gases. The main source of such gases is smokestack and tailpipe emissions from the burning coal and oil.

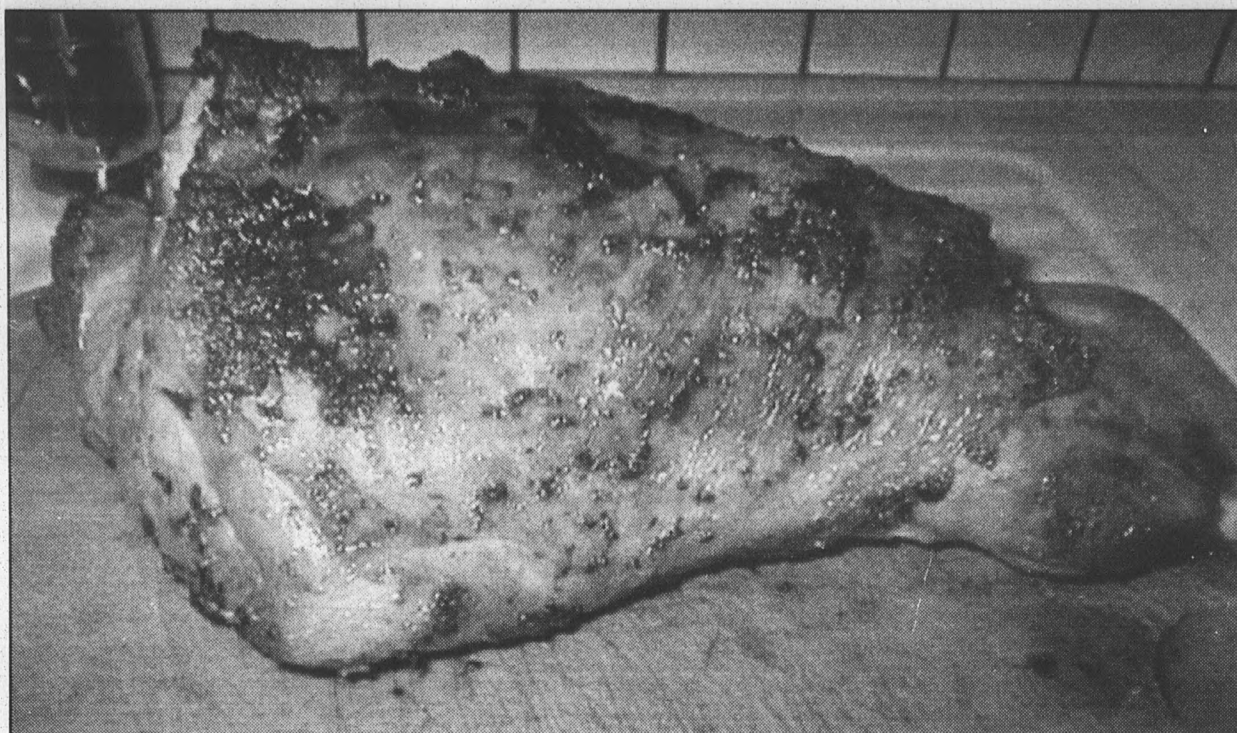
At a presentation on global warming held in the Green Dolphin Lounge last semester, on the topic of local flooding from global warming, Dr. Openheimer of the Biology Department commented that part of the problem is simply inattention, or "denial" from policy makers to acknowledge that there could be local consequences. When considering where to locate and build a stadium for the Staten Island Yankees, Dr. Oppenheimer advised Borough President Guy Molinaro to consult with global warming indicators suggestive of local flooding. "Lack of local public pressure on these issues does little to help politicians in their decision making processes," said Dr. Oppenheimer. "Also,

remember, politicians tend to think in election cycles, especially when it is time to enact policy. The near future is more on the mind than the long-term future."

Similar sentiments were raised at a recent presentation given at the New York Academy of Sciences, "Before The Day After Tomorrow: Climate Change and Storm Surge Barriers for the Metro Region." Malcolm Bowman and Douglas Hill from Stony Brook University's Marine Sciences Research Center, talked about preventative measures New York City should take to prevent flooding of the city. Their warnings sounded a bit more provocative than those of Dr. Oppenheimer, saying that Tsunamis arriving on the shore of NYC as a result of global warming should not be ruled out.

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A Leg of Lamb to Entertain Your First Houseguests



Sonal Engineer

It came like a slap in the face, but before I knew it, I was entertaining my first house guests. It wasn't the apartment itself, the furniture, or any of the home décor that worried me. I was nervous because I did not know what to cook. My friends who were coming over were Maxine, her brother Clifford, and my brother Vishal. I wanted the dinner to stand out.

Of course, there was the option of catering. When I thought of that, I remembered my parents, who on occasion would cater food. I also remembered my parents would invite over a dozen people when they would cater. Since I was only

inviting a small group, catering was not a suitable choice.

There was even the thought of cooking a traditional Indian meal. I know how to cook Indian food, because I learned from my parents. I started thinking I would cook a chicken curry or a fish curry, with paratha and basmati rice. Of course, if I were going to cook a traditional Indian meal, I would have to make a vegetable side dish. That's what my parents always did, and it's what other Indian people did when we went over to their houses.

But since my friends and I are Indian, and I know how often Indian people eat Indian cuisine, I wanted my friends to have something different for a change. I decided I needed help, so I asked my brother, Vishal, what he

thought I should do. First off he told me that if I was not cooking meat he would not come. Then he suggested that I cook a leg of lamb stuffed with cloves of garlic. My dad and my brother had made this dish many times before, but I was worried about how my friends

would react to it. I was not sure if my friends would eat lamb, but I had made up my mind. I was going to cook a leg of lamb.

I decided to buy the lamb with the leg in it, because that's the way my dad and brother used to make it. The lamb is supposed to be more flavorful if you cook it with the leg. Also, while buying the lamb I remembered only three people were coming. There was a total of four people, so I decided to go with a lamb that weighed approximately six to eight pounds. If one of my friends wanted to have seconds, or if my brother wanted to have more, they could have it.

The day before my friends came over, I decided to marinate the meat. I wanted the lamb to be as flavorful as pos-

sible. After I cured the meat with fresh lemons, lemon juice, and washing salt, I marinated the lamb with all the different spices. I cut slits into the meat and stuffed cloves of garlic into it. Then I rubbed all the spices all over the meat. The spices included oregano, basil, parsley, crushed green olives, red chili powder, and Worcestershire sauce. Then I put the meat in a pan with chopped onions, celery, carrots, and mushrooms, and I let it bake for a few hours at 350 degrees.

To complement the dish, I made a side of sour cream potatoes with chives. I peeled the potatoes, then cut them into small pieces. I fried the potatoes in oil and when they turned a light golden color, I added the sour cream and chives.

Another side dish I made was risotto in the olive oil. Risotto is a type of very short grain rice, and is also similar to pasta. While boiling a can of chicken broth, I fried chopped diced onions and mushroom slices in olive oil. When the onions were brown, I put the risotto in the olive oil. After frying the risotto, I poured the chicken broth over the risotto. I added a pinch of saffron, covered the pot and simmered for 10 minutes, until the risotto was tender.

That night my friends came over around 5:30. We all sat in the living room and talked for hours. We exchanged stories and even looked at some of my old photo albums. When it was time to sit down to dinner, I felt relieved because my friends complimented the meal and also took seconds. I know my brother enjoyed the meal, because not only did he take seconds, he also took thirds. I no longer felt nervous, because the dinner was a success.

College of Staten Island High School On Its Way

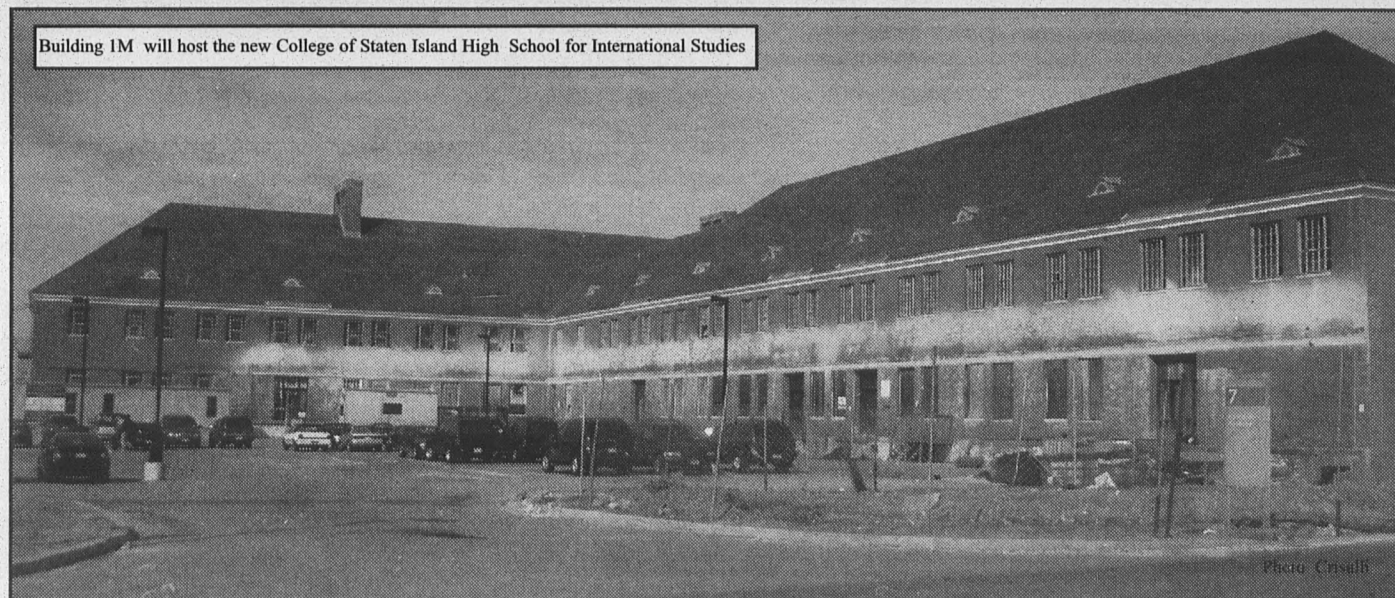
Nicole Belliveau

"Welcome to the College of Staten Island High School for International Studies" is what some 9th grade students will be hearing in the fall of 2005. CSI is getting a high school, which will be located in the building across the gym, 1M.

In a college that has overcrowded classrooms and no parking, most students would like to see the 1M building be used for the college, not for a high school. However, we aren't losing one building; we'll be losing two buildings because the high school will at first be located in 5N. Most students aren't happy to hear that younger kids will be coming to school on the college campus and don't know how the students will affect the college. Many questions are still up in the air that need to be answered before a high school should be on campus.

President Marlene Springer first announced renovations to the M building. A new roof that cost close to \$3 million dollars had to be fixed. The building is big enough to have two big lecture halls on the first floor and a good number of classrooms upstairs for regular classes. The college would finally have more

Building 1M will host the new College of Staten Island High School for International Studies



than the two lecture halls in 1P, and students would have another building that is near on of the biggest parking lots on campus.

According to a newsletter, Carol Brower, CSI Director of Student Life, had mentioned that College of Staten Island High School for International Studies will be coming in fall of 2005. According to the newsletter, the high school will only admit 108 9th graders picked out from a

lottery, and the principal will be a CSI alumna, Aimee Horowitz.

The website, www.csihighschool.org announced open houses around the city. It also revealed that CSI high school will be one of 200 new small schools to open city wide, the first new small school in the borough, and will be a charter school by 2007. The website gives a list of ten reasons why students should come to the high school, which include "Go to high

school on a college campus," "Wouldn't you rather learn Capoeira than play another round of dodge ball?" "Take a ferry to school," to name a few.

Jeremy Smith, an 8th grader at I.S.72, is looking into going to the College of Staten Island High School. "I want to go to a small school," Smith said. "Not an overcrowded high school like Susan Wagner. I also would like to learn Chinese."

Editor's Desk

When I walked out the doors of The Banner office at the end of the Fall semester, I did so with a heavy heart. In the two and a half years I had spent as part of the Banner community, I had grown a profound respect for the publication, its history, the Office of Student Life, and for CSI as a whole.

Most of my time spent here was in editorial positions, granting me a working relationship with the administration of the college. I have come to learn during my absence that there are individuals that believe this mutual respect between myself and the powers that be at CSI is a form of "ass-kissing." Even during my days at the Banner offices, I was aware of how some viewed me, and my mission for the Banner. What does surprise me is that individuals with such strong and biting opinions would not have the courage to voice them publicly until after my days at the Banner were over.

I was also disheartened to hear that a member of the Banner staff refer to CSI in a derogatory way at a CUNY sponsored event. I walked in to the Banner on a day off from my full time job with this bad news in my mind, not knowing what I might find. I saw the issues hung on the wall, and an office full of people hard at work. I was greeted with smiles and the profound optimism and pride that I had worked so hard to maintain, build on and preserve during my days here. It did my heart good to know that not one second of my long nights putting the issue to bed, hours tapping my pen at Publication Board meetings, or walking around campus with my arms full of newspapers was wasted. I now realize that I can graduate with my mind clear, knowing that the Banner will go on and continue to rise above the strife and small-mindedness that works against it.

And, in true Diana Illuzzi Banner-style, GO YANKEES 2005

Freshmen Diary Part I

On March 18th I received a large envelope with "College of Staten Island" printed in the right corner. As I skimmed through the paperwork, all my thoughts were consumed with graduation, prom, summer and college. I stopped thinking. I read the words "congratulations." My heart was warmed when I received some phone calls from close friends that they also got accepted to CSI.

I would see some familiar faces once in a blue moon but at least I would see them. I have considered my St. John Villa High School friends and faculty another family of mine. The four years I spent learning, laughing, and wondering are slowly slipping away. I can't seem to control it; the thought of me roaming through the halls of a place that's bigger and better is hard to believe. However, my fear didn't stop me as I now will be graduating with some of the greatest people I could ever meet.

The next few years will be filled with new educational experiences. I will be optimistic and enjoy all that The College of Staten Island has to offer. I'll hopefully meet some smiling faces along the way.

- Lauren Taylor

Complaints Rants, Fears and Praise

Finals on Memorial Day?

Memorial Day is one of the sacred holidays in the United States. Also known as Decoration Day, it is the day we remember brave men and women who have died in the service of our nation.

Those who first received this great honor were Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery May 1868. In New York, our observance of this holiday dates back to 1873.

Today, we also mark Memorial Day as the beginning of summer holidays in the United States. This three-day weekend has become a tradition for celebrations and family gatherings, with backyard barbecues, outdoor picnics, parades, and much more.

This semester at CSI, final exams have been scheduled over the Memorial Day weekend. If you are taking a Saturday, on a Sunday class, or one on both days, your Memorial Day celebration will be in a CSI classroom. Instead of strewing flowers over a loved one's grave, or packing on the calories at a barbecue, you will be brooding over some funky equation trying to solve it.

- Orumé Agbeyegbe

A Plea For The Disabled

Tired of not finding parking when you come to CSI? Hate to park your car so far and then have to walk to class? Or how about sitting and waiting for a spot and no one ever comes that you are tempted to park your car either in a handicapped spot or a temporarily disabled spot? This happens more often than it should.

George Boles is unable to run to class if he is late. Parking a great distance from his class is a burden. George is a double amputee, but he is far from disabled. I met him last Monday as he was maneuvering from his car to his wheelchair. He relies on his car for his independence. It is specially designed and equipped for his needs. George's biggest complaint is "There are not enough spots assigned for the disabled. When I come to school I find it quite difficult to find a parking spot. The abuse of people parking in handicapped spots is

a problem, the other day a girl parked her SUV in a handicapped spot and put her disabled hangtag on her rear view mirror

The other day a girl parked her SUV in a handicapped spot and she put her disabled hangtag on her rearview mirror and ran to class; I guess she was late. Meanwhile I had no spot. I don't think people realize what an inconvenience I suffer for the result of their convenience."

Before meeting George I often witnessed this problem but never thought much about it. In fact, while I was waiting for a spot to open, I would stare at mainly unoccupied handicapped and temporarily disabled spots and complain to myself about how unfair it was. After meeting George my complaints are muted.

My research took me to the Office of Parking Services. Mary Jean Hennessy, Director of Parking Services informed me that there are approximately 1,200 parking spots for students. Only 47 spots are allotted for the handicapped and 11 spots for the temporarily disabled. "The college is aware of the problem of the parking shortage for the disabled," said Hennessy. "We allow students to have access to the faculty parking with the permission of the office. Parking in general is a problem, but the office is very sensitive to the needs of the disabled. We are trying to meet the guidelines for our students."

The school states that cutbacks from NY state will keep additional parking spaces from being added. I think that the Office of Parking Services needs to reconsider how they give out parking permits to the disabled. I think each student applying for a disabled parking decal from CSI should be visibly reviewed and accepted and only school administered permits should park in handicapped spaces. It might be an inconvenience to the handicapped students at first but it will assist them in the long run. This will eliminate students who are abusing the system. I know George Boles thanks you.

-Allison Carpentier

Bloomberg's Folly

I appreciate Matt Safford's article regarding Mayor Bloomberg's obses-

sion with a West Side Stadium and the battle for the 2012 Olympics. Between NASCAR coming to Staten Island, the saffron curtains in Central Park, and the West Side Stadium, Bloomberg seems to think he's running a circus, not city.

-Annemarie Dooling, Senior

Domestic Clothesline

The Banner article on the Domestic Violence Clothesline was lazy, sloppy, ignorant, and insensitive. Not tying the article to CSI's own Clothesline, which was up in 1P from Feb. 24 to March 2 of this year, or including information or interviews with its sponsors and participants, was a gross lapse in the paper's duty to cover the CSI community.

Implying through the headline that domestic violence is "dirty" somehow belonging to its victims and, like dirty laundry, best kept under wraps, displays a complete lack of understanding (which should have been gained through reporting on the topic) of the problem of domestic violence and the struggle of its victims to declare themselves as part of the process of becoming free. (In the same issue, the Vagina Monologues headline's prurient overtones were no better.)

The Banner would do well to invest in some sensitivity training for all its staff members, at all ranks, in order to prevent future gaffes of this nature, which betray and potentially harm its readers. As for the mere journalistic failures, I will leave the experts among you to find a remedy.

- Alyson Bardsley, Assistant Professor, English Department

Among the inspirational and heart-breaking CSI "Domestic Violence Clothesline" t-shirts were two that stood out. One said, "I like my beer, like I like my violence-domestic," and the other (which had a drawing of a face with a black eye) said, "She'll remember my dinner next time."

A volunteer at the table added language such as, "He said" to the two shirts so nobody would be offended.

-Nancy Johnson

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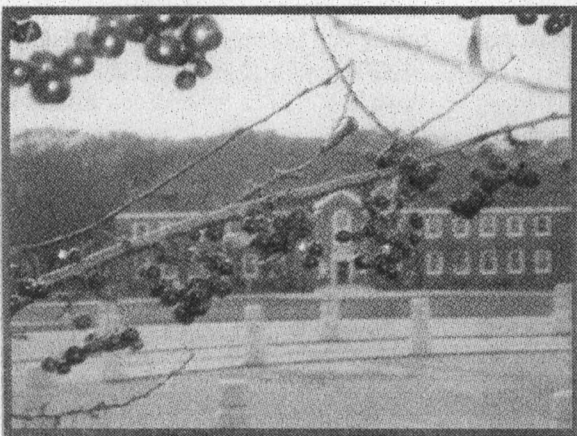
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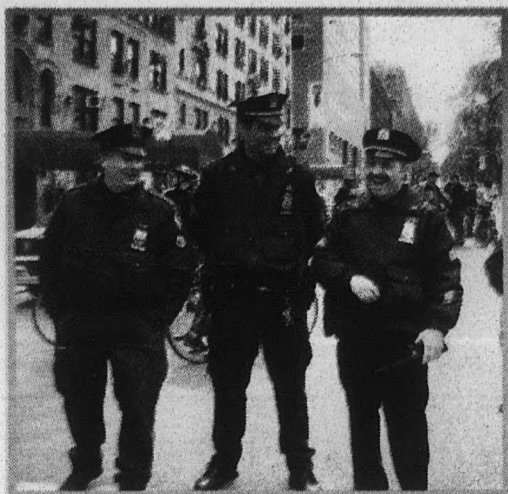
The College of Staten Island: You Bring the Money, They Bring the Pretty

Photography by Luke Crisalli



Iraq War's 2nd Anniversary Protest

Photography by Linda Appu



The Troops Out Now! protest was organized to mark the second anniversary of the invasion of Iraq, Saturday March 19, 2005



COMICS

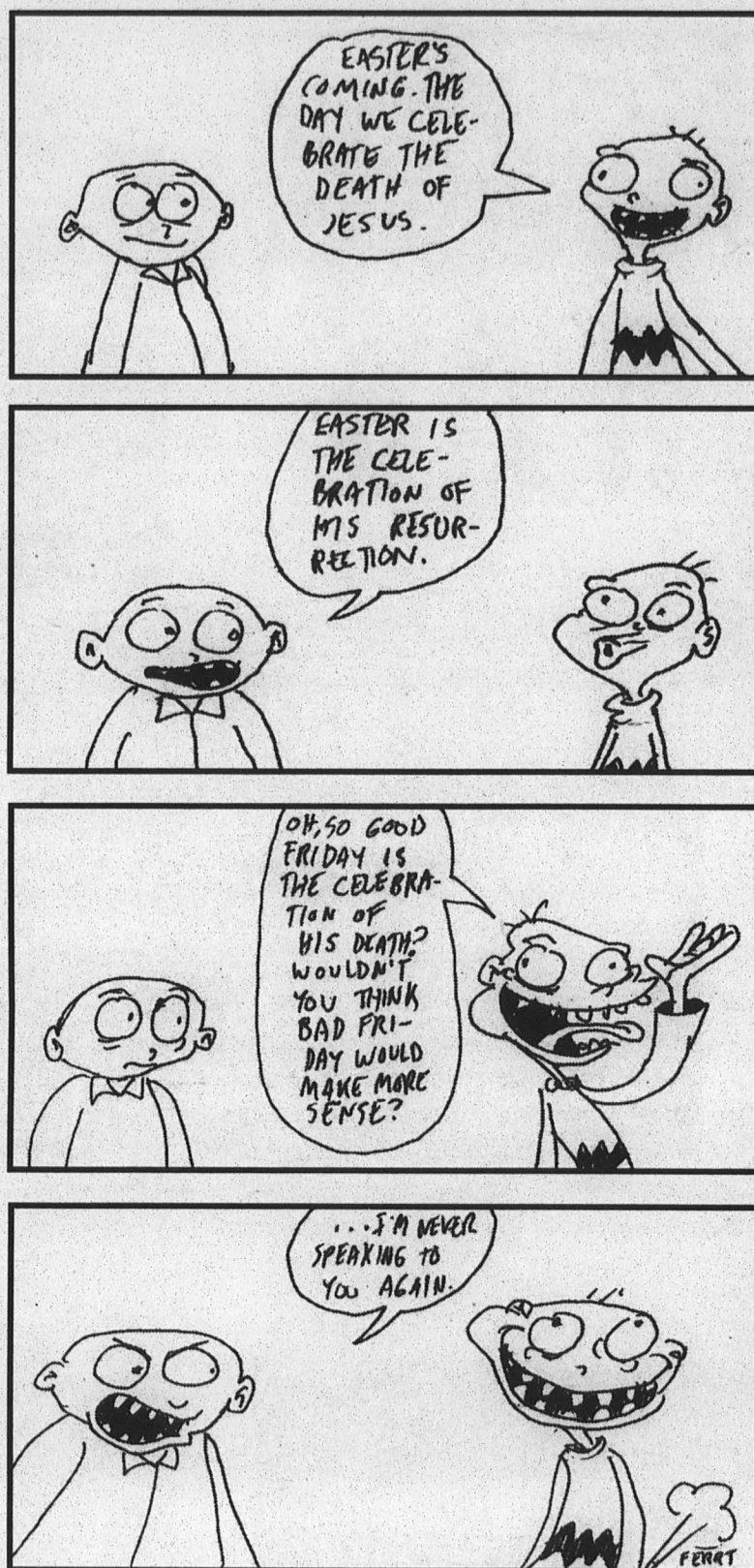
The Beacon

Written and Drawn by Enrique Inocente



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Q & A with Comic Creator Howard Chaykin

By Greg Tumbarello

Howard Chaykin is a renowned comic book artist and writer with a career that spans several decades. His work includes the critically acclaimed **American Flagg**, **Batman: Thrillkiller**, **Challengers of the Unknown**, and the recent graphic novel, **Mighty Love**. The following interview was conducted at a recent Big Apple Convention in NYC.

GT: What inspired you to go into comics as a profession?

HC: Like most people in the field, this has been a calling. I decided to do this for a living when I was four years old. I've been obsessed and committed to it ever since and I've done everything I possibly could to make myself unemployable in any other way. It's not an industry that attracts people who are simply casually interested; it's a real full time commitment.

GT: How did you get your first comics work?

HC: The way we did it in my time, you tended to hang around at the coffee room of DC Comics; and there were a bunch of us. We would literally show up mid-day, eat lunch and go hang around the office and hope that somebody would need something that weekend. I would do 1-pagers and 5-pagers. I did romance comics, I did mystery stories and I did all sorts of fillers, which is how we started our careers. In those days there was a lot of anthology work that made it possible for you to practice your craft in small, anonymous ways.

GT: You started your career as an artist and later became a writer also. How did that come about?

HC: I became a writer out of self-defense. To a great extent, with some exceptions, an inordinate number of the guys who were writing comics in those days were failed artists and I felt that after a certain point I was a good plotter and I was coming up with most of the ideas. I'm under the belief that much of the writing in comics is done by the artist anyway; it's what the reader reads as visuals.

GT: Do you prefer writing or illustrating?

HC: I like doing everything. I like writing and drawing my own stuff. Even when I'm drawing my own stuff I'll write a full script. It means I control the whole package because so much of what we do as comics artists is controlling the point of view of the reader that it's one more



Legendary comics inker Tom Palmer (left) chats with creator Howard Chaykin (right) at the Big Apple Convention in NYC. Photo: Rina Sklar

It's an evolving process. You sort of draw the character over and over again until the hair begins to feel right and things like that.

GT: How would you say the industry has changed since you first entered it?

HC: Comics have become more like the television business. There are far more levels now between getting a job pitched and getting it scheduled than there used to be.

GT: Do you see a major problem in the comic book industry?

HC: There isn't a growing audience and it's sad. Comics could go the way of the LP record. The sensibilities of comics will survive in TV, movies, video games, but there's more to comics than just those sensibilities.

GT: What's next?

HC: Right now I'm working on a new book called **City of Tomorrow**. It's about a guy who returns to his hometown to discover that the robotic servants his father created to serve the town have turned into organized crime families. It's pretty sexy, it's kind of funny, and it's pretty exciting stuff.

GT: Is there a common mistake you see put out in the work of those new to the comic business?

HC: An absolute lack of understanding of a presence and existence of a vocabulary of comics language — people who think it's just a series of arbitrary pictures. Every single shot is a choice. Every single image is a choice. Every single choice you make impacts on the storytelling.

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

HC: Decide what you want to be, stay with it and just keep doing it.



The cover to American Flagg, by Howard Chaykin

Life... Love... & SEX

NECESSARY ROUGHNESS

SADOMASOCHISM: A LOVE STORY

Jessica Mendez

My bottom lip was clenched between Rye's teeth. I gasped, shocked by his aggressiveness. Slowly, he dragged his teeth along my lip. I pulled his hair, my hands grasping desperately; I whimpered. I had known from the way that he kneaded my calves under the table at the bar we had just left that he would be rough, but I had no idea he kissed with such force. My head was swimming, my cheek pressed against the cool glass of the passenger side window; I had never been kissed like this before. Moments slowed, flowed, dripped like honey, which was, incidentally, similar to what was happening between my legs. My breathing was shallow; he sucked in air between his teeth with a definitive hissing sound, as if he was drawing me in with the oxygen. With a final nip, Rye loosened his grip on my lip, but not on my imagination. I inhaled deeply, and, as he drew my lip into his mouth and sucked slowly and soothingly, giddily awaited his next bite.

I'm no stranger to playing rough, but I'm not a fan of pain; if I stub my toe, my eyes well up with tears. My family complains that I'm a total "baby" if I bang into something. But with sex, it is different. Pain enhances the experience, makes it better, makes it last longer. Rye's kiss surprised me because it was so unlike

the usual rough play moves: a spank here, a hickey there, the occasional act of bondage. This kiss was reminiscent of those crazy moments of sweet pain I had read about in vampire novels. Oh, yes, vampires, the ultimate symbol of the eroticism of a wincing sting, a forceful bite. I have been a huge fan of vampire lore since I was a young girl, first lusting over Jason Patric and Kiefer Sutherland and that hot long-haired vampire in "The Lost Boys," then running to the library to finish up LJ Smith's "The Vampire Diaries" series. There is something so attractive about a tortured soul, isn't there? Add to that the capacity to draw secrets—and blood—from even the tamest piddling thing, and I was hooked.

This correlation between pleasure and pain was fascinating. I started experimenting the way most teens do: hickeys. In high school, one was a badge of honor, two was a status booster, and three was reputation suicide. To me, however, the more someone had, the braver I thought they were. I would quiz my friends about them to no end. Then, one day, I had met my surfer god Devin at a bar. We drank and flirted, and then, after a few kisses, he moved to my neck and...

"Ouch!" I sucked in a breath and then, "Oooh." A pause. He licked my

neck and broke away. "Mmmmm. Do that again!" Everything I heard about hickeys were true, plus there was more. I surrendered to the feeling.

The next day, my sisters, who spied the obvious bruises on my neck (my mom was slightly suspicious of my sudden turtleneck fetish but said nothing), branded Devin "Hoover."

It is the element of surrender that truly grabbed me, seduced me, made me want more. There's a reason that dominatrices are in high demand: people in power hate to be humbled in the boardroom, but in the bedroom, they need to be taken. Take my former conquest, JR. He was a buttoned-up government bitch by day, sure, but he liked nothing more than to spank and be spanked by night. I do my fair share of the giving; one ex claims he still has lines on his back from my nails scratching him. Another repeatedly called me an animal—then he would dive back in for more.

An important thing to note before getting rough is to know when to speak up. I like teasing, scratching and biting, but if you're stroking me so hard my nether regions become numb, I will let you know. If your partner is respectful, s/he will listen. When Rye got a little too punishing on my hot love sponge, I just

said, "Hey, it's okay to go a little slower." He was very accommodating, and he went back to the lip-biting kisses I ached for, in conjunction with perfect finger work. Perfect.

Slow, gentle sex is nice at times, but the times I remember most often involve hair-pulling, back-scratching, biting, and broken furniture. Slam me against a wall, and I am yours. I eagerly await the day one of the men I am with will go further than just the occasional scrap of fabric as a restraint.

The morning after my tryst with Rye, I woke up and took stock of all of the bites and the soreness of my lips, running my hands along the scratch marks on my calves gazed at the slightly purplish undertones of the spots along my thighs. I remembered fondly the red mark I left on Rye's neck and smiled. I may never get my Lestat, but with kisses like that, I didn't need one.

RETROVIEW

FUDOH: THE NEW GENERATION

RETROVIEW

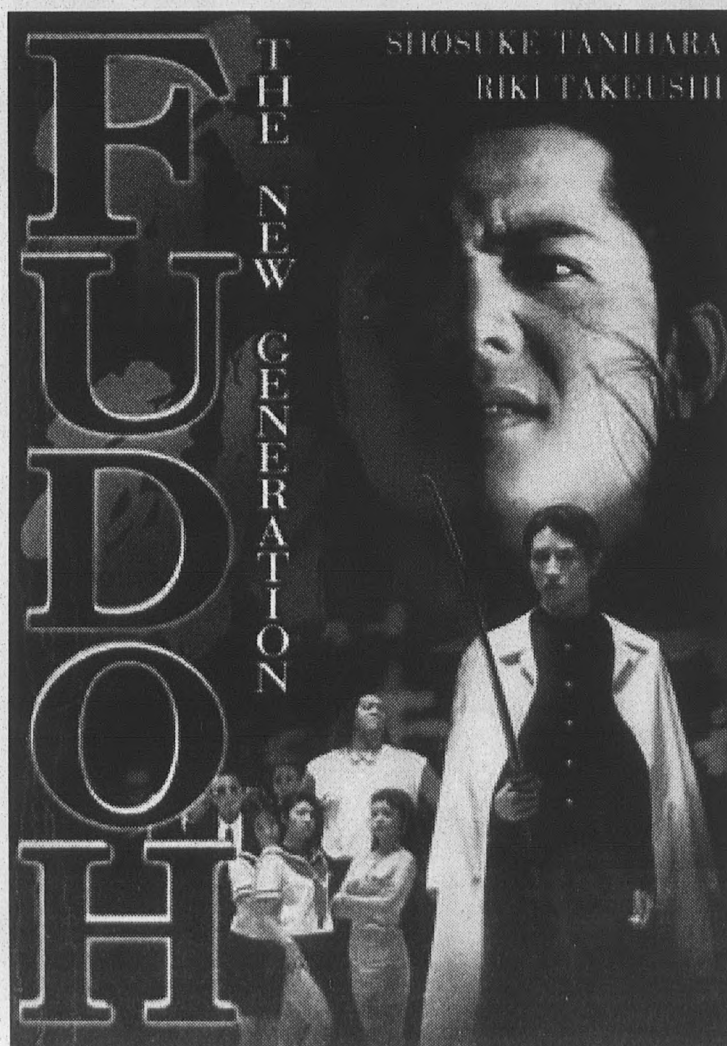
Enrique Ignacio Inocente

Japanese director Takashi Miike is known for wildly controversial films because of his unapologetic portrayal of violence and sexual themes. Before making such critically acclaimed (or panned, depending on who you talk to) films like Ichi the Killer and Audition, in 1996 he directed a little movie intended as a strait to video release, Fudoh: The New Generation. The studio was so impressed by the preliminary shots of the film that they pumped up the budget and gave it a theatrical release in Japan.

Fudoh traveled through various film festivals around the globe and was an Official Selection at the Toronto Film Festival, and winner of the International Fantasy Film Special Jury Award at the Portugal Fantasporto Film Festival.

So what's so special about the film, you ask? Let's begin with storyline. In short, Fudoh: The New Generation is story of honor and revenge. Riki Fudoh (Shosuke Tanihara) is a straight-A high school student, but he's also the son of a notorious yakuza boss. At the tender age of ten, Riki witnessed his father murder his older brother as part of an honor killing to appease Yakuza members the son crossed. Rikki vowed to avenge his brother's death.

Now at sixteen, Riki devises a plan to recruit fellow classmates and assemble his own criminal organization. What follows is ninety minutes of intense violence, sexual depravity and amusing high school shenanigans. Though some folks out there might not find ten-year-olds wielding guns in school



and killing teachers amusing in light of what's going on in America today, but this movie wasn't made to consider people's feelings.

Takashi Miike is a free spirit and this movie shows he had fun coming up with interesting and new ways to dispose of people. If you thought Quentin Tarantino was a creative genius with Kill Bill then you don't know squat about action cinema because Tarantino is a biter who sweats filmmakers like Takashi Miike. Trust me when I say you have never scene action like the kind found in Fudoh. A particular scene has one of Riki's assassins pose as a nude stripper who blows darts out of her vagina. She blows one right through the head of a Yakuza boss eating some chips. This same girl tries to do it again in another scene, but she's on her period. Let's just say it gets pretty messy.

Other notable scenes include a steamy sex scene with a hot teacher and her hermaphrodite student, a guy's decapitated head still blinking as he watches his own body hit the floor, and a girl peeing on herself just as she's about to be thrown out from a fifth story window.

This movie is not rated, but it's safe to bet it's not intended for anybody under seventeen. If you dig crazy action movies with people wielding samurai swords, hot chicks in schoolgirl outfits blowing darts out of their private parts, hermaphrodites, and gratuitous violence, then check out Fudoh: The New Generation. It's also pretty funny. I give this movie three and a half out of four blow-darts.

SHAKESPEARIAN SKITS AND SONGS

Pamela Zambrano

CSI's Center For the Arts hosted A Shakespeare Revue on March 19th. The show was publicized as a "hilarious cabaret-style musical" – and it was.

Rather than perform a selected number of scenes from Shakespeare's plays, the cast of 5 actors and contributors instead chose to present skits and songs about him. Although it did help to have read Shakespeare's plays to understand some of the jokes, the show's comedy was not lost on people who have very little knowledge of his work. Some of the jokes were about what some actors go through during a performance. They had a skit where the stage was set up for the balcony scene from Romeo and Juliet, but the actress who was playing Juliet got her lines mixed up. Rather than saying Juliet's lines, she spoke lines from Macbeth. All of this was because her drama company was doing too many performances of Shakespeare and she had gotten her days mixed up.

At five dollars a ticket, many CSI students could have attended, but very few chose to do so. The crowd (which wasn't very large) consisted mostly of an older audience. Hardly anyone in the crowd seemed to have been disappointed by the performance.

"I think students did miss something by not coming here tonight"; said a student that attended the play. "I enjoyed

the performance".

It's not certain how the students at CSI would have reacted to the show, but the actors in it were worth taking the time to look at. All the actors had several years of experience being on stage and have a lot of talent. Anyone who's done theater before knows how difficult it is to memorize lines and to stay in key with the music. They all had memorized a lot of lines and it showed that they had done a lot of preparation for their performance. Even if you didn't like the script or the songs in the show, you most likely would enjoy seeing these same actors.

There are a lot of performances given at CSI. Most of them do draw a fairly large audience. It cannot be said whether the reason not many students showed up to this show was because they're not big fans of Shakespeare, or because it was a Saturday night. Shakespeare fans are not the only ones who would have enjoyed this show.

Drama, music, and comedy fans would have probably liked it as well. Everyone doesn't enjoy Shakespeare but for those who do, on April 10 there will be a performance event titled MacHomer. This show will have 50 Simpson voices coming together to do Shakespeare.

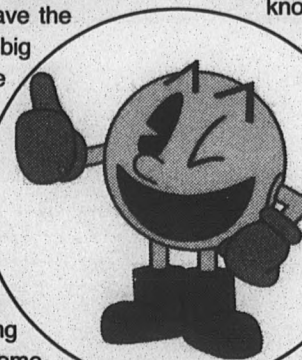
Happy 25th Anniversary, Pac-Man!

Dominic Fiduccia

It's hard to believe, but video games' first mega-star is celebrating his silver anniversary. He is the dot-, fruit-, and ghost-chopping power house that is known simply as Pac-Man. That's right, a quarter century ago, Namco brought Pac-Man to the arcades, and video games have never been the same since. Fans couldn't get enough of the big yellow guy and his huge popularity gave the video game world its first big star. There wasn't anyone else before Pac-Man. There was no Mario, Donkey Kong, Mega Man, Sonic or anyone else.

Before Pac-Man, there were no video games that were compelling enough to give gamers something worth remembering. Pong may be the first video game, and Space Invaders in 1977 became the first big video hit, but let's face it—who cares about a rectangle that bounces a ball back and forth, or a ship that can blow up aliens? Pac-Man was a real character.

Everyone who has played video games has played Pac-Man at one time or another, and if you haven't, then shame on you. If you play video games you should, nah, must play Pac-Man. It's like studying American History and not learning about George Washington.



Anyway, Pac-Man is a very simple yet addictive video game. You are Pac-Man, a big yellow circle head guy that eats dots in a maze. You must eat the dots while avoiding the four different colored ghosts that are after you: Blinky (Red), Inky (Blue), Pinky (Pink), and Clyde (Orange).

It doesn't seem like much of a game by today standards, but hey you had to start somewhere. True, you don't know why Pac-Man is in a maze or why he has to eat the dots that are in there. For that matter, you don't know why these ghosts are after him. But you have to remember that back in the early days of video games, getting the highest score in your local arcade was what mattered, not some big epic centered storyline of the hero overcoming the one great evil in the game. Besides, who cares?

Not only was Pac-man the first video game star, he gave us several great historic game moments like the introduction of his wife and video games first female star, Ms. Pac-Man. The first video game character to star in his own cartoon. And also the first to be featured in a number of sequels and spin-offs from Ms. Pac-Man and Super Pac-Man to the 1993 Tetris-style puzzle game, Pac-Attack, and his 1999 3-D debut in the PS1 game, Pac-Man World.

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SPORTS

March 28, 2005

Women's Softball Looks Towards A Bright Season

Orumé Agbeyegbe

The Dolphins recently concluded a pre-season trip to Florida. Diana Consolmagno, a Graduate Assistant on the team said, "It was a great experience. We got to see a lot of ball that we are not going to be able to see in this area. A lot of those teams down there are able to be outside a lot sooner. They already played about 10 games before we got to play." The team played six games, and went 1-5.

Coach Stella Porto said, "In order to go to Florida, you play the teams that have players in the .667 percentage," said Coach Porto, "which gives you more NCAA points. You have to play teams that are a lot tougher than you, and you play a tougher schedule all year round. We did really well." However, she has had to make some adjustments since then. "I went with a 20 roster in September, now I am down to a 14 roster."

A number of injuries in Florida affected the team. Christina D'Arpa, an All American first runner up last season, "hurt her knee, and she is on medical leave from pitching," said Coach Porto. She will be playing third base. The coach intends to have a third pitcher ready in case any of the other pitchers get in trouble. "But I'm looking for Christina to be relieved right now, just to take pressure off her knee." Some injured players have been removed from the season lineup.



Back Row (L-R): Diana Consolmagno (Graduate Assistant), Jenn Rosa (Assistant Coach), Nicole Estrada, Dana Glennerster, Theresa Tepedino, Andrea Meise, Christina D'Arpa, Jen Doscher, Katie Rossetti, Andrea Lisi, Charles Mattera (Assistant Coach); Front Row (L-R): Nina Marie Lucchini, Melissa Quiles, Michele Mazza, Megan Donohue, Nicole Pignatelli Front: Stella Porto (Head Coach)

Others are still on medical leave and will return as soon as possible. Nicole Estrada is on the injured list. "I tore my ACL," she said, but hopes to recover soon.

Last Monday evening, the team practiced on their new field. Jason Fein, CSI's Associate Director of Athletics, said a lot of work went into getting both the football and softball fields ready for the season. They put in a new system, which "drains very well." Melissa Quiles agreed. "It is a thousand times better. The old field, running to the outfield, you got stuck in holes."

The team practices five days a week, and last week was the first time they were able to practice outside, on the new field. Pitching Coach Jenn Rosa was busy with the pitchers getting their speed up. Her goal is to get them to, "reach the maximum that they can reach." The players appear to be up to the challenge. They are excited with the new team, which has eight new freshmen. "Before we went away, (to Florida) we weren't too close," said Melissa Quiles. "Being with each other 24/7 was really good. Andrea Lisi concurred. "It was a great bonding experience," she

said.

The team is looking forward to the season opening game on Saturday, March 26. The double-header game that had not yet occurred as of the press deadline was against New Jersey City University and NYC college of Technology.

Three captains who are all seniors lead Dolphin's softball team. Jen Doscher all-star short stop transfer from NYIT, Division II; Melissa Quiles, second baseman and outfielder; and Theresa Tepedino, advanced all-star, outfielder and catcher from St Peter's Division I. The pitchers are Nicole Pignatelli, and Katie Rossetti. Dana Glennerster, a junior, is the first baseman and Megan Donohue, a newcomer, will play infield and outfield. Also returning as an outfielder is Andrea Meise.

Head Coach Stella Porto is in her third season with CSI's softball team. When she was a student at CSI, she played for the softball team, and they won the state championship in 1988. She has carried her winning ways over as a coach. Last season, she led the women's softball team to victory in the CUNY softball championship against Hunter College. This victory earned the Dolphins their first automatic berth into the NCAA Division III Tournament. She has high expectations for this season.

The Dolphin's schedule includes 40 playoffs, and they are looking forward to a great season. "We are in good shape, and we love the game," said Quiles.

New Tennis Coach, Chris Kim, Prepares His Team

Lucie Lauria

CSI's men's tennis team started the new season on March 23 with a home match against Rutgers. The Dolphins have a new head coach, Chris Kim, who is a CSI alumni and former Dolphin player. Kim replaced Bruce Knittle, who resigned last year. Paul Riccardi remains in the assistant position.

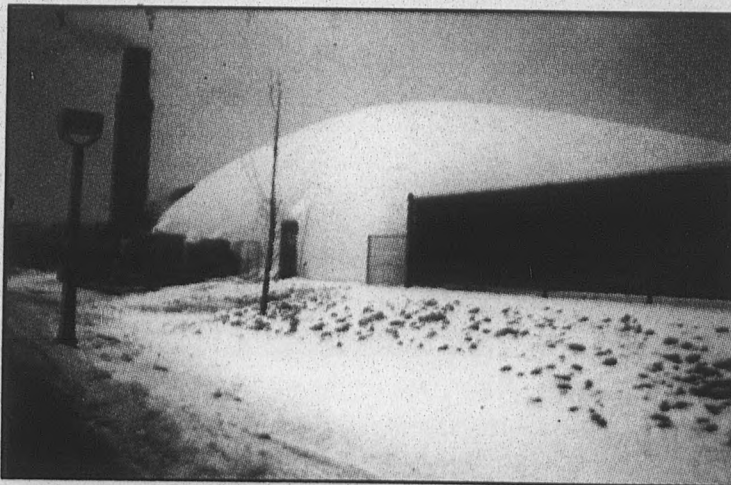
Kim is a certified tennis instructor and has worked as such for 12 years. He has also been working as a full-time tennis professional at the Staten Island Tennis Club since the club started at CSI. Chris began with tennis early on as a child and got really passionate about it. Later, he continued as a successful high school and college player. He played on the CSI team for four years. His team won the CUNY Championship twice. Let's hope, he will have the same success as a coach.

Chris Kim has already been practicing with the team for two months at the

bubble. CSI is the only college with an indoor tennis facility in the CUNY conference. The opportunity to practice indoors in the comfortably heated bubble gives the Dolphins the upper hand over others in terms of a greater practice time. However, this could get a bit tricky because the "bubble spoiled" Dolphins won't be prepared for the harsh conditions at away matches.

Coach Kim intends to practice with

the team often outdoors as soon as the weather improves. This year, the team



New Dolphins Tennis Coach Chris Kim has been holding tennis practice in the bubble. "All the guys on the team are keen tennis players, and that is what counts," said Kim. "The boys will go out there and do their best. All I want from them is never to beat themselves."

has three returning players—Gellerman, Sherman, and Sandhuin. The other players are new Dolphin members. According

to the coach, "the team does not have any top players; the first four seeds are pretty much even. In this situation, the players are motivated to work hard to improve because of their close line-ups. Next week, we have challenge matches that will determine the final ranking. It should be interesting."

"All the guys on the team are keen tennis players and that is what counts," continued Kim. "It is not only about winning or losing; the boys will go out there and do their best. All I want from them is never to beat themselves. They are all in good shape, however, everyone has something to improve technically." Kim pointed out that he tries to give individual attention to every player to improve their technique and to eliminate bad habits.

CSI's hopes are high, despite rumors that Baruch is strong this season. All CSI tennis fans are welcome to come support the Dolphins.