BANNER

September 13, 2004

6S Water Fountains Off Limits

Jennifer Mosscrop

The dump is down the road, Elizabeth's industrial waste wafts over the Kill Van Kull, and now CSI faces its own environmental challenge.

During a routine water main flush and drinking water sampling done over the summer, high levels of copper were found in 6S water fountains. According to the EPA, short periods of exposure to copper can cause nausea and vomiting. Many years of exposure can cause liver of kidney damage. The fountains have been shut down until the problem is corrected.

"The water coolers are not flushing clean," said Angelo Aponte, Vice President for Finance and Administration. "We have to call the manufacturer to straighten this out or get the watercoolors replaced all together."

For now, Aponte has moved to get vending machines with bottled water into the building.

"This is a high priority for us right now," said Aponte. "We want things done as quickly as possible."

This is not the first time there has been a drinking water problem at CSI. In the October 2001 issue of The Banner, an anonymous professional staff congress member stated that "recent tests show CSI drinking water... is not good, even to wash a car."

CSI FLIPS THE JAVA SCRIPT



For your studying pleasure . . . Starbucks will keep the jitters going at the new Cybercafe.

Library internet cafe gets a makeover and an update

Diana Illuzzi

Just in case you were wondering why students on the south side of campus had to hike to what seemed like the other half of the world just to get a cup of coffee last semester, there is a very good reason.

This semester, the College will open The Cyber Cafe. The new "Starbucks-esque" coffee lounge is a far cry from the vending machine-filled, cafeteria-style eatery which preceded it in the left wing of the Library's lower level.

"The old eatery was lacking in individuality," said Jodi Merendino, Head of Dining Services, "it was time for us to move up with times."

Plans for the cafe were started a

year and a half ago. Major players in the development of the project include Vice President for Fiance and Administration Angelo Aponte, Deputy to the Vice President for finance and Administration, Thomas Tyburczy, CSI President Marlene Springer, and Merendino. No official dollar amount for the project is available, but the new venue was funded in part by the Student Technology Fee.

"The old cafeteria was not able to handle the amount of studentson the south end of campus who needed to use it," said Merendino. "he new one should be far better equipped."

A series of cafe tables and chairs are surrounded by a large lighted counter from which foods such as buffalo wings, and grilled and made-to-order sandwiches will be served.

WSIA SEARCH CONTINUES 2 Years & Counting... 4 Finalists Drop Out POSITION CURSED?



"I'm hoping we're close to the end," said Carol Brower, CSI Director of Student Life. "We're trying to finish up soon."

David Maltz

Everything may sound normal at WSIA, but it's not. After two years of searching, there is still no permanent General Manager. With no official leader, the burden of running the station has shifted to students and the chief engineer.

"I express regret that they didn't keep the interim General Manager, David Shear, on as full-time GM," said Don Vroome, WSIA's News Director. "He was doing a good job."

But as of June 30 this year, Shear was no longer eligible to remain in the position due to his substitute status with the college. And there won't be another interim general manager to take Shear's place. "It doesn't really make sense to do that," said Carol Brower, CSI's Director of Student Life and head of the GM search committee. "By the time he [the replacement] would figure out the position, he would have to leave."

It all began on August 8, 2002, when WSIA's general manager for the previous 22 years, Greg Adamo, resigned to pursue a teaching position at Richard Stockton College in New Jersey. A search committee comprised of 7 administrators, faculty members, and two students was created, and their first priority was to find a suitable interim general manager. Austin Lee, an adjunct lecturer at CSI was the first to be considered for the interim position.

However, finding a replacement—even an interim replacement—GM isn't easy. A CUNY bylaw which prohibited more than a 10%

TOP TEN FACTS EVERY FRESHMAN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CSI

Jennifer Mosscrop

Get involved. CSI is a commuter college, but there are so many ways to get involved in school activities you may get dizzy thinking about it. Instead of fleeing COR 100 and burning rubber out of the parking lot, make the most out of your college experience by joining a club, band, publication, sports team, student government-whatever turns you on. And if you don't find something your interested in, start your own club. The best way to find out about how to get involved on campus is to visit 1C 201 or call 982-3088 and speak with Carol Brower, Director of Student Life or Debi Kee, Coordinator of Clubs and Organizations. Or call 982-3149 for CSI sports information.

Be aware of campus activities.
You'll be pleasantly surprised to find that there is always some activity on campus to take the stress

away from academic life. You can watch a movie in the library before it hits the shelves in Blockbuster for free, stroll through 1P's art gallery or watch CSI's sports teams kick butt. If you have a valid student ID card, you can work out in 1R. no charge. Students get discount tickets for the Center for the Arts programs. They actually have cool performances there. Jimmy Cliff played on August 6! On a more serious note, check out the many lectures, colloquia, and workshops offered to students in CLUE News. Find out what's going in in the new Women's Center. Check out CSI's website for a complete listing of activities.

Parking. I'm sure you've heard rumors about the atrocious parking situation at CSI and for the most part, it's true. You need to buy a decal for your car, there's no way to get around it. It's a known fact that 10 am classes mean getting on

campus by 9:30 for the ideal parking spot. Telling your professor you're late because you couldn't find a spot usually won't work. If someone is following you as you walk through the parking lot, don't worry, they're usually just following you for your parking spot (it's an effective strategy, try it someday).

Don't park on the grass, they do give tickets. Night classes offer better parking spots since there are fewer people but it's a little scary walking to your car after dark. You can meet with a security guard in designated areas to be escorted to the parking lot if you want. Check for signs posted in every building about it. The office for parking services is in 1A 102. Call them at 982–2294 for any problems.

Take your general education course now! PED 190, COR 100, ENG 111, and all that fun stuff

Continued on page 3

Continued on page 3

The American Democracy Project The New York Times #BANNER



On The Campaign Trail: Who Are These Guys Anyway?

Joe Tacopino

The politicians, pundits, and P. Diddy have all weighed in on the debate and everyone seems to agree on one thing: this year's presidential election is the most important election of our lifetime.

In a country polarized by wedge issues and separated by red and blue states, it becomes difficult to sift through the sound bites and decide which candidate actually represents your best interests. So, in the spirit of "fair and balanced" journalism, here's a look at the candidates.

The common wisdom is that an election involving an incumbent president is usually a referendum on his performance, or lack thereof. Here is an up close and personal look at our 43rd president, George Walker Bush or "Dubya."

George W. Bush

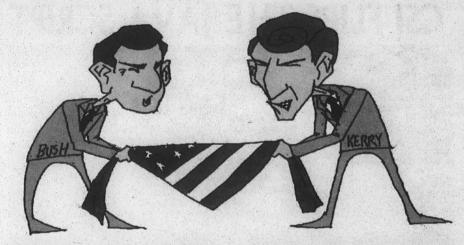
As a young man, Dubya was not exactly an overachiever. A self-avowed C student at Yale, Bush was a connoisseur of hard liquor and maintained a healthy cocaine habit, allegedly. Dubya then single-handedly ran a few oil companies into the ground before he found Jesus and has since been dry and fanatically religious.

As for President Bush's military service, the president claims that he served honorably in the Texas Air National Guard during the Vietnam War. However, there is a period of time in 1972–73 where Bush seems to have been missing in action. Aside from a few dental x-rays, the White House claims that the records from Bush's service during that time were "accidentally destroyed" – how convenient.

The Bush Doctrine

To understand Bush and his policies, one must take into account his entourage of advisors and ideologues. These people have an unusually significant influence on the domestic and foreign policies of the past few years. Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Paul Wolfowitz and crew have aggressively pursued their wicked right-wing agenda in response to the September 11th attacks.

Some argue that these militaristic policies are necessary to thwart the threat of terrorism in a post 9–11 atmosphere. However, one thing is undeniably clear; the ideology of American Supremacy was already being laid out long before Osama bin Laden attacked us. The same neoconservatives who are serving in the Bush Administration were the architects of the "Project for a New American Century," a conservative



think tank which advocates American's "global leadership." Sept. 11 turned the ideas of the Project for a New American Century into policy.

So, what does this all mean? Our country is currently engaged in a war, spending billions of dollars and risking soldiers' lives not because of weapons of mass destruction or because of 9/11. This war was not an act of self-defense. The occupation of Iraq is new form of American imperialism. It is the implementation of an ideology that states that we, as the lone superpower, must export our ideals all over the world, by force if necessary.

One can either agree with this philosophy or not. The important part is not to be fooled by the rhetoric that claims the invasion and occupation of Iraq was a necessary act of self-defense, it wasn't.

On domestic policy Bush is fairly consistent on advancing his right-wing agenda. Promoting a laissez-faire philosophy toward business the administration has curtailed ethical boundaries for corporations, deregulated media and gutted environmental standards.

The President boasts a small government with fewer taxes, especially for the super rich. This "trickle down" philosophy is a familiar Republican policy and usually bodes well except for one problem: Bush's tax cuts have not stimulated the economy and has plunged the country into the biggest deficit in history. Ronald Reagan must be turning over in his grave.

John F. Kerry

Another son of privilege, John Forbes Kerry was shipped off to a Swiss boarding school when he was 10 years old. He then attended Yale where, along with George W. Bush, he joined Skull and Bones, an ominous Ivy League secret society.

After serving honorably in Vietnam, John Kerry came home, threw away his medals and denounced the actions in Southeast Asia. In a chilling testimony before the Senate in 1971, Kerry cited a litany of "atrocities" that were committed including rape, cutting off body parts and razing entire villages. Kerry's testimony angered his fellow veterans and caught the attention of the Nixon Administration.

Using his anti-war activities as a launching pad to a political career, Kerry ran for congress in 1972, and lost.

The Man in the Middle

Although John Kerry has served in the United States Senate for 20 years, it's not so easy to figure out where he stands on the issues. The Bush Campaign has tried to paint Kerry as an "out of touch liberal," but Kerry has refused to take the liberal path and instead continued to straddle the fence, attempting to be everything to

While disagreeing with the way President Bush has handled the war, Kerry refuses to speak out against it. He claims that he will stop jobs from going overseas, but will not repeal NAFTA or the WTO – the agreements that are primarily responsible for outsourcing jobs.

Kerry rails Bush on the economy, but does not seem to have a plan to stimulate it. And as the country is steeped in debt, John Kerry boasts a health care plan that will cover 95% of Americans. How he will fund this program remains to be seen.

Foreign policy seems to be the one area where a stark contrast exists between the two candidates. Kerry stresses diplomacy and embracing our allies against Bush's "bomb first, ask questions later" policy. John Kerry wants to work more closely with the United Nations and internationalize our effort in Iraq, bringing in more troops from other countries, attempting to make the Iraqi interim government seem more legitimate. Some see Kerry's "sensitive War on Terror" as pathetic method of pandering to our enemies. Well, I guess I'll report and you can

TAKE A STAND!

Matthew Safford

Few things have been more rewarding to me this past year than being given the chance to contribute regularly to The Banner, and in particular, to the American Democracy page. The chance to gather and articulate my views about the dangerous destinations our current leaders are steering us toward, has been both a challenging and satisfying learning experience. The positive feedback I have received from faculty and peers has bolstered my resolve to keep writing.

Acclaim and confidence however, are not the real reasons why I

A liberal CSI student challenges others to debate the issues

started writing about politics, nor are they a driving force behind what I plan to write in the future. My goal is to create—or perhaps recreate—something that our country seems to have lost after the infamous 9/11 attacks. That lost item—so elusive in the mainstream media sphere, and seemingly elusive lately in regular conversation—is political dialogue.

Everyone seems so afraid of stirring up emotions, of hurting someone's feelings. That no one says much of anything of genuine importance anymore. And if there's one thing I know, it's that this country is in desperate need of a discussion of real important issues. It doesn't matter what your politics are, we all need to talk about where we are, where we were, and where we might be heading.

It is with this notion that I call out for an opponent. I know everyone out there in CSI-land can't agree 100% with my decidedly leftist views. This is Staten Island after all. So if you're angry over my flagrant bashing of GOP, my assertions that the mainstream media is biased and ineffectual, or the simple fact that I wear my "un-American" T-shirt with as much pride as you might display a tacky patriotic bumper-sticker, then you ask you to step-up, submit your words to The Banner and make your voice heard. I enjoy argumentation and debate wholeheartedly, and I think it's essential to our once-and future democracy. It also makes for an interesting school paper. So, to anyone who has the guts to stand toe-to-toe with me on the real issues, I have simply three words; BRING IT ON.

HARTS.

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TOP TEN FACTS continued from page 1

should be taken as early as possible. Get it out of the way so afterwards you can focus fully on your major requirements. You don't want to be ready to graduate and then realize you didn't take that West and the World class.

Gone are your high school days when your advisor told you what classes to take. Though there are many people here to help you along your way, you are now responsible for making up your own schedule of classes and taking care of financial aid. Professors can kick you out of class for being excessively late or absent. And please do not plagiarize, you can be kicked out of college for that.

Think safe. The world has changed since 9/11 and to ensure safety in school CSI asks you to notify Public Safety by calling 982–2111 of any suspicious people or behavior, unattended parcels, people taking photographs or videos of the campus, substances leaking or spilling from vehicles, or vehicles containing suspicious or unusual packages.

The library is good. 1L is a huge building with tons of people and information to help you with your research. It's a multimedia gold mine. Get a barcode on your student ID card, type it in and you'll be able to access their online databases of journals and databases from your home computer.

Know your professors. They get paid to help you, so take advantage of their office hours. They have those hours so you can come in and ask questions about anything from how you're doing in class to admitting you have no clue what's going on. It's a good way of letting your professors know you exist and that you care about the class.

Financial Ald. This is an important one. Visit the financial aid office in 2A 401 or go to www.csi.cuny.edu/finaid to discover the options you have to finance your education. There are scholarships, work-study programs, student loans, and government-assisted aid to get you by. Also, check out local scholarships on the web for even more opportunities. Don't let money get in the way of your education!

Read The Banner. We keep you updated on all the news on campus and what's happening locally in the work of music and the arts. And you'll love the comics section. And please contribute. We meet on Thursdays, at 1:30, on the second floor of the Campus Center (1C-228).

Bottom line is make the most of your college experience. Utilize everything CSI has to offer.

WSIA SEARCHES FOR NEW GM continued from page 1

increase in salary made Austin Lee ineligible. David Shear, who had been a community volunteer at the station for the past several years, agreed to take the interim position for up to 2 years until a permanent replacement was found.

The search committee has had difficulty finding a permanent replacement. Four of the finalists, who were winnowed from more than 70 initial applicants, have dropped out of contention. Despite the setbacks, Brower is optimistic about the search. "I'm hoping we're close to the end," she said. "We're trying to finish up soon."

The general manager position is one of only two positions at WSIA that are paid. The other paid position is that of chief engineer, John Ladley. When asked about the search, Ladley refrained from going into detail. "I better keep my mouth shut," he said.

In between Jazz tracks during his "crossroads" show, student Disc Jockey Steven Hager offered his take on the situation. "We should have a general manager," he said, "but it's really hard to replace a general manager, especially one like Greg Adamo."

The general manager's salary is paid directly by the college, while the chief engineer's salary is paid using funds from the student activity fee collected each semester. With a heaping of extra help from Ladley, the station is capable of running itself until a new general manager is found.

WSIA broadcasts at 10 watts on 88.9FM and can be heard in Staten Island, Brooklyn, parts of Manhattan, and New Jersey. It is the only radio station on Staten Island. WSIA also has a fully functional recording studio.

ATTENTION STUDENTS

Nominations are now open for the Fall 2004 Student Elections

Nominate Yourself for a Position on the

CSI STUDENT GOVERNMENT

(3 positions available)

and/or

COLLEGE COUNCIL

(1 position available)

Nomination period is from Monday, September 13th through Monday, October 4th at NOON

All nominees must ahve a minimum 2.25 GPA (3.0 for graduate seat), a minimum of six credits and must have completed at least 50% of the credits for which they were enrolled in the prior semester for the Student Government and a minimum 2.0 GPA for College Council

PICK UP A NOMINATION FORM IN THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OFFICE ROOM IC-207 TODAY!

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Fans Flock to Comic Book Promised Land at Annual Wizard World Convnetion in Philadelphia

Gregory Tumbarello

With no shortage of top talent, a friendly atmosphere, and enough superhero-related merchandise to bleed your pockets dry, the Wizard World Philadelphia convention was a dream come true for aspiring comic artists and readers alike.

Thousands of fans showed up at the Philadelphia Convention Center May 21–23 for the latest annual comic fest presented by Wizard Entertainment. The guest list read like a who's who of the greatest artists and writers ever to grace the printed funny page.

Guests included revered Marvel artists Adam and Andy Kubert, both known for their stunning work on Ultimate X-men. Also noteworthy of mention were red-hot cover painter Greg Horn; Kabuki creator David Mack; Flash penciler, Howard Porter, X-Men artists Salvador Larocca and John Cassaday; Adventures of Superman inker, Nelson Decastro; and Wanted artist J.G. Jones, just to name a few.

"I'm looking at a nine hour drive back home," stated attendee Lyle Vernon of Taylor, Michigan. "I came here just for Michael Turner." Turner, the superstar artist currently working on Superman/Batman and various covers for DC Comics, was the



convention's guest of honor. Over the course of the weekend, Turner spent hours upon hours signing comics for eagerly waiting fans.

The unscheduled appearance of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles co-creator, Peter Laird, was the surprise of the weekend for anyone who grew up in the 80's and 90's. Laird, an all-around friendly guy, took time to sign autographs, sketch ninja turtles, and chat with fans.

As for the aspiring comic book artists and writers who attended instructional seminars offered by proven professionals, they definitely got what they wanted. Highlights included comic company Top Cow's president, Matt Hawkins' seminar on self-marketing, world-class

inker/creator Jimmy Palmiotti's session on creating your own property, and renowned artist/writer Mike Oeming's colloquium on sequential art and storytelling.

Such pearls of wisdom, coming from the industries' top guns, made the entire convention worth the \$40 weekend admission pass for those knowledge-seeking fans trying to break into the business.

The same cannot be said for those who bought the special V.I.P. passes, offered at more than three times the price of a normal three-day ticket. The value of buying the high-end admission pass came not from the extra comics and collectibles given to these ticket holders, but from the special 'meet and greet' with the conven-

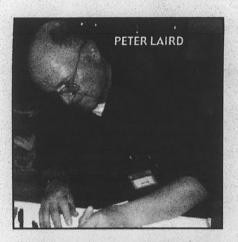


tion's biggest comic creators.

"The V.I.P. meet and greet was a bust," said V.I.P. ticket-holder Henry Tripson of North Dakota. "It turned into one big signing session with at least a hundred people there."

"There was nothing to do but stand in line again," said Tripson's friend and fellow V.I.P. ticket holder, Joshua Roadifer. "We're still having a good time, though."

The next Wizard World Philadelphia will take place June 3-4, 2005. See you there!



MIKE TURNER



CSI Meets Marvel Artist Greg Horn

Gregory Tumbarello

With fans waiting on seemingly endless lines for autographs, some would be quick to mistake artist Greg Horn for a rock star. His work as one of Marvel Comics' premier cover painters for books such as Elektra and Emma Frost have earned him critical acclaim from both fans and industry professionals. His clientele also includes such high profile companies as Sony, Nike, Blizzard Entertainment and Bacardi Rum.

Horn, who began drawing comics in high school, got his first paying gig back in 1989 through publisher AC Comics. After more than a decade of wandering in relative obscurity the painter extraordinaire had had enough. "By 2000 I was fed up with just independent black and white comics," says Horn. "That's when I made the transition to hard color." With a newfound resolve, Horn produced J.U.D.G.E., a comic with all the visual impact and punch that he was craving to do.



All photos this page: Rina Sklar

"It was a totally different experience," says Horn, and it caught the eye of Marvel Comics' Editor in Chief, Joe Quesada, who gave Horn a shot at his dream job. Horn took the opportunity to create carefully crafted pieces with startling photo-realism, earning him fan nominations for 'best painter' two years in a row in Wizard magazine.

"Most of my inspiration comes definitely from comics," says Horn. "That helps me in other markets because a lot of companies I do artwork for are looking for a comics style. They want a comic's look and flavor." Which was just what he delivered in his highly publicized artwork depicting the 2004 US Olympic Basketball Team.

Currently, Horn is putting out his own book, *The Art of Greg Horn*, which showcases some of his greatest masterpieces both in and out of comics. But getting the rights to use the characters included in the book was no small task. "There's been a lot of red tape and a lot of licensed characters," says Horn. "The tough ones to get permission for are the magazines. But If I can get their e-mail and show them a picture I can get them to approve."

Available in September, the 9" by 12" hardcover book contains over 140 pages of full color art and even includes a tutorial featuring a step-by-step guide to Horn's unparalleled digital painting technique. With his attention to detail and a passion for his work, it's no wonder he's considered on of the top artists in the industry.

Letter From the Editor: Welcome Back . . . Now Get to Work!

Welcome back students of CS. I am thrilled to be the new editor-inchief of this increasingly prominent publication.

Our first issue was created while you guys were frolicking along the beach, doing keg stands and sleeping till 12. Or, working your ass off while being stuck on this God forsaking rock called Staten Island. (I'm typing this on my day off!)

This semester you'll find a multitude of articles on the American Democracy Project page dedicated to the 2004 elections. Joe Tacopino will be giving you bi-weekly updates on what's happening on the campaign trail-because you are voting in November, yes? And Matt Safford has laid down a major challenge to debate his left-of-center views. Anyone from the right?

We are introducing an expanded Arts and Entertainment section, edited by world-renowned sexpert Jessica Mendez, that will feature a new series of articles "Beyond the Mall." It will make its debut in the next issue.

Enrique Inocente will once again disgrace these pages with hilarious, offensive comics. Any and all contributions will be deemed his sole property. No, seriously, Enrique wants to publish your panels.

CSI sports coverage will once again be on the backpage, and a two-page color spread will run in the middle of each issue.

Every semester The Banner comes out with a special issue. Last semester it was the Sex Issue. This I am extremely proud of the hard work the Banner staff puts into this biweekly paper. There have been many arguments, personal drama cases, a stolen camera, and conflict among various organizations, but most of all there's been laughter and teamwork.

The point of all this boasting is that you've got a newspaper that's

This Semester, The Banner will publish its first ever Music Issue. Deadline for submissions is Oct. 19.

It's going to be kick-ass quality reading!

semester I'm very excited to announce that on October 25th, the Banner will publish its first Music Issue. Music is my everything so I'll make sure that it's kick-ass quality reading for everyone. And I'm putting the call out now for submissions—reviews, profiles of local bands, clubs, cds, and the campus music scene. I believe it goes way beyond rock—and I'd like to see articles about jazz, blues, hip-hop, country, and all the rest.

dedicated to serving you. Take advantage of it.

It's been said so many frigging times but it's worth saying again: This is your paper, so read it. If you do not agree with what's been written, write a letter and drop it off at our office in 1C 228. Feel free to contribute. We're short on staff, so if you're a budding journalist, photographer, graphic designer, comic artist, or advertising junky—please come see us, we're good people.

Believe it or not, working on The Banner gives you hands-on experience you won't find in a classroom (read number one on my Freshman Top Ten list—Get involved!)

A lot of people put this college down. You've heard it, "CSI stands for, College of Stupid Idiots, blah blah blah." But you know what? I've been here for—ahem—four years now and worked on the paper long enough to find out that CSI is actually a great school. Most of the professors are great people who've excelled in their field of expertise. We'll be profiling some professors, but all of them deserve recognition.

Read the paper and you'll see what I mean. Of course, I'll definitely be sicking my writers on any campus controversy that affects you. This issue, investigative journalist David Maltz explores why the search for a new WSIA General Manager has taken so long. We will also keep you updated on the water situation in Building 6S. Believe it or not, nothing is perfect. Not even CSI.

Anyhoooo, I look forward to this semester and hope to hear from you readers out there. Enjoy!

- Jennifer Mosscrop

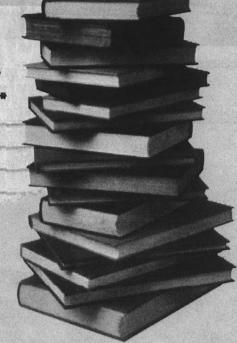
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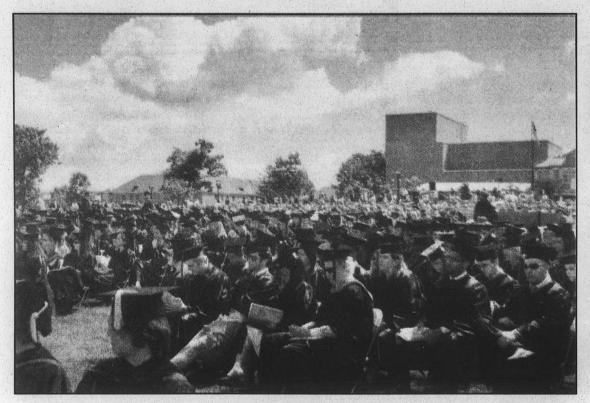
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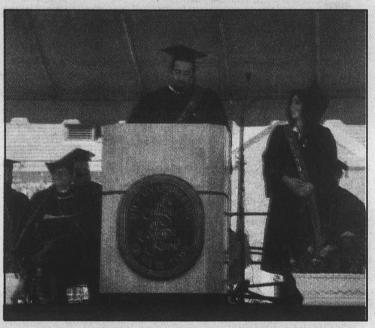
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Graduation 2004 They Came, They Studied, They Conquered ...

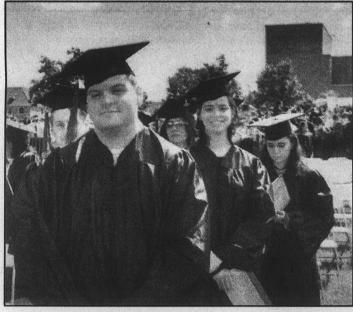
Family, friends, and faculty members gathered on the Great Lawn, June 3rd to celebrate the graduating class of 2004



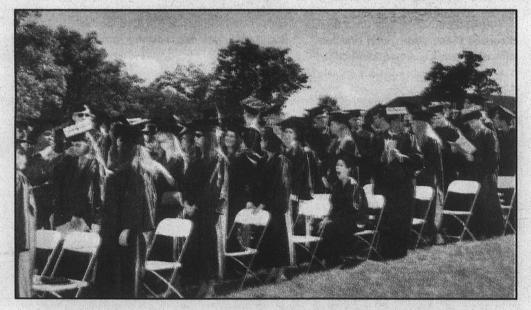
Graduates heard greetings from the honorable Rita Dimartino, Vice Chancellor Russell K. Hotzler, and CSI's Fred Naider.



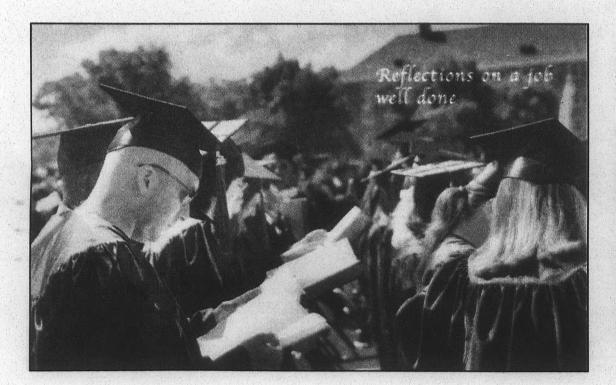
Norman Noble, AAS '74 (center) spoke on behalf of CSI Alumni.Stacey Domenic (right), BA '04 spoke on behalf of CSI students



Paul Cantor (left) and Megan McGibney both left CSI with



Honorary degrees were presented to Zarin Mehta (Doctor of Arts), Neil DeGrasse Tyson (Doctor of Humane Letters) and Steven L. Teitelbaum (Doctor of Science)





Flag bearers outlined the great lawn with all of the different facets of CSI's academic program



CSI showed its colors with flags representing all areas of study



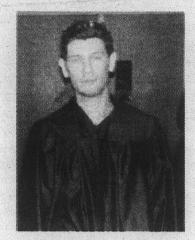
Brenda Radney sang the National Anthem to more than 1,700 candidates, their family, friends, and faculty members



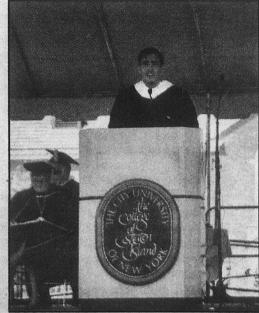
President Marlene Springer congratulated the class of 2004



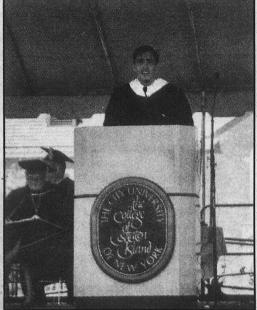
The processional began at 10 am to the sound of Pomp and Circumstance. That's music to any graduates ears!



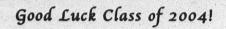
Vincent Rosa paused for a photo op before celebrating with friends

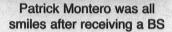


Congressman Vito Fosella received the President's Medal and gave the **Commencement Address**



Friends stood together one last time on the Great Lawn.





Life....

Love...

& SEX

BEHIND ENEMY LINES: A BIPARTISAN LOVE STORY

After typecasting my relationships for so long, it was time I checked out how the other half loved.

Jessica Mendez

JR was definitely not my type. He was dry without so much as a hint of an artistic inkling, dressed like Big Pussy from Sopranos (we're talking zip-front knit shirts with dress pants, people), and (it pains me to put this in print) he was a Republican. A Conservative Republican. Yes, JR was a Bush-lovin' Pataki lackey who stayed indoors all day to watch the Reagan funeral. And yes, he cried.

"He's perfect, girl!" my friend Kali drawled. My jaw still aches from thudding on the floor with such speed and force. Me dating a style-deficient GOP was like a vegan dating a cannibal. Nonetheless, when he asked me out, I agreed. Hell, I thought, if nothing else, it'll make for interesting reading. (Oh, the things I do for you!)

We all have a type. Admit it, you do. Give me pale and pretty, pasty and tasty. If you are 6' or taller, artsy, and introspective with any sort of sexy foreign accent—British, Irish, Australian, French, South American, etc.—I will literally melt into a puddle of desire.

But wait now! While I may be attracted to thin, pretty foreign boys, I have most definitely gone against type. I've dated short, tall, burly, rugged, with complexions ranging from desert clay to fresh cream. I've snuggled with artists and construction workers, theater technicians and teachers, bartenders and poets.

OK, so they were all funny, wickedly creative in their own way. Christian Biker Gang Member, Surfer/Model/Elementary School Teacher, Musical Theater Fanatics,

Freaks and Geeks—my roster reads like a circus side show. As someone who doesn't exactly embody "average," I enjoyed playing ringmaster. But something inside me was restless, tired of becoming entangled in these dead—end relationships. They were fun and intriguing, yes, but every single one of these guys were notoriously flighty, moody, and emotionally akin to brick walls.

If I had a checklist, JR would have been under the heading, "Never EVER Date This Man. Ever. No, Seriously." But JR had pleasantly surprised me on our first date. He took me to dinner at a place that doesn't have a drive thru window, walked along the waterfront with me, and was polite enough to ask for a kiss. (OK, so he eagerly slipped his hands up the skirt of my flirty cocktail dress shortly afterwards-he backed off when I eventually came to my senses and slowed his roll.) And, above all else, the conversation flowed like boxed wine at a trailer park wedding. I was intrigued and ready to move on to date two.

And it was on date two that the cracks began to show, as if someone painted crackle glaze over JR's freshly glossed exterior. At a diner, our political "discussion" consisted of me voicing an opinion and JR patting me on the head and saying, "No, sweetle, what you mean is..." blah blah blah Republicancakes. He called me and all other non-Republicans "hippies." He praised Ann Coulter repeatedly. We left the diner in silence. I was fuming; he was too busy grabbing my pink flouncy miniskirted ass to notice.

"Hey, it's not like I mind being lusted after," I finally said, "but what I wear and my IQ are not in direct relation to one another!" Despite his promises to take me seriously, his assurance that the sexiest thing about me was my intelligence, and his waxing poetic about "caring about" me, the incident left me feeling uneasy.

I decided to forget about the incident, especially when he showed me pictures of his family and friends alongside him schmoozing with celebs and politicos (including one Almighty William Jefferson Clinton, a man no one, not even a Bush boy, can resist). I thought that he was making an effort to make things better. I was almost sad to tell him that I had made plans with friends and wouldn't be able to see him that weekend. And then, and then...

"Be good," Whointhewhatnow? "I'm telling you, be good for me." It wasn't a request. The questions and accusations came flying: "Who are you going to see? Are you going to be with a guy? A bang buddy?" Wow, hold the inquisition, McCarthy. Here, want a Mag light to shine in my eyes? The controlling, condescending attitude totally put me off. The dinners, the "chivalry," and the intent to commit meant nothing to me when compared with being single and having my own values and opinions. Visions of me in sensible suits and pillbox hats-worn without irony-made my skin slither.

And so, I was not "good." I was pretty damn "bad," in fact—mental stimulation does wonders for clitoral stimulation as well, it turns out. I told JR of my dirty deeds, knowing that he

would be angry and judgmental but willing to take the chance. So, after being told that what I did was "disgusting" and that him "doing stuff 'down there" was his way of putting a "private property sign down there" even though we weren't "officially together," I knew that this would be our goodbye. (Anyone who cannot say VAGINA and skews all logic to fit his needs should really think twice before calling anyone disgusting. Then again, gotta love Republican moral logic!) Of course, one last go 'round on the cunnilingus caboose was in order. Hey, after putting up with that, I deserved it.

I have to say, despite all of that, I'm glad I veered so far from the usual dating suspects. Dating someone so different from me taught me a lot about what I want from a man and, even more importantly, from life. No, it is not worth sacrificing my beliefs for the clichéd notion of a "charmed" life. Learn from me, kiddies: go against "type," for experiment's sake. You may be pleasantly surprised and find someone who you are genuinely happy with. If nothing else, you will learn something new about yourself. In hindsight, I guess JR was just enough of a sideshow freak for me to add him to my menagerie. Hypocritical Freaky Republican Peach Eating Salad Tosser? Check.

Sentia M Montes

Look Forward To NewVideo Hockey and Wrestling This Fall!

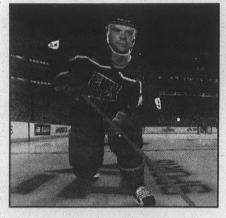
Dominic Fiduccia

WWE: Day of Reckoning is the third WWE video game to be released on the Nintendo GameCube.

Though the gameplay remains largely unchanged, there is one notable difference—the pickup meter.

It's unrealistic even in pro wrestling to think that a wrestler like Rey Mysterio or Maven would be able to lift and body slam large wrestlers like Batista, Kane, or the Big Show. With the pickup meter, you'll no longer be able to do such unrealistic feats unless you repeatedly tap the A button to raise the pickup meter.

The big change in the game is the brand-new "story mode." You pick a wrestler that has to compete in the minor leagues and if you perform well enough you'll be allowed to join the WWE where you'll have to prove yourself to earn a shot for the WWE World Title.



Even if the real guys don't play, you can still hit the ice. NHL 2005 will be available Sept. 20, for Playstation 2, Nintendo GameCube, and Xbox.

The game roster has been a well kept secret this year and although the official number of wrestlers that you can play remains a mystery, it is known to feature top stars like Eddie Guerrero, Chris Benoit, Triple H, the high flying masked luchadore Rey Mysterio, and the 7'2 500 pound Big

Show.

There will also be a Legends roster that will feature the Eighth Wonder of the World himself, Andre the Giant.

WWE: Day of Reckoning is available on Nintendo GameCube on August 30.

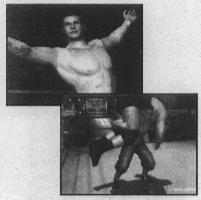
As for the real world of sports there is a scary possibility that there will be no hockey this year unless something happens before the Sept. 15 collective bargaining deadline. Even if there is no season you'll still have EA Sports NHL 2005 to cope with and get an idea of what the 2004–2005 season of the National Hockey League would've been like.

One of the new gameplay features is the face-off playbook which allows you to design exactly how you want a face-off to go. Hockey's World Cup has been added to the game modes. It's a tournament where NHL player's face-off against the world's best.

If you have a high ranking team all

ready, you won't have to worry about building a team from the start. You'll have to take note of what your team's owner's goal is whether it's making money, or winning the Stanley Cup by a certain amount of time. You'll have to live up to their expectations.

NHL 2005 is available Sept. 20 on Playstation 2, Nintendo GameCube, and Xbox.



Release your back-to-school stress and kick ass with WWE Day of Reckoning available August 30.

Beer Spewers and Piano Crooners Flourish in Your Backyard

Mellissa Seecharan

So you spent your hard earned cash buying disgustingly overpriced tickets for some of the summer's "hottest" concerts that left you, well let's face it, feeling like a boy at the Neverland Ranch....screwed and without cab fare home. You don't have to be a hipster to know where to find great bands on Staten Island. Just ask around and you'll realize how many talented musicians are performing at places like Dock St., the Muddy Cup, and Martini Red among others.

Local bands tore up the Island throughout summer and the youthful crowds were more than loving it. One favorite, The Washington Riot, played a few shows at Dock St. and with the ska sounds of infectious songs such as "Who's on First" and "Pick 4" they were, like always, able to rock out with their brass out. Having played venues in New Jersey, Brooklyn, and SI, The Washington Riot's love for music is evident during their shows or as lead singer Dov told the crowd back in June, "don't mosh, dance!"

One of the more notable performances of the summer came from long time favorite Melmac. Seeing as it was trombonist's John Lastella's final

show with the band (he's serving our country proud), fans packed Dock St. crowded around the tiny stage in hopes of rocking out with a band many have come to know and love over the past five years. Not failing to disappoint, the band's last performance as Melmac was a giant bash complete with silly string and surfing.

Performing an array of old and new material, the band members paid homage not only to their departing friend, but also to the fans for supporting them throughout the years.

When it comes to SI's metal scene El Diablo Bastardo know how to do one thing right, and that's kick butt. If you've caught one of their shows or plan on going, you might come out with a new outlook at a type of music



attempted crowd

Among others on the SI scene: Vanessa Azzarelli has played with jazz legends B. B. King and Wynton Marsalis.

that is usually considered "scary", "devil music", and even "bad." Don't be a fool to stereo-So the types. music is a cacophony of screams and the lead singer sometimes spits beer into the crowd, but after a while you'll find yourself really getting into it. Who wouldn't with songs like "Viva Lucha Libre" and "Wolf Song," not to mention an off the wall cover of

Duran Duran's "Hungry Like the Wolf".

One up and comer in the Staten Island music scene is Vanessa Azzarelli. Previously of the band Burgundy, this 20 year old singer/songwriter has played in numerous clubs and bars all over New York City including St. George Theater, The Real McCoy, and Cargo.

"Music makes me happy; it makes life that much more enjoyable

and bearable," she said. "The feeling of performing my own music always excited me when people are singing back the lyrics to my songs and dancing to my music. It's the greatest feeling in the world!" Azzarelli's music can be described as piano pop, resembling more of the old school veterans of this genre like Billy Joel and Carol King, though she considers her style a fusion of "Stevie Wonder's funky grooves with the passion of Steven Tyler on an Aerosmith ballad."It is a difficult combination to pull off, but Azzarelli is able to get it right.

With her spunky, high strung energy and her rock and roll funk, it's no wonder she was invited to play festivals in Monterey, California and across the Atlantic for Holland's North Sea Jazz Festival where she had the opportunity to play with jazz legends B.B. King and Wynton Marsalis.

As she continues to work on her demo, Azzarelli can be seen performing at "Open Mic Nights" at the Muddy Cup and Martini Red's, both located on Van Duzer St. And her newly formed Queens-based band, "Nessa's Box" is on the rises. "We're gonna be big so stay tuned to hear what's inside Nessa's Box", she said. "You won't be disappointed!

Gendered-Skewed Cookbooks Serve Starved Students

Jessica Mendez

Cafeteria food is overpriced freezer burn. If you're not already on your own, you soon will be. Do you want to blow half of your entry-level budget on fast food, brain cells doomed to swim in recycled grease? Yum. Here are some options for ladies and gents who have yet to make acquaintance with a stove.

A MAN, A CAN, A PLAN: 50 GREAT GUY MEALS EVEN YOU CAN MAKE
David Joachim and the Editors of Men's Health Magazine, Rodale Books, 2002
Got a can opener? Some baked beans from last month's BBQ? You, my friend, have the start of a great meal.



THE GOODS:Tons. The editors at Men's Health are intent on even the most clueless schlub learning how to cook. Every recipe in this handy splatter-proof board book is broken down into picture equations. Nutritional information is plentiful. It's like a cookbook for toddlers.

INGREDIENT TRACKER: You can find everything in this book at the local supermarket (or bodega, for that matter). Spaghettio-s has its own section here. You will not have a problem.

BOOZE: Beer is a food group. No, really.

GENDER SKEW: On the Ham 'n 'Shroom Scramble: "Cook...until the eggs are set in the middle, like Pamela Anderson...Run under the broiler...until puffy and gold-

en. Like Pamela Anderson." Plus, there are cooking tips only a man's cookbook would include (I now know that a few drops of Beano in any legume-based dish will drastically reduce noxious emissions afterwards).

BOTTOM LINE: If you find this book challenging, then I beg of you, never go near a stove or open flame. Ever.

CHEAP AND EASY: A COOKBOOK FOR GIRLS ON THE GO Sandra Bark, Alexis Kanfer, Fireside, 2004



Us modern ladies have to fend for ourselves, but gone are the days of Julia Child as our culinary role model .

THE GOODS: Bark and Kanfer categorize everything from breakfast all the way to late night cocktails and yummy dinner parties, with sample menus for every occasion (including practical gourmet "lunch boxes"). Variations for several recipes are included, making it easy to make a pretty damn tasty couture cookie.

INGREDIENT TRACKER: All of the ingredients are available in any decently stocked grocery store.

BOOZE: Honey, there's an entire section of the book devot-

ed to cocktails. Just don't get blitzed while you're cooking.

GENDER SKEW: With recipes like Mac 'n Jill (Macaroni and Cheese) and Girlspacho (Gaspacho soup), the authors bring on the pun for a decidedly thirdwave feminist feel. The Break-Up Bakery is for when you want that one night stand out of your house but don't want him traveling forlornly on an empty stomach, while the Naked Brunch allows for a languorous postcoital meal to fuel up before resuming the raunchy romp. Slumber Party is for a night of girly goodness.

BOTTOM LINE: Fun, kitschy, and easy recipes that taste so good, no one will ever know that they were so easy to make. Take that, Julia!

THE STUDENT'S VEGETARIAN COOKBOOK: QUICK, EASY, CHEAP AND TASTY VEGETARIAN RECIPES

Carole Raymond, Three Rivers Press, 2003

Vegetarians cannot live on carrots alone. Rejoice! You can live on hearty, healthy, tasty food that isn't going to drain your wallet.

THE GOODS: This book is gimmick-free but packed with a ton of information, including a glossary defining various fruits and vegetables.

INGREDIENT TRACKER: With organic foods becoming increasingly popular, a well-stocked supermarket should serve you well, but some items might be hard to find at your local Walbaums. Try a health foods store, like Family Health Foods (1789 Victory Blvd, call 718-442-0357 for more information).

LIQUOR RECIPES: An entire chapter is devoted to beer and vegetarianism, and the Beer Pancakes are whole-wheat goodness (and a great way to use up that beer from last night's soiree). The Aztec rice and beer stew are other ways to get creative with Coors.

GENDER SKEW: None, vegetarianism is for everyone!

BOTTOM LINE: Easy, yummy, healthy food with recipes specifically measured for one or two people...the perfect book for those looking to eat well even when eating alone.

COMICS

The Beacom

Written and Drawn by Enrique Inocente

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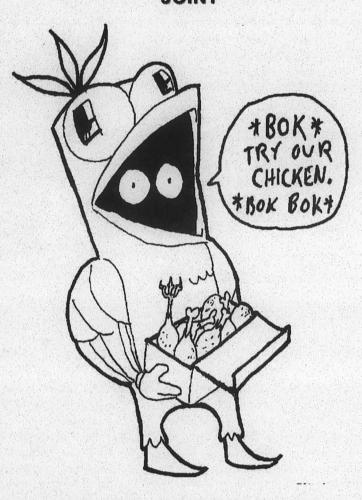




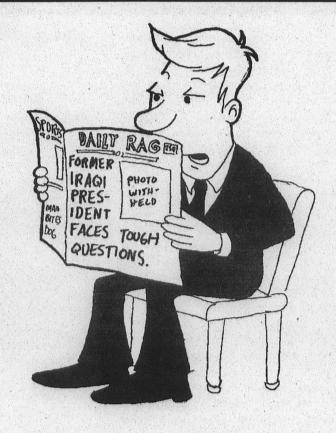


LAFF QUICKIE

AN ENRIQUE IGNACIO INOCENTE JOINT



"THIS CAN'T BE MY LIFE. I'M A COLLEGE GRADUATE."



"IT'S TOO BAD THE **AMERICAN PRESIDENT** WON'T FACE TOUGH **QUESTIONS FOR HIS** WAR CRIMES."

An Enrique Ignacio Inocente Joint

SPORTS

September 13, 200

Summer Camp at CSI Means Tennis in the Morning, Tennis in the Afternoon

Marcel Sandoungout

During the off-season, CSI tennis Coach Bruce Knittle is very busy, hosting his annual tennis camp.

"I'm very happy about the camp," Mr. Knittle said. "The kids are really great."

Coach Knittle's tennis camp is a summer rendezvous for kids who want to learn how to play tennis, or develop and increase their skills. They follow an intensive schedule, in which they mixed hard work with good time, and skilled instructors supervise them.

"The camp runs from Monday through Friday, from 9 am, to 5 pm," Coach Knittle said. "Kids attending are from age 6 to 17, and they are under the supervision of 7 instructors."

This summer thirty-five kids played under the supervision of Coach Knittle, his assistant, and seven instructors. These instructors teach kids how to play tennis mentally as well as physically. They do drills such as volley, backhand strokes, forehand strokes, serves, and also footwork. These drills are part of their daily routine.

"We teach them fundamentals," said Coach Knittle. During the morning hours, balls are bouncing all over



the court, as the kids enjoy the good

"I'm having a good time," said Tiffany Weung. "Paul is good instructor, he makes it fun." Indeed, Paul Riccardi, who has been working with Coach Knittle for a long time, is one of the most successful instructors, and has his own routine. "I usually make them play matches after drills."

atmosphere, and the company of

their instructors.

The first part of the day is usually over around 11:30 am, and instructors and students are on lunch break. Student look exhausted, but they are

not the only one.
"This is the worst
part of the day,"
said Richie May,
one the tennis
instructor. "It
gets really hot."

Activities resume around 1: 45 pm. However, students have the Nonetheless, for the die-hard tennis player wannabe, the court remains the place to be. They do more drills, and then play organized matches. "I think that having them playing matches is good because it allows them to be competitive," said Paul Riccardi.

At the end of the day, kids look exhausted, and their enthusiasm and energy is a little bit down. However, it

is interesting to see them leaving the camp, waving bye to their instructors, while saying "see you tomorrow," with this twinkle in their eyes that translates their eagerness to be back on the court the next day.

With the summer coming to an end, Bruce Knittle's tennis camp is also ending. It would be time for Coach Knittle to resume his coaching activity because the

ladies tennis season is not to far away, and the lady dolphins need to do better than last year.

"I don't know the team will look like, but I'm looking forward to seeing it," he said.

choice between going to the swimming pool, playing basketball, or simply keep on playing tennis. "The afternoon is more relaxed," said instructor Craig Gellerman.

Swimming in the pool is one of the most popular activities, especially when it is warm outside.

Sports Year in Review: Great Success and Heartache . . . and Hopes for the Fall

Dominic Fiduccia

When it comes to sports, CSI has enjoyed great success and heartache this past Spring 2004 semester.

On Saturday, February 7, the CSI Men's Swim team won their third straight CUNY championship in the CUNY Swim Championship at Lehman College in the Bronx. The team went 5-2 this past season with a perfect record in CUNY conference meets (4-0).

The women's team started the season with an incredible undefeated streak of 7–0, but came in second to the defending champion, Hunter College Hawks. The Lady Dolphins were leading by 16 points going into the final event, but lost by a mere two points. The final was 488.5–486.5.

The Men's Basketball team went 19-9 overall and were 11-2 in CUNY. They went all the way to the semi-finals, but lost to the City Tech Yellow Jackets.

The end of the season was even more frustrating for the women's team, as they went 23–7 and were undefeated in CUNY with a 13–0 record. They reached the CUNY Championship and lost to their long-time rivals the Hunter College Hawks in the final second of the game. Both basketball teams were this year's number one seeds.

This past year's Women's Softball team finally reached the end of the road for disappointment by defeating the Hunter College Hawks 2–1 in this year's CUNY Championship. The Lady Dolphins ended Hunter's three year reign as CUNY Champions.

The women's softball team had a record of 18-14-1 with an 11-1 record in CUNY play.

The men's baseball team ended won this year's CUNY Championship just one day after the women's softball winning their title.

Despite having a slow start to this

season with a record of 0-4 (and not to mention of having lost more games than they won at 14-15), their CUNY record was an amazing 8-2. The men's baseball team had to win the title in a double header playing both the semi-finals and finals in one day due to the previous weeks rainy weather. The Dolphins easily defeated Keuka Strom 9-1.

In the championship game they faced off against the John Jay Bloodhounds. It didn't look good from the start as the Bloodhounds led the game 4–0 after the first inning, but the Dolphins were able to come back and win the CUNY Championship with a final score of 10–8.

What made this year's Men's Baseball and Women's Softball victories even better was the fact that this year's tournament was played at CSI.

It wasn't a good year for the men's tennis team, which was unable to defend their CUNY title. The volleying Dolphins finished fifth in this year's tennis tournament, with a record of 3-8 (3-5 in CUNY conference play).

Here's hoping for the best for this year's Dolphins in the 2004–2005 season. Come out and support the teams. You can even get a CLUE credit. Even better, try out for a team and become a Dolphin!

Tryouts for Fall teams begin the week of August 16th. For more information, call (718) 982-3149 or visit csi.cuny.edu/athletics

TAKE PRIDE IN CSI