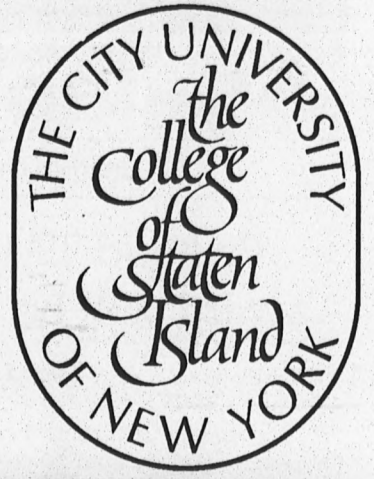


THE

BANNER

CSIS OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER



VOLUME IV, ISSUE IX

February 20, 1997

Student Government Discussion of Politics



Student Government Held Annual Meeting

By: Holly Lenehan

...Pell and TAP your TAP award will be reduced by half.

Student Government held its annual meeting in the Green Dolphin Lounge on February 5th. The main purpose of the meeting was to inform those in attendance of the accomplishments and intentions of Student Government. The meeting also addressed the state of Student Activities and its finances.

"The basic function of the Student Government is to represent the Student Body," said Ellen Krieger, the Student Government Coordinator. She opened the meeting and briefly spoke about Student Government. She then introduced the acting director of Student Life, Mike Silva, who spoke about the purposes of Student Government. Mr. Silva also encouraged students to take advantage of their representatives, stating that "students having difficulty at any time are encouraged to contact Student Government."

The next person to speak was Joe Canale, the current President of Student Government. He stated that he has been the Student President for nine months; when he completes his term in May, he will have had the longest term of any single-term president in CSI history. He described his experiences as "rewarding, trying and challenging." He then said, "When I sought the presidency those long nine months ago, I remember saying that my ultimate vision for both myself and the Student Government was to make Student Government more responsive to its students. I am happy to say that I feel that the Student Government as a body embraced the notion of being responsive to students and that we certainly made some noteworthy advancements that will undoubtedly benefit students."

He then spoke about the recent accomplishments of Student Government. Some of the accomplishments he mentioned were the Student Government "Welcome Back" reception and the open microphone meetings, which have "allowed the students for the first time ever to bring their concerns and problems directly to us, thus facilitating a more inclusive relationship." He then

announced that Student Government has tripled their donation to the CSI scholarship fund. He then spoke about how Student Government has made textbooks more available to students in need. He explained that the Student Government has made emergency book loans and continues to purchase textbooks for the library so that students who cannot buy books can do their work in the library. He also stated that "one Wednesday out of every month, there will be free pizza, salad and soft drinks served in the cafeteria for all students."

He then spoke about the accomplishments that



Photo By: John LaMantia

Student Government has made through lobbying. He stated, "Last semester, we were successful in lobbying for and gaining agreements for longer library hours, both during regular times and midterms and finals weeks, and we are proud of our work and collaboration with both President Springer and Vice President Jackson in making this so." He said that Student Government is "pleased to have again lobbied and worked with the administration and have gotten an acknowledgment of need for additional student club space and a commitment for exploration in this area." He then stated that "on the issue of lighting, we are pleased that we have lobbied for and requested that lighting be enhanced in areas of the cam-

pus. We have made great gains here, most noticeably in the gravel parking lot which is lit up like Yankee Stadium, and we must again thank both Vice President Jackson and Vice President Huddacs for the collaboration in this area."

He then spoke about the problems that Student Government is currently dealing with. He stated that the number one problem is parking, "which, as many times as it is explained to me by the Administration why we are not able, qualified, or in need enough for additional space, remains a complete mystery to me why there aren't more spaces being provided. But we continue to bring this issue to the forefront of our fight for students and, despite little progress, we are pleased the parking committee has convened. I'm on that committee to ensure that the issue will be taken seriously."

Canale also stated that Student Government "would like more access to computer labs, and are gradually making strides in this area... but not enough." He then spoke about cafeteria prices being too high, and about the low levels of student election turnout.

He spoke in detail about the Governor's budget proposal, which calls for a \$57 million cut in funding to CUNY senior colleges. He said, "What this loss in funding will mean is a hike in tuition of \$400. On top of this, the Governor has proposed a \$175 million cut to the Tuition Assistance Program, which will mean that if you receive both Pell and TAP grants, your TAP award will be reduced by half." He stated that the Student Government "takes this very seriously and will fight this all the way, but we will be needing your help and I am hopeful that we will have it."

A number of the students in attendance were unhappy with Student Government. One such student, William Wharton, said that "they've been detached from the student body and no longer understand the needs of students." Another student, Colleen McGraham, stated that the Student President, "is on a power trip." *The Banner* spoke to the Student President, who said, "I wish that more of the average students, not just the politically radical students, had attended. This meeting marks the first time that there has been an annual meeting in ten years, and while I wish that there were certain things that had been different at the meeting, I am proud that this shows how seriously Student Government takes its constitutional responsibilities."

Educating the Mis-educated

By: Steve Hall

How many people realize that February is Black History month? Does anyone know who started this awareness? Can anyone name more than five African American inventors or scientists? Not many people know the answers to these questions. On February 11, guest speaker Ayayi Fubara spoke out on the education and mis-education of black students and their search for identity.

Ms. Fubara, a graduate of Ohio State University, is now working with clubs on our campus. She works with many black students and frequently asks them how they define education. The question generates many different responses. Most say that education means getting a better job, affording better things, having nice cars, a richer lifestyle and moving to a better community. But Fubara argued that once most African Americans "get educated," they move far away from their community and forget their roots. Fubara's definition of education is freeing oneself mentally and truly getting to know one's own background and history.

The quality level of education that blacks receive since integration versus integration was discussed. She spoke of Carter G. Woodson, who wrote "The Education of the Negro," and started off "Negro Month," which we

now know as Black History Month. In 1619, the colony of Jamestown, Virginia lured the first Africans who came as indentured servants. This, along with the implementation of slave codes, was discussed as a brief overview of Black history. Also discussed was the post-Civil War era's introduction of a criminal system which was developed due to the Southern white population's fear that free black people posed a threat to whites. In the course of history, many white philanthropists such as Rockefeller, helped the black community to become educated, but they had ulterior motives. One such motive was the desire to create a "black elite" which would be used to control the rest of the black population; another was that the philanthropic industrialists needed more semi-skilled workers, ones with just enough skills to make the economy grow.

Ms. Fubara spoke of studying African-American culture, and of how popular black entertainers, such as Jamie Foxx and Martin Lawrence, portray lazy, out of control men who stereotype the black community. Black people see themselves as being shaped by hip-hop, in which the performers sport clothing from designers such as DKNY, Versace, and Hilfiger, whose millions of dollars in revenue doesn't go to the black community. Ms. Fubara asked the audience if they knew of any famous blacks beside those entertainers, and the only response

was Martin Luther King, Jr. Fubara spoke of Benjamin Bannicker and Fredrick Douglas, and the consensus was that no one was educated about these great people. People constantly read literature and watch television, but they never ask who controls the content. Questions about what is being edited out should arise, but people go with the flow and let themselves be controlled by the media. The media holds a great deal of power over the public, which has led to our mis-education.

Another topic of discussion was the issue of black role models, and a top candidate was Michael Jordan, who many people admire for his incredible \$30 million salary. But Fubara admires Jordan for his consistency and work ethic which motivates him to give his all. She spoke of her own motivation, which is her family name. Taking pride in her family name always forced her to try and measure up to certain expectations and go beyond them by reaching new heights.

Lastly, Ms. Fubara spoke about racism, a "cancer that is embedded in all of the country." African-Americans must "look back on their heritage," the path the slaves had traveled and the knowledge their descendants had learned. According to Ms. Fubara, African-Americans are on a path to self-destruction, and if they do not read the writing on the wall, they will forever be mis-educated about themselves.

Students Fight to Save Childrens Center

By: Meredith Fogelman

On Tuesday, February 11th, Cynthia Murphy, the director of The Children's Center, traveled to Albany with several parents to fight the proposed budget cuts to the CUNY child care facilities. While in Albany, the group spoke to four influential people: Senator Joseph Bruno, Senator Kenneth Levalle, Senator Ronald Stafford, and Assemblyman Roger Green. Only Assemblyman Roger Green met with them personally; the other three Senators sent representatives to meet with them, even though they were in the building and not in a Senate meeting. Although the representatives listened to the parents' personal stories, they had no answers about where their Senators stood concerning child care on college campuses. They did assure them, however, that their Senators would **try** to hold tuition where it is, and would **try** not to cut funding for TAP grants. One Assemblyman, Roger Green, did take a side. He assured the group that child care, especially in the CUNY system was his number one priority.

Besides telling their personal stories to Assemblyman Green and the representatives, the parents made sure to remind them of several important points concerning child care and education in general. Some of these points were:

- CUNY child care has not received an increase in State Education Funding since 1987, while the number of children served has increased by 102%.
- Governor Pataki's budget and welfare reform will make it impossible for thousands of CUNY students who formerly received training related expense support to afford an education.
- College graduates make the most productive employees, and child care at the City University improves graduation rates, helps put people to work in jobs they keep, and saves the government money.
- In spite of CUNY child care's demonstrated effectiveness, welfare reform and cuts to block grants [fed-

eral grants allocated for child care] could eliminate \$1.4 million in funding to student parents.

•This year, the State cut the CUNY child care block grant by 22%, a loss of \$350,000, which caused children to be dropped and parents to drop out. (The block grant was established in 1987, and has not been raised since.)

Other student-parents that would be greatly affected by these cuts are those on public assistance. Many students on public assistance stand to lose their training related expense (TRE) eligibility, but would still need campus child care to attend college and find employment. Included among these students are:

- Students with any child under 1 year of age.
- Students participating in any work experience program, or WEP, who need to attend college in the afternoon or evening.
- WEP-eligible students not yet assigned or deferred.
- Students who cannot take a full course load or who fail even one class.
- ESL students and students with significant remedial needs.
- Students who cannot find community-based child care for their WEP assignments.

On a more personal level, if these cuts are approved, CSI could lose two programs from the Children's Center, including the infant and toddler program and the night and weekend program. In addition, the hourly rate could be increased from \$1.50 to \$2.00, and students on public assistance may be required to pay the hourly rate instead of the semester-long flat rate which they now pay. With 587 children on the center's list, they cannot afford any more cuts. If you wish to write or speak to someone about your concern for the Children's Center, you may write or call any of the people listed below:

Assemblyman Ed Sullivan
Room 717 LOB
Albany, New York 12224
(518) 455-3121

Assemblyman Roger Green
New York State Assembly
Room 742 LOB
Albany, New York 12224
(518) 445-5325

Senator Stephen Saland
New York State Senate
Room 946 LOB
Albany, New York 12224
(518) 455-2411

Assemblywoman Rhoda Jacobs
New York State Assembly
Room 844 LOB
Albany, New York 12224
(518) 455-3191

Senator Joseph Bruno
New York State Senate
Room 909 LOB
Albany, New York 12224
(518) 455-5385

GLOs Trying to Get Recognition

By: John La Mantia

Greek Letter Organizations have been trying to be recognized by CSI as Fraternities and Sororities for many years now. In the past, Fraternities and Sororities had to go under the name of "Greek Letter Organizations," and not under their national or local name. But now Student Government has decided to ask Dr. Marlene Springer, President of the College of Staten Island, for Greek Letter Organizations to be officially recognized as Fraternities and Sororities. Student Government President Joe Canale came over to *The Banner* with a written statement to tell us more about this possible policy change. One of the terms of the statement is that the college will recognize Fraternities and Sororities as a step forward to creating a more positive atmosphere for the student body. *The Banner* had a chance to talk to Club Commissioner Luis Cruzatte, who said, "I think it's time for Student Government to take some action on this matter. They have been working on this for years, and the GLOs should be recognized. They are a group of people that works hard, and we should not forget that they are students here at CSI and that they deserve equal treatment." The statement also noted that Student Government will not sup-

port Fraternities or Sororities which exclude students in any way. It also stated that, as long as the mission of the college is not compromised in any way by the legal establishment of Fraternities and Sororities, that Student Government will support them.

The Banner also had the chance to talk to some of the GLO members here at the College. Daniel Blois, a member of Alpha Phi Delta said: "It is good thing that Student Government is trying to help us. One thing that we are taught as we are joining is to support our school and its activities, and to help the community with our members". Another student commented about the letter that Canale wrote to Springer. "It's great. I think that Joe Canale did a good job on it, and I hope that Springer will go to our favor," said Andrew Desants of Sigma Alpha Mu.

A member from Phi Sigma Sigma, Sabrina Clark talked to *The Banner* about some of the benefits that the college will receive from recognizing Fraternities and Sororities. "I think that it will extend the pluralism and diversity. It will benefit the college, people do look for this when they apply to a colleges because they may have a family member who belongs to one of these Fraternities and Sororities at one time or another."

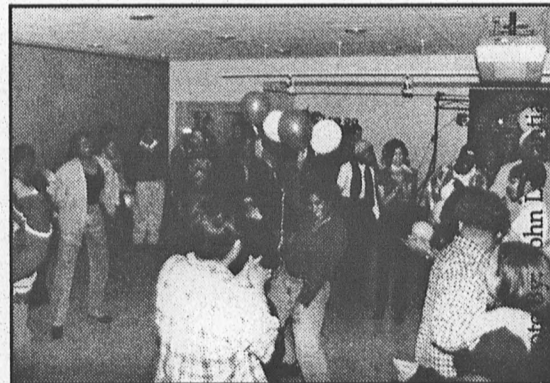
"It's great. I think that Joe Canale did a good job on it, and I hope that Springer will go to our favor."

Pre-Valentine's Day Dance

By: David Reiersen and Alexandra Velez.

The Program Development Committee of CSI funded a Pre-Valentine's Day Dance on Thursday, February 13th. It took place in the Green Dolphin Lounge from 6 pm to 10 pm and was free to all students. About 200 people signed the guest list, but only about 90 attended. The Program Development Committee (PDC) is an organization who tries to bring activities and events to CSI. PDC has given us events like Kramer's virtual reality, the movie "Eraser," and a celebration of Kwanzaa, a major African-American cultural event.

Jennifer Valle and Spencer Smarr, two members of PDC, were the ones who came up with the idea for the Pre-Valentine's Day dance. "Actually, it was kind of funny," says Valle recalling about how the idea came about. "I was at the Unicorn Diner with Spencer at three in the morning, and we began to talk about Valentines Day. I automatically got pissed off." Then they began to discuss ways that people could meet each other without feeling awkward, and came up with the Pre-Valentines Day Dance. "We weren't exactly sure how this would be accomplished," says Smarr, "but later we remembered that we were members of PDC, and the committee voted yes to the proposal."



Bob Simonton, also known as DJ Renegade, hosted the event. A variety of house, reggae, and techno music made the lounge seem like a real club. DJ Renegade has also hosted events at the Limelight, at Dance in in the Palisades, and at many other college events. DJ Renegade has ten years of experience mixing music, and has done guest spots internationally to promote clubs like Expo and The Tunnel.

The original idea for the dance was to have all the attendees pick a number, and those whose numbers matched

were to dance together. The idea was dropped, however, because the crowd didn't seem to go for it. One person said, "I hope to get a chance to meet someone special."

Unfortunately, the environment didn't make him feel very comfortable, and he left early.

Instead of the event being a singles dance, it bore a closer resemblance to the club scene. The music was loud, most of the people who attended danced, and most were dressed casually. Despite the changes, it appeared as though everyone was having a good time. "It was nice to be able to dance and have fun without having to pay 20 bucks," said one CSI student, who usually likes to go to clubs on weekends. "I'll definitely be looking forward to the next dance held here at CSI."

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Student Union?

by Holly Lenahan

The Student Union held a meeting in the Campus Center on February 13. This meeting was held to inform students of the issues that the Student Union is addressing. The main issue discussed was Governor Pataki's budget proposal, which will result in a cut in financial aid and a four hundred dollar increase in tuition. Another goal of the Student Union that was addressed at the meeting is twenty-four hour access to campus facilities.

"As students, we are definitely under attack," stated the meeting's first speaker, William Wharton. He explained that the Student Union is "working on getting Carol Jackson down here for a meeting with [CSI students] to ask her questions." He then introduced the Personnel Director of WSIA, Robert Lauro. "We have to be united in this movement," Lauro stated. "There are just a few people here; this room should be packed."

The next speaker was Louis Brushi of the College Council. He spoke briefly about the ACE test. He said that there will be a pilot exam given, and encouraged students not to take it. "What it will do is prevent you from becoming a senior," he stated. "Most of the faculty is against it, but it is hard to fight without the support of the students." It was later announced by the Student Body President that Student Government was successful in its fight against the ACE.

The next speaker was the Managing Editor of the College Voice, Manjula Wijerama. He spoke extensively on the issue of Governor Pataki's proposed budget cuts. He began by saying, "Every time there is a budget cut, we are told that there is a crisis, we are told that there is no money." He said that the cuts are unnecessary, and claimed that the cuts to CUNY are not because the city doesn't have the money, but rather because "they think CUNY students are redundant." He continued, "There is plenty of money; the crisis is created by Wall Street." He then said, "All of us who are affected need to unite as one in a common struggle against cuts. We need to tell Wall Street profiteers that we are not going to get robbed anymore."

Wijerama then introduced the next speaker, Sara Husain. She stated, "In 1996, we had the largest tuition increase ever. We had gym taken away, hundreds of professors were fired, our classes were taken away. They want to shut out people, especially blacks and Hispanics. We're organizing. We're fighting as a whole." She went on to say that "we have a beautiful gym, but no physical education department. They are charging the public to use the gym. We have a beautiful campus, but no facilities." She then stated that the administration and Student Government are not doing these jobs by neglecting to take care of these issues for students.

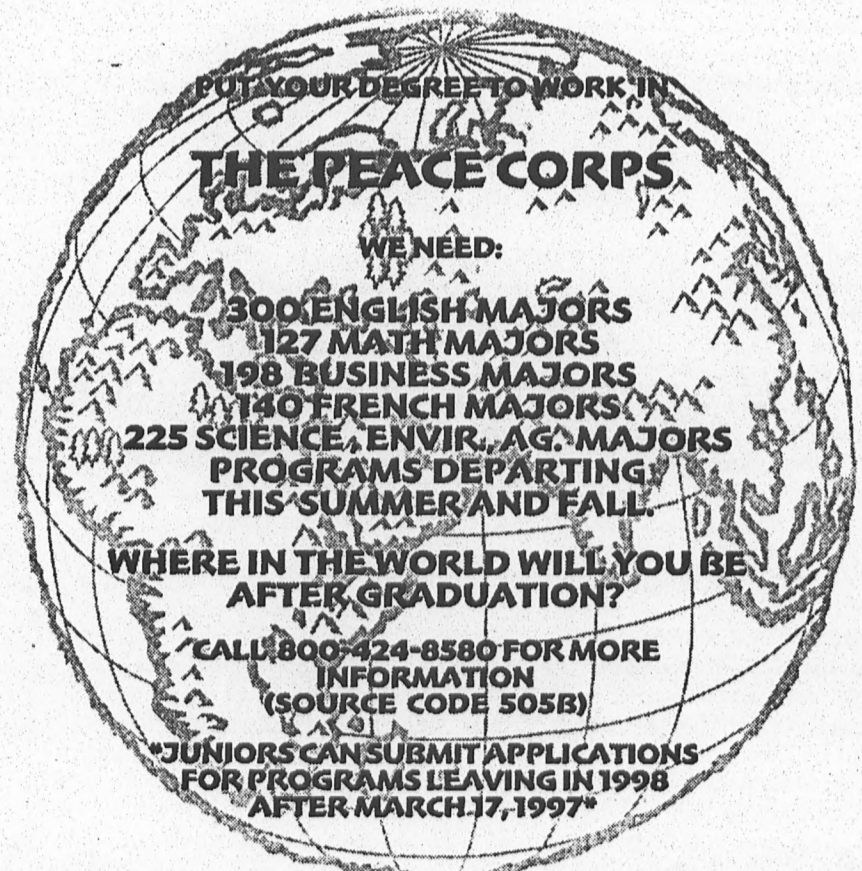
At this point in the meeting, Student Government President Joe Canale spoke up. In defense of himself and the Student Government as a whole, he claimed that what Husain was saying was untrue. He then asked for a show of hands from those who were concerned about the ACE test. After the majority of the students in the room raised their hands, he announced that "there will be no ACE exam at CSI. We killed it." A number of people then began asking questions about school-related issues. The cuts to the Children's Center was an issue that several people raised. When Canale began to answer questions, he was asked to leave by Husain, who claimed that he was "disturbing the meeting."

This was when Chris Day stepped into the room. Mr. Day is a member of the Student Liberation Action Movement and the Student Government at Hunter College. He said, "We can defeat the cuts and defeat tuition increases, but we can only do this if we create our own structure." When *The Banner* spoke to Day after the meeting, he said, "I think the effort to build a Student Union is crucial. It is the only way that students are going to be able to defeat the tuition hike. Chancellor Reynolds claims to restructure this university; she is an enemy of every CUNY student."

The Banner also spoke to Husain, who said, "We basically organized this meeting so that students can voice their concerns about education and so that they can take their education back into their own hands." *The Banner* then spoke to Student Union member Neil Schuldiner, who said, "I think the Student Union meeting was a phenomenal success in educating the CSI student body about the impending budget cuts and tuition increase. As President of the History Club, it was extremely encouraging to know that there is a body of students willing to fight for club and student rights to 24 hour campus access and against increasing tuition. Unfortunately, rather than joining a greater coalition of students, some members of Student Government exploited the meeting as a campaign stop in their attempts to be re-elected to their positions in the next SG elections."

The Banner spoke to Canale about the Student Union. He said, "All I can say is that it truly is a shame that there is no unity in the Student Union. It is sad that some of the things they say are untrue and that students' heads are filled with lies. I wish people would move toward progress and not toward digression. All the Student Union cares about is telling people what's wrong with things and who they can blame it on. They don't care the least bit about actually helping students, and that's sad."

In response to the conflict between Student Union and Student Government, Student Union member Alec Caldwell stated, "I believe the Student Union is acting without considering all the facts. They also don't know who their friends should be."



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**Tactics to defend Higher
Education**

by: Nicole Sabado

It's not too late! The fight against a tuition increase and cuts to financial aid involves every one of us. NYPIRG is working along with many other groups on campus: clubs, Student Government, faculty, and the Student Union to let CSI students know about Pataki's budget cuts. Keep your eyes open for things going on around campus, and in the meantime....

Here are some things you can do:

Write a letter to your State Senator or Assemblymember. Have no idea what to say? See our sample letter below. It's okay to handwrite it, and definitely ask for a response. Remember to sign and print your name and address on the letter. Don't know where to send it? Drop it off at NYPIRG 1C-219 and we'll take care of it.

Write more letters. Send these copies to the State Senate or Assembly Leader: Republican majority leader Senator Joe Bruno, and Democratic Assemblymember Sheldon Silver. Other people? Try Assemblymember Ed Sullivan, chair of the Higher Education Committee; Senator Ron Stafford, chair of Senate Finance; or Denny Farrell, chair of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee.

Also, get your parents, co-workers and neighbors to write letters, make phone calls, and lobby along with you.

Ask your professors if they have signed on to the letter of support to reverse and restore Pataki's proposed budget cuts they received in their faculty mailboxes. If they haven't, urge them to sign it and send it to NYPIRG at 1C-219.

Come to NYPIRG's Student Action Meeting. It's on Thursday, February 27, at the Sleeping Dolphin Lounge in the Campus Center. Meet with other students who want to organize against the cuts.

Join other students from across the state on March 5 in Albany to lobby our legislators. There are 25 seats available on a NYPIRG bus for Higher Education Lobby Day. Over 700 students statewide will be letting our elected officials know exactly how we feel about the budget. Call 982-3109 before February 27 and ask for Olusoji, NYPIRG's Higher Education Project Leader, to ensure a seat.

Register and Vote! Less than 50% of 18-20 year olds are registered in the United States - the lowest registration percentage of any group. With more of us voting, we'll have more clout. Unfortunately, the politicians who make the important decisions about our education, decisions about the cost of tuition, how much money there is for professors and financial aid, don't hear from students enough.



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Arts & Entertainment

ODE TO A MOMENT

Kiss me pretty sunset,
Before I'm left behind
Hold me in your golden
embrace
leave your image in my mind

- Holly Lenehan

DISTANCE

He saw her from a
distance
she was walking
away
turned around to
gaze at him
one last time
before forever
began again
she was like a
ghost
to him anyway
she floated threw
the night
Her touch was cold
Her skin like snow
Her eyes were
forever
she was tall and
slim
almost black hair
and blood was her
world
blood was her flesh
blood was her
desire
Her eyes saw only
red
warm and gushing
she was the night
she was a vampire

- Holly Lenehan

BEST FRIEND

Bikini kill, Hole + Whoever
" He said he wanted to just
Touch you....
Go and take everything
take everything

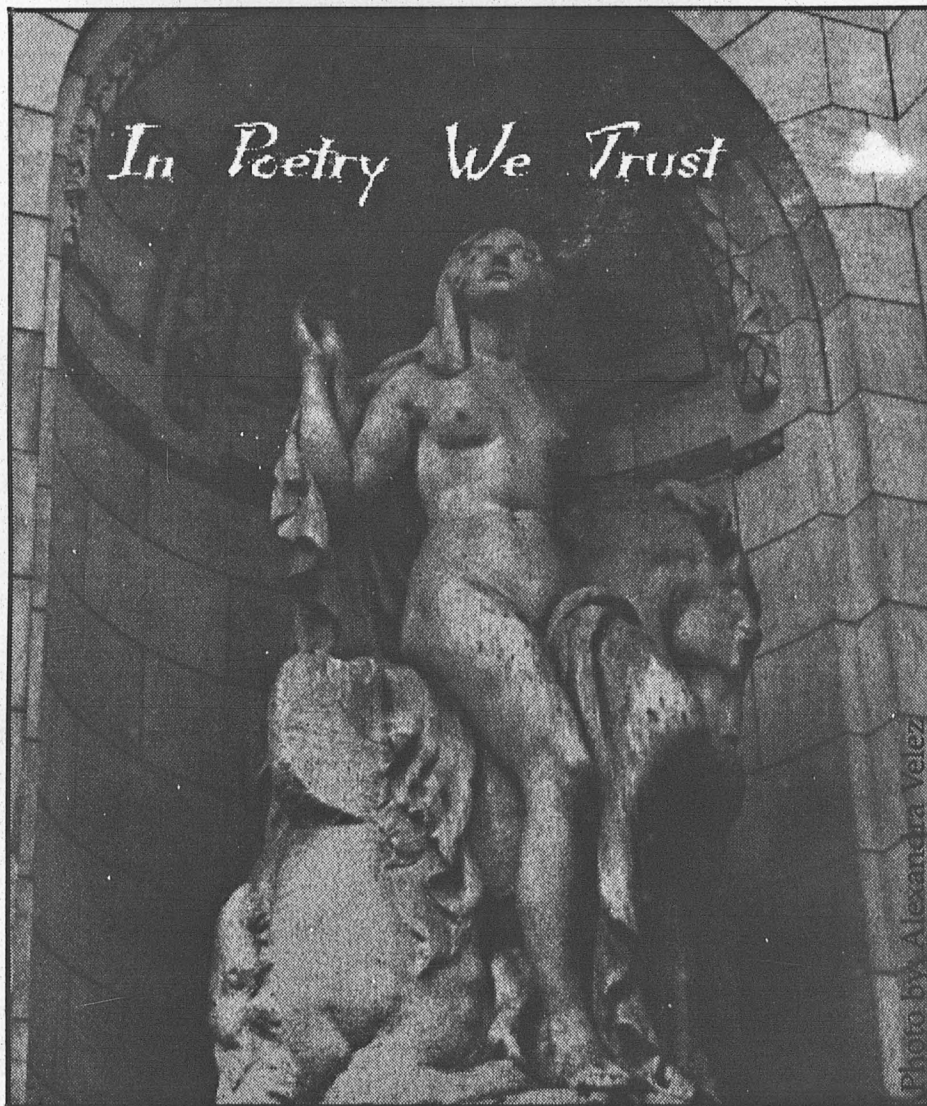
" I can't, I can't, I can't
I can't cum"
And then he said " I'll be
your best friend "

Why won't everybody just
Stop touching me!!
No you can't fuck me,
When I am alone, you're
still touching me.
Don't ask me why,
I just can't.
"I feel Dirty
I feel Raped
I feel like someone's
Fucking with me"
-Holly Lenehan

HER PRESENCE

And her neck was so
pale
And her skin was so
soft
a whisper in the
darkness
by the soft moonlight
her eyes, they were
emeralds
which grew wide
with fear
petrified
as she gazed into his
fine eyes
and when it was over
she lay limp in
his arms
he drank her life,
the warm, red, gush-
ing
passion
now racing threw his
veins
In his eternal life
of death

- Holly Lenehan



LIGHT IN YOUR EYES

When the only light I see
is the brightness of your eyes
they have come to be
a release from my demise
they stand so sure they are
like a single star.
Stands alone in the cold night
sky
don't leave me here, oh why
oh god why?
I want to live
I want to die

no one can refrain me
let your hope sustain me
oceans they are,
so deep so wide
I've come so far
to be captured by the tide
I, the one who cries
I, the one who tries
saw me staring back
When I looked into your eyes

- Holly Lenehan

DREAMS

He dreams with me
He dreams the sin
When we kissed
We kissed the sin
Should the moon
want the moon
rather than the
distant sun
We came undone
no regrets
now no regrets
To dream with me
you dream the sin

- Holly Lenehan

GONZALES HELPS CSI'S DRAMA DEPT. GET REAL & LARGE

By Lou Bardel

The director, Christopher Gonzales, stalks the outside perimeter of the thrust stage from one end to the other, while actors are rehearsing for the play *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*. The show is being produced at Little Theater Off The Lane, over on 8th Street in New Dorp, by a theater company called One Man Productions. As Gonzales moves from side to side to see how everything looks, he demonstrates that he can remember almost every line of the play. He manipulates the actors on the stage like a painter manipulates different colors of paint, yet he is completely dependent on the performers to make a good show.

On the stage is a true grotesquerie: there is stuttering Billy Bibbit, played by Valentino Scaramella; swaggering and blustery R.P. McMurphy, played by Jeffrey Miranda; demure and unstable Dale Harding, played by Eddie Fontana; silently stoic Chief, played by Edmundo Arriaga; the wild bombardier with a frizzy hairdo called Scanlon, played by Gabriel Lopez; a truly spastic Cheswick, played by Shawn-Paul Ramos; goofy Dr. Spivey, played by Richard A. Luthman SR.; stiff and strict Nurse Ratched, played by Michelle Dym; the shy Catholic Nurse Flynn, played by Michelle Maglio; the bawling technician, played by Genine

"What is going to make a finished product and a bona fide theater group at the college is when we're all working as one."

Grasso; the flailing-armed lobotomy victim Ruckley, played by Mark Langston; hyper-schizophrenic Martini, played by Jeremy Fein; the mean-spirited aides, played by Ralph Taliento and Greg Skinner; and last but not least, the lusty couple of Candy and Sandra, also played by Michelle Maglio along with Christina Johnson. Gonzales explains that "direction gives me an opportunity to allow the visual aspect of myself to come out to other people and develop a full picture."

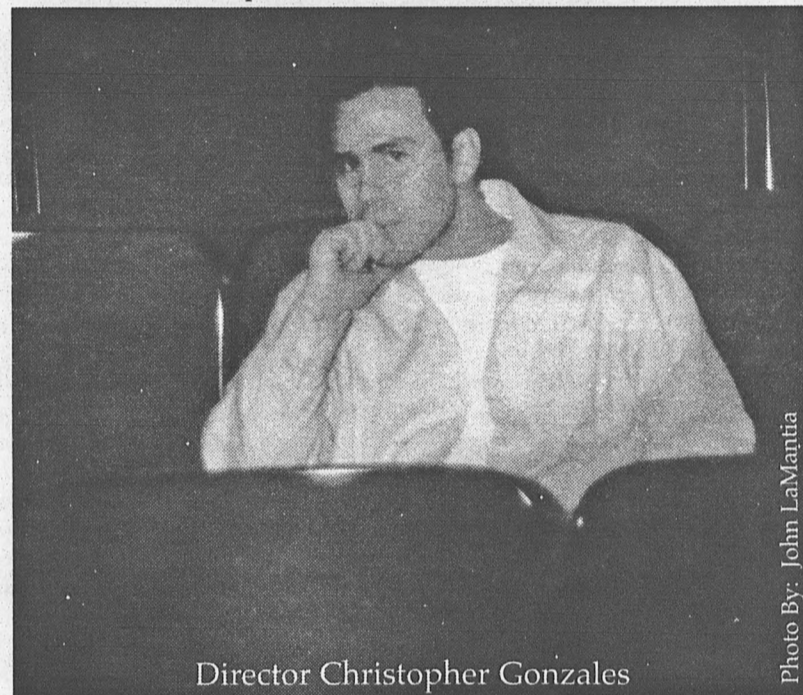
Gonzales is, as he puts it, the "master of difficulties." This current show at the Little Theater has been especially difficult. Lee PoeRio, who had the lead role of Nurse Ratched, stepped down; it will be very difficult to replace the excellent actress. But one gets the impression that no matter what obstacles are put before Gonzales and One Man Productions, the doors are going to open up once again without a hitch.

After taking an acting class back in 1992, when Gonzales' appetite for theater was first aroused, he went into the army for four years and came out a sergeant. "I had the opportunity to continue a career in there," says Gonzales, "but I said to myself, acting is what I want to do." When he came back to Staten Island, he decided to get his bachelor's degree in

Drama here at the College of Staten Island. "From there I fell in love with it, I fell in love with it," says Gonzales.

He got involved with CSI theater productions, like *The Misanthrope* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, both directed by Dr. Robert Hulton-Baker of the English Department. Between then and now, Gonzales has also done work in film, including television shows like *New York Undercover* and *NYPD Blue*, and had a part in an independent movie called "Angel Feathers."

In the last couple of years, at the new Performing and Creative Arts building, drama students have produced such classics as *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Crucible* and *West Side Story*. For this coming spring semester, a Cabaret Night was proposed by Hulton-Baker; according to Gonzales, it has the potential to be some-



Director Christopher Gonzales

Photo By: John LaMantia

thing grand. "There are no limitations for Cabaret Night. If you want to perform something, you want to express, this is your opportunity. I like that because I think we all need that outlet," says Gonzales.

Coming off the success of *Cuckoo's Nest* here at CSI, and the newer success of being asked to produce the same play for a private theater, I thought that an investigation into this man's mind was in order. This interview was done at the Performing and Creative Arts building the day after Christmas.

* * *

Banner: I'd like to thank you, Christopher, for agreeing to do this interview. In the interest of community theater, this is an opportunity for myself and the readers of the *Banner* to learn what goes on behind the scenes in community theater. What is it like to have a bona fide theater company at the College of Staten Island?

Gonzales: Wow, that's a loaded question. I feel it's what we need at this point in time. I will probably always go back to this, what is going to make a finished product and a bona fide theater group at the college is when we're all working as one.

There are a lot of good things that are going on right now with the Drama Club. I would like that to include the Drama Department, as well as the people over here in the Performing and Creative Arts building. In other words, a collaborated effort. What will put me at ease, and

give me some peace of mind, is when we are working as a whole on the projects that the students put on, with the faculty and the administration, and so on, and so forth. That is when I think we will have truly met our destination.

Banner: What does the name of the company, One Man Productions, mean?

Gonzales: One Man Productions stands for the group as a whole, as one. It doesn't represent a man, it represents man, woman, whatever people want to call it, that doesn't matter to me. What is the most important to me, is that it represents the one, working as a one. One force, not individuals doing different things trying to get to a destination, but one. That's very important to me. I like the name. I like the ring to it and the symbolic meaning of it.

Banner: As you are well aware, CSI has state of the art facilities for acting, directing, producing theater and film. Because of the advantages CSI students have in this medium, do you think that it could play a pivotal role in the development of community theater on Staten Island?

Gonzales: I certainly do think that. From what I'm told it has one of the best facilities here on the East Coast, phenomenal potential. Through the grapevine, I've heard that the school would like to become established more, as far as putting on their own productions.

Right now they're bringing in people from around the world to come over here to put on different events, musicals, shows, what have you. I think that we can as a school, because there are a lot of talented individuals walking around. If we organize ourselves properly, and this has to be done through the chain of command, we can get something going ourselves and put on some quality productions. It's happening right now, we're representing ourselves, a group of students that are doing it. A lot of eager people are interested in doing this. That's another loaded question.

There are several different organizations on Staten Island that are doing their own thing in terms of theater work and community work. There are a lot of talented people walking around, organization just has to take place and it can be cultivated. So yes, I do think that can happen. I'm here, I'm here for the taking. If the people want to give us the opportunity to be a part of something like that, I'd be more than happy to be involved.

Banner: As a director of *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* at CSI, what was your responsibility?

Gonzales: My duties extended past director's duties. We were granted money by the Program Development Committee

(PDC) and it was coordinated with them to have the theater space reserved. Those are the main things, to have the theater and to have the funds for your production, and I was fortunate enough to have that. Now I take over, my responsibilities include everything from there down, which includes working with the sets, working with the sound, working with the costumes. Working house management, that includes ticket sales, that includes advertising - working with the *Staten Island Advance*, working with play bills, working with concession, and not to mention the job of director and working with the actors - the talent.

In a way, I'm not only the director, I'm also the producer and I have input on the whole show. The ideas for sound, and sound effects are my thoughts, my ideas for costumes, as well as the sets. I designed the sets, built by Mr. Wood. This is a collaboration, my ideas, but I can't do this alone. This is where the whole team comes in now, the production crew. We discuss the ideas, but if it is not agreed upon, then it is a no-go, whether or not I decided who makes the decision. It has to be agreed upon by the community as a whole. The material has to be agreed upon, the ideas for sets, everything.

Banner: What do you mean by community?

Gonzales: By community, I mean the production crew. We get people that were involved from past performances, that have showed a dedication to theater. That's the only prerequisite that we have, that they have interest and that they're going to go along with us for the ride, because it is usually a bumpy ride. I think we have a pretty good understanding of who is truthful to the group and who is not. Once we get an understanding of who is going to stay, they become involved, and they become a part of the decision making process.

To answer your question, I have a hand in everything. There is not one thing I don't think I have a hand in, but so does everyone else. Everyone knows about the sound and about the sets, they're involved, because it is openly discussed and that's the way it should be. People need to be skilled in various aspects of the group because one person can't do it alone. I hope when I'm not here and I'm working on something else, I can say, "okay, take over." I can leave that aspect of the show and know that someone is there to follow through with it.

Banner: As we both know, students at CSI have problems with access to the campus facilities. There is a student union being started right now and they are trying to get more access - 24 hour access - to the libraries, to the computer labs and to other campus facilities people would use. Do you see the Drama Club or One Man Productions joining with the Student Union in any way?

Gonzales: I've already talked to someone who is fighting to get access. I definitely think it is needed on our end. We have students that go to school in the daytime and then go to work at night, so the only time for us to rehearse, a good portion of the time, is from nine o'clock on. When you're following a production schedule, you only have a limited amount of time to do this. If you can't have the product prepared on rehearsal schedule for the production, then

The Storyteller

Chapter 2: The Greedy Land Owner

By Marco Sainte

I remember this yard me and my friends used to play in during my pre-teen years. It was a grassy field which happened to be connected to a trucking company called J Coty. They packaged a lot of stuff: fruits, vegetables, mechanical equipment... like I said, a lot of stuff. Not that we went out of our way to find out what they were doing at first, mind you. We were content with our games: kickball, baseball, tag, kill the man with the ball, and the other stuff we used to do in that spot. That was until the owner of the company decided to rain on our parade.

The field was surrounded by a fence which surrounded all of the trucks and the general working area as well. There was another fence which separated the field from the work site, so my brother, friends, and I didn't see anything wrong with playing there, especially since the gate to the place was always open. But one day the gate was shut. I really wanted to play baseball with Ovea and his brothers, for I had found a new big stick that I wanted to try out on the ball, so this really put a damper on things. I went over to Ovea's to tell him the bad news. Funny thing was he and his brothers were already discussing it with the other kids in the neighborhood. News kinda travels fast when you live on the same block.

"That stupid J Coty doesn't want us to play there anymore," Ovea said to me. J Coty was the name we gave the owner. "He says we're too much trouble."

"Too much trouble?" I said. "We don't go near his trucks. We don't even go to the workplace down there, except for when you used to slide down the hill on the other side on cardboard, but you didn't do that for a long time. He didn't even work on that side."

"Well, he's keepin' us out now," said Israel, Ovea's brother. We called him Oco, and to this day I don't know where that name came from.

"He's just being mean," said Solomon, who was a little on the chubby side. "He just don't like kids."

"This isn't fair! I just got this new stick to play baseball with! I would have made a hundred home runs!"

"Remember the hole in the fence?" Asked Johnny. Johnny lived off of our block but he would come down and hang with us. He was a skinny kid, skinner than me at the time, but he was tough.

"Yeah, but he closed that too," I said.

"No, man. There was a hole before, so we can make one again."

"Yeah!" Ovea beamed. "We could make it like a mission! I got some clippers downstairs..."

The feeling engulfed us like a tidal wave. The

thought of rebelling against this cruel child-hating tyrant was stronger than any drug; it was a bigger motivation than anything we had ever encountered before (except for threats of beatings by parents, of course). So by nightfall we were back in the field.

It turned out to be the start of an unforgettable summer. J Coty, pissed off at our gesture of defiance, threatened to shoot us with a shotgun if he ever saw us near his trucks. It was really a BB gun, but it was still enough to get us mad. It also helped to start some of that child-imagined lore that usually prevails in a group of hyperactive kids.

"I think that guy is smuggling drugs or something," Ovea said one evening to me. We were chilling in front of his house after playing Suicide.

"You really think so?"

"Yeah. Why else would he want us out of the field?"

"He doesn't want us to steal something."

"Please. The guy at Stop One [the corner store] doesn't want us to steal, but he doesn't go around tryin' to shoot people with a BB gun."

"I don't know. Won't the cops find out already?"

"Maybe, but they can't find everybody."

Soon, it was a widespread belief that J Coty was some kind of criminal. Now, imagine the scene: You have a bunch of hyperactive kids who play a big adventure-type game every day, where they are always fighting some devious bad guy, and who now believe that some man near them is a crook. Something was bound to happen, and it did.

Ovea brought together his brothers, Johnny, and Stoney (another cool kid who lived in the 2 family house upstairs above Ovea) and planned to sneak into the work grounds to find out what was going on. They actually did a pretty good job of sneaking in, from what I heard later from Oco. Things were going well until someone saw them and started calling them to the other workers' attention. The kids left before anyone was able to identify them, and J Coty was furious. He was sure it was us, but he had no proof.

The guys didn't find anything illegal after all, but it became a celebrated event in the neighborhood anyway, because they were the first ones to sneak in and get out. Naturally, it was bound to be repeated, especially after Ovea told everyone about all the "cool stuff" inside. As we all know, the more you do something the more likely it is that you will get caught at it, and pretty soon you would see J Coty yelling after a kid trying to run off with a watermelon. I always remembered how Ovea used to have an

abundance of the fruit; good stuff too, mind you. I used to eat some at his place.

But these events definitely hurt our chances of playing in the field unopposed. The fence was replaced with a new one with no hole. But that wouldn't stop us now. Every winter had a new fence, and every summer there was a hole in it. We even opened the lock of the gate at one point. The conflict went on even onto our high school years. When my family finally left the neighborhood, I heard that J Coty gave up. But it didn't matter because everyone stopped playing outside soon after. People who lived there say it wasn't that fun anymore after we moved. The old crew slowly moved out as well. The place looks like a ghost town now.

I'm sure that many will agree that J Coty was right after all, but they are missing one point: none of those crazy things would have happened if he had just let us play there. We weren't doing anything to him until he messed with us. The funny thing is, he wasn't even using the field. Besides he forgot one important fact: you don't mess with pre-teen kids and their form of play. I'm not exactly condoning what we did, but we wouldn't have acted like that if we weren't provoked.

This event reminds me of something else. Right now there is a lot of clamor over free access on campus. Students are complaining that things are getting too limited around here; we have to get out of here by 10:00 on weekends and 4:00 on weekdays. It's only during finals that we are given a few crumbs in the form of extra time. The excuse that we get from Administration is that it would cost too much to keep it open because of security, heating, and lighting bills. Yet security, heating, and electricity is on 24-7 around here, so this is an idiotic argument for keeping us out of the campus.

And they aren't even using it! You have students who are dying to use the facilities here and get some research done, and they are being barred by people who run this place and aren't using it themselves after ten. Doesn't anyone see something wrong with this picture? I thought this was supposed to be college. Students are supposed to learn here; they should have the place open for them to do just that. I mean, I'd understand this a bit more if something was going on here that they don't want us to know about. One thing's for sure: Administration had better rethink their policy on this, because there's bound to be someone who thinks that something suspicious is going on here at nights to add to the unrest already stirring over this, and boy, who knows what's going to come from that.

Gonzales

from page 7

you're in a whole lot of trouble. So the bottom line is that we need the availability to be able to rehearse later on during the night. We need to work at our own...at our own leisure and as much as we can in order to insure this product goes on. Sometimes that leaves us here past the eleven o'clock hour, which is when security terminates their shifts and goes home for the night in certain buildings.

That would be a great help to us [extended access to campus facilities]. I know it's a money issue now, maybe a political issue also, but it is something that we should encourage. It's for professional reasons, whether it's the computer lab in order to follow through with papers so that we can get our degree so that we can get into the career field, or whether it's rehearsal schedules so that we can put on a production. There are adult reasons for it and adult issues. So, yes, this definitely should be encouraged, this is something that I would back, definitely.

* * *

Putting on a quality theater production takes

more than desire. Something good requires commitment and dedication. If history is any kind of judge, then we know that we must put forth an honest effort before we can reap any type of rewards. After talking about Gonzales' long term goals and becoming established in Manhattan, I asked him what exactly that meant to him. He said, "Some day I would like to have something we can call our own, a place where we can continue to put on quality productions and segue off into film and television. That's my long-term goal. This way we are able to hit a large population and give people, what I feel needs to be given to them. And that is a little insight into us as human beings.

"I love people to think. I love people to come into the theater and to walk out and say to themselves, 'I never thought of that before,' go home with a little bit more insight; and possibly, if we can change a couple of people's lives for the better, that would be great. And I think that is apparent in the material that we choose... material that causes people to think."

Thanks, Christopher Gonzales, and the entire Drama Department of the College of Staten Island.

WHODUNNIT



WHODUNNIT

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THE CONNELLS BRING "WEIRD FOOD AND DEVASTATION"

by Liz Levy

Those indie rock legends, the Connells, will be bringing their melodic, hard hitting rhythms to New York. The group, comprised of six sensitive-looking men, just released their sixth album, *Weird Food and Devastation*. You can catch their mature, power-pop sound at Tramps on Feb. 22 at 8:00 p.m. If you've never heard of the Connells, let me be the first to fill you in.

The Connells' fifth album, *Ring*, was the best-selling U.S. indie rock LP of 1993. The single from that album, "'74-'75", played on MTV Europe Top Ten at number two for weeks on end and hit the Top 20 in 14 countries, even becoming number one in Germany, Norway, Sweden and Israel.

Their success in the states has been slower in coming. The Connells have been trying to get themselves noticed here, with two appearances on the Conan O'Brien show. Their last appearance came on Oct. 9, right at the time when they began the first leg of their tour. Their tour in the Mid-Atlantic states and in the Northeast was finished before Christmas. Then, in January, the Connells hit the South, where they were better received, says Mike Connell, lead guitar and vocalist. "This is where we're from. People know us here," said Connell. The band is based in Raleigh, NC.

The Connell is made up of brothers Mike and David Connell, George Huntley, Doug MacMillan, Peele Wimberley, and Steve Potak. They've been together since 1984.

"Our story is nothing exciting. We were old

friends, some we knew from school, some from Raleigh. We didn't plan on going professional. The others didn't think of it when they went in with a thirty year old law student," tells Connell.

Connell studied law at the University of North

Carolina and passed the bar exam. He put law on hold to pursue music. "I made the decision to pursue music professionally my third year of school. My dad was a little dismayed. Now, with the success we've achieved, he supports me fully."

Connell views success in the music business simply. "Just being able to make a living at it is something. We get to tour in a nice cushy bus. Before, we rode in a van and slept on the floor. When you get a bus you feel big-time," says Connell. He still can't help but boast about their impressive record sales. "*Ring* sold almost 200,000 copies in the states and over 1 million copies worldwide. It sold more in Europe than Dave Matthews' two albums combined." That's no small feat.

The Connells don't sit around waiting for a break. "The band tours non-stop," says Jason Consoli, the band's publicist at TVT Records. "They're the Greatful Dead of indie rock."

Connell doesn't see the band as part of any music trend, even though they've been constantly compared to REM, also from the South. "We do our own thing. We come up with the best song we can and if people like it, great. We're not the type of band that changes their image to fit a trend," states Connell.

Connell picked up his dad's guitar in the second grade. "I wanted to be a Beatle," says Connell. I grew up listening to the Beatles, the Kinks and Jethro Tull." They've been known to cover Jethro Tull in their live shows. "I've always been into British Pop. In the late 70s it was the Sex Pistols and the Clash. Then I got into more American bands: Son Volt, Wilco, the Jayhawks and Soul Asylum. I also like Neil Young and Tom Petty.

"Right now our goal is to stay together and work on recording our next album over this summer," says Connell. A modest goal for a band that has achieved so much.



The Connells, from left, David Connell, George Huntley, Steve Potak, Mike Connell, Peele Wimberley and Doug MacMillan. Catch 'em 8:00 p.m. at Tramps, 51 W 21st St., NY. Tickets are \$12.

Ink Spot

By Shawn Fisher

For more than ten years, Dark Horse comics has produced some of the finest comic books ever made. The company was founded in 1986 by Michael Richardson, a successful comic shop owner. His intent was to create a fresh line of books that would differ from the existing montage of superhero books. Mr. Richardson designed a company that was creator-friendly, giving proper credit and retribution to artists and writers. This was

unique in an industry that was historically renowned for raping creators for their work. Superman creator Jerry Siegel most notably comes to mind for never receiving any of the billions in revenue that his creation produced. This new respect that Dark Horse was giving attracted all the best talent

of the time. It also unknowingly set the stage for the creator rebellion of the 90s, which brought into being such companies as Image and Crusade, as well as countless high quality independent titles.

Dark Horse started with an anthology book called Dark Horse Presents. Their library quickly expanded with five other titles, including the critically acclaimed "Concrete." As word of the company's high standards and quality spread, both readers and artists were drawn to it. As interest in Dark Horse increased, the company expanded their



line to include movie-based comics, an area that most companies did not too well in. Rather than put out direct adaptations of a movie, they created original work which only used the film as a guide. Dark Horse set new standards with their licensed work, to the point that their brilliant "Star Wars: Dark Empire" helped to ignite the current craze with the genre. Dark Horse has also created powerful franchises with "Aliens," "Predator," and "Terminator." Another genre they have excelled in is Japanimation, or Manga as it is now referred to, with such works as "The Dirty Pair," "Virus" and the critically acclaimed "Ghost in the Shell."

Having become one of the most successful comic companies around, Dark Horse is now expanding into the motion picture industry. The company started with "Dr. Giggles," a truly creepy horror film, then followed up with the commercially successful "Time Cop" and "The Mask" films.

This past summer we saw Pamela Anderson in "Barb Wire," and next fall will bring "Virus" to the silver screen. With successes in both film and literature, it looks like there is a bright future ahead for Dark Horse, which is definitely good for the fans. Speaking of fans, if you're interested in the comics genre and would like me to review something, then drop me a line via the Banner.

SEXY

SEXY

OH SHE LAYS...SO MUCH BEAUTY
OH HER LIPS...SO TAYSTEE
HER CURVES JUMPSTART MY HEART
MY HANDS SWEAT
TENSE WITH LUST
THOUGHTS MAKE ME KISS HER LIPS
MY PELVIS SHIFTS
TONGUE WET
MOUTH OPEN
EYES TRY TO BRING HER CLOSE
WHILE I MAP OUT HER FLESH
TO FEEL
TO EAT HER LIKE A MEAL
THEN SHE DRANK HER DRINK
SHE LIFTS THE GLASS TO TONGUE
THEN LIP AND LIP
BITES WITH HER TEETH AND SIPS
INHALES IT SLOWLY OH HOW SWEET
THEN SHE BLINKS HER BLINK
SWALLOWS THE FLUID DOWN LIKE A SINK
BREATHE WITH A SIGH
TO ACKNOWLEDGE A TASTE
SHE MOVES WITH SUCH GRACE
OH WHAT A HIGH
OH WHAT A FACE

- John Lohse

The Third Opinion

Article II: Catering to the Lowest Common Denominator

by Gabriel Lopez

"Fuck, what a powerful word; Holy Fuck; Jesus Fuck; Fucking Christ; Oh Fuck, Man; Fuck; Oh, Fuck; fuckitty fuck-fuck-fuckitty-fuck; who the fuck; what the fuck; why the fuck; where the fuck; when the fuck; No fucking way; Fuck me; Fuck You; Fuck."

-DeOdessa-

There is a problem with certain individuals in America's culture today. And you know what the fuck it is? We cater to, we are catered to, and we are catering to the lowest common denominator. By using the word "fuck," in place of a creative vocabulary, we are losing the strength of words. Instead of allowing the art of intelligent conversation to deteriorate, by over-using this lazy response, we should capitalize on wit, sarcasm, style, finesse, and grace. We must avoid the sloth of summing up any, or all, emotion, by this singular reversed-euphemism of this particular four-letter word.

"... and somewhere the horse has been switched with the camel."

-Esteban Ochoa-

"Fuck," at times, can be an excellent word for the particular situation at hand. When placed in the right context, with proper imagery, perfect timing, direct relation, subtle emphasis, and distinguished intention, the use of this word in response to others, can create incredibly brilliant humour. You know; but only if you use the aforementioned word at the right fucking time. So why limit oneself to a handful of profanities? There are moments when, to create beautiful poetic dialogue and convey your certain point, the proper word is: precisely, privately, precariously, disastrous, divine, dexterous, revolting, responsible, reactive, convincing, cunning, cuddly, sensual, sexy, secluded, great, good, go. Every word has this potential. All of these words, as well as a few hundred more, can be used instead of the word "fuck".

We must attempt to separate ourselves from ignorance. We must begin to allow our minds to elaborate on thoughts through wandering, dreaming, and thinking. So, please, allow your mind an alternative, instead of limiting the extent of your vocabulary to a single word. Now, as I step off of my soap-box let me emphasize another point, I cuss all the fucking time. I am attempting to drop the habit, as well as that of cigarettes, another prime exam-

ple of the lowest common denominator. Like the word "fuck", cigarettes are an addiction, they are killing me, and robbing me blind.

"Cut out that Corporate Crack."

- Louis Bard

All forms of the lowest common denominator, through ignorance, allow us to be suppressed, oppressed, distressed, depressed, underdressed, and underfed. But, smoking and cussing are cool right? It seems our concepts of cool, enjoyment, and pleasure are somewhat distorted and distraught. Why this has occurred I am not quite sure, but a solution to this problem must be found. I would appreciate responses to these opinions.

Anyway, people should become more complex and refrain from just saying, "Fuck". So therefore, since I have entirely exhausted the word it shall never appear in this column again, unless I have a really good fucking reason, in order to justify to exactitude, the severity of a particular dogma that I consider overwhelmingly disgusting and undeserving of any proper form, manner, or ideal of respect. I will no longer cater to the lowest common denominator (LCD).

"Out-of-touch" SG Reps: Letter From A Member Of The Student Union

by William Wharton

On Thursday February 11th the CSI Student Union held their first educational/speak-out forum concerning the upcoming budget cuts and subsequent tuition hike. Presentations were made by Union members concerning Union history, the Union meeting with administration, educational opportunities, New York City finances and Union tactics in regards to the Union. This forum provided students with the opportunity to receive information about Gov. Pataki's proposed \$400 tuition hike and instructions about what they, as students, can do to defeat these cuts. As always the meeting was run under the principles of mass open democracy, allowing every student the opportunity to speak. This principle has dominated the proceedings of every Student Union meeting since its inception. The principle of mass open democracy was manipulated by our supposed student government president Joe Canale. Feeling the squeeze of the impending Spring elections, Canale decided to intervene on the meeting along with a few of his fellow "out-of-touch" SG reps. Canale began his disruptive monologue by introducing himself, a task that was essential since 80% of the people in the room didn't know who he was. During this first time meeting with their supposed student leader, members of the student body received an excellent look into what Canale is all about, politics. Politics and self promotion were the main topics of his intervention. Canale was followed by the person he referred to as his "vice-president" in the annual SG meeting, Luis Cruzatte. Cruzatte gave his standard "man of the people" speech about unity

and coming together. He was then faced with the concrete fact that the week before he had forced the editors and writers of the CSI Student Life publication to resign in disgust because of his authoritarian decision making policies. Cruzatte provided no explanation for his actions. The actions taken by SG left with me with two questions. First, What did they contribute to the meeting? How did they help the student body? My answer to this is that as usual SG did nothing to help the student body, they simply confused them and disrupted students who have been working for months to build a mass movement against the cuts. Over the past week, I have probably handed out 300 flyers, posted 50 signs, intervened on 4 classes (with the blessings of the teachers) and spoke with an uncountable amount of students regarding the tuition hike and the Student Union. For all of this effort I have put into trying to stop the hikes I received an attack from my student government "leaders". Canale can find his way to the newspaper reporters and the cameramen but he needs to use a Student Union meeting to locate the student body. This more than anything was the most telling part of the day. By opposing the Student Union, Canale is de facto opposing the student body. Careerists and other agents of the administration must be purged from the ranks of the student government as quickly as possible. With election time coming up the Student Union has become a force to be reckoned with on our campus. The slogan for the Spring elections is "Joe must go!" It is our responsibility to remove the stinking refuse from student government and give the power to those it belongs to, the students!

Here Is What Is To Be Done!

by Lou Bardel

Its nice to talk about putting fear into the hearts of those that govern us. Personally, I think that it is demeaning to be governed by someone to whom I do not have direct access. I am not interested in putting fear into the hearts of representatives I don't like; it's better to replace them. That is all! Replace them! Vote them out! Our ancestors worked very hard to ensure that we, as a people, have the right to vote. Voting gives you control over your own life. Being politically active means having more control over your own life. Being part of an active political organization means having a lot of control over your life, because your representatives are held directly accountable... to you! What we have to remember is that our public representatives, like Mayor Giuliani, are supposed to be "public servants!" It does not mean that they have more power than anyone else; they are servants, and nothing more.

Now that we've established what we need to do to maintain control over our lives, we have to understand what is in our best interest as students. After attending a recent Student Union meeting, I realized that many people really do know what is in their best interests. People came to discuss how they might reverse the trend towards more budget cuts, tuition hikes, and the otherwise increasing costs of being a student (the price of books, the price of cafeteria food, and so on). Unfortunately, the meeting was usurped by a small, disorganized group of students from the *College Voice* who presented no alternatives... just complaints!

The word "usurper" may seem strong, but democracy has been thrown out the window by the so-called "leadership" of the Student Union. The only rule that the Student Union, which has no written constitution, has ever had was that a chairperson be elected at the beginning of every meeting, but this sole stipulation was done away with at the latest

meeting. Perhaps the aforementioned group of *College Voice* students made this decision in advance, without consulting with any other members of the Union. I have gleaned one clear lesson from my experience with this crew of usurpers: strict rules of order are essential for any democratically run group which is just starting out, no matter how small it is.

I know that there are many, many people who share my political views. I know that many people have many complaints. Yet the fact remains that the gap between hope and reality is a wide one. So, what are we going to do? Protest is a waste of time if you do not have a lot of people behind you. It is a waste of time if you have not yet tested all of the existing political avenues. One such avenue is voting for student representatives; you can run for a position, or you can vote for someone who is politically progressive. Another avenue is the larger political system, like the mayoralty of New York City, a post that people should be thinking about right now. Did you know that the mayor of New York City and the Governor of New York State are the ones who appoint the CUNY Board of Trustees... no one else has the power to do so! This is a prime reason to vote Rudy the Big Doody out! A progressive candidate would not propose cuts to education; rather, she would propose putting more money into education! The problems students are experiencing can be easily solved with a minimum amount of effort. The changes will not be immediate, it might take a year or two. People must use their civil right to elect public representatives more.

Finally, people need to realize what is in their best interests. People need to know what their problems are and discover alternatives to work for! If you want to avoid wasting your precious time in futile debate then you should listen very carefully to what people are really saying. There are actions one can take which have some foreseeable result and there are those of which no benefit will spring

Parcells Will Have Jets Soaring To Top

By Tom Krasniqi

The pain and suffering that New York Jets fans have endured has been seemingly endless. Every year, the Jets try to sell their hideous product to their wounded fans. They say that this is going to be the year that they finally rise out of mediocrity and become one of the NFL's bad boys. And each year, they prove to the rest of the NFL and to their fans that they are nowhere close to being one of the big boys. More like an infant toddler crying for the milk bottle. Well, cry no more, Jets fans! Daddy's coming home to take care of you and he will make sure that you are fed properly and brought up the right way, so that one day you will be the big kid on the block capable of kicking some butt of your own. He will also discipline you, so you had better listen up. Trust him, and he will make you succeed. His nickname is Tuna, but everyone else calls him a winner. His name is Bill Parcells.

The Jets have finally done something that most people thought that they didn't have the guts to do. They pulled the rug out from underneath New England Patriots' owner Robert Kraft and hired away Parcells to revitalize their pitiful football team. They gave up four insignificant draft choices to get a man who has won two Super Bowls and took the Pats there this past season, only to be denied by Brett Favre, Reggie White, Desmond Howard and the mighty Green Bay Packers. **Parcells will make an immediate impact with this team.** There's already some pretty good talent here, and don't forget that he also has the top overall pick in the NFL Draft on April 19. He has brought down his entire coaching staff from New England, and that includes defensive coordinator Al Groh and assistant head coach/defensive guru Bill Belichick, who was head coach for the Jets for a few days before the Jets swung a deal with New England to get Parcells aboard. Ron Earhardt will remain with the Jets but he may not be in total charge of the offense as he was last year. Parcells and Earhardt know each other well, but Parcells may want to turn the Jets into a smash mouth football team with a heavy emphasis on the running game, as opposed to Earhardt's pass-oriented offense which features three, four, and even five wide receiver sets.

The Jets are loaded with talent on offense, and that should make Parcells job easier. Offensive coordinator did a great job with this group, which finished 11th in the NFL in 1996 in total offense, as opposed to last in the league the year before. I think Parcells should let Earhardt run the offense and just oversee what he does. Parcells is sold on quarterback Neil O'Donnell but may opt for Tennessee QB Peyton Manning with the top pick in the draft should Manning come out and he will. He loves Adrian Murrell and what he brings to the table. The Jets receivers are among the best in the NFL led by the flamboyant and gifted Keyshawn Johnson, Jeff Graham, Wayne Chrebet and the slowly developing Alex Van Dyke. He has that big tight end he has always coveted in Kyle Brady, who I believe next to Keyshawn will benefit

more from Parcells' arrival more than any other player on offense. Watch him in 1997. He will experience a rebirth of sorts under Tuna and will have a breakthrough season. The offensive line needs some young blood with all starters but one over the age of 30. (Did someone say Orlando Pace?) Jumbo Elliot and David Williams are aging tackles who are effective when healthy so conditioning will be a factor and they'll be worked hard by Parcells. Matt O'Dwyer is a budding star at right guard but must learn how to control his temper. Roger Duffy is solid at center but the Jets could use another guard and some lively youth at tackle and that's where Orlando Pace should enter the picture. The mammoth tackle out of Ohio State is the best offensive lineman to come out of college in years and the Jets should pick him in my opinion. He will turn that O-line from a solid line to a superb one. Just think how great the Jets offense will become if that happens. Their running game would be nearly unstoppable and O'Donnell would and in the pocket for hours looking for Keyshawn to get open (that won't take long). That's what they should do but these are the Jets.

Defensively, Parcells will have to roll up his sleeves and really crack the whip. There are too many slackers here and you can start with the linebackers. Mo Lewis and Marvin Jones can be Pro Bowlers but they must pay the price and work much harder than they did under Rich Kotite (they did work under him?). Strongside linebacker Bobby Houston misses too many tackles and is looked at by many as someone with a bad attitude who accepted losing too easily. He should get pink slipped. The main thing for these linebackers to realize that if they don't work hard and just pick up paychecks, Parcells will run them out of town. The most glaring need on this defense is for a huge defensive tackle that can wreak havoc in the middle of the line and swallows up blockers to allow guys like Lewis, Jones and defensive end Hugh Douglas to make plays. There's a guy in the draft by the name of Darrell Russell from USC who perfectly fits this mold but the Jets probably won't pick him. He's a future star and will be a top five pick. Defensive end Marvin Washington has to stop counting his money and start making plays. Matt Brock is a solid defensive lineman who should be re-signed. The Jets could get their impact defensive tackle through free agency by targeting the likes of Green Bay defensive tackle Gilbert Brown or they could go for a cheaper alternative in San Diego's Reuben Davis. The secondary must be upgraded with an emphasis on size at cornerback and speed at safety. Aaron Glenn is an outstanding cover corner but still gets beat at times by bigger, more physical receivers. The Jets need a corner opposite Glenn who's big and aggressive and don't be surprised if the Jets sign free

agent Ricky Reynolds, who played for Parcells the past couple of years in New England. The Jets also need more speed at safety who can cover more ground than the incumbents, Victor Green and Gary Jones. Green is small but tough warrior who'll tackle his mother if he needed to but he's only 5'9" tall and is not that fast. Jones is a big safety who's a ferocious hitter but lacks speed and opponents killed the Jets last year by matching their tight ends against this guys and capitalizing on defense so be prepared to see new changes on 'D' for the Gang Green.

The Parcells hiring is a great move by the Jets and will be refreshing to see a master roaming the sidelines for the Jets just this once. He will make the Jets winners soon. Just how soon will be question. Look at his track record and you see a pattern of success. Every four years he's coached, his team has gone to the Super Bowl and has won it twice. He took over the Giants in 1983. Four years later in 1986, his Giants team won the Super Bowl. Four years later in 1990, he won it again. He took over a 1-15 New England team in 1993 and took them to this past year's Super Bowl. So if everything goes according to plan, he should win the Super Bowl for the Jets in the year 2001. But let's not get ahead of our selves. After all, these are the Jets. Remember, this team went 1-15 last year so the hardest task Tuna has ahead of him will be trying to instill a winning attitude into that locker room. The talent needs a bit of an upgrade at certain spots but Parcells has some tools to work with, especially at offense. The one thing I question about Parcells is his ability (or disability) to make personnel decisions. The Terry Glenn fiasco has been well documented. The other thing that sticks out in my mind is the incident that took place during the 1990 NFL draft when Parcells wanted to take linebacker Darion Conner with the Giants first round pick. Giants GM George Young disagreed with Bill and opted instead for a Georgia running back named Rodney Hampton. That turned out pretty well for the Giants, didn't it? The bottom line is that Parcells should let

player personnel director Dick Haley have a major say in personnel and draft decisions. Haley has a great track record in regards to the draft especially. Parcells is smart so he should do the smart thing and hold on to Dick Haley so they can build the Jets into winners together.

Parcells' impact has already been felt by cutting kicker Nick Lowery and safety Lonnie Young. Others who don't work will be shown the door as well. The Jets finally have a bright future ahead of them with Tuna at the controls. And maybe, just maybe, the Jets can have that shot to win a Super Bowl before owner Leon Hess drops dead. They have the man to lead them to the promised land. He's been there and done that. Take a bow Jets fans!! The chronic losing is over and it's time for your team to start winning for once. That will be a delightful change of Pace (no pun intended) for long suffering Jets fans like me. Yes, I'm a Jet fan but I will not be suffering any longer. **QUICKOUTS:** It was a good trade by the Miami Heat getting Jamal Mashburn from Dallas for Sasha Danilovic, Kurt Thomas and Martin Murrsepp but don't go crowning them the Atlantic Division Champs just yet. Sure, Judas Riley got Mashburn but now the Heat's bench in paper thin and that will cost them dearly if they suffer another key injury to one of their starters. The Knicks will overtake the Heat and win the Atlantic Division in the second half because of their quality depth and I believe they have a better starting five.....A star has been born across the river in the NBA and he is the Nets' Kerry Kittles.....Rangers are in trouble and maybe Neil Smith should start doing some dealings and Boston's Rick Tocchet is right at the top of his wish list. They have already traded for Clint, er, Mike Eastwood. Let's hope that this guy can handle his stick the way Clint handles a gun during those Dirty Harry movies. (Tom Krasniqi hosts "Sports Action" every night from 8pm-10pm on 88.9FM WSIA Staten Island. Talk pro sports, great guests, and taking phone calls are all part of the "Big Show" so listen in!!)

On Wed, Feb 26, this C.S.I. Men's Tennis Team will be holding a meeting. It will take place at the Sports and Recreation Center in room 206. All are welcome. Any questions, call Bruce Knittle at 982-3165.

**Save the
Children's
Center**

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NFL Free Agents Are Priced To Move

by Fran Stuchbury

Let the bidding begin! The free agency period for football has now begun. This is when teams try to improve themselves by offering players a lot of money to sign with them. By April, the teams will know what their weaknesses are and draft accordingly. Here is a list of the top free agents, but not all will be totally free. Teams can designate them franchise or transitional players so moving for some may be difficult. Here is a list of available free agents by position.

Quarterbacks

Jeff George will probably sign with the Raiders and make five million per season. Last season, he played in only several games because he got into a shouting



match with coach June Jones and the end result was George getting cut. He was going to get traded to Seattle for Rick Mirer but turned down a huge mega-deal contract with them. To make room under the cap the Raiders will have to cut Jeff Hostetler which means he will probably be the next quarterback of

the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Elvis Grbac is another quarterback that may be on the move. He played well when Steve Young was injured last season but he might just be a system quarterback. Steve Bono played well for the 49ers but has been a disappointment for the Kansas City Chiefs. There's a chance he might wait two seasons for Steve Young to retire. Or he might still be mad about the S.F. mayor criticizing him for his poor performance in a game against the Cowboys. The reason why he played bad was because his son had a medical condition and was in the hospital.

Running Backs

Jerome Bettis and the Pittsburgh Steelers are having difficulties negotiating. He has already turned down two offers they made. The Steelers have a tendency to lose players to free agency and signing him is a

must.

Arizona Cardinals running back Larry Centers has 200 catches over the last two seasons. He would be a great addition for the New York Giants. This move would make sense for two reasons. One is because it would take pressure off of Dave Brown. The second is since new Giant head coach, Jim Fassel, was the offensive coordinator of the Cardinals, Fassel and Centers has a good relationship.

Last season Terry Allen of the Washington Redskins rushed for 1,353 yards and 21 touchdowns.

Gilbert Brown is a defensive tackle for the Super Bowl champs, the Green Bay Packers. This 6'2" 325 pound tackle helps clog the middle of the defensive line.

That is amazing considering he has had reconstructive surgery on both knees. Odds are he will most likely stay with the Redskins because he is a huge part of the offense.

Daryl Johnston is a great fullback. He is a main reason why Emmitt Smith and the Dallas Cowboy offense has been so good. He likes to get his uniform dirty and doesn't mind blocking for others. For these reasons he is a great addition to any team.

Wide Receivers

Tony Martin had a huge season with the Chargers last season. He caught 14 touchdown passes which tied him for the AFC lead for wide receivers. The Chargers have a new head coach in Kevin Gilbride and a new and improved passing game should be available

for him to improve on those numbers. There's a good chance he won't go anywhere as he might be the team's franchise player.

Detroit Lion receiver Brett Perriman has caught 202 passes the last two seasons. People don't realize how good he is because Herman Moore got all the attention. If a team can get him they will be getting a proven receiver. The problem is that he will demand the ball a lot and can provide some friction.

Desmond Howard was the Superbowl XXXI MVP. He won the MVP award due to his colossal special teams performance. He had 244 total yards including a 99 yard kick-off return for a touchdown that helped seal the game. He won't make big bucks because he is not proven at the wide receiver position. However, even though his biggest asset is special teams a team can gain him by promising him so time at wide receiver.

Defense

Derrick Thomas is unlikely to be resigned by the Chiefs because they will be concentrating on signing their other free agent, Neil Smith. Derrick Thomas is a great pass rusher, and he sacks the quarterback a lot. He demonstrated this in a game he played against the Seattle Seahawks some years back. In this game he had seven sacks. Some players don't even get seven sacks in one season, so to get seven in one game is astonishing.

Chad Brown had 13 sacks this season and will be asking for a ton of money. If he stays with the Steelers he wants to remain a linebacker, but he might have to change his position because Greg Lloyd is coming back from injury. Any team would love to have a sack-specialist on their team so money may be the deciding factor.

Gilbert Brown is a defensive tackle for the Super Bowl champs, the Green Bay Packers. This 6'2" 325 pound tackle helps clog the middle of the defensive line. His attributes are his run stopping ability. Many teams are interested in this young and mammoth talented player.

Steeler cornerback Rod Woodson is 32 but still is one of the bests in the league. The Steel City might lose him because their first priorities are signing Chad Brown and Jerome Bettis. He would like to finish his career as a Steeler so he might take less money to stay with them.

CSI Gets A New Mens Soccer Coach

by Michael Anderson

Carlo Tramontozzi was introduced as the new head men's soccer coach in a press conference on February 4. Tramontozzi brings with him an impressive resume. He is a former standout player, coach and athletic director. All total, he brings over 40 years of soccer experience to CSI.

Tramontozzi will replace the retired Jim Donlan. Donlan had three coaching stints spanning nine years with the Dolphins and accumulated a record of 76-46-13. This past year he guided the Dolphins to an impressive 11-6-2 record and captured the City University of New York championship. That champi-

onship was only the second one in CSI's history.

Tramontozzi's coaching career was with the Division I St. Francis (NY) Terriers. He served 20 years at this post and his record was 110-32, including six NCAA Division I Tournament appearances and three ECAC playoff berths. More impressive than the record was the students he recruited. He produced nine All-Americans and consistently placed his players on the Northeast Conference Commissioner's Honor Roll. This type of award is given to student-athletes that achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or better. While at St. Francis, Tramontozzi also served as athletic director for 16 years.

Tramontozzi played his collegiate ball at Long Island University. His play earned him All-State and All-

Metropolitan selections. On the academic end he received a bachelor's degree in physical education in 1966 and a master's in guidance and counseling in 1969.

In 1976, he was named the New York State and New York Metropolitan Collegiate Coach of the year. Tramontozzi is a member of the St. Francis College Athletic Hall of Fame as well as the United States Soccer Federation and the English Football Federation.

Between coaches Donlan (1977-78, 1982-85, 1994-96), Hugh Rainey (1979-80), Seth Roland (1981), and Nick Kvasic (1987-93) the CSI Dolphin program holds a career mark of 139-127-18.