

THE BANNER

September 26, 2005

Jewish Rapper Remedy Performs

Kevin S.P. Mamakas

Staten Islander Ross Phillip has been writing since he was seven years old. His recent performance at CSI was in the large Concert Hall. There were quite a few people at the event, but Remedy fell victim to being put in a room that was



Photo: Luke Crisain

Jewish rapper Remedy performing in the concert hall in IP

too big for a performance that only permitted CSI students to attend. The people that did attend the heavily advertised performance enjoyed it. Even though the crowd was religiously diverse, one girl screamed out before the event started, "I am Jewish,

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LIGHTING ON CAMPUS RAISES SAFETY CONCERNS

Ann Marie Costella

During the day CSI's 204 scenic acres are bustling with life, but when night falls it becomes a very different place.

"I try not to take night classes," said 22-year-old Jaclyn Alessi. "In some parts of the campus the lack of light doesn't bother me, but there are certain parking lots that aren't lit well enough and I'm scared to walk near them." So like many students she takes several precautions to stay safe.

"If I'm at the campus with people who are parked in the same lot as me, I make sure that I walk to my car with those people," she said. "If I'm by myself I keep my keys out, so that if anyone came and tried to attack me, I could get them with my keys."

The office of public safety indicates on CSI's website: "Most criminals are opportunists. They take advantage of certain opportunities they encounter

to commit crimes." The 1,000 lamp-posts with their rusted bases and cataract covered lenses do little to make students feel secure and the dense wooded areas seem like the perfect place for predators to hide.

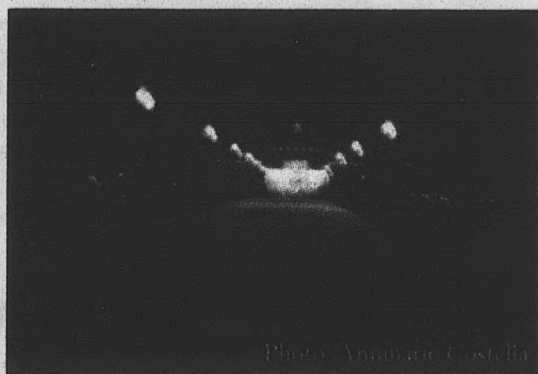
"I don't feel safe walking around the campus at night. I don't think there

are enough lampposts on campus and the ones that we do have aren't bright enough," said 22-year-old Eleni Xekarvakis. "They should definitely add more lighting and

have more visible security officers on patrol."

CSI's crime rate is extremely low, with only one robbery and one aggravated assault being reported last year. "It only takes one incident to create a sense of panic and ill at ease," said Vice President for Finance and Administration Angelo J. Aponte. "This campus takes on a different personality at night even though it's not more

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The walkway to the library. Some feel uneasy due to the poor lighting on campus

Seldom Used CIX Accounts Blamed for Failed Sex Offender Notification

Melissa Seecharan

September 22nd – As news of the failed notification regarding the presence of a level 2 sex offender on campus reached CSI's administration, another problem arose – low student use of CIX accounts.

Carol Jackson, Vice President of Student Affairs, expressed her deep concern over the issue. "I don't understand why they didn't receive the email," said Jackson during a phone interview. "My secretary was responsible for sending it out and we have records that it was sent out in late August."

The possibility of a computer glitch may be responsible for the email blunder, however numerous phone calls to the Office of Information Technology were never returned or not connected. Meanwhile, an employee of the IT department had a voice message announcing her departure. "I am no longer working for the college, so please don't leave any messages ...because no one will be able to return them."

In the meantime, student response remained steady: "I never received an email about a sex offender," said Stephanie Medina, a student who often checks her CIX account.

According to Jackson, postcards and letters were sent out before and after the creation of the accounts. "The question is what can we do?" asked Jackson as she attempted to figure out a way for students to actively use their email accounts.

Created with the intention of making information sharing easier between CSI and students over a year ago, CIX (Campus Information Exchange) accounts have not been in high use. Jackson approximates that between 10%-20% of students actually check their email.

For many students, CIX accounts are foreign territory. They either find it confusing, a waste of time, or aren't even aware it exists. "I've never checked my CIX account," said student Tanya Starr. "Actually, I've never really heard about it."

Information about the CIX account can be found at: www.csi.cuny.edu/studenthelpdesk

CSI International High Schools Students Plan Their Future

Thomas Bradley

The CSI International H.S. has begun to pursue the goals it set forth in its mission statement, "to prepare students for college and, ultimately, success in an interconnected world." The school promises to incorporate a multinational theme into all areas of study. "Every class is taught from a global perspective," said administrative intern Nicholette Apap. "It could even be Math or Science. Every teacher focuses on the international aspects of the subject." This international concentration on the global community reflects the attitude of the school as a whole. The students have not only been given the freedom to express their feelings to the faculty, they are free to roam the grounds of the college.

The H.S. opened its doors two weeks ago with an ambitious mission: To find and establish an identity unlike any other public high school in the area. With

a well-qualified staff and a progressive curriculum the high school is pursuing their identity from all angles. The student body is playing an active role in choosing the path their school will take by offering original ideas and feedback to the faculty. This student-faculty relationship is fast becoming the engine driving the new school toward its goals.

Students of the high school were originally shocked by the faculty request for their input and opinions regarding their school. "At first we would ask the kids for feedback and get nothing," said Apap. "They'd never been actually asked for their opinions before." Eventually the kids warmed up to the idea of having something to say in a place where, for the better part of their lives, they had never been consulted on anything. The students have become avid contributors of ideas including an elementary school reach-out program in which the H.S. students create an activity for the kids based on a stu-

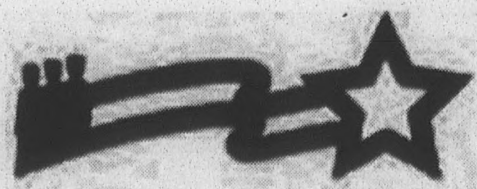
dent designed international storybook.

The freedom of attending such a progressive school comes with a responsibility the students have taken to heart. "They are very active in class," said Apap. "The students work in groups, which constantly change." The H.S. students are being cultivated to think and behave with more freedom than average H.S. freshmen. Disciplining the students for dress code and cell phone violations have been the only remnants of the normal public school system the school has clung to. The H.S. students have been using The Green Dolphin Lounge as a cafeteria, in conjunction with the basement of 5N, the football field, basketball court, and handball courts. "The students were afraid the college kids would think the high school had taken over their space," said Apap. "Some of the kids have relatives that attend C.S.I. but for the most part they

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The American Democracy Project

The New York Times THE BANNER



After Katrina, the Cronyism Continues

Matt Safford

President Bush surprised millions recently, when he claimed to take responsibility "to the extent that the federal government didn't fully do its job right" regarding its disaster response to Katrina.

With the press feeding on Brown's lack of qualifications and the obvious embellishment of his credentials, one might assume that Bush had learned a hard lesson about appointing inexperienced friends to important positions. Yet, little more than a week after Brown's resignation, the administration seems to be up to its old tricks.

36 year old Julie Myers, a lawyer who according to the Washington Post "held a variety of jobs over the past four years at the White House and at the

departments of Commerce, Justice and Treasury, though none involved managing a large bureaucracy," is the administration's latest crony nominee. If that weren't egregious enough, the agency she's been nominated to head is U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

That's right; our President has nominated someone with no little or no experience in immigration or customs to head the department charged with keeping drug shipments and terrorists from entering our borders.

But perhaps her previous jobs in the White House weren't the sole reason for her nomination. It turns out that her uncle is none other than Air Force General Richard B. Myers, the departing chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and she just married Homeland Security

Secretary Michael Chertoff's Chief of Staff.

So there's little doubt that she's well connected. But the best defense she could muster is that she's spent a year as assistant secretary for export enforcement at Commerce, where she oversaw 170 employees and had a \$25 million budget. If she gets the job at ICE, she'll have 20,000 employees and a budget of \$4 billion.

Apparently Brown's mismanagement of FEMA and the hundreds who likely died as a consequence taught our administration nothing of the dangers of cronyism. It falls then to the Congress to either block these sorry nominees from getting into office, or remain in lock-step with a tanking Bush, and face the consequences during next years election.

ANTI-WAR FILM DRAWS SMALL CROWD

Matthew Beck

Campus Center, Sept. 20—The Professional Staff Congress hosted a screening of Fahrenheit 9/11, the docudrama by hard-left heavyweight Michael Moore, which was the second installment in a series of anti-war flicks entitled "The U.S. And Globalization", scheduled to run this semester. The first, a documentary by Bill Moyers, was shown on September 13.

11 people attended Moore's besmirching muckraker masterpiece in the chilly Green Dolphin Lounge at 6:30 in the evening. The audience was mostly men, except for a couple ladies and a few students who dropped in and out. Moderating was political science professor Harry T. Cason. "There's a small group of people that controls this world," said Cason. "We're just puppets."

During the film, the atmosphere bordered between an old-fashioned revival meeting and a small-group Bible study, only politics replaced religion, the screen replaced the pulpit, and Bush replaced Satan. The congregation sat engrossed listening to Moore's cinematic sermon. They nodded assent as he glibly listed Bush's faults, and expressed their enjoyment of Moore's deft manipulation of jaunty graphics, sardonic skits, and silly still shots.

The mood fluctuated variably from glorious exhilaration to deathly silence. The air was punctuated with sneers of disgust, gasps of disbelief, and sighs of incredulity, all milked by Moore's smoothly sarcastic narration technique. (In one case, they were almost raptured in laughter at a slick sequence that pasted Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld, and Condi Rice's smiling faces over the horse-mounted figures of the four Bonanza characters in the opening title scene from that classic western.)

A discussion followed the film, where the audience could voice their opinions. Professor Cason gave his reason for the war. "I think we're there for oil," he said. "That's what really drives me mad." Mr. Bernard Garner, a forcefully forthright liberal, gave heartily into the offering plate of dissent. "There isn't any liberty here. They brainwash us," he said. "We just haven't figured it out."

One young soft-spoken student, who identified himself only as 'E', candidly gave the testimony of his conversion experience: "The original reason we went [into Iraq] was for WMD's," he said. "I was for the war at first because I believed that's what was going on. I was lied to." Of course, war in general was taboo. "War is a dirty business," said Garner, "and they're trying to sanitize it."

Another man didn't like the label 'un-American' for his anti-war doctrine. "Call

Successful Inaugural Event for New CUNY Journalism School

Matt Safford

September 13—Professional, amateur and aspiring journalists from Barbara Walters to your humble Banner correspondent, gathered on the Concourse level of the CUNY Graduate center for a panel discussion entitled "The battle over Confidential Sources."

Described as "the first formal activity" of the new CUNY Graduate School of Journalism by moderator, Stephen Shepard, the event featured key figures in the ongoing case involving the outing of undercover CIA agent Valerie Plame in a 2003 newspaper column.

Fallout from Plame led a federal grand jury to request the identity of two unnamed sources in two articles, which appeared in the New York Times and Newsweek. While Newsweek eventually coughed up the name Carl Rove, New York Times reporter Judith Miller has yet to reveal her source. Consequently, she was charged with contempt, and has been in prison for more than 75 days.

Prominent First Amendment lawyer

Floyd Abrams, Executive NY Times editor Bill Keller and Time Inc. Editor-in-Chief Norman Pearlstine, gathered for the event. Newsweek editor Mark Whitaker put the issue of anonymous sources into perspective. "Imagine what the world would be like if anonymous sources didn't exist," said Whitaker. "The abuses of power of the Vietnam and Nixon eras, that would never have been uncovered. The whistle would have never have been blown on the tobacco industry, or the Enron and WorldComs of the world." After giving an explanation of the events which led to Miller's imprisonment, Dean Shepard introduced the panelists, and the discussion began in earnest.

The group was lively as the panelists discussed the case at hand, and hypothetical situations. Keller claimed he could imagine some cases in which he would reveal a source, if the source gave him permission, and Pearlstine claimed he would "if it came down to saving lives."

Shifting focus slightly, the panelists discussed the merits and difficulties of a

national shield law for journalists. The problem with that idea however, is as Shepard put it, "how we define journalists?"

"I would be inclined towards a pretty expansive definition" said Keller.

The other panelists seemed to agree. Citing early American pamphleteers as an analogy for today's citizen journalists, Pearlstine said "I think the Bloggers are a whole lot closer to what the First Amendment was designed to protect."

Shepard and the panelists included the audience in the discussion. After several minutes and a handful of questions involving the role of bloggers, and Judith Miller's possible bias, Shepard cut the session off, sticking closely to the pre-determined timeframe of 90 minutes.

The solid showing and impressive group of panelists not only made for an interesting evening, but portends a bright future for the new CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, which is to take on its first 50 students next fall.

Apply to serve on the 2005-2006 Committee

The Program Development Committee has an opening for a motivated student to join our programming team.

Are you creative? Like to organize and plan events?
Want to impact campus programming?
Interested in making connections at CSI?
Enjoy comedy, lectures, films, and other entertainment?
If you answered yes to any of these questions,
we want YOU!

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE IC-201 AND IC-217. DEADLINE: Monday October 3, 2005

GREAT ADVENTURE



FRIGHT FEST 2005

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2005

TICKETS ON SALE
for Students

Monday, October 17th
\$15.00 with VALID CSI ID

Guest tickets on sale starting
Monday, October 24th
\$20.00 (must be 18 or older)

Tickets on sale in the
Campus Center (1C),
room 216, for more info
call 718-982-2816

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Public Safety

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dangerous. In the evening because of the distances, you can't necessarily see from building to building. So it's a little creepy."

Aponte feels that it's a continuous process of trial and error to come up with lighting additions and adjustments that will be successful. However he is implementing some innovative changes that he feels students will be very pleased with. "We are experimenting with three different types of lighting heads, that will produce more light and throw more light down on the ground without impacting light going up and interfering with the observatory," indicated Aponte. "We are looking at strategic areas where we might add additional lampposts." Also, most of the lampposts along loop road have a yellow X spray painted on their base, which indicates that they are rusted

and will be repaired.

In addition, they are also experimenting with adding roof lighting to buildings like the gym (1R) and the Campus Center (1C). "What we are trying to do now is to go to roof lighting to light those areas that are away from the walkways because we believe that the walkways have sufficient light," said Aponte. "The problem is when you look down this brightly lit walkway 10 feet out along the side it's completely black. It's scary."

Public safety officers and vehicles will be more visible during evening class changes. Students should be able to see an officer or vehicle every 200 feet. CSI also offers an escort service. In every building next to the campus phone, there is a sign posted with the phone number for the public safety office. If students feel afraid, they can call and a peace officer will escort them anywhere they need to go on the campus. "We will never deny a person an escort," said Corporal Bill

Mazzaro. "Call us and we will send someone over as soon as we can."

The parking lots and the traditional green building signs will also be getting a facelift. "We are taking a page out of Walt Disney and Disney World," said Aponte. "You know how everything is color coated when you come into Disney World; we have developed a color scheme for the various lots that will have the same color scheme as the buildings that those lots serve." Hopefully this will aid students, especially freshman in locating buildings more easily during the day as well as at night.

Vice President Aponte assures that numerous changes will be made. "We are in the process of getting the money and the certificate to proceed," he said. "Once we receive that, we have a contractor who is ready to repair the existing lighting and add new lighting." But for students who feel afraid, change cannot come soon enough.

Remedy Performs at CSI

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I am here to be a Jew."

After Brenowitz talked briefly about some politics, society, and the culture of Israel, Remedy rapped songs that were from his albums, "The Genuine Article," and "Code Red." These songs included rapping about being the World's Travelers because the Jewish people were traveling around the world and were kicked out until they reached Israel, The History of Judaism which was a timeline rap about going from Egypt, to Moses, to the Ten Commandments, and to Israel, along with songs about education, the Holocaust, and 9/11.

In his elementary school days, the man who would be Remedy started to learn the public school version of the Jewish heritage. He knew at this time that he had to find out more about his heritage.

He had no idea that his passion for writing, thirst to learn about his heritage, and his ability to use Hip Hop as an outlet would lead to a life where he would be considered the leading Jewish Rapper in America, Remedy.

He quickly learned that he did not live in a traditional Jewish house. Both of his parents divorced twice. He is not Orthodox or Hassidic and he still doesn't know if he will marry a Jewish girl. He also only knows about two hundred words in Hebrew.

Yet as he started to learn the story of his birthright from his elderly family members, he came to the realization that his family was involved in the Holocaust. He discovered that his great Uncle was shot in the back along with so many other Jewish peo-

ple. This information made it clear what he had to do. From that day on he dedicated his life to communicating to the rest of the world the history of his people and the importance of the knowledge.

By the time he attended New Dorp High School in Staten Island, he became friends with members with what would be the future Wu Tang Clan. This is the time when he started to perform in earnest. Remedy is now 32 years old and he has been around the world, including the United States, South America, Europe, and of course Israel. According to his best friend and tour manager, Lukas Brenowitz, all types of people "around the world recognize Remedy."

According to Brenowitz, Remedy started singing in his unique way when Hip Hop was still new. He believes, "Hip Hop music has become bland because people sing about the same thing." When people like Remedy come along and sing about something completely different then the norm, they tend to catch the eyes and ears of groups that were believed to be separate from the rest of the world. He believes one of his main messages of his and Remedy's tours is for people to recognize that, "Israel is a living and breathing country. There are a lot of different people in Israel."

For the first time since he was doing Open Mic performances, he has come back to his home Staten Island to perform. He credited Libby Mallin from the CSI Hillel in the Multi Faith Center for convincing him to come to CSI. Thanks to the Program Development Committee, his performance was funded.

CSI became a part of the Remedy to Israel Program on September 22 during Club Hours. This program gives knowledge to people about his heritage through Hip Hop. "Hip Hop is the form of communication for the new generation," is one of the mottos for Remedy.

Remedy stresses the idea that,

"There is not much we haven't done [concert styles]... but we are always dealing with love not hate." No matter what religion a person is, they listen. "Any human is going to listen," he says, "Because I deal with humanity and nationality is reality."

By the end he was rapping about things that were not related to being Jewish. He actually allowed his friends and a few of the audience members to get up and freestyle.

Remedy and members of the Wu Tang Klan now plan on going back to Israel and they also are going to be doing a Hurricane Katrina Relief Rap in Springville Virginia. Remedy is expecting another album out in the next six months that would have him rapping in English while all the other rappers will be rapping in Hebrew.

CSI International High School

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don't interact one to one."

Whether or not there is a "one to one" interaction the students of the International H.S. have made their presence felt in their own way. The school is temporarily located on the first floor of building 5N, displacing the physical therapy department for the time being. "We are definitely different," said Apap. "The student body is far from the typical group of kids." The high school is giving these fourteen year olds a unique opportunity at an education most don't get until their late teens. Whether or not they are ready for it is up to them.

The CSI Student Behind the Mask (and the Costume)

Scott Zeller

Anthony Gallo does not have your typical job. In fact, his job is so unique that aside from his boss, this CSI student is the only employee.

"The money is good and I don't work long hours," said Gallo. "We get paid per hour what some may make in five." The company that he works for is called Ally's Costume and Friends, and they deal with the private party industry. Anthony's job is to play host whether that be in costume or not.

Gallo never imagined that he would actually play his favorite childhood characters when he grew up. Gallo obtained the job in a very unnatural way; it took place at a previous job he had in the Staten Island Mall. He was actually helping a customer that would soon be his boss. His boss believed that he was very outgoing and that he had enough potential to be one of his employees. At the time Gallo had no idea what kind of job he was getting himself into. His boss gave him a card and said to call him tomorrow if he was interested in making big money. "It was only an instinct to call him back," said Gallo. "I was only making \$6.50 at the time, so I was curious to find out what he meant by big money." When Gallo made the call he was unsure of what to think. His soon to be boss explained the job as so. He told him that he would be hired as a party host. Meaning that he would entertain groups of

people mostly children and be heavily compensated for doing it. He was then informed that his job would require him to wear costumes of children's favorite characters. Gallo was unsure of what to say, for he had never been the center of attention before. The only risk he would take would be public humiliation. His boss made it clear that the money being offered to him was well worth the risk and so he took the position.

Gallo has worked for Ally's Costume and Friends for a little over three years and for the most part his parties run smoothly, but every once in a while something gets thrown in his way. "In every job



Anthony Gallo tries on his costume in preparation for an upcoming party

work in neighborhoods that I wouldn't even go to."

In one scenario Gallo was sent to host a party in the projects of Staten Island. He was informed that he would be working this party a week in advance, so he was unsure of what to think.

The only thing he knew was that he

you get that customer that just isn't happy," said Gallo. "Unfortunately I get one a little too often." There happens to be no limits as to where Gallo can travel to host a party. Sometimes they are in halls and others they can be in your very backyard. There is no neighborhood too poor and there isn't one too rich. "It's a business," said Gallo. "Sometimes I

was going to be dressed as Spider-Man, and that he would be going into territory that he was not familiar with. When the party date came, Gallo was informed that he would actually have to arrive at the party in his costume. A normal party does not require this of him, but the customer requested this so that they would not risk a chance of the birthday child seeing a strange man coming into the house. When Anthony "Spider-Man" Gallo arrived at the destination, he was greeted with loud rap music that he was not accustomed to. "A normal party I host usually has the Chicken Dance followed by the Hokey Pokey," said Gallo "not Big Pimpin (by: Jay Z) followed by N'Together Now (by: Limp Bizkit and Method Man)." The party was scheduled for two hours and that is what frightened him most. He did not know what to make of it.

The music is not what struck Gallo most. It was when he stepped into the main room and to his right he saw Wu-Tang recording artist and Staten Island native Method Man. So here he was Spider-Man facing Method Man, man to man. "I was in shock," said Gallo "and to be honest I was a little embarrassed, but Meth was cool and just shook my hand." The party went on as so and Gallo danced the hip-hop style as if he were doing it for years. "When you go out there," said Gallo, "host a party by yourself in a costume, you just have to blank everyone out and just be the costume."

For This Student, Life Is All About Getting High

Emily Carletto

His eyes light up and his hands flail excitedly as he recounts what it was like to start going to flight school.

When Ryan Dandrea told his parents that he was interested in learning how to fly airplanes, at the age of twelve, it didn't go well at first. "No Mom and Dad!" he said. "I didn't mean the model types, I want to fly a real airplane." They looked at him in surprise, his mother telling it's too dangerous while his father wondered if it was just a passing phase but it wasn't.

Ryan started going to Teterboro Airport once a week on Sunday for flight class. By using a virtual simulator he was able to experience flight in a controlled environment. He also learned about all the gauges, the alternator, and all the other parts of the 1972 Cessna that he was learning how to fly. Teterboro flight school cost his parents \$100 an hour plus the cost of the instructor. Due to the current fuel shortage, the prices are higher now for flight instruction.

At the age of 12, Ryan became the youngest pilot at Teterboro Airport. Ryan received his pilot's license before he would be old enough to get his driver's license. "John was great," Ryan said of his flight instructor. "He taught

me everything." The 1972 Cessna that learned how to fly with came complications. It was old already when Ryan started at the school because they don't get brand new planes to practice with. He had to carry around a screwdriver with him whenever he went to fly the plane because you had to "Screw the plane back together as the screws came loose," he said. "The rattling was so loud it was hard to hear anything else." His instructor John told Ryan "No worries, but if anything happens, you're most likely to die."

The Cessna is a very small aircraft and if you were to lose control of the aircraft, you wouldn't survive a crash because everything would be

destroyed on impact. Whenever Ryan flies he always has his headset and his flight book with him. When he was punished for flying too close to the Statue of Liberty, his instructor John had Ryan be



A Screen shot of the flight simulation program that Deandrea learned to fly with

required to call in his position every few minutes, and he had to call in whenever he saw another plane. Ryan has flown up the Hudson River, around the Statue of Liberty as well as around Manhattan. Ryan has never flown at night because it is extremely difficult.

When it comes to flying "There is no other feeling like it in the world." Ryan says. "It's exhilarating to feel the freedom of the wide open sky and no traffic jams to deal with." Ryan wasn't at Teterboro when a plane crashed in June 2005, but the television show "Real TV" was. Teterboro is one of the smallest, busiest airports in the New York area and has had three crashes this year alone. Ryan is a safe and conscientious pilot and has never been in an accident but that didn't matter when he flew too close to a 727 plane and once again received the same punishment that he had gotten when he flew too close to the Statue of Liberty. How do you fly a Cessna fast? "Pull the throttle up as fast as you can to go really fast." He said. "That's all there is to it."

Ryan loves taking scenic photographs of the agricultural as well as residential landscapes. He has taken pictures of huge pumpkin patches in New Jersey, Fall foliage changing colors, and the New York City Skyline to name a few. Ever since flight school, Ryan has set his sights higher in hopes of one day joining the Air Force where their slogan just so happens to be "Aim High." Ryan has yet to sign up. Having a hobby has kept Ryan out of trouble and away from drugs because he literally gets high up in the sky.

From the Editor

Just when we thought we had seen the worst with Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Rita will have made landfall somewhere along the Texas coast by the time you've picked up this issue. And unfortunately, as of press time, the Industrial Canal levee in New Orleans was breached again, sending water surging back into the city. Luckily for us the weather around here hasn't been that crazy. It's finally Fall though, as hard as that may be to believe given how nice and warm it's been thus far.

It seems like only yesterday the semester was just starting, but now we're all of the sudden 1/3 of the way towards the end of the semester. Now that October is almost upon us, I'm now faced with the daunting task of applying for an internship, studying for the GRE, applying to Graduate school, and oh yeah, running The Banner.

This issue is loaded with information that's important to you. With important updates to stories you first read about in the last issue, a chance to meet your classmates, a stimulating sex column, a kicking arts page, and of course, two pages of comics.

We've put a lot of time and effort into this issue of The Banner (even if it doesn't look like it). Along the way there were a few speed bumps, (ok, there were more than a few, but who's counting?) yet at the same time we're still striving to do better. However, we need you - our readers - to give us submissions. From news to sports, to comics, and the ever-important American Democracy Page, The Banner is always the place for CSI Students to get their work published. So take some time out of your busy schedule to produce some material for us and keep those submissions coming.

-David Maltz

Anti-War Film Draws Small Crowd

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me anything you want," said Mr. Charles Wisniewski, a retired NYPD photographer, who was at 9/11, "but the fact of the matter is, I love my country, and just because I disagree doesn't mean I'm any less American."

All around a wariness of the Bush Administration prevailed. "I don't trust my government," said Cason, "because I know they are capable of wrongdoing." So did a questioning of the motives behind the war. "We're not fighting for freedom," said 'E'. "That was a secondary goal."

As the gathering began to disperse, a spirit of revelation seemed to lodge in the bosom of each partisan. They had seen the light, and they were zealous to go forth into all the earth and share the good news of the gospel. "We are in the dark in this country," said an anonymous friend of Mr. Wisniewski clothed in a Hawaiian-print coat of many colors. "But it's better to light a candle than curse the darkness."

Letters To The Editor

Re: "Students may be unaware of a Sex Offender on Campus."

The presence of a known sex offender is an alarming development on campus. Students, especially females should be aware of several security procedures CSI offers to provide safety after dark. Any classes ending after dark often have security officers around the building. These officers will meet you after class and escort you to your car by request. It is probably not a good idea to wander the campus alone after dark anyway, but with a known Sex Offender attending classes here, no precaution is too much.

-Cliff Weimer, Junior

CSI made everything so confusing with these CIX accounts and now we find out that students never received an e-mail about a sex offender on campus. This article was very informative and lets students know what they are missing out on.

-Anthony Gallo

Regarding the CIX accounts, nobody I know actually uses these e-mail addresses. I think that for something as serious and dangerous as a sex offender on campus, there should be another way for us students to gain this knowledge. I do believe in reform and don't believe that this person will necessarily strike again, but a lot of students leave the campus late at night, and for people who commute to Brooklyn or anywhere, this is a scary thing. This needs to be known.

-Cristal Brown, Senior

In the article about students being unaware of a Sex Offender on campus, I feel whoever was trying to make us aware did a poor job. E-mailing student accounts is not a good source to reach students. Most of us wouldn't even know how to check them even if we wanted to. Information like this should be clearly made public for everyone's safety.

-Mario Cardaci, Senior

Although I have never checked my CIX account from CSI account from CSI I think it is unfair that Sex Offenders are blatantly put out there through an email for all to see. I know this is a serious matter but these people may have a sickness and broadcasting it to the world is not the way to cure it.

-Stephanie Palmieri, Senior

Re: The Casualties of Cronyism

I am really glad a story like this was published in our school's paper. I am also glad to be a New Yorker. This place isn't my favorite, but as a state, we knew better than to vote for Bush. He is a child and is putting the lives of every American citizen in the hands of his friends and not those qualified.

Although what happened in New Orleans is a tremendous tragedy, it has shed light on the disgusting way Bush has treated his job as president. This is not some Homeland Security video game. Now all of this blood is real, and on the hands of our incompetent president and his friends. Hopefully when the people vote in three more years we will have learned our lesson.

-Marissa Gessin, Junior

Re: CSI responds to Hurricane Katrina

It is great that the College of Staten Island is getting involved with hurricane relief. The amount of devastation done by Hurricane Katrina is unbelievable. Every little bit helps in a time like this. I hope every school within CUNY as well as the entire country does their part to make the burden on the devastated area a little lighter.

-Jennifer Miller, Junior

Re: Blame Game is a Shame

I think that Kevin Mamakas couldn't have said it any better in this article. To start blaming people isn't the right thing to do at this time. These people need to get their city back in order just like we did here in NYC. It was a natural disaster that occurred and there is no way that you can predict the level of destruction that can occur. Save the blaming for a later time, and start with the task at hand.

-Andrew Calise

I agree with Mamakas' comment on placing the blame on the populace that votes politicians into office. However, how can we be best informed when we depend on media that operates for its own interests (money)? This is nothing new and it will continue so long as the press focuses on scandals after the fact.

-Frantz Barosy

Re: The Spirit of New York

When thinking back to the days of September 11, 2001 one finds it hard to think of anything good that happened that day. While reading this article, I felt as if I was reading a poem. It gave me an excellent outlook of what that tragic day really did to us New Yorkers. It made me smile and at the same time

tears came to my eyes. Good job Luke Crisalli.

-Dana Sveva, Junior.

Re: Kanye's new Workout Plan

I really liked the way this article was written because it showed how Kanye really is. He's an amazing artist and at the same time, he's an arrogant "everyday person." The fact is, Kanye can be like this because no matter what anyone says, "he's just that good."

-Lisa LaBruzo, Sophomore

Re: Price of healthcare making students ill.

I appreciate this article because health insurance is very important and it is something that should concern all students at the College of Staten Island. I could just hear my mother's voice right now stressing the fact to stay in school full time, to remain under my father's health coverage. There have been times I wanted to do a semester part time, but I knew if I did so I wouldn't be medically covered. I briefly knew about Family Health Plus and Medicaid but I didn't know who was eligible for it and how one could receive it. This article was extremely informative because now I know I have other options for medical insurance if I am in school over twenty one, or if I decide to drop a class. I also will use the information given to help other friends or students who might need health insurance.

-Carinne Fassari, Junior

Re: Women's Volleyball Gets Set to Compete Beyond CUNY Conference

This story gave me a chance to learn of the women's volleyball team. Although they only won one game last season, I will attend at least a few times this season to see how they do this year. After reading Coach Fein and how he thinks his girls will be ready to win more games, makes it even more exciting to see the outcome.

-Frank Arnone, Senior

Re: Comics

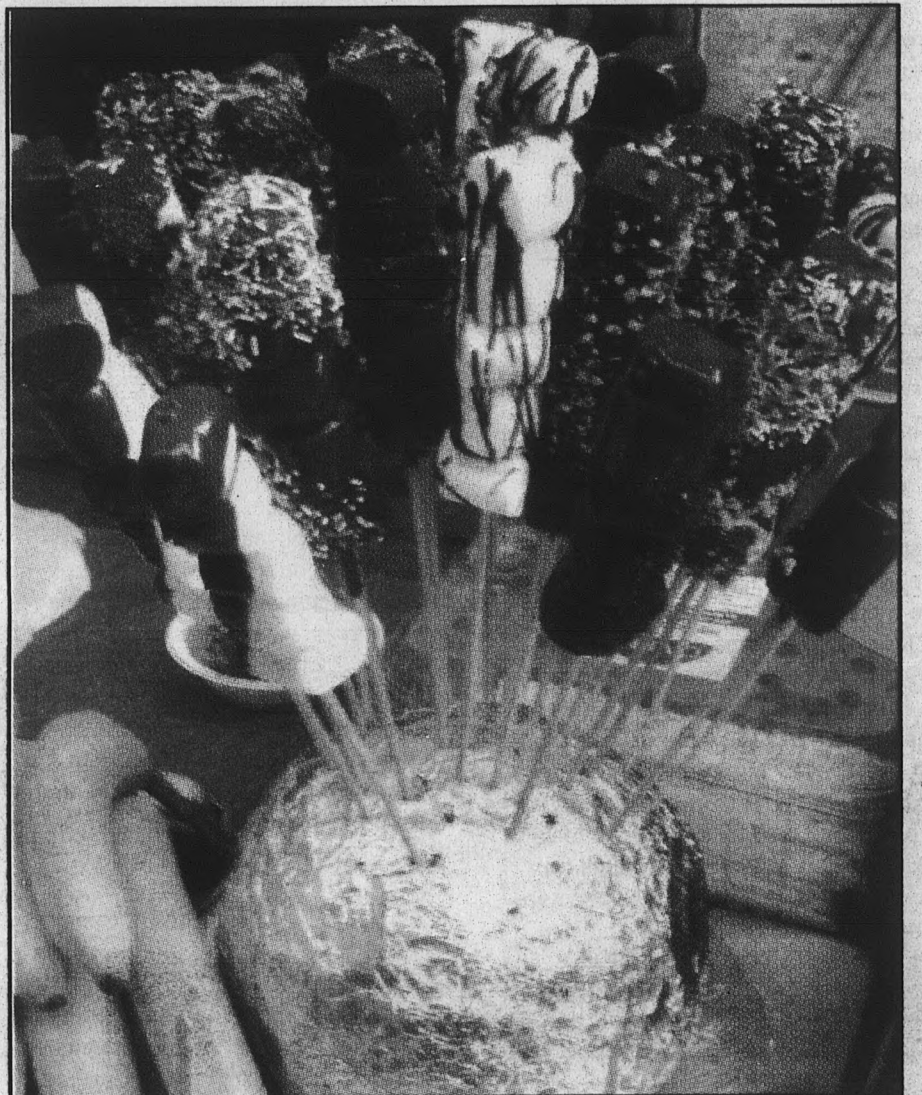
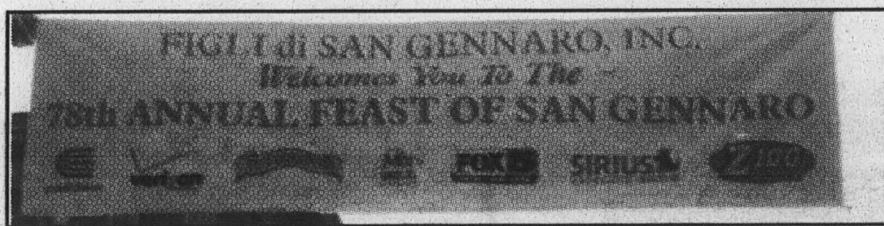
I would just like to say that the comics by Enrique Inocente do something to me that other comics don't - they make me laugh out loud! His drawings are great and the material is witty. I look forward to his section every issue. Keep up the great work Enrique!

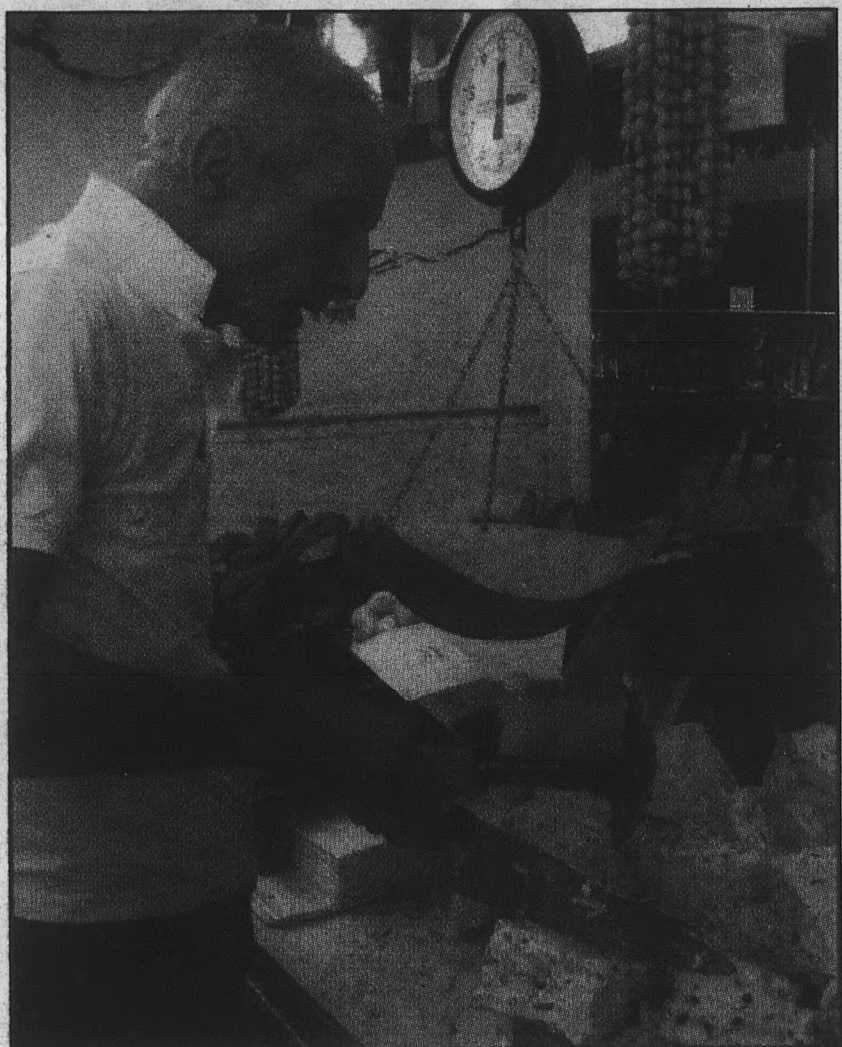
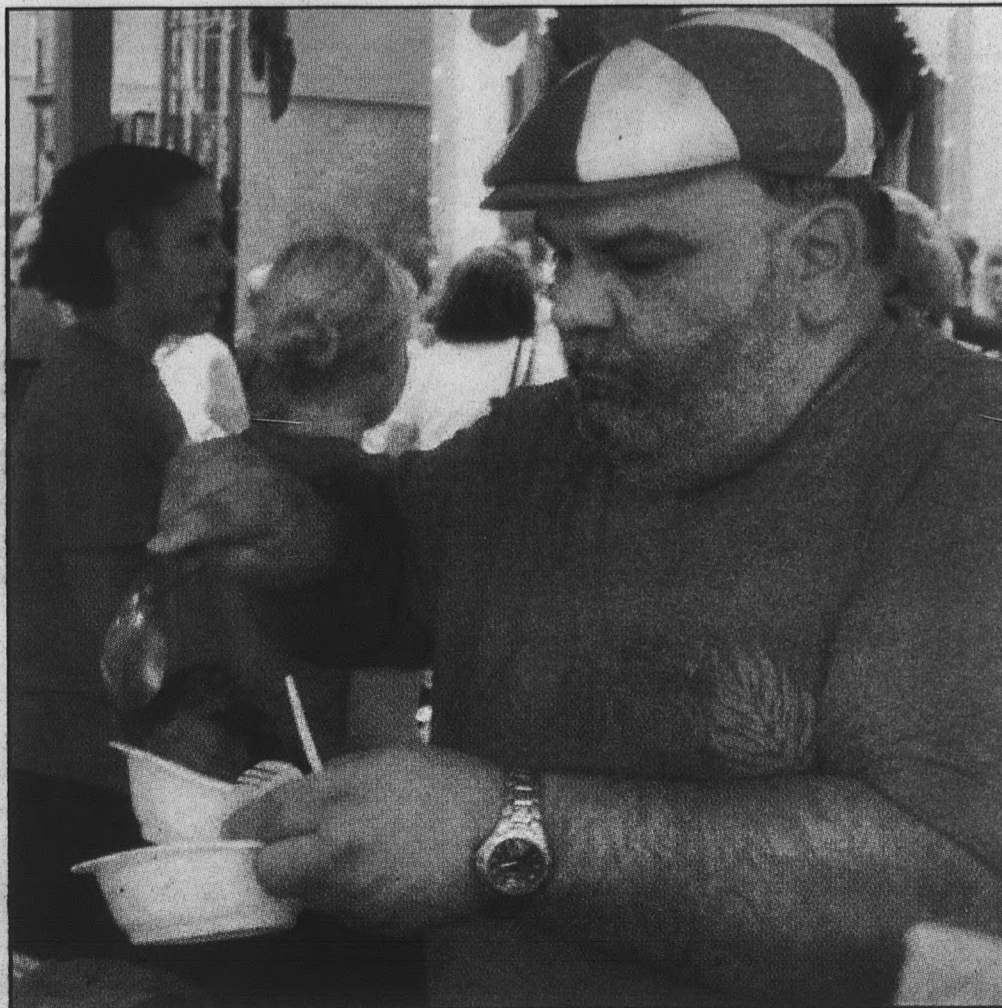
-Levon Martinez, Senior

Feast

Of San Genaro

During the weekend of September 17th and 18th, The 78th Annual Feast of San Genaro took place in the Little Italy section of Manhattan. Italian foods of all kinds were offered, from Zeppoles to Sausage and Peppers...from Italian Nought to Pasta, if it was Italian, it was there. Religious processions, church masses and a parade were also part of the festivities. The finest in Italian culture was also available in the form of CD's featuring Italian musicians. All Photos: Luke Crisalli





The feast is an annual celebration of the patron saint of Naples. The feast began on Mulberry Street in 1926. Since then, the feast has grown into a gala celebration. Each year, at the end of the celebration, donations are given to organizations throughout the five boroughs, and this year, to relief groups that are helping with the Hurricane Katrina relief fund.



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TRUE CARTOON STORY



SNARF

In 1985 a phenomena swept American television sets. That phenomena was ThunderCats. Aside from the acclaimed TV series, there were comic books, toys, computer games,

and other forms of merchandise that exploited America's love for these feisty felines. Among the colorful cast of characters was the lovable, cuddly, giant rodent type thingy named Snarf. But behind his cutsey mannerisms and pratfalls was a dark, secretive world filled with drug addiction, and sexual depravity.



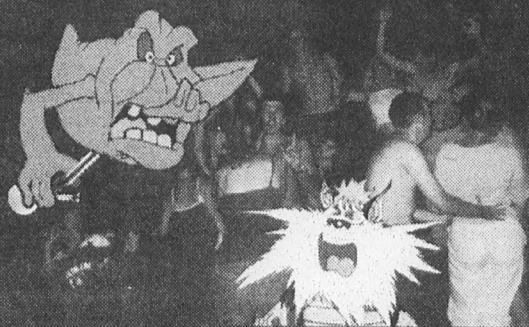
Snarf grew up on the mean streets of Brooklyn's Marcy Projects, but his love of dance and acting kept him off the streets and in the theater. He attended the High School for the Professional Performing Arts where he played Bruno Martelli in the school's production of Fame. Snarf garnered critical acclaim for his role, and graduated in 1982 as the classmate most likely to win an Academy Award.



As most aspiring actors do, Snarf went to Hollywood to pursue his movie career, and hit gold when he was cast in ThunderCats. Fame and fortune hit him like a freight train. It was in this flurry of stardom that Snarf was exposed to the seedier side the industry.



"It was the 80's, man. Cocaine was everywhere," said Lion-O, Snarf's long time friend and fellow actor who now lives in a trailer. "It was a crazy decade. After every episode me and Snarf would go to Cheetara's dressing room and take turns snorting coke off her ass."



Snarf's life eventually spiraled into a world filled with all-night binge drinking, and drug-filled orgies. He was known for partying with Hollywood bad boy and reefer addict Slimer from Ghostbusters. Snarf's self-destructive lifestyle and copious amounts of doping interfered with his work. He'd show up late to the studio, and had trouble remembering his lines. This lack of professionalism -coupled with the fact most of the cast and crew were stoned during a majority of the shooting- caused plenty of friction on the set.



There was fiction for Snarf offset, as well. One famous rivalry was with Orko from the equally popular show Masters of the Universe. "Snarf was a lil' punk bitch," said Orko, now a gangsta rapper. "He'd constantly be tryin' to step up to me, and talked mad ish! He had no game so he was always tryin' to snatch my trim."



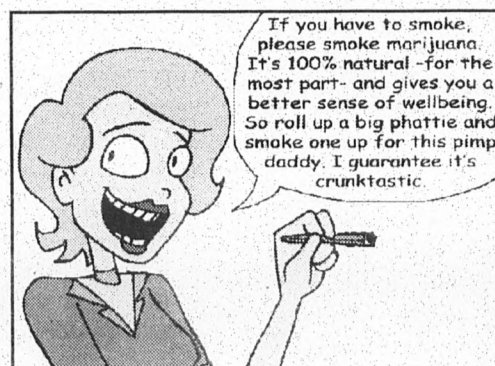
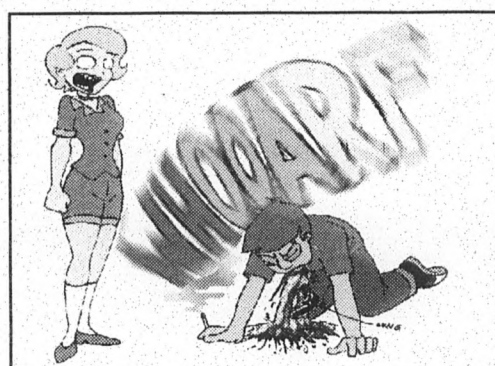
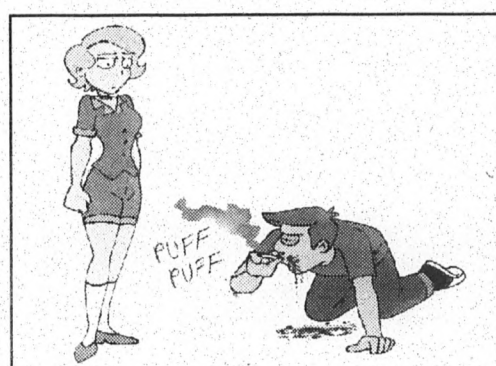
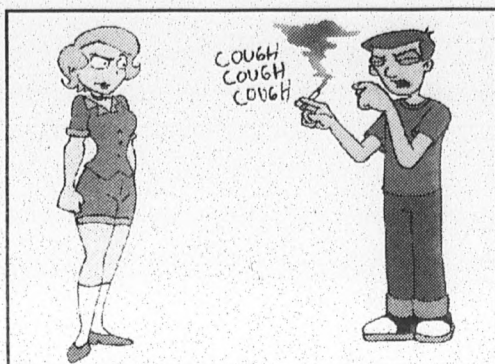
One such tight trim was Rainbow Brite. Orko and Snarf battled over her, but it was Snarf that won her affection. "I don't

know what I was thinking getting with that slimy two-timer," said Brite, who now lives with her life partner Brittany Chipette on Fire Island. "After a week of dating, I found him in bed with that fat, sleazy c**t Ms. Piggy. She already f***ed half the cast of the Muppet Show, and then had the audacity to take my man?! My only solace from all this was that Snarf caught the clap from that filthy pig!"

ThunderCats was cancelled in 1987. With the end of the series, came hardtimes for Snarf. Stay tuned for the conclusion of Snarf: True Cartoon Story after this brief message.

NOT A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

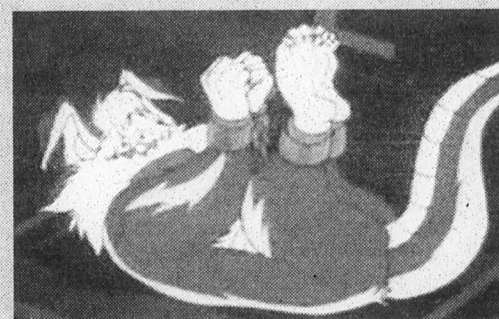
an ENRIQUE IGNACIO INOCENTE joint



After the cancellation of ThunderCats, it was difficult for Snarf to get another acting job. Typecast as the comic relief in a children's show made it impossible for him to get a serious role.

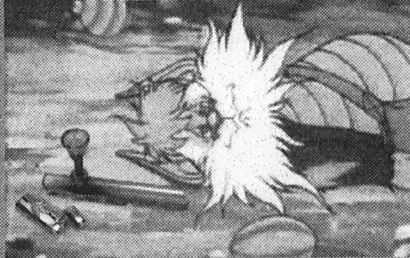


He auditioned for a part in Pokemon, but things went horribly wrong when Snarf mauled Pikachu half to death after producers chose him for the starring role instead of Snarf. After years without work and desperate for money, Snarf began



performing in hardcore, underground bondage movies, and did other sexually explicit things to make ends meet.

POLICE FILE PHOTO# MDK976
SNARF: O.D.



ThunderCats experienced something of a revival this past year thanks to the release of a new toy line, comics and DVD box set of the original 80's series. Ironically, Snarf's life came to a tragic end on August 9, 2005 when he was found dead in Central Park from an apparent crack cocaine overdose. The same day as the ThunderCats box set DVD release.

TCS
TRUE CARTOON STORY

IS A PRODUCTION OF



GENRE-TELL



Freshman Diaries...

PARALLEL PARKING? DRIVING AND GOING TO CLASS AT CSI

Lauren Taylor

Make a right turn and parallel park... On Friday September 16th, I took my road test at 8:30 in the morning. As a freshman in College, many would expect a person to already have their license, but I wanted to save up money in order to do so. I tried to control the nervousness but my mind went blank as I entered the car with the examiner, and I must tell you that I have been prepared for this moment weeks ago; actually, there were months of preparation to pass this test. To be watched, studied and criticized by my driving instructor and father is one thing but to be "graded" by a stranger about how I drive in five minutes, is totally different. Actually the test felt like it went on for an hour.

It's so weird how your mind and body gets the signal of nervousness and anxiety. Everyone I know said, "you'll nail it in one shot, no worries." But, why is it that someone else would fail; am I doing something wrong when I drive? Sometimes all our nervousness builds

up and we don't know how to control it. In my case, the anxiety of a driving test was making me lose my self-confidence. Then again it could be the opposite, we could be too confident in ourselves and then fall on our face.

With this said, the same thing can be considered when I have to stand up in front of one of our College of Staten Island lectures and speak. As a quiet and shy person, I can tell you first hand that talking in front of a crowd gets me nervous. I'm not sure what

comes over me when I actually raise my hand but when that happens, you know I am sure of the answer to the Professors question. My confidence comes from the knowledge of the subject we talking about. In this case, my aim is to present my answer clearly and not embarrass myself by messing up.

My next goal is to overcome my shyness in the classroom.

That insecurity seems to affect how I present myself, driving or in classroom participation.

I am not an aggressive driver and that might be because I am a shy person, but I am a defensive driver. I'm too nice, but then again I will be aware and avoid idiots trying to cut me off or drivers doing something stupid that will affect

me and my car. Driving to school, work, and home will be beneficial compared to taking the bus or bumming a ride. I basically won't be under surveil-

lance by licensed drivers because I passed the driving test.

Yes, I have in my possession a temporary driver's license. I passed! I know the rules of the road. I was so nervous driving with people who already have their licenses. The guidance these experienced drivers offer is something I

already know and hopefully doing as I am at the wheel. I know they are only being helpful, but I dislike backseat drivers. I can now say that because I passed. I feel comfortable with driving in the car I have had for months. My parents truly had faith in me passing the driving test and they bought me a 1988 Pontiac Grand Am months ago. It is in mint condition and I am so proud to drive it and now call it my own.

My next goal is to overcome my shyness in the classroom. Preparation and attentiveness will help me secure the self-confidence at the College of Staten Island as it did for me to pass my road test. I want to succeed in all areas of my life, but especially in my college education. I'm trying to be positive when it comes to following the rules of the road. I've improved so much since the first day I started Drivers Ed to the day I took my road test. I can now proudly say "You would like me to make a right and parallel park? No problem."

Sex Column: The Double Standard of Masturbation

Annemarie Dooling

At a birthday party, a few weeks ago, all of my friends chipped in to buy the birthday girl a very special gift. We presented her with The Rabbit. Aptly named "the man replacer," The Rabbit is a do-it-all-to-yourself tool complete with rotating jelly head, pearl infused body, and vibrating bunny shaped clitoral stimulator in five remote controlled speeds. And it's pink, too. Totally girl friendly.

The birthday girl was thrilled to receive her gift, and soon the conversation was open to masturbation talk—a subject that used to be completely taboo but had, in recent years, made a comeback.

I mean, everybody does it, right? Apparently not. My friend Sam, who is by far one of the most interesting and attractive girls I know, was a little turned off by our talk of getting yourself on. This was quite a surprise, as it seemed to all of us that to be completely in touch with yourself sexually, you had to masturbate, or at least know how to get yourself off if you wanted to. The idea that the most arousing girl we knew chose not to masturbate had thrown everyone for a loop. Even the birthday girl was shocked.

"You really don't do it?"

"No. If I need to get laid I call a guy," Sam answered. I had trouble wrapping myself around the idea that you could know your body well

enough to be that immensely sexual without knowing what to do with your own hands first. Besides the idea of getting to know your body, I just thought everyone did it—at least every unattached person. I mean, the first thing I did after breaking up with my boyfriend of two years, was run out to NiteCap and buy the Butterfly.

But I had to wonder, if the girl with the best sex life around here didn't appreciate masturbation, what's really behind all this? Is masturbation really just a way to pleasure yourself, or are we hiding behind it? By exchanging man for machine are we really just trying to remove the drama?

Aside from sexual pleasure, I found other pluses to having a mechanical boyfriend. It's around whenever you need it, it leaves when you want it to, and you never have to worry about when a vibrator's going to call you, cheat on you, or forget your birthday. Give me the Rabbit, a Degassi DVD and a Subway Sandwich, and I have completely replaced a man. Masturbation is also sited as a great source of stress relief and a simple way to let go of any unnecessary tensions.

However, the biggest plus would have to be the boost it can give you in the bedroom. If you don't use masturbation as a race to climax, you can experiment and find out what makes your body tick. New positions, new feelings, nothing is off limits. When you're comfortable enough, you can use all your new-found knowledge in

the bedroom of someone else. Women who masturbate learn what feels good to them, and teach men, and many men find this expertise very sexy. But is it possible to know what you like sexually without actually doing it to yourself? Or if you can't manage to touch yourself, should you not be allowing others to do it? What exactly is masturbation's role in our sex lives?

Going back as far as Moses, women had a role to play in social life. We were the pure and chaste halves of our more heroic male counterparts, at least as far as history books would allow us to know.

That old stereotype is still alive today, an age when men remain playboys and bachelors and women are often thought of as sluts and whores. While male masturbation is often coined healthy and simply tension relief, the same is not true for women. This may have something to do with the fact that the clitoris is the only organ on the human body that science has found no use for, except pleasure.

Therefore, female masturbation, which in essence is basically using the clitoris to bring oneself to climax, with no general purpose other than that climax, is clearly a threat of power to men who can't handle a woman's sexuality. Along the way it's grown the stigma of being known as dirty and disgusting, while a guy jerking off is seen, at it's very Hollywood worst, as funny, maybe pathetic on the right guy.

This is especially true in the brain of religious folk. So, it's almost easy to see why a female would be ashamed of masturbation. It's been beaten into our heads that it's just not something nice girls do.

So what about the rest of us? Are we, possibly, too in love with ourselves? Physically speaking, masturbation is the safest form of sex.

Eliminating the other partner means you know what your working with your own body. There are no awkward questions regarding STD testing.

There is no worry that the partner will fail to finish you. Emotionally speaking, by deleting the plus one from your sexual routine, you can escape a lot of the drama that comes with relationships. You get your climax and your done. But what about everything that comes before the climax? The surprise of a lover's touch, or feeling someone's body against yours? Your first kiss with that person, or even just a moment they made you laugh?

By denying masturbation we can choose to keep our sexual needs hidden from ourselves, but we can also use it to keep hidden from others. Sure, it can be a big deal if we let it. Anything can be dirty or inappropriate with the right campaign... or, we can all be big, brave boys and girls and learn to touch ourselves, and learn to reach out to others at the same time. And, maybe, we can also learn that all of that is perfectly okay.

Student Volunteers Her Time at College Radio Station

Andrea Kleboe

Have you ever met anyone who loves his or her job? Before you say no, you may want to read on.

Marissa Gessin and her friends and her friends were at their usual hangout, Perkins on Forest Ave, while she was still in his school, when a job offer came along. They were just sitting in a usual corner booth, fooling around and talking. "My friend took some balloons," said Gessin, "and started teaching us how to make balloon animals."

Before long one of the managers there approached them with an offer to work for a company named Tina's Costume Characters, where they would dress up like Cookie Monster, Elmo, and other favorite children's characters to entertain at parties. While that was fun, it is not the job Gessin had fallen in love with and become passionate about.

Fast forward to 2005 and Gessin has been the music director at WSIA, the radio station of the College of Staten Island for two years. She is now the music director and for the two previ-

ous years she was one of the assistant directors. How did she get the job? "I went to the radio station," said Gessin, "and inquired about it the first day of class." Sounds easy right?

Marissa puts in about ten hours a week at WSIA. Like the other clubs and organizations at CSI, it is completely voluntary. An all student board of directors runs WSIA. It is licensed by the FCC and reaches all of Staten Island, as well as parts of Brooklyn, Manhattan, and New Jersey. WSIA's job is to introduce listeners to new musical acts and that is where Gessin comes in.

"The record companies send me records by new acts," said Gessin. "I decide what is generally airable. From there, the DJ's make their decisions on what they want to play during their particular show." Gessin gives the DJ's about 200 CD's to choose from. After their show, the DJ's initial and rate what they played. This turns into top 30 and top10 lists that get sent to the College Music Journal. WSIA, along with other college radio stations, pay to have their lists in it.

While, it may seem like a minor

publication to those not involved in radio, CMJ is a highly respected publication. Each monthly magazine contains new release information, interviews with artists, an album reviews among other things. All of these bands start out as virtually unknown, but some bands, such as Kill, Switch, Engage, gain status through college radio. With help of Gessin and college music directors across the country, the band has gained notoriety among college students. This has led to heavier promotion from their own record label, in general. While she speaks about this, Gessin is noticeably proud of the fact that her volunteer work at a small college radio station has made an impact.

Some people may wonder why Gessin puts in so much time and effort to something that does not even pay. Though not monetary, the rewards are plentiful. Gessin proudly displays a picture on a grainy camera phone are one of the perks that she has received for speaking with record labels and putting new acts on her station.

Gessin also has an internship under her belt. Last year she took an unpaid internship with loud rock pro-

ducer Heavy Hitter. It was unpaid, but she did not receive any credits for it because she wants to get the most experience possible. She is leaving her options open.

CMJ hosts a yearly, four-day convention in NYC that allows networking and giving Gessin an opportunity to put a face with a name. During the day there are music discussion panels and at night there are performances. Gessin estimates that there are about 500 artists that perform, all of them with their roots in college radio. These shows are free with CMJ badge that Gessin has more than earned. There are even movie previews. One of the more notable ones includes a showing of "Team America: World Police." This screening included question and answer time with creators Matt Stone and Trey Parker.

Gessin expects to be graduating from the College of Staten Island in January of 2007. She would like to be working at the radio station until then. "Listening to music and talking to record labels," said Gessin, "beats dressing up like Cookie Monster any day."

Will Hugo Get Laid? Get Lost and Find Out

Enrique Ignacio Inocente

This past Wednesday saw the return of last season's breakout hit TV show, *Lost*. For those not in the know, *Lost* is an ABC show about a group of people stranded on a deserted island...or is it deserted? Actually, it's not deserted. The island is populated with all sorts of oddities like a man-eating polar bear, a crazy French lady, and black smoke that sucks people into the earth. Then there are the mysterious figures known as the Others that threaten the lives of our heroes. Despite the absurdity and wild high jinx occurring on the island, what really holds the show together are the well-rounded characters. Dr. Jack Shephard (Matthew Fox) is the handsome, reluctant leader of the cast-

aways, Kate (Evangeline Lilly) is the sexy fugitive from justice, John Locke (Terry O'Quinn) is a superstitious old man who believes the island has brought them all here for a reason, and Charlie Pace (Dominic Monaghan/ a Hobbit) is a heroine addict, and bass player for successful UK band "Drive Shaft". These are just a handful of the talented ensemble cast.

Last season's final episode ended with plenty of twists and unanswered

questions like: what's in hatch? What happened to the guys on the raft after it blew up into fiery bits? Are the Others real people or figments of crazy French Lady's imagination? Of all the mysteries, I think the most relevant question is whether or not that fat dude Hugo (Jorge Garcia) will get laid.

If you're a fan of the show and caught the season premiere, then you were pleased for the most part. I'm looking forward to the rest of this season of *Lost*, but I am concerned of the show growing stale. I mean the show was unique in that it cleverly depicted through flashbacks each character's

reason for taking that ill-fated flight, and what motivated their actions on the island. Now that each character has been established, there's a risk the flashbacks will now become gratuitous and not add to the developing plot on the island. Then there are the mysterious happenings surrounding the history of the island. How long can the show tease the audience with cliffhangers and no resolutions before people get fed up and lose interest? There's also the danger that the show could fall victim to its own hype. Fans might expect too much from the show and want to be blown away by spectacular revelations only to be let down by a contrived plot device. Either way, I'll be standing by. Personally, I'd like to find out where the hell that polar bear came from.



COLLEGE SURVIVAL TIP

ASKING THE FOLKS FOR MONEY.

THEY WANT TO GIVE.
YOU JUST HAVE TO HELP
THEM REALIZE IT.



Always a delicate conversation, it's usually best to hit them up before grades come out. Requests are best preceded by observations like "It's so cold in here I can see my breath" and "Wow, I'm just wasting away from hunger."

And here's another strategy for making a little extra scratch: *Free Checking* from Washington Mutual. There's no minimum balance required to avoid a monthly service charge and it's free to sign up for a Visa® Check Card. Plus there's free online bill pay available at wamu.com.

Next to good relations with the parental units, *Free Checking* from Washington Mutual is your best bet. Swing by your local Washington Mutual Financial Center or call 1-800-788-7000 to start living the high life this semester.

wamu.com

Deposits are FDIC Insured

FREE CHECKING WITH NO MONTHLY FEE NO MATTER WHAT YOUR BALANCE

Washington Mutual

SPORTS

September 26, 2005

Men's Soccer Shows Heart in Shutout Victory

Khadijah Rentas

Before the Dolphin's home game against Mt. St. Vincent September 19, Chidi Ugoji's predicted his team would win, and they did.

The team's defense kept the opposing team from scoring and the offense certainly contributed with both strikers, Asmir Dzernovski and Babatunde Ipaye, scoring one goal each.

After half time, the opposing team began to collapse. Some players argued with each other shouting, "Shut up and play the game." One player became so upset that he could not control the ball that his arms fell to his side, his eyes rolled and he stopped trying.

The Dolphins worked together and communicated well to earn the win. But for this team, there is more to the game than just victory.

The men's soccer team began their



Men's Soccer team posed before their victory over Mount St. Vincent

semester a bit earlier than most CSI students. The team returned to school August 15 for preseason practice. Since the season opener against Rutgers

September 7, which the Dolphins tied 2-

2, the team has had little time to practice together. "I think that if we didn't have three games a week we'd have time to practice," said center midfielder Abdul Kaid. "We're not even prepared to play yet." But for such an unprepared team, they have won three of their last five games.

Many variables enter into the Dolphin's solid performance thus far. Mix an experienced coach with veteran players and a whole lot of spirit, throw it on a field of artificial grass and watch it grow strong.

Head Coach Vito Veneruso arrived at CSI two years ago from New Jersey colleges where he coached women's soccer. "The best thing was when I switched from women's to men's," Coach Veneruso said. "I come from Italy where soccer is what you learn when you're three-years-old and always played for men." Coach Veneruso remembered how coaching women sometimes left them in tears.

It's possible to imagine while sitting on the player's bench next to Coach Veneruso. In the first tri one of the yellow and black striped shirt referees reprimanded Coach Veneruso for challenging his authority and eyesight, not once but twice.

"Are we legally blind here?" Coach Veneruso screamed. The referee warned Coach Veneruso not to challenge his calls. "Last time I checked we still in United States," said Coach Veneruso, obviously irritated.

Sometimes Coach Veneruso would shout words in Italian, other times he'd sigh and grunt a bit, and not always because of the referees. "If they don't do the job they know I scream everything," Coach Veneruso said about his players.

The soccer team has 14 returning

players and four new faces, none of whom are freshmen. Ugoji, who finished high school in Nigeria, has committed four years to the team. Abdul Kaid sweated three years. Captains Valon Osmani, goalie, and Francesco Oddo, center defender, have dedicated four and three years, respectively.

Two years ago, the defense helped Osmani tie the CUNY conference record of nine shutout games. That season resulted in only two losses and three ties. Last year did not prove as memorable, with the Dolphin's record of 9-9-2. However, with the shutout against Mt. St. Vincent, maybe the Dolphin's can continue to win.

The goal: to win the CUNY Conference and play at the NAACP tournament. As a captain, Oddo relies heavily on communication and organization. He partners with other defenders, like Ugoji, to call plays and listens to the advice of Osmani, who knows saving balls as a goalie involves "way more than protecting the net. Our job is to organize the back," Oddo said. "We're the last line of defense."

"We crush them mentally," added Coach Veneruso. The Dolphins intimidate their opponents and when they start to score, their opponents begin to fail under the pressure, Coach Veneruso said. "We are the ones that played the best," Coach Veneruso said. "The ones that play the best will win."

Technique alone did not win this game. The Dolphins have what Oddo and Coach Veneruso would describe as heart.

The Dolphins receive no rewards from CSI aside from early registration. They must balance school, work and family with no financial incentives. "Some kids can't always make it to practice," said Osmani. But they do what they can and remain committed to the team.

Oddo has played soccer since he was six-years-old and loves the sport. "My parents don't want me to play on the school team," Oddo said. "They don't think I can get anything out of it." But a team's worth of friends, an adoring coach and the chance to do what you love sounds valuable.

Experience the spirit of the team, go to their games and cheer for our men's soccer team. They will play their toughest opponent, City College, at home on October 8 at 2:00 p.m. Join in on the huddle chant: "1,2,3, C-S-I!" and hope they make it to the NAACP tournament.

Women's Volleyball

Pamela Zambrano

On September 17 the women's volleyball team received their first victory of the season against York College with a score of 3-0. After a couple of defeats this season the team is now 1-1 in the CUNY conference play. During the game Mariya Korobkova made 3 kills, Acasha Gordon made 6 kills and Kellie Carnevale made 4 kills.

"The team is in a rebuilding process", said head coach Rose DeInnocentiis. "We are experimenting a lot this season."

One of the things that is different this year is all the new members. "We have 3 returning players", said DeInnocentiis. "There is a lot of change but there is no single player that hasn't had some sort of volleyball experience." One of the challenges that the coaching staff has in building the team this year is that although everyone does make it make to the games, unfortunately not everyone can show up to all the practices. "The schedules of the players are insane", said

DeInnocentiis. "It's not like in High School where everyone gets out at the same time." The coaching staff is in agreement that although this is a young team, the



CSI Womens volleyball coach Rose DeInnocentiis during one of the teams practices.

girls in it are motivated and learn every chance they get. They consider this to be one of the best teams they

had so far. "They are a very good group of girls", said student assistant Steve Spagnoli. "They don't get discouraged."

DeInnocentiis and assistant coach Jason Fein are working hard towards getting the team to improve every year and hope that they will have a lot of returning players next year. The goal of winning at least 10 games and competing in the CUNY tournament in November is one that they see very doable and they will continue to work hard to make it happen.