

# THE BANNER

November 22, 2004

## 24 HOURS ON CAMPUS

*"Are you insane?"*

Luke Crisalli

Every college student has or will eventually pull at least one all-nighter in their academic life. Some will do it in order to study for a test. Some will do it because they can't sleep through their roommates' endless yammering. Others will do it because they simply can't sleep. However you look at it, an all-nighter is as much of a pre-requisite in college life as Core.

This Banner staffer, however, was going to attempt a different kind of all-nighter. This Banner staffer was going to stay on the CSI campus for a full 24 hours.

When I first pitched this idea to my fellow staffers, I was met with many questions: "You're going to what?" "Are you insane?" "I don't even want to spend 2 hours here!" and of course, "Why?"

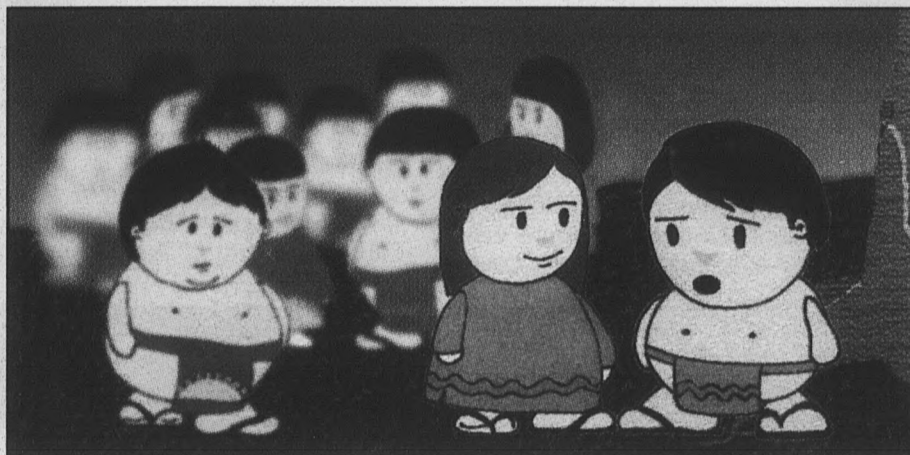
Well, to answer these questions, I wanted to use a line from one of my personal favorite movies, *Ghostbusters 2*. (Laugh if you must, you know you like it.) There are things in this world that go way beyond human understanding, things that can't be explained and that most people don't want to know about, anyway.

In all seriousness, I had wanted to

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International Education Week:

## Films Beyond Vietnam



*Watermelon Island*, a 6 minute animated film about Vietnamese folklore, directed by Tuan Kien Nguyen.

### 109 Minutes to Vietnam

Jennifer Mosscrop

The Vietnamese Diaspora Film Symposium, held Thursday, November 18th, not only exposed CSI students to the many facets of independent and international filmmaking, it also offered a glimpse inside the often overlooked world of Vietnamese-Americans.

1L's Library Theater presented 11 short films directed by filmmakers of Vietnamese descent with styles ranging from documentary to animation, drama to comedy. 3 of the filmmakers, Ham Tran, Adele Ray, and Tuan Kien Nguyen attended the symposium and held a discussion with the CSI community afterwards.

"The symposium intends to create an understanding between the

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### Directors Visit CIN 407

David Maltz

Seven Vietnamese-American filmmakers screened their films and held a panel in Professor Matthew Solomon's CIN 407 class on November 17, as part of the two-day Vietnamese Diaspora Film Symposium.

The various films covered a wide range of topics, including Vietnamese folklore, a story about an impotent man, and a bi-racial Vietnamese-American couple. Some of the films were in English, while others were in Vietnamese or French- with English subtitles.

The filmmakers come from Los Angeles, Maryland, and New York City; some were originally from Vietnam. They directed several short

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## STUDENT SENATOR REACTS TO DUNKLEY'S DEADLOCK WIN

*"I could've accomplished more."*



Student Senator Stephanie Donoso voiced her opposition to recently elected S.G. President Dwight Dunkley. "I wanted to make sure we stayed on course, continued to be neutral."

Mellissa Secharan

Disappointed Stephanie Donoso considers herself the "John Kerry of CSI" after having lost the presidential election to Dwight Dunkley on October 21. According to Donoso, Dunkley came into the race having already influenced the decisions of many Senators.

"Dwight came in with friends already on Student Government" asserted Donoso. "Friends equal power." Donoso who admitted to feeling disadvantaged throughout the election felt that it was based "more on the senators' preferences." Whether her accusation are true, some of the Senators stand behind Dunkley and his win.

Senator Jaqui Adams knew Dunkley prior to Student Government and was "pro Dwight" from the beginning. "I know this may sound childish, but I didn't know Stephanie," she said in recent e-mails. "It was all I had to go in the beginning." After each candidate presented arguments about who would be better suited for the position, it became even more clear to Adams that Donoso was not the best person for the job. "I felt that Stephanie's argument was that she was Vice President, and that just didn't impress me," said Adams.

Since a president wasn't elected until late into the Fall semester, a revolving chair was started where each Senator alphabetically took

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## CSI STUDENT OPINIONS BUCK NATIONAL TRENDS

Kevin S.P. Mamakas

As part of the Fall 2004 Student Elections held in late October, a straw poll was conducted to obtain student viewpoints on local, national, and international issues.

The students who participated answered a series of questions regarding the Presidential election, civil unions, NASCAR coming to Staten Island, gay marriage, the Olympics coming to NYC, stem cell research, and the continuing war in Iraq.

If the Presidential Election were held today, for whom would you vote?

20.1 percent of CSI students said George Bush/Dick Cheney, 63.4 percent said John Kerry/John Edwards, 1.3 percent said Ralph Nader/Miguel

Camejo, and 15.2 percent were undecided.

The LA Times National Exit Poll concluded that 18-29 year olds were the only age group to vote dominantly for John Kerry—43 percent voted for Bush, and 55 percent voted for Kerry.

Compared to the 2000 elections, 4.6 million more voters between the age of 18 and 29 voted in 2004. This brought the youth vote up to 20.9 million across America. According to the "Rock the Vote Campaign," that means 51.6 percent of 18-29 year olds turned out.

Even though more students voted than ever before in the 2004 election, the turnout was not nearly as large as it could or should be. The number of 18-29 year olds who vote is only a

fraction compared to any other age group. If more students registered to vote and actually voted, then students would become the most dominating voice in politics.

Are you in favor of civil unions?

According to a USA Today-CNN-Gallup poll, 41 percent of Americans oppose civil unions, 34 percent favor it, and 25 percent have no opinions about it. However, according to the CSI straw poll, 50.4 percent of CSI students believe in it, 11.6 percent don't, and 38 percent have no opinion on it.

Do you support NASCAR coming to Staten Island?

NASCAR has recently announced that they are looking in the New York

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## AN ARGUMENT AGAINST ABORTION

Kola Kozak

Every woman should have the right to choose when it comes to her body, and she does by tattooing, piercing, etc., but when a form of human life is in danger there must be limits. With four thousand abortions daily since its legalization, we stand on an edge of an extreme genocide against the unborn.

It's an erroneous belief that an unborn baby is lifeless when still inside the mother. By two months of pregnancy the baby can feel, its arms and legs are longer and the toes are spreading apart. 38% of abortions occur during this time. By three months the baby sleeps, can swallow faster and is able to make a fist. 11% of these babies will be executed.

Since 1973 when abortion was legalized by the U.S. Supreme Court

in *Roe v. Wade*, America diminished the importance of life. From girls as young as fourteen abortion became the answer to half of unintended pregnancies. That case is accounted for the death of forty million unwanted children.

Norma L. McCorvey, known as Roe who fought for the right to choose said, "I am dedicating to spending the rest of my life undoing the law that bears my name. I would like nothing more than to have this law overturned." Actually, responses to abortions are shifting more to the conservative side recently.

Abortions have begun to decline since 1990. A recent USA/CNN/Gallup Poll shows that 55% of Americans

agree with abortions only in cases, incest or to save the mother's life. 71% oppose 97% of all abortions, but do not label themselves as 'pro-life.' The incline from pro-choice to pro-life can be seen in the 2004 presidential elections and the reduction of abortion providers.

The vital data about health problems after abortions are usually concealed from women. Larissa Remennick a Russian Epidemiologist found that abortions have links to breast cancer. A New York State Department of Health shown a 90% risk increase in breast cancer among women who had an abortion, and a

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## FOUR MORE YEARS OF DISSENSION

Matthew Safford

Well, the results are in, and America has officially chosen the turd sandwich over the giant feminine hygiene product (pardon the South Park reference, it just seems so relevant). This being Staten Island, I imagine that many of you out there feel that since the corporate media has given us the impression that this was a fair election, and Bushy boy won by a few million popular votes, that I should accept that America has spoken, that my views were rejected, and now in the words of Bill O'Reilly, I should "shut up." While it might make some people happy, I refuse to, for two main reasons.

First of all, the corporate-owned media isn't going to tell you this, but according to both Reuters and others, there were a whole lot of questionable practices going on during the election. One county in Ohio had a machine that "accidentally" threw over 4,000 votes to Bush.

And this is just the one county we know about. But don't take my word for it, go check out [www.blackboxvoting.org](http://www.blackboxvoting.org).

More importantly, according to a

recent study conceived and conducted by three universities, as many as 100,000 Iraqis have died in the last 18 months due in large part to US airstrikes. That's over 33 times the number of people killed on 9/11. Not to mention the fact that Iraq had absolutely nothing to do with that day, no matter what Dick Cheney says.

And so, for the future sake of our Democracy, for the lives of 150,000 or so civilians killed by this administration, and the countless others who will likely die in these next four years, I will not shut up.

I can't be silent, because mainstream media has its fingers so deep in what has become one large corporate/government money pie, that it is now more of a lapdog than a watchdog, because the few moderates in the Bush cabinet are jumping ship faster than bugs off a mut in a flea bath. And the herdliners taking their place only serve to solidify the neo-con agenda driving the administration. For all the mistakes and misdeeds of the last four years, and the four to come, I will not be silent, unless I am silenced. My conscience, and my love for humanity will not let me.

## TWO ISSUES TO CARRY A COUNTRY

Dominic Fiduccia

On November 2, 2004 President George W. Bush was reelected. Here is a look at two reasons why he won.

### Moral Values

The issue that brought on Bush's reelection more than any other was not the economy, the war, the environment, or education. The country seemed far more concerned with moral values.

Bush impressed most Americans, regardless of America falling into an abyss of moral decay. American society as a whole is still a very conservative society. Kerry's moral values were unclear on pro-choice, gay marriage, and stem cell research, all of which Bush made clear he is against. Also, with a rapidly aging Supreme Court, the winner of this year's election is likely to choose many new Justices. Bush is likely to choose conservative Justices. Even if Kerry had won and chosen liberal pro-choice Justices, both men would be wrong in their selection since the Supreme Court is suppose to be neutral.

### The War

Strangely this issue was third on peoples minds, which would seem unusual considering all the attention that it got on the news night after night. If people looked at the war in a more negative light, than Kerry would have won the election. Although, historically people are often hesitant to vote an incumbent President out of office during wartime (ex. Lincoln and FDR), people did not trust Kerry since he did not give a clear plan for Iraq. People were turned off by that, since Bush sent troops there believing that it was the right thing to do and did it without the UN.

This maybe unfair to judge, but there were not enough American deaths to vote Bush out of office. It was not like in 1968 where tens of thousands of Americans died in Vietnam (why else would President Johnson not run for reelection that year). A few weeks before the election America had reach 1,000 deaths.

So whether you voted for Bush or Kerry, in America we have the power to choose our leader, and even if the person we selected does not win, we have the ability for our voice to be heard and that's what matters most.

## BANNED BY THE BANNER: NEW EDITORIAL POLICY REEKS OF FAVORITISM

Joseph Fago

In the last issue of The Banner I was singled out and called many derogatory words by Jessica Mendez. After giving the matter much thought, I decided to write something about myself.

First off, nothing makes me happier than to be in the middle of conflict. Even if I am outnumbered, I'll fight when my back is against the wall. Secondly, the fact that the majority of Banner staff, and the majority of CSI would rather that I just went away will not deter me from

saying what I feel to be the truth. I applaud and embrace all the thrown in my face. I am not John Kerry, I will not change my mind when the populace differs with me. The fact that I think for myself may trouble The Banner and CSI majorities. However 59,459,765 people in this country agree with me. I am the majority!

After deciphering Mendez's comical article, I noted three blatant and personal attacks against yours truly. I say, thank you, Jessica Mendez. Knowing I got under your skin brings a smile to my face. I'm sure you constantly think about how much you

despise me and what I stand for. I also enjoy the way you and others at The Banner are using me to increase readership by trying to make me the butt of your lame insults.

However, now that I have my chance to rebut, the language of "our paper" must be restricted. Language wasn't restricted when Mendez used what is now deemed "inappropriate" language more than 28 times; instead, many in the CSI community have commended her for it. Language wasn't an issue when Dr. Kaufman lectured his Introduction to Journalism class about the tolerance of harsh words in the

student press.

Some people say that my mind is closed, but the fact is people can't handle what I have to say. Indeed, what I have to say is "not fit to print," even though I am now Banner staff. (Even when my name is misspelled.) The Banner has an unfair editorial policy. They show favoritism towards their veteran staff, giving them the last word over newcomers. My voice, however, will always be heard.

Others who attend CSI share my opinion. If we are to take advice from any sex columnist, she should know what the bleep she's talking about.

# THE BANNER

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## THE ABSENT-MINDED FEMINIST

Annemarie Dooling

While I have had to accept Jessica Mendez deeming herself the mecca of sex at CSI, when she lashes out in tongue-twisters and crowns herself a political maven, I will object.

In the November 8th issue of The Banner, Mendez waves the liberal flag in the name of feminism. Sure, she's a feminist . . . who stands for the mutilation and death of women. Mendez rants about our President's disregard for women by banning Partial Birth Abortions. While we know the fetus' plight, what about the woman who's been misguided into thinking that this is her only chance?

Mendez, the absent-minded feminist, fails to mention how many women die from "legal" abortions. She forgot the common side effects: enlarged ovaries, blood clots, still births, infertility, and Post-Abortion Syndrome Depression. During her spiel of vulgar words, Mendez also forgot about bowel, which falls through the uterus, punctured during surgery. While she did use the word "pussy" 11 times in her Op-Ed, she didn't mention vaginal bleeding, which can take between one hour and one and a half years to stop.

Partial Birth Abortions are becoming birth control for women, who, months along in pregnancies, change their minds because of family disapproval, or a baby's possible disability. Meanwhile, a study by Planned Parenthood shows it is the 6th leading cause of maternal death, and a major contributor to breast cancer. The hormonal changes that occur during an abortion procedure permanently alter the inner structure of a woman's breasts. This alteration can lead to a form of breast cancer that develops quicker than other types.

Mendez blasts Abstinence Education, but praises Promiscuity Education, which hands out condoms, and instructs kids to find their own

way. After all, if they don't, they can always come back for an abortion, right? What is the "proven fact" Mendez mentions when she calls Abstinence-only plans a failure? Here's a proven fact: Of every 1000 girls in Promiscuity Ed., 113 have unplanned pregnancies, as opposed to 4 out of the 1000 from Abstinence Ed. Maybe that's how Planned Parenthood keeps its doors open.

Another fallacy is Bush banning the morning after pill. The morning after pill will be available for emergencies at your local hospital, but not over the counter, because it is not candy. It causes severe nausea and bleeding, and should only be used under supervision of your health care provider, who will give the necessary pregnancy test prior to prescription. It cannot be given to anyone already pregnant. As for banning RU-486, the abortion pill, I can't see why a feminist would oppose. After all, it's nearly being recalled by the FDA after the deaths of a half a dozen women, by heart attack, and internal bleeding. Are those reproductive benefits, Ms. Mendez?

Mendez destroys feminism with her brash response to Joseph Fago's articles. Elizabeth Cady Stanton was quoted, "When we consider that women are treated as property, it is degrading to women that we should treat our children as property, disposed of as we see fit." Among other Pro-Women/Pro-Lifers: Susan B. Anthony, Victoria Woodhull, and Mary Wollstonecraft, the cornerstones of the feminism. Mendez, the femme in feminist, deems Fago's words inappropriate, then grossly outnumbers his misdemeanors. Does freedom of speech only apply when you feel the need to spit and curse? If vulgarity is the only way to attract attention, Ms. Mendez, your politics are the yeast infection of the feminist world. Annoying, but nothing a good douche can't get rid of.

## AN ARGUMENT AGAINST ABORTION

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300% increase in those who had two consecutive abortions.

In the early stages a tube attached to a suction machine tear the baby's body apart is it gets pulled out of the uterus. For a three-month pregnancy the baby gets yanked by its leg and twists its body, he then snaps the spine and crushes the skull. During a congressional hearing on 'Effects of Anesthesia During a Partial-Birth Abortion,' a nurse testi-

fied that she observed a doctor put scissors onto the head of a fetus while "the baby's little fingers were clasp- ing and unclasping, and his feet were kicking."

Support for abortions is like saying "mom you had the right to kill me."

Women struggled so they wouldn't be considered as property; are now labeling their unborn babies as possessions that they can be disposed of. A country that permits the slaying of its children is no civilized nation. What kind of message does United States send when it allows abortions?

## STUDENT OPINION POLLS

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and New Jersey region to build a new 80,000-seat stadium and track. One of the sites that they are looking at is in Staten Island. The proposed track would be constructed at a 440-acre unoccupied site on Staten Island's waterfront, a few miles east of the New Jersey Turnpike in Bloomfield, according to The New York Times.

Currently, there is no guarantee that the track will be coming to Staten Island. Yet organizations like the Staten Island Advance believe that a task force should be organized to make sure that the plan is plausible.

35.7 percent of CSI students were in favor of NASCAR on the island, 22.3 percent were against it, and 42 percent were unsure.

Are you in favor of gay marriage?

According to a USA Today-CNN-Gallup poll, 53 percent of America "oppose a law that would allow homosexual marriage to become legal, while 24 percent favor it and 23 percent don't have an opinion on it."

The CSI straw poll shows that only a sliver less than a majority of CSI students do not support gay marriage. 32.1 percent support it, 49.1 percent don't, and 18.7 percent have no opinions on the subject.

Do you support having the Olympics come to New York City in 2012?

One of Michael Bloomberg's current battles is trying to get the 2012 Olympics to New York. According to Bloomberg, this would require the creation of the West Side Stadium in a traffic jammed Manhattan.

Half of the money to build the stadium would be paid by taxpayers and the New York Jets would pay the other half. That's about 600 million dollars of taxpayers' money.

There is great opposition to this project, but CSI students still support the Olympics coming to New York in 2012. 75.9 percent say yes, 10.7 percent no, and 13.4 are unsure about it.

Do you Support Federal Funding for stem cell research?

64.7 percent of CSI students support the funding for stem cell research. 8.9 percent don't, and 26.3 percent are unsure about the Federal funding.

Are you in favor of the war in Iraq?

According to CBS News-New York Times Poll conducted in October 2004, 52 percent of all registered voters believe that taking military action against Iraq was the right thing to do. The CSI straw poll showed that only 11.2 percent of CSI students are in favor of the continued war in Iraq, and 75.4 percent are against it.

Vincent Defonte

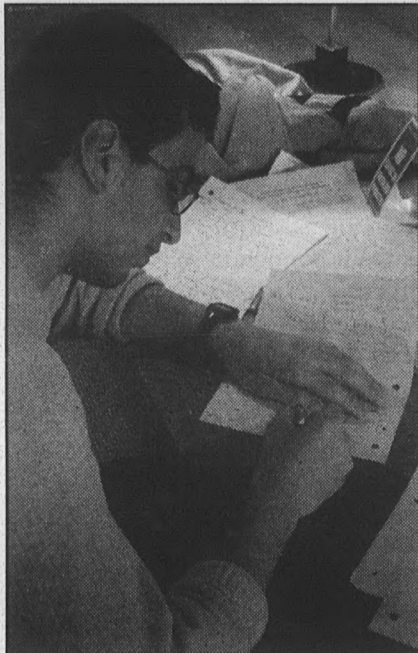
You have probably met her 20 or 30 times since your freshman year. During your midterms and finals week you needed to be pointed in the right direction and she showed you the way. Who is this woman that is there for every student in their time of need? Her name is Mrs. Roseanne Dellipaoli, and she is the Head Librarian.

Dellipaoli sat at her desk doing research, peering through her bifocals which teetered on the edge of her nose. "It's in that section sweetie," she said, "On the second or third shelf."

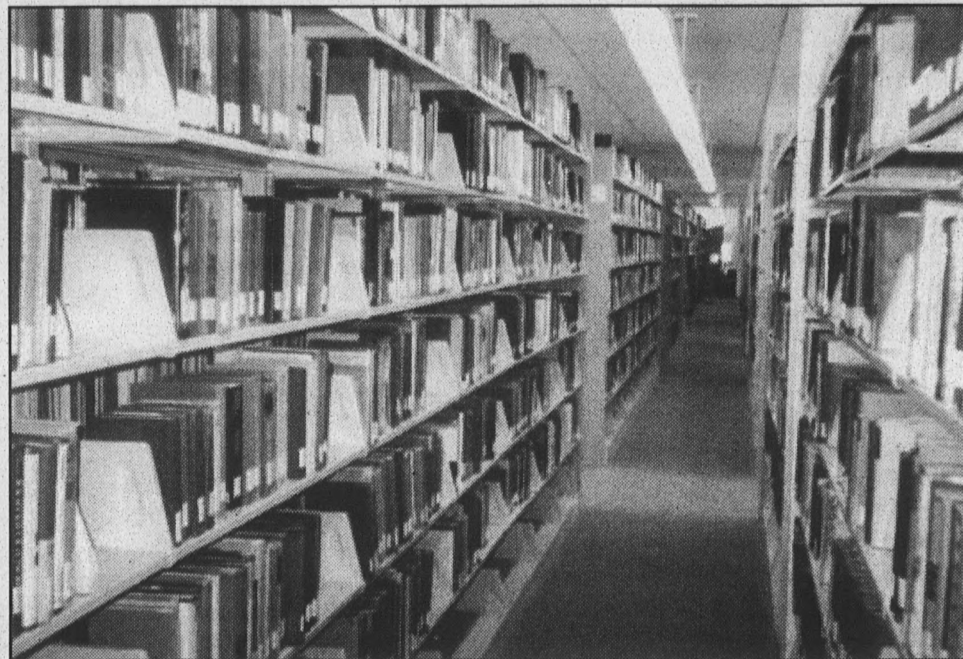
She pointed the confused student in the right direction and he walked away to find the book he was searching for, now with a less confused face than the one he came in with.

Dellipaoli works in the CSI library two days a week, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and also works as a librarian at Fort Hamilton H.S. in Brooklyn on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays. She's been working at both schools for four years now. "I couldn't be happier," she said. "This job is perfect for me."

Dellipaoli, a mother of two and wife to her husband Edward, lives in Staten Island, although she was born and raised in the Bronx. Growing up, she always wanted to be a teacher. She pursued her dream and got her math education degree from CSI, and began teaching math at Susan Wagner H.S. She stayed at Susan Wagner for three years before decid-



Roseanne Dellipaoli (not shown above) has been guiding students with the often daunting task of library research for four years. When our up-all-night-studying brains are fried, Dellipaoli spares us long hours wondering the halls of 1L. After all, being an alumni of CSI, she feels your pain.



ing that teaching was not what she wanted to do.

helping students find the books that they need, helping people research information on the computer, and researching general references. She works with five other librarians at CSI, and has an assistant at Fort Hamilton H.S.

job."

Dellipaoli may be the only person in the school that says her favorite time of the year is during midterms and final. She loves seeing the library jammed with students, and it gives her a chance to help out a lot more people.

"I love Mrs. D," CSI student Derrick Jesselli said. "She's helped me so much, it's not even funny." Jesselli is a good friend of Dellipaoli. "She is knowledgeable about everything," she said. "I have really learned a lot from her."

Although Dellipaoli feels computers have made her job easier—many students will go to a computer before they ever open a book—"there is certain information you can only find in books," she added. "But there is definitely a place for both."

*Dellipaoli sat at her desk doing research, peering through her bifocals which teetered on the edge of her nose. "It's in that section sweetie," she said.*

"High school kids are too much," she said. "They can be so ruthless sometimes." She returned to school, attending Rutgers University, where she received her Masters in Library Science.

Dellipaoli loves her job and it's not hard to see why. She works with great people all day, in a relaxing environment, and best of all she makes just as much as the professors. Her work day usually consists of

"She is a pleasure to work with," librarian Lois Cherepon said. "She is great at helping people."

Dellipaoli also runs the section of the CSI library website called, "Ask a Librarian." Here, students can post their questions regarding research or more general information. Dellipaoli will e-mail answers to the queries.

"Roseanne is always looking to lend a hand," library lab technician John Ciaro said. "She really loves her

## Director of Dining Services Says "Just Do It"

Carla Rengifo

She started as a cook at the Sunnyside campus. Today Director of Dining Services, Jodi Merendino oversees the budget, kitchen, staff supervisors, and quality control at the cafeteria, Park Cafe and the Bits and Bytes Cafe in 1L.

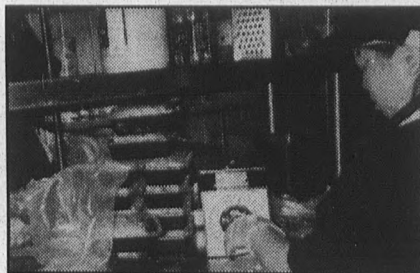
Celebrities like Roberta Flack, Debbie Harry, John Culvin, and Carrot Top have eaten CSI's food. Merendino prepares a celebrity's meal exactly as they want it. She remembers Judy Collins walking onstage and the first thing she said is: "I've just had the best chicken in my life ever!" Luckily, Merendino gets a few weeks advanced notice on what they want and she gets it herself.

At 10am the kitchen smells like sauce, large pots are on the range and wraps are rolled and weighed. Carts are filled with salads, wraps, and sandwiches will be brought out for lunch. As Merendino walks

through, she is friendly with the staff, asks questions, gives directives and takes a phone call in between.

The hardest part of her job is juggling the budget, food cost and customers different tastes. Catering for commencements, political events, holidays, and Performing Arts functions are the busiest.

She visits colleges to acquire ideas that may work and proud that CSI's dining surpasses other. Merendino estimates 1.5 million total sales, unlike Boston college with a 15 million per year sales figure. Prices



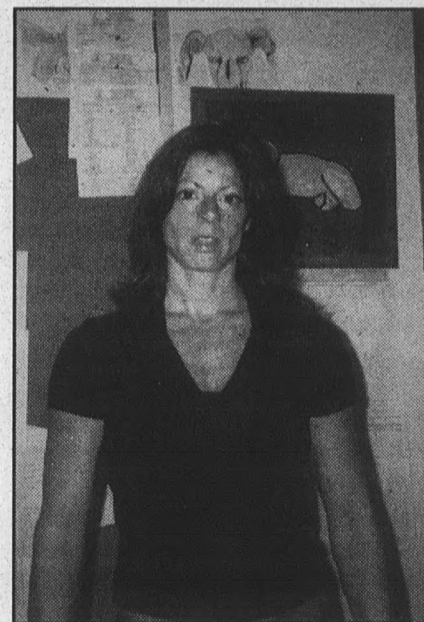
Dining Services staff is constantly working to ensure that the dietary needs of the CSI community are properly met.

have increased for the first time in two years. According to Merendino, he rise in gasoline and milk prices and bad coffee crops have affected the budget.

During special functions, concession workers are hired and kitchen staff stay late to transport food if needed. Glitches also affect the budget. Refrigerators can break down and at one time caused \$13,000 in damaged food. Each of the three refrigerators hold beverages, produce and food and is approximately 12' X 8'.

Back at 1C, Merendino's office is in the basement near the kitchen and food storage. Her walls and desk are full of paperwork and her shelves have run out of room. She slips into her fleece to walk through the chilly halls. "I just came back from two weeks vacation," she said. "So it's just a lot to go away." She even took her laptop with her on vacation. "It's busy this time of year," she adds.

Merendino enjoys her job and knows it well. She thanks her staff for



Jodi Merendino, Director of Dining Services at CSI and her staff are always aiming to please visitors to the campus and students.

making it come together. She says, "a customer wants what they want," and Merendino is aiming to please.

The next time you fill your starving belly with a wrap or a slice of pizza, thanks the Director of Dining Services for making it possible.

## Letter From the Editor...

Phew, is it getting hot in here? Or is it just the fire spitting out of people's mouths about the last issue of The Banner?

Did anyone notice the article about your fellow students protesting against slashed higher education funds? Or that the good folks at the Wellness Center are trying to raise your awareness about lung cancer on the 18th? Or that campus Peace Officers are packing heat? Hmm, no, it must have been the piece with all those nasty words in it.

I get it. Those words are dirty, vulgar and wrong. But, when used in the right context, they can be quite effective. If you're wondering, yes, The Banner staff "got" that editorial's meaning, and after thinking it through, allowed it to be published.

Did you get it? That's open for discussion.

The issue that concerns me is the "calling out" of individuals. It is not the route that I, as editor, want to see continue. As one student's letter said, and which I think, sums it all up is, "[It's] losing its overall point, it's turning into name-calling, high school bullshit." (Oops, I meant to type bulls@\*t). And dear writer, you are right.

Anyway, I bet I'm not the only one sick of this fiasco.

So on that note, after this issue I will no longer allow staff members or contributors to write directly about one another. Can't we all just get along? Of course not. Is it good reading? Of I refuse to turn it into an editorial circus. Cursing is fine as long as there is a place for it. There's no need for a few flying f\*@ks floating around my paper, or in this case, douches. Besides, I don't want to see a brawl in my office. That means I have to get involved.

Anyway, I am really proud of the November 8th issue. Did you know we had 22 articles published within those 12 pages—plus ads, comics, letters, and a photo spread? And that we have had more than 10 new staff members and contributors so far this year? Everyone in this office has done an outstanding job. Thanks guys, you're the best! If I wasn't hitting rock-bottom financially, I'd take you all out for drinks. Hmm, do you think the Publications Board could fund that? ... nah.

I hope readers of The Banner took notice of the other articles in that issue. There's some really good stuff in there, and quite a lot of reading to tackle. As I've been saying, I'm a dork and I like words, so I pack my issues full of 'em. In this issue, I'm especially proud of Mellissa Secharan's continuing efforts on the Student Government beat. But what really gets me is Luke Crisalli's crazy idea of spending 24 hours on campus. But if reading's not your thing, check out Enrique's comic page. Comic relief is something we all could use right now to cool off the embers still crackling from the previous issue.

Happy Thanksgiving!

-Jen Moss crop

## Letters to the Editor

### LIBERALS ARE PUS\*\*\*S AFTER ALL

This article is the funniest and smartest piece I've ever read in The Banner. It is like one giant metaphor and if you're too ignorant to read between the lines, then you just wasted one really smart and clever article.

Chris Bono

After reading this article a few times, I have decided that Jessica Mendez has written a good piece. I do not like to see this kind of language in an article, but I understand that it is her right to say what she wants to, however she wants to. Joseph Fago used the same kind of language in his article, so she is not doing anything new. However, I think the kicker "You Joseph Fago, will still be just a . . ." is a little more blunt than it should be. I know it is written as a metaphor, but to put it as a kicker is unnecessary.

Kevin SP Mamakas

I understand that everyone has freedom of speech. And a clear example of it has been the battle of political views in The Banner. Have we forgotten what the point is here? Safford and Fago both had really good arguments, and spoke about political issues. Mendez just turned it into a personal attack. I don't agree with Fago's point of view, but I respect him enough not to call him a name simply because he has different beliefs than I do. Mendez has a good argument. It wasn't necessary to stoop that low, using sex for everything that she writes. Is she really a feminist?

Lil Acosta

I feel that these fights are absolutely ridiculous. Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, so get over it!

Alicia Sullivan

I think that you have been doing a wonderful job with The Banner. I feel your sentence, "It's one thing to report the news, another thing to comment on it" is great. The whole Safford vs Fago vs Mendez thing has gone on way too long now and is seriously losing its point. It's turning into name calling—high school bull and it needs to end. I am glad the editors have taken note of this so hopefully these comments won't continue forever. This is a serious issue they're fighting over and it's become mish-mashed with immaturity.

Eleanor Guerrieri

Wow seems like there's a lot of names flying around The Banner lately. Fago, your opinions in the previous issues were valid, and being that I actually read it, I felt your emotion. Mendez, your article was nothing short of amazing. Your feeling bled through the page. It was obviously carefully written and your thoughts came through. So what happens now? I know I do want to read the next edition of The Banner. It has struck a nerve in many readers. We'll be waiting.

Thomas Lanza

### Re: Peace Officers ARMED!

Thanks to those who have decided to keep the campus community safe. I enjoyed the article, but most of all the caption under the photo. However, I hope I am not one of the many students to get blinded by the pepper spray, and I hope that this is not used in the cafeteria food that I consume. Thanks for the heads up!

Lauren Mara,

I've heard the talk around school about public safety officers getting pepper spray, and I have to say that my feelings are mixed. I definitely believe that they should have some kind of protection. I mean how will they protect me if they can't protect themselves? But I do hope that CSI is ready to deal with the repercussions of puffy-eyed, pepper sprayed students. I doubt that the student body will take this lying down.

Jaqui Adams

I think it's a great idea for Peace Officers to be armed with pepper spray. You never know when you might need it. I think Peace Officers should also be equipped with handcuffs and nightsticks. The college has many students and there may be times when they need to defend themselves—others.

Michael DiSilvestri

### Re: Beyond the Mall — Everything Goes

I personally shop at malls in New Jersey. One reason is not to pay any tax on clothes. The last time I went to the city was to buy chinese slippers or a fake Coach bag and wallet. Since you said that this thrift store has good knock offs, I'll give it a try. Thanks for the shopping tip!

Pamela Lazarus

Awesome, I had no idea that there was a vintage clothing store on Staten Island, and on Bay Street (so close to home). Thank you for letting us know about this wonderful new find. I will definitely pay this new store a visit!

Alicia Sullivan

### Re: Fall at CSI

I enjoyed the photographs taken by Diana Illuzi. However, I feel she should have included shots of the "forest" that you can walk through on various paths. That is the prime spot for beautiful photographs.

Eleanor Guerrieri

### Re: Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas

Nice article on the PS2 game, although you did leave out why this game is rated that way it is. The "suggestive language" and themes are what makes this game controversial, along with numerous sexual references. Don't forget the drugs that float around in this game either, which is nothing new to the GTA series. Don't get me wrong, this game is ridiculously fun to play and very addictive, but it may indeed go down as the best RPG on the PS2 of all time. Add to that, the West Coast rap like Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, and Ice Cube, and you have classic rap music as you're playing a future classic game.

Andrew DeSantis

### Re: The Case for Capital Punishment

Statistics that show 71 percent of Americans support the death penalty are certainly mind boggling. However, it is absolutely true that not a single human can be harmed by a dead criminal. I don't really have a stance because I understand both ways of thinking. When you say that "anyone who stands against the death penalty stands with murderers and rapists," I feel that you are wrong. That's not always the case. Truthfully, I feel that it is morally wrong to believe "an eye for an eye." I don't know—I'm confused.

Michael Giovinazzo

### Re: Putting a Human Face on Parking

In all the years parking here, I never received a "parking advisory" warning, just a ticket. Veasey says, "he's not out to get anyone." Yeah, OK. I recall getting a ticket and having a parking permit on my windshield—and it was filled out.

Carla Rengifo

### Re: The Winter of Our Discontent Made Longer

It's important that people hear how similar George W. Bush and his lackeys are to the regime of Adolph Hitler. It scares me to imagine what might happen if Americans stand by and blindly follow their leader. I'm with you, Frank Duffy. Let's rise up and overthrow the government together.

Laura Bruij Williams

### Re: Dunkley Elected S.G. President

Now that we finally have elected a student government president, I'd like to know what Dwight Dunkley's responsibilities and duties are.

Michael Konstantinidis

# AFTER HOURS AT CSI



stay on the campus for 24 hours for quite some time. There had always been talk of on-campus housing being built, and in recent months, it seems that that prospect might be inching closer to reality. So I wanted to get a small idea of what life might be like for those who would eventually live here. So, after getting approvals from everyone from DJ s at WSIA to VP Aponte, my plan finally became a reality and I set off for the Astrophysical Observatory (photo #5) to meet with Professor Keith Rowan and his assistant, Pete Giglo.

Tonight, Prof. Rowan would be showing his students the star cluster M39 and the star Vega, made famous in the movie *Contact*.

It's peaceful and serene after dark, though there once was a danger of wild dogs, says Rowan, who tonight is using a 16 inch GPS capable telescope that actually communicates with GPS satellites. Giglo agrees, "It's definitely not something you see every night, especially in New York City."

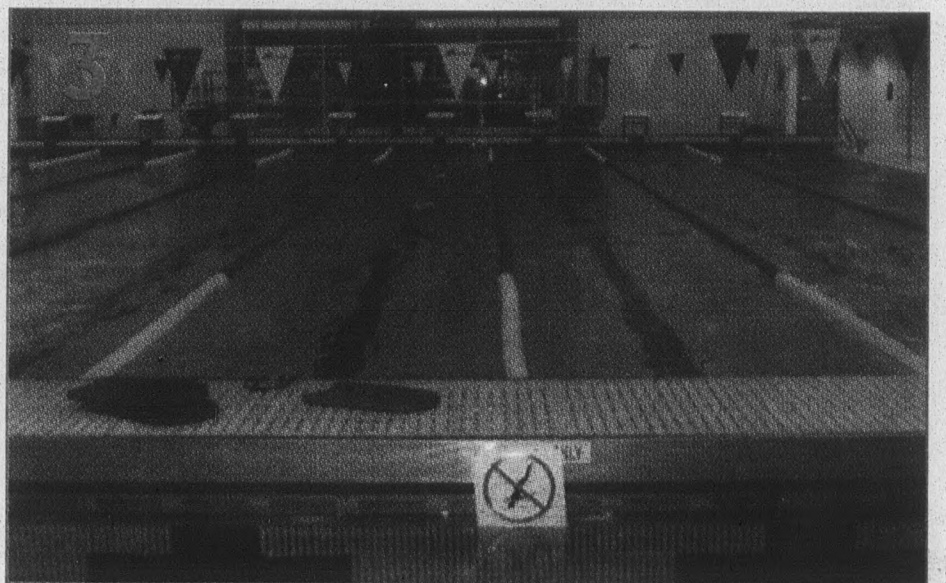
9:26pm—I head over to 2N to see if any late night students or teachers are hanging around. I find an Economics professor who wishes not to give her name. "It 's exhausting and extremely tiring being here this late," she tells me. "The students are tired, and it's just not an ideal time for a class," she

adds.

9:44pm—I enter the campus center to get a soda, expecting it to be empty, I m surprised to find a late game of "go fish" being played. This is also where I run into Ray Mackey, who works in the center. I ask him what he thinks about being on campus this late. "I like it," he says. "It's quiet and you get a lot of time to yourself. But it is kinda eerie," he adds. He won't go into detail regarding eeriness, but it isn't the first time I've heard of someone being creeped out by the campus

10:07pm—I'm at WSIA now (photo #4), where I'll be sitting in with the Hard Times crew of Greg DJ Brak Pesochin and Candice Candy Catalyst Crawford. If you haven't heard these two yet, you really should. Upon entering the studios and explaining to the rest of the crew why I'm there, I'm greeted with the now familiar response: "Are you insane?"

12:34am, Tuesday, Nov. 9—After watching Greg spin for about 15 minutes I gotta say I am beyond impressed. Maybe it's because I've never seen anything like this before, but it's almost like watching a skilled surgeon. It's apparent Candice is enjoying this as well, because we can see her dancing





in her chair like a kid on Christmas morning.

1:07—Candice informs us that the same guy has called in looking for free giveaways about 5 times now. It seems as though she's ready to kill the guy. Both DJ's decide to take a short break and put up with my photo requests and a few questions as to why they want to stay here at this hour. "You get to express yourself more in the later hours," says Greg. "You get to give a voice to the people who want to hear this kind of music," he adds. "I love it, it's fun. You get to hear great drum and bass," says Candice. They both agree however, that the lighting on campus is in need of improvement.

2:12—I meet up with Sergeant Morton from Public Safety who has agreed to let me go on patrol with him for a bit. A few minute into the ride, we notice flurries. Sgt. Morton jokes, "If you see flurries this early in the season, you know winter is gonna be real fun."

2:27—We are stopped by a fellow officer who informs us that NYPD aviation will be doing a flyover searching for a patient who got off the nearby psych ward. This is not the first time this has happened and validates the eeriness of the campus late at night. Sergeant Morton doesn't seem too worried about it though. "It's not that bad being here late, it's kind of peaceful," he says. "Sometimes you have to worry about raccoons, but this time of year it starts to get slow."

2:48—We come across a trailer used for storage on campus with a door open. Morton shines the lights of his cruiser inside to confirm nothing is in there and closes the door. "You have to watch out for homeless people," he says. "One time we had a homeless guy come here from Brooklyn 'cause he saw a flyer for an open house. Other than that, you have to watch out for the occasional drunken student."

3:53—As I walk around campus, I do experience the creepy vibe many have talked about. I see many lights out on campus. Compared to other campuses I've been on, this one is as dark as the Batcave.

4:15—Campus Safety and Buildings & Grounds are still very visible. The campus never seems to shut down, and as I enter the Campus Center to warm up, the lights are still on and the hum of the refrigeration systems in the cafeteria is quite noticeable.

4:21—As I prepare to head out into the wind tunnel of the campus again, I hear voices in the building. I walk around, looking for whoever it is for about 3 minutes and find no one, yet I still hear the voices. At this point I began to get slightly weirded out. After examining my surroundings one more time, I notice someone has left a clock radio playing (photo #6). Time to get out of here.

4:49—I head over to 3N to meet with some of the work crew that's repainting the building to see how they feel about being on campus at this



hour. (Photo #1) Most of them don't mind. They say it's almost serene. "We can get our work done without being in students' way now, and all the guys get along with each other. It's like a family vibe," says custodial supervisor Hipolito Perez. A few people mention ghosts again, to which one painter, Joey Weston replies, "If the ghost can't run through a wall, I'll hit him with a stick." Looks like Dan Aykroyd and Bill Murray have competition. With damn near everyone claiming ghost sightings, one could start to believe this place really is haunted.

5:37—After what seems like days of darkness, I start to see the first signs of sunlight. Lighting inside 4N goes on automatically as I walk by. Did someone install motion sensors? If so, I'd like to see how much it costs, cause if the school can afford motion sensors, I'd like to know why they can't afford more parking spaces.

5:50—The Rec Center (photo #3) is in full use as the Monsignor Farrell High School swim team is in the pool for an early morning practice. Some of the swimmers still look half asleep, but their coach, Tom McCaferty, a firefighter with Ladder Company 131 in Brooklyn, says being up this early doesn't bother him.

6:06—I'm at the campus plant now (photo #2), where Chief Administrative Assistant Reggie Outterbridge has agreed to give me a tour of the building and explain more about its procedures and what makes him and this campus tick. "All the buildings are connected by a central computer, so if something won't work in 4S, we'll know about it," he explains. Three furnaces provide the campus with heat, but to conserve energy, Outterbridge doesn't run them all at once.

6:23—We head over to the power substation. It's mainly controlled by



Con Ed says Reggie, so if there's ever a power outage, don't knock down his door. "We have 158 employees," says Outterbridge, "but we need at least 25 more."

9:33— I take a ride on the loop bus in an attempt to get some pics and a few questions answered. Much to my chagrin, the driver is less than enthusiastic about cooperating. Maybe it's because he's wearing an Atlanta Braves hat and the Braves suck. The next driver seems even less enthusiastic. Maybe it's time this campus hired bus drivers with personality.

10:48— I make a return trip to the Campus Center to heat up my breakfast of Campbell's Soup At Hand, which is surprisingly non-deathly tasting. Maybe it's due to the fact I've been up for a good 22+ hours at this point.

11:00—In a vain attempt at exercise, I opt to take the stairs up to the Banner office instead of the elevator. I figure once I join the Fire Department I'll be taking plenty of stairs, so why not start now? I sit down on a remarkably comfy stack of newspapers and wait for anyone to open the door. After a few minutes of waiting, I contemplate kicking it down. Then both common sense and someone with a key arrive.

12:07—I've made myself quite comfy on the couch in the office in an attempt to get at least a few winks. Attempt successful until Banner editor Jen Mossdrop comes in and asks, "Have you really been here all night?" After nodding, associate editor Diana Illuzzi says something to the effect of, "You're f\*cking crazy."

I notice a few other Banner staffers have arrived, and slowly I'm getting looked at like a science experiment gone horribly awry. It's at this time I look down at my watch and realize I've completed the 24 hours.

As I head out of campus, I'm reassured by the fact that my bed is far more comfortable than a stack of newspapers. Now for the part where I sound like an Academy Award speech. This article couldn't have been done without the help of a lot of people, so in alphabetical order, I would like to thank: VP Angelo Aponte; Director of Student Life Carol Brower; Candice Crawford; Dean of Student Affairs Mike Daniels; Rec. Center Director Jason Fein; VP Student Affairs Carol Jackson; Public Safety Director Gene Martinez; Lillian McGinn, B&G, Public Safety Sergeant Morton; Chief Administrative Assistant B&G Reggie Outterbridge; Greg Pesochin, and Prof. Keith Roman.

For more information go to <http://24csi.blogspot.com> and [djbrak.com](http://djbrak.com).

# COMICS

**DAWGMA**  
BY ENRIQUE IGNACIO INOCENTE  
8-10-04

WHY DIDN'T YOU FAINT, MY SON, PLEASE DON'T RESIST THE WILL OF THE LORD. JUST SUBMIT AND JOIN YOUR FELLOW GOD-FEARING CHRISTIANS ON THE FLOOR AND WALLOW IN HIS GRACE LIKE A PIG ROLLING IN ITS OWN FILTH.

NO THANKS.

BUT DOESN'T THE POWER OF CHRIST COMPEL YOU?

NOT REALLY. CAN'T SAY I'M ALL THAT COMPELLED.

OH, HOLY SHIT OF GAWD! HE'S POSSESSED!

WARNING!!! IF YOU'RE EASTERN DEFENDED PLEASE STOP READING.

WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

WHAT DA FUH?!

HOLD 'IM DOWN WHILST I EXERCISE THE DEMONST

NO!!! SWEET JEZUS, I BELIEVE!!!

THIS WAY TO THE LORD...

THE POWER OF CHRIST COMPELS YOU

THE POWER OF CHRIST COMPELS YOU

THE POWER OF CHRIST COMPELS YOU

THE POWER OF CHRIST COMPELS YOU

CHRIST POWER

WELL, THAT WAS FUN, IF NOT SPIRITUALLY HOLLOW, MAYBE ISLAM WILL BE MORE FULFILLING. C'MON, KINDRED SPIRIT. NEXT STOP: MECCA.

THANKS BE TO THE LORD.

WITCH HOLIM!

IN A WALKING COMA.

THE OMEGA

WANTED FOR THE BRUTAL MURDER OF SNUFFLUFF

COOKIE MONSTER, JUST ADMIT YOU HAVE A PROBLEM.

By Enrique Ignacio Inocente

HAPPY THANKS-GIVING FROM THE BANNER

DRAWN BY JESSICA MENDEZ & MELLISSA SECHARAN

**CRAZY LITTLE SPAGEMONKEYS** BY GREGORY TUMBARELLO

THERE'S A LOT GOING ON IN OUR LIVES RIGHT NOW. I DON'T THINK WE'RE ON THE SAME PAGE ANYMORE.

I MEAN...

OH GOD. THERE'S NO EASY WAY TO SAY THIS, SO I'M JUST GONNA SPIT IT OUT...

IT'S OVER.

gobble gobble?

HA!

ZAP

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

**CRAPPY COMIC CORNER**  
By Enrique Ignacio Inocente

Why do I even bother?

THIS IS A GON

BIG DEAL! WHAT COULD THEY POSSIBLY DO TO ME?

KEEP OFF GRASS



# CSI's HALLOWED AND HAUNTING HISTORY

Diana Illuzzi

For the past decade, the College of Staten Island has called the picturesque 204-acre Willowbrook land-mass at 2800 Victory Boulevard home. On any given day, twelve thousand students and hundreds of faculty and staff roam the grounds and pass through the hallways of this campus. However, many do not realize that there is far more to the history of this campus.

In late November 1938, the New York State Department of Public Works approved plans for a number of public buildings to be constructed throughout the state. The second largest of which was a proposed "State School for the Mentally Defective," originally estimated to cost \$5,100,000. At a closer glance, the state later allocated \$12,000,000 for its construction.

During the course of building up a series of two and four story structures in Willowbrook, both the United States Army and Navy showed interest in the developing structure for a hospital to house the wounded of World War II. In 1942, it was the Army that leased the property, admitting about 200 soldiers to the facility at a time. The facility was named Halloran General Hospital. As construction continued, more injured were sent to the medical center and thousands were cared for in its halls. During the course of the war, German POWs were held in an area close to the hospital. In 1946,



Halloran Hospital

New York Governor Thomas E. Dewey wanted the Veterans Administration to purchase Halloran Hospital with the hopes of building another hospital for the care of mentally retarded and physically disabled infants and children. General Omar Bradley, Administrator of Veterans Affairs refused the State's offer, but instead wanted to lease the property for

two years. In 1947, Halloran was reverted to "The Willowbrook State School."

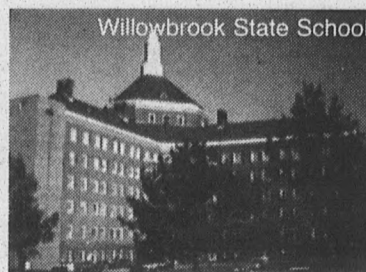
Happenings at the Willowbrook State School have become notorious throughout the years. In the 1950s, Dr. Saul Krugman, director of research at Willowbrook, conducted experiments on the spread of hepatitis by using his child patients as "guinea pigs." Krugman believed that since the conditions at the institution were so crowded, hepatitis was bound to spread rapidly anyway. The good doctor would isolate incoming



patients and infect them with the virus. He would then track their symptoms to see how the disease developed. The parents of these innocent children actually signed permission slips allowing their children to be part of this study. The parents were duped into believing that their children were being given the virus as a form of immunization.

Herodous treatment of patients at Willowbrook such as this continued over the next two decades. Sanitary

conditions within the halls of the institution were deplorable. Safety conditions were well below par and those attending the school would often break limbs and obtain other serious injuries. The youths at the school, many of whom remained there until adulthood, were not given clean clothing to wear and were often malnourished. The plumbing did not even operate properly.



Willowbrook State School

By 1972, the population of the campus had grown to 5,700, 65 percent over capacity. The school was greatly understaffed, and the parents finally began to catch on to what was really happening to their children. The conditions of Willowbrook were

exposed to the world on national television by journalist Geraldo Rivera.

On March 17, 1972 the parents of Willowbrook filed a lawsuit against the State of New York forcing changes in the conditions at the school. It was three years before the Willowbrook Consent Decree, which finally brought on well needed change. Soon after, the doors of Willowbrook State School were closed.

During the 1980s, arguments insued over what the Willowbrook campus. CUNY won the fight to have the area become the new sight for the College of Staten Island.

## AMERICAN DEMOCRACY PROJECT

### SCOURGING JESUS: THE DEMOCRATS FAILURE TO ESTABLISH A CHRISTIAN CENTER, OR LEFT

Frank Duffy

Christians deserve a little more tolerance from the left. After all, we lefties are supposed to be champions of the disenfranchised, bleeding hearts, constructivists, and embracers. But, in these times of bitter defeat, in lamenting the reality of four more Bushes - strike that, Bush more years...oh don't make me say it! - we've turned over our sheep suits for wolf jackets, thrown away the language of inclusion for good old GOP name calling, and zeroed our weapons at the firing ranges of religious persecution. No, it's true!

We can harmlessly forget that a Xerox is a photocopy, a Kleenex is a tissue, and a Coke is a cola - whatever that is. But let's not be so quick to dismiss that a Muslim is a believer of Mohamed and Islam, a Jew is Jewish, and for Christ's sake a Christian is a follower of Christ - not a politico nor a requisite qualification for membership in one political party and not the other.

Here are the results from the political Petri dish. After testing skin tissue from all the Democratic Party Presidential nominees from the past forty-five elections we've seen that all of them were wait for it, wait for it, that's right (even though they're left) a little Christian. Some we're even more than a little Christian. Take Kerry, for instance. He was a dirty, rotten Catholic - a Christian cubed. And, what's more he admitted it.

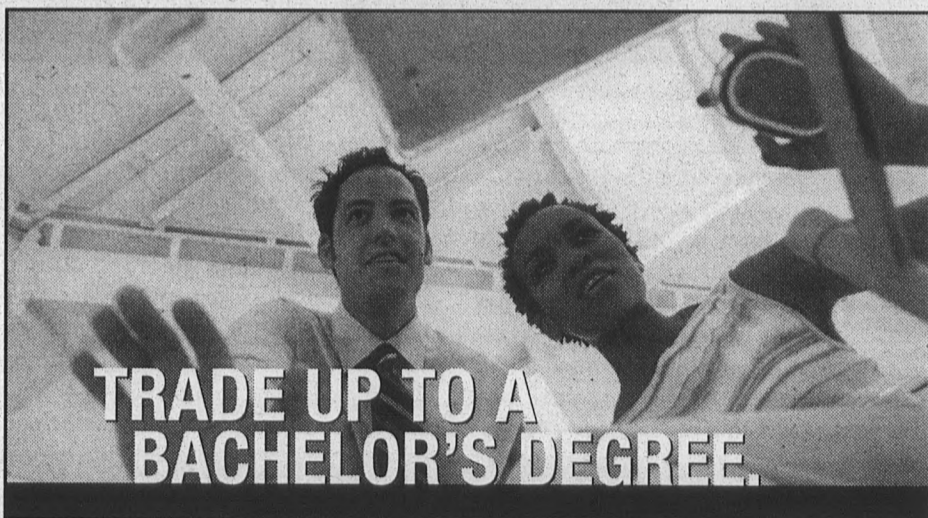
What's truly striking is how celebrity journalists like John Stewart and Bill Maher (two guys who should know something about religious per-

secution) supported such an avowed Christ-lover, while regularly throwing cheap shots at the expense of the Christian faithful for easy laughs. What's worse is that the left hemisphere of the serious media is no better, and certainly no clearer. Maureen Dowd, columnist for the Times and Kerry supporter wrote "that politics would be suffused with glistening Christian sentiments like love thy neighbor, turn the other cheek, good will toward men, blessed be the peacemakers and judge not lest you be judged. Yet somehow I'm not getting a peace, charity, tolerance and forgiveness vibe," of the newly reelected administration.

If you were a Christian swing voter open to views like these what would you think? I'll tell you what I'd think. I'd think Bush is the straight shooter of the two, the more Christian, or at least I would tend to side with those who are not bashing my faith.

That aside, I wasn't a swing voter. I abhor Bush, his policies and his buddies. Even though he was well too far off to the right for my taste, I voted for Kerry. So did a lot of people. But did a lot of Christians? I doubt it. Should they have?

By failing to appeal to the American Christian center, a demographic desperate for fair governance, by allowing the right to claim Christianity as it's birthright, Kerry and, more accurately, Kerry's supporters active in the public discourse lost the White House bid.



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# Life....

# Love...

# &

# SEX

## Ragtime Gal: *Surf the crimson tides, everybody!*

Jessica Mendez

*"Of course I have sex during my period."*

This confession came casually over tapas at Kana, a trendy Latin Lounge in SoHo. My good friend Leelee and I were having a night out with her boyfriend Dwayne and a group of their chic friends visiting from Spain. One woman leaned in, her sleek highlighted mane half covering her face and blurted out her predilection for bloody hot sex.

"Mhmm," I agreed wholeheartedly. Leelee looked at me, a mix of horror and fascination on her face. "You would have sex with your..." she trailed off, gagging.

"Would? I have!" I countered.

Someone at the table piped up. "You *wouldn't*?" she squealed. Everyone at the table, male and female, was keen on indulging in "crime scene sex," as my friend Jerod so elegantly puts it. Everyone, that is, but Leelee (Dwayne remained uncharacteristically silent).

Pssst, I'm going to let you in on a little secret: women get their periods! And hey, you want to know something else? Lots of women are incredibly horny during their periods!

Sadly, some women are ashamed of menstruation. I'll admit I was one of them. I would deftly slip pads in my jeans pockets and run to the bathroom, praying no one would see the bulge. The waistband of my Catholic School uniform worked nice-

ly, if I untucked the blouse just so. I was bombarded with images of tampons hidden in clutch purses and maxi pads shoved in bags for fear of -gasp- someone discovering our crimson tides! I was reminded in every Religion class that menstruation is the result of original sin. Eve was wicked, and thus, all women were unclean.

Well, after a long battle with OB and Kotex and stained jeans and ruined knickers and mind numbing migraines and hideous cramps, I have accepted the fact that I will bleed once a month. That doesn't mean that I was completely comfortable sharing my shed uterine lining with the world. I nearly had a heart attack the first time someone ventured southward when I had my period. It was Devin, my hot surfer/bartender ex-boyfriend. It had been an almost perfect night: the family was away, we were sharing a blissful dinner of Chinese takeout, and he was an expert at one-handed bra removal. Unfortunately, I had forgotten one thing: tampons! (I'm not a huge fan of those anyway—it's trying to leave your body for a reason, stop plugging it up—but on special occasions, they serve their purpose.) The realization dawned on me about two seconds before Devin rang the doorbell, so the monster-sized emergency pads stocked in the back of my closet would have to do. I had forgotten about the gargantuan pad until Devin's hands

reached for my zipper.

"Wait waitwaitwait," I whispered, panicked.

"What's the matter?" he asked, confused? (Oh, did I mention my period-pillow-wearing-self had breathed, "Don't stop," just moments before? Duh.)

"Umm, I uh, have my uh, um—" I stammered. "My, I'm uh, I..." I glanced meaningfully at my crotch, which Devin mistook for the "go ahead and touch me!" look, for Devin's hands met up with the period pillow of doom.

"Oh, you have your period?" he shrugged. "I'm cool with it if you are."

Horniness outweighed hesitance and *BOOM!* I discovered the cure for PMS! Cramps disappeared, my headache vanished, and the orgasm turned my sore limbs into blessed-out jelly. But were Devin's hands just miracle workers?

No. Once I engaged in some premium crime-scene sex, I realized that period time is a great time to have sex. Just think of the lubrication, people! I know for a fact that there are three things that will get rid of my headaches: St. Anthony oil (hard to find), Excedrin, and orgasms. If you're squeamish, just throw down a towel and *get on with it!* And if you don't have a partner, that's what your hands are for. If you're not comfortable with it, how is your partner supposed to be? (As for food cravings, I got nothing, sorry. I'm famished after sex. If it makes you feel any better, think of all the calories you've just burned.

There, better? Good.)

I will admit, however, that I'm still not sold on the idea of receiving oral and having my partner come up looking like an extra from Dawn of the Dead. Perhaps one day, some adventurous fellow will convince me.

Now, I shun the new generation of media-induced period shame. Hi Kotex? We don't need a quiet pad wrapper, and until you do something about the paper on the sticky tape, it's useless. And don't get me started on the notion of a pretty pastel-covered compact tampon that everyone will think is candy. "Oh look, your boyfriend found a tampon! Lucky it looks like a packet of sugar! Better grab it quick before he pours it in his tea!" Oh please, just say, "Sweetie, unless you want to suck up half your drink with that, you'd better give it back. By the way, you have some old towels at your place right? My cramps are killing me."

We're stuck with our periods, whether we like it or not. I say, let's capitalize on it. To hell with the whole menstruation-as-punishment-for-sin business. It's a rite of passage! I'm proud of my period! I'm a bitch every day of my life, enjoy food immensely and think that sex is the most wonderful activity, but nature provides me with a monthly excuse to be moody, eat anything I want, and be quench my insatiable lust. Thanks, Eve!

## 109 Minutes from Vietnam

*Continued from Page 1*

audience and Vietnamese background," said Winnie Brophy, Special Programs Assistant for the Center for International Services.

Tram Le, Director of the Vietnamese International Film Festival (VIFF) and moderator for the symposium discussed the "1.5 generation." It is the generation that was born in Vietnam and learned the culture, then moved to America at a young age and learned that culture. "We're not first generation Vietnamese-Americans, and we're not second generation," said Tram Le. She uses this term to describe the filmmaker's backgrounds and how it influences their films.

"Cinema is a kind of journey back to my Vietnamese identity," said Ham Tran, director of the award-winning film *The Anniversary*. "It connects me with my parents and their experience."

"It's important for younger generations to learn about Vietnamese

heroes and folklore," said Tuan Kien Nguyen, director of *Watermelon Island*, and *Dear Diary*. "It's important to know our history in order to know our future."

Many Vietnamese immigrants were traumatized by the war and didn't get a chance to or didn't want to express themselves. They got rid of anything from or about Vietnam including old family photos. "There is this gap in history that needs to be filled," said Adele Ray, director of *El Paso, Vietnam*.

Professor Foley from the History Department and Professor Solomon, from the Media Culture Department were moderators.

"It gives us another look into the incredible diversity that characterizes international film production as well as an opportunity to learn from several working filmmakers," said Professor Solomon.

Their films represent the 250,000+ Vietnamese in the U.S. and give a voice to those who had none.

## Directors Visit CIN 407

*Continued from Page 1*

length films (none more than 23 minutes) that were screened in the class.

There were some alternative media films shown, including a silent film *Dear Diary*, directed by Tuan Kien Nguyen that showed diary pages describing the racism that the filmmaker incurred as a child. Another film by Nguyen titled, *The Nguyen Bunch*, was an animated spoof of *The Brady Bunch*, complete with the original theme song.

Another one of Nguyen's films is an animated children's folk story titled *Watermelon Island*, which deals with two children who go on an epic quest and ultimately return to their father, a Vietnamese king after learning a valuable life lesson.

Film Director Adele Ray directed a film titled *El Paso, Vietnam* that documents the true story of how her Vietnamese mother fell in love with her American husband while teaching Vietnamese to soldiers in El Paso, Texas who were about to be deployed to Vietnam.

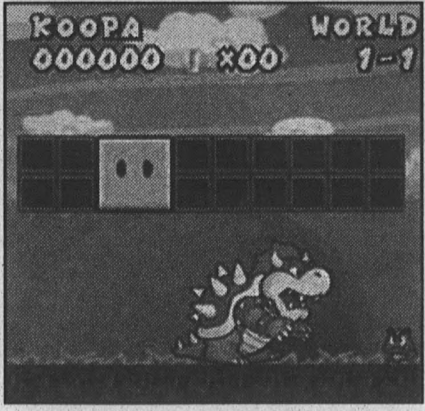
Perhaps the most bizarre film of the day was *Better Than Friends*, directed by Tuan Andrew Nguyen, which profiles the life of a couple in Vietnam who runs an off-the-books business slaughtering and preparing Dog Meat for distributions to local stores and restaurants. Besides the shock value of seeing dead dogs being set on fire and blowtorched in the middle of a busy street, the film explores the economic, social, and political forces surrounding life in post-war Vietnam.

Director Ham Tram, who directed, *The Prescription* and *Pomegranate*, and who lived in Vietnam until 1982, explained his inspiration for his filmmaking.

"I mainly got my ideas from my dad's stories," he said. "I made *Pomegranate* because it was about my grandfather who had cancer. Pomegranate in Vietnamese means 'cancerous stones'."

For more information regarding Vietnamese Diasporic Cinema, check out the VIFF's website: [vietfilmfest.com](http://vietfilmfest.com)

## Paper Mario: Thousand Year Door: Reams of Fun



### Dominic Fiduccia

Paper Mario: The Thousand Year Door is the new RPG game for Nintendo GameCube and is the sequel to the original Paper Mario which was released for Nintendo 64.

The plot is a typical Mario plot. It's up to Mario to save Princess Toadstool. The game starts at the seedy and mysterious coastal town of Rogueport, when there Mario will gradually uncover secrets from the treasure map that Princess Toadstool left for him.

You'll soon discover that you must find seven crystal stars. The stars are all in different parts of the world and finding each star will reveal its own unique and self-contained storyline.

The gameplay is spent exploring various environments, encountering and battling foes in a traditional RPG combat system, where you'll gain experience levels and new skills.

You'll also get the chance to do traditional Mario-style exploring where you'll have to jump from platform to platform, find hidden switches and passageways.

You'll see your foes out in the field, and if they spot you, they'll try to close to fight. If you manage to hit them with your hammer or jump on them when they're close you will have gotten a free hit as the fight begins. Paper Mario has some real depth to it, which makes it a great-playing game and not just a great story with some battles thrown in.

Paper Mario is quite a long game, it'll take you anywhere from 30 to 40 hours to finish the game. It also has a lot of optional side quests and secret areas like in other Mario games, and invites you to continue your adventures in and around Rogueport even after the main storyline reaches its conclusion.

The audio in Paper Mario fits the theme and tone of each sequence of the game very well. Certain characters have their own musical themes that become as recognizable as their appearances. It's not all lighthearted stuff, either. The game also has music that is spooky, creepy, and even emotional for the intended effect.

Paper Mario: The Thousand Year Door overall is a great game that features great traditional RPG gameplay with Mario-style action. It's one of the best games to be released for the GameCube and is a must-have for anyone that is a huge fan of Mario or RPGs games.

## DONOSO & DUNKLEY ON THE DEADLOCK

*continued from page 1*

turns heading a meeting. Adams didn't like what she saw when it was Donoso's turn. "I felt that she was very bossy," Adams said. "I didn't want a leader that treated the rest of us like inferiors."

Donoso's issues with Dunkley, who she considers to be stubborn in certain ways, can be traced back to the University Student Senate (USS) — an organization that serves the issues and interests of CUNY students. Donoso insisted that these issues don't play a part on Student Government despite her less than constructive criticism on Dunkley. "He'll have a lot of adjusting to do, and will need self-restraint," she said.

According to Donoso, both she and Dunkley have different leadership styles. She saw herself as a hands-on president, and believes that Dunkley would have been a better student senator than s.g. president. "He is not the right man for the job," said Donoso. Her feelings aren't shared by Adams. "I'm just really glad he won," Adams said. "He is truly genuine about his desire to get things done this semester, even though we are getting off to a late start."

Unsure of the tone that Dunkley will set in Student Government,

Donoso does agree with him on the need to mend the division created by the election. "It was long and drawn out, and divided Student Government bitterly," she said. "A lot of work is needed to create bi-partisanship. The election is over so we need to come together regardless of personal differences and outcomes."

With the election finally over, Donoso remains on the positive side about the Student Government and what she has to offer them and the student body. "I'm still a Senator," she said. "I have a big voice and I want to use it."

Donoso became involved in student government when she was appointed student-at-large representative to CSI's publications committee. "Student elections then came," Donoso recalled. "And at the end of this year, it will be 3 years that I'm on Student Government."

As last year's vice president, Donoso, a political science major who is set to graduate in June, decided to run for president with the belief that she "could accomplish more."

"I wanted the opportunity to chair Student Government," she said. "I wanted to make sure we stayed on course, continued to be neutral, and an active government."

## BEYOND THE MALL MANDOLIN BROTHERS

### Matthew Beck

All you guitar aficionados out there know that American-made vintage guitars (made fifty to a hundred years ago) are a head above the crowd. The smooth, sweet tone, luxurious feel and killer looks just can't be imitated. They are hand-crafted with such skill and delicacy that no modern company can even compare.

Believe it or not, there is a place right here on Staten Island where guitarists can walk through a dizzying array of vintage instruments—and play every single one of them. Nestled quietly in an ordinary little stucco building on Forest Avenue, surrounded by a pharmacy, a barber shop, and a real estate office, is Mandolin Brothers.

Take a step inside and you will be greeted with a warm smile and friendly "hello" from the founder and owner, Stan Jay. His silvery beard, rosy cheeks, colorful wardrobe, and easy-going manner bespeak good humor, playfulness, wisdom and a bit of eccentricity.

Stan landed on Staten Island in 1965 after graduating from UPenn. He attended Wagner, earning a master's degree in English and education. Even though he began to work on his doctorate at Columbia, his hobby and love of collecting rare fretted instruments soon got in the way of his academic life. In 1971, he decided that he would try to share his love with others.

During those first few years of Mandolin Brothers, Stan taught in the Performing and Creative Arts Dept. at a little community college around Willowbrook, but in 1976 devoted his

energy to his business full-time. He had a different kind of retail philosophy. "When I founded Mandolin Brothers I wanted to create an experience that was exactly the opposite of what I had seen. I always felt that in many, if not most stores, the retail experience is essentially an uncomfortable one. There is tension in the

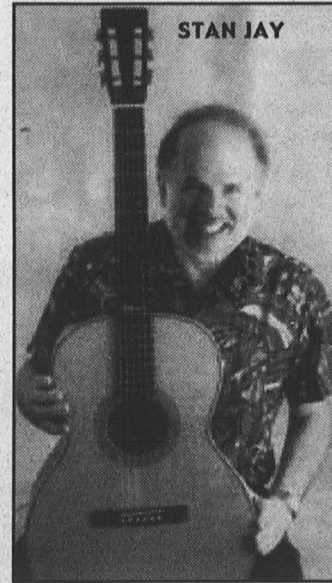
air. I believe that in this showroom there is absolutely no tension between visitor and staff. We are a place where a player can feel comfortable playing fine instruments and asking as many questions as possible —and where the answers they'll receive will be accurate and honest."

Even though Mandolin Bros. has a celebrity clientele (Jimmy Buffett, Bob Dylan, Gloria Estafan, Chris Isaak, Dave

Matthews, Lenny Kravitz, John Mellancamp, Joni Mitchell, and even George Harrison and Paul McCartney, to name a few), it is really a very down-to-earth place. Even though it is like the Saks Fifth Avenue or Tiffany's of guitars (over a million dollars worth is housed in eleven tidy rooms), the atmosphere is like Disneyland. And even if you can't afford a gorgeous '57 Les Paul gold-top, or a sleek '68 Strat, it's still great to have one of the best guitar shops in the world here on our doorstep.

Stan Jay thinks so too: "I am very glad to be located in Staten Island, on Forest Avenue, in West Brighton. I can't think of a better place to be."

Mandolin Brothers is located on 629 Forest Ave. Their regular business hours are 10 A.M. to 6 P.M., Monday through Saturday.



STAN JAY

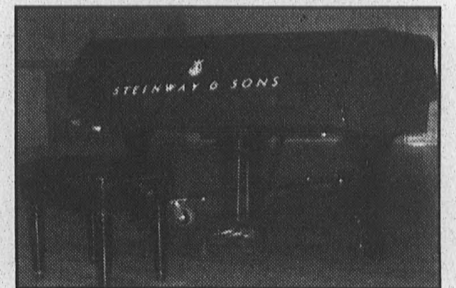
## PIANO UNVEILED IN 1P

### Mellissa Seecharan

November 17 — A newly restored 9-foot Steinway D piano was unveiled during a small ceremony in the Recital Hall at the Center for the Arts. "This will greatly serve the music program," said Vice President of Academic Affairs David Podell, who started the celebration.

Podell also acknowledged the work of Prof Sylvia Kahan, Chair of the Performing and Creative Arts Department and pianist, as "one person who had faith the project would grow."

Dr. Kahan gave thanks to those who also made the restoration possible including Prof William Bauer. "The rebuilding was a project



plagued with problems," she said, "but so many people put their generosity and time into it."

After the cutting of the ribbon, Dr. Kahan treated the audience to a short musical piece, officially christening the piano.

A faculty recital later followed the short ceremony where original works and other pieces were performed.

# SPORTS

November 22, 2004

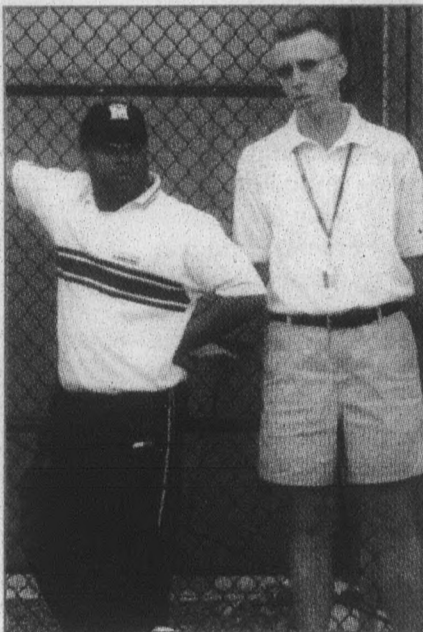
## LADY DOLPHINS FORFEIT FINAL MATCH

Marcel Sandougout

The Lady Dolphins ended the 2004 tennis season on a sour note by forfeiting against Baruch College in the quarter final, after four players out of six showed up. "It's a huge disappointment to end the season this way," said Coach Bill Mueller. "I am very disappointed by some of our players."

The quarterfinal had been scheduled to start in the afternoon and featured some good match-ups. The Dolphins would have been able to compete. Geraldine Thomas was supposed to play against Derjavina Janna, Richiemay Yncilino against Dadanina Elena and Lucie Lauria against Pylypyshyna Katerina in the first three matches. Then, Mika Keika was slated to face Ayoub Sara, Margaret Borzymowski-Krivorotova Mariya and finally Veronica Saez-Yakut Ipek.

Unfortunately, none of these matches took place because the



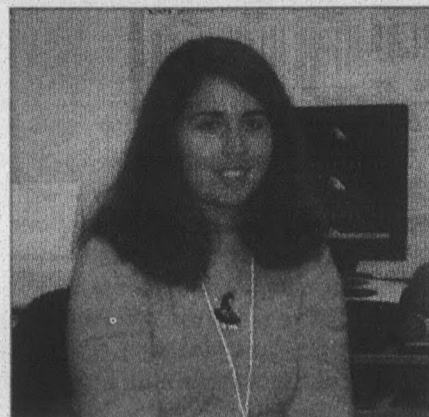
Disappointed coaches: Michael Padmora and Bill Mueller waited for a team that never showed up.

Dolphins failed to come as a team. After a short delay, it became clear that Lucie Lauria and Mika Keika would not show, and the team was automatically penalized and sanc-

tioned with a forfeit. (The rule says that in order to play a match, a team must have six players, or would not be able to play). Bill Mueller expressed his frustration and anger about his team losing a qualifying match without competing.

"If you don't come, tell me so that I can take my dispositions and cancelled the game or something," he said, referring to his two missing players. "The Baruch team traveled all the way from Manhattan and they are all here. They should have been prepared and make themselves available for team. There's no commitment!"

Mueller had worked with the players the day preceding the match because he knew that a loss would end his team's season. "I drilled them for two hours yesterday," he said. "They looked great." Mueller was quite confident and believed in his team's chance to pass Baruch, however it did not happen. Instead, what was supposed to be a great match turned into a no show and a forfeit.



Kim DeRitter, Intramural Sports Coordinator at CSI.

## CSI INTRAMURALS

Andrew DeSantis

Intramural sports allow students to become more active, meet new people, and have fun at the same time. Basketball, whiffleball, and flag football are just a few of the possibilities.

All the activities begin on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m., in building 1R. "The competitive spirit is definitely there," said Intramural Coordinator Kim DeRitter. "The turnout every Thursday is numerous."

Activities that have been offered include tennis, handball (singles and doubles), basketball, flag football, racquetball, table tennis, and whiffleball.

"I had always played basketball in the gym," said CSI student Vito Perremuto. "But I never knew there was actually an organized activity going on at the campus." Perremuto, usually pressed with schoolwork and holding down a job, tries to take advantage of the CSI gym whenever he has free time.

Basketball, football, and whiffleball run through a round-robin format, culminating in a championship round. Handball is a best of three knockout competition for both singles and doubles. Table tennis is a double elimination tournament, and racquetball offers a single game elimination and a best of three series. Students who wish to sign up for any event individually or with teammates should go to 1R, Room 204K. The games will continue until December 9th.

"The Intramural program is a little bit unknown around campus," DeRitter said. "But hopefully by the time the spring semester gets underway, we'll have more of a turnout and more people will support the school by joining the CSI Intramural Sports Program."

## SWASHBUCKLERS BATTLE ACROSS STATEN ISLAND

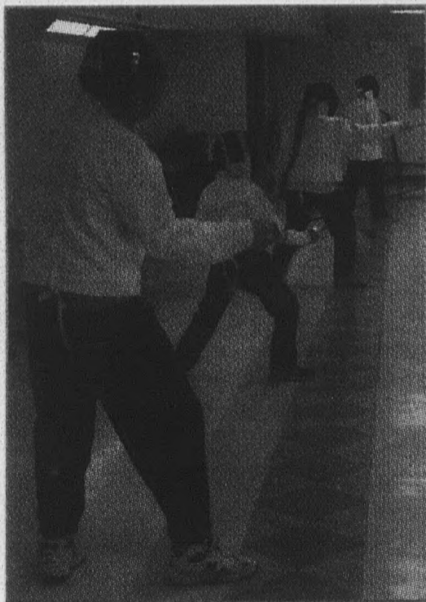
Michael Giovinazzo

As classes started to file out from the St. John's University Campus, the sound of clashing swords echoed from the school's cafeteria. The Staten Island Fencing Club was holding its regular Tuesday night class.

"Fencing is important for kids," says Bert Quaadman, secretary, treasurer, and instructor of the club. "They are not subject to the coach and they do not have to sit on the bench."

The Staten Island Fencing Club (SIFC) has just celebrated its 25th anniversary. The club meets on the Grymes Hill campus of St. John's University on Tuesdays and at the CYO Center at Mt. Loretto on Thursdays. Instruction is available on all levels, from beginners to advanced. Currently, the SIFC has a membership of approximately 70 students. The majority of the students are children, ages 8 to 15.

At 7:00pm, the students arrived for private lessons with head instructor Stephan Khinoy and President Susan Monardo. Class officially began at 7:30pm when Quaadman led the group in stretching and warm-up exercises. At 7:45pm, Khinoy took



control of the class and reviewed the correct fencing stance position. He taught the students the correct guard position as well as the correct lunge position. At 8:00pm, after the students had finished their practice drills, they suited up for group lessons.

There are 3 types of weapons used in fencing. The foil is the lightest weapon, with a small bell to protect the hand. Touches (points) are scored when the tip of the sword hits the opponent in the torso area only. The

foil is used to teach beginners. The epee is slightly heavier, and touches are scored the same; however, the intended target area is the entire body. The sabre is an edged weapon, with a larger bell that covers the hand. Slashing is allowed and touches are scored with the tip as well as the side of the sword. The target area is the waist and above, including the head and the arms.

"Fencing is a gentlemanly sport," said Quaadman. Sapienza Bruno, a parent of one of the students, agreed: "For me, it's very elegant."

"It's better than baseball," said Joshua Ferenczy, one of the boys who were fencing sabre. "There's more action."

The Staten Island Fencing Club is part of the Metropolitan New York Area Division of the United States Fencing Association. The club has produced one NCAA All-American fencer, Adam Brown. Membership fees are \$50.

Some of the parents take part in the classes with their children. Jennifer and Brandon Elia are newcomers to the program. "Anytime a mother and son can hit each other with swords, it's a good thing," Jennifer said. "We really enjoy it."