

THE

BANNER

January 28th

**KICKIN'
THINGS
OFF IN
'02**

**ACCESS GRANTED:
TROUBLE FREE
COMPUTER
LOG-IN'S
PG. 3**

**CLUBBIN' ON
A BUDGET
PG. 10**

**MAKING THE CUT:
DIAMOND DOLPHIN'S
BASEBALL PREVIEW**

PAGE: 6

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From the Editor

Slowly, We Turned

You might notice some changes in this month's *Banner*. First, we eliminated four leaves of fatty excess from our classic 16-page format, so it should feel a bit lighter now. Next, we dedicated our prized centerfold to Dolphin Sports. We were happy to do it—when your schools' athletic program is tops in the city, they deserve some prime ink. Then we opened for business, that is we took some advertisements. Lucky for us, despite the thick moss behind our ears, the ad folks were eager as always to peddle their poop in our pages.

Another striking difference between last years *Banner* and the issue you're holding: this one's missing a Mutant Lobster. The curious omission of Chris Sorrentino's beloved comic character is accidental at best. As Co-Editor-in-Chief I wish to apologize to our readership for this cruelty. *The Adventures of Mutant Lobster Boy* will return in the February 18th *Banner*.

For all the changes, big and little, good and bad, one pillar of the *Banner* you've come to love still stands and that is the quality of Jessica Mendez. We cross our fingers here daily, hoping *Rolling Stone* or *Cosmopolitan* doesn't slurp J.M. away from us in their lime-lit champagne glass before we can go to her well one more time.

As hard as it is to stay writer Steve Hagar from his first order of business, that is academics, we managed to wring two more fine pieces out of him. We hope there is more to come. Note to registrar: please do not allow Mr. Hagar to attempt more than thirty credits this semester.

The Yankees signed Giambi, the Mets caught Alomar and Vaughn, but they weren't the only New York teams making off-season moves. The *Banner* welcomes Emerging Leader and perennial good guy Emmanuel Olawale to our staff. Come mid-semester Emmanuel's talents as Graphics Intern will surely be underscored.

Last, Kris LoPresto our new Managing Editor and unwitting disciple of Teddy Roosevelt's *Strenuous Life* school, signals a new and better *Banner*. May his days here and elsewhere be filled with the awesome burden of challenge and the quiet gratification of success.

Robert Frost is noted for saying something like *The universe is chaos, and I try to make little boxes of order out of it . . . these are my poems*. In *The (new) Banner* you will find little boxes as well. Writers and staffers and even editors change from time to time, but the goal remains. We will print no story before we're finished with all the other stories. Indeed, when the Zip disk is en route to the printer in Williamsburg, carrying this fine publication in the glistening teeth of its manifold bytes, it will have left in its wake a spectacle of confusion and a daunting chaos. But inside those little boxes: Order.

Thanks to Frederick Kaufman, as ever, our saviour, our muse, our light.

—Francis Duffy

Our deepest sympathies and prayers for the Tacopino family.

The Banner apologizes to our unknown cover kicker. Please contact us and we'll run your name. Eventually.

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KRIS LOPRESTO

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LISA CARP NATASHA MOORE EDWARD RANIERI

Illustration Director

KATY TROIANO

Graphics Intern

EMMANUEL OLAWALE

Faculty Advisor: Frederick Kaufman

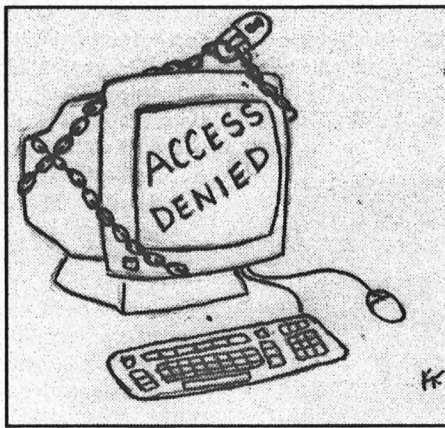
Turn On, Log In, Chill Out

By Steven J. Hager

Students returning to school last September may have had a puzzled gaze upon first seeing the message that they had to "log-in" in order to use the campus' computer facilities. However, having to log-in is not a large change in policy but just a new procedure says Michael Kress, the Assistant Vice-President for Technology Systems at the College. The new automated procedure is more effective and less staff intensive than the previous method of swiping your valid student ID and then being assigned a computer by the lab technician, Kress explained. There were some instances in the past of students not wanting to hand over their ID and a few heated arguments between staff and students over the process. Now even students who have left their ID at home can have access to a computer on campus.

Each campus within the university has to choose how to best implement the policy, according to Kress. Hunter and Kingsborough are also adopting this model in some of their computer

labs. It promotes student use of the labs. According to Kress, computer resources utilization on campus is at almost 99% (a number important to ensure more computer resources for the school in the future). It also cuts down on non-authorized use of student resources. There have been instances in the past



Your access to CSI computers won't be denied when you get your new password from Building 2A 306.

of people who were not students using campus computers.

"CSI's computer resources are for students," Kress added. "Someone who just got off the Victory Boulevard bus should not be able to

walk into a lab. People who need access to computer resources as far as the educational objectives of the college are given log-in IDs the same as students."

Of course, much like using your home PC, you are legally accountable for what you do on the Internet. "The guideline you should follow is if you don't do it at home, don't do it here," says Kress.

"We have chosen not to censor. It is a significant choice, we don't block sites based on content because we are dedicated to academic freedom," Kress added. In no way does signing into the campus network allow the school to search content being looked at by students and faculty. "There is no big brother complex at work," he said. Privacy is a key feature in the new

the net and check their e-mail. The first two computers are only the first step toward what will soon be an Internet Cafe area with in the campus center. There are three additional computers available for 1C, Vice-President Kress stated. "We are just waiting for the furniture. We will add more (computers) as student demand increases."

The Internet Cafe was envisioned by Assistant Vice-President Michael Daniels of the Student Life department. Knowing the library was going "UN-PLUGGED" Daniels asked if the

same could be done at the campus center. The cafe computers are for online searches and checking mail only. There is a time limit due to demand and there are no other applications on them for students to do intensive class work.

The "Un-plugged Library" which also started in September, allows a student to borrow one of ten new Internet Ready IBM "THINK PAD" Laptop computers from the circulation desk for a two-hour period, Monday through Friday until 2PM (last return at 4 pm.)

All students with a valid student ID are given a log-in username and password, which they should change immediately after signing in for the first time. Students in need of a code should go to 2A-306.

"We are just waiting for the furniture. We will add more (computers) as student demand increases." —Michael Kress

procedure due to the fact that all computers on the log-in network feature "Go Back," a program that automatically resets the computer information to the settings it possessed before you logged in.

Being responsible members of the academic community does have its advantages. Log-in capability means that CSI can now join the growing number of colleges with wireless computing services, a list that includes such technological heavyweights as Stanford and MIT according to a November 2000 article in *Rolling Stone* magazine.

The college's new wireless services began last spring with the addition of two PCs to the campus center cafeteria in order for students to be able to surf

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Anti-Patriotic or Valid Criticism?

Mellisa Panarella

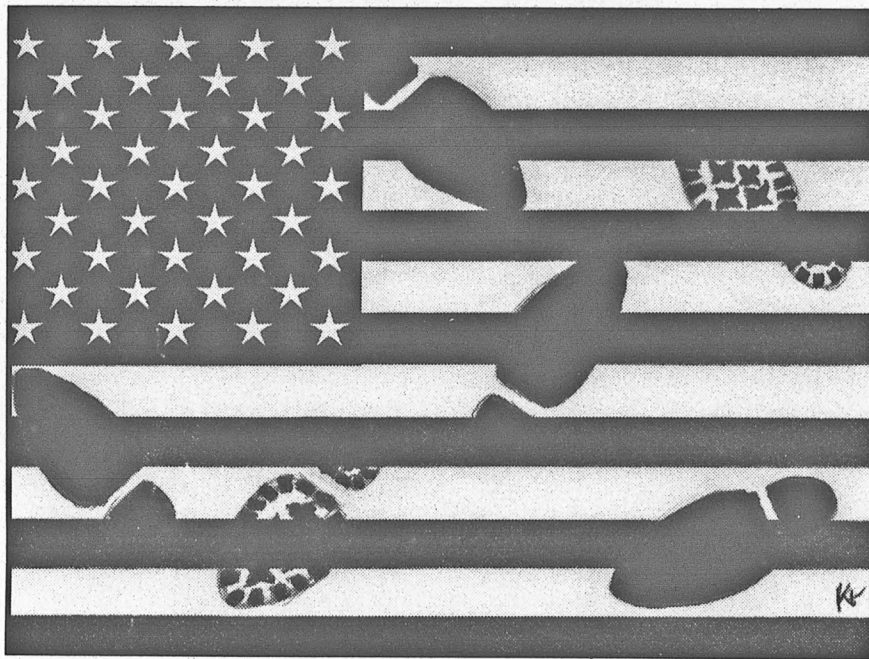
At a recent meeting addressing the terrorist attacks that destroyed the World Trade Center, political professor Harry Cason showed more passion condemning the United States government, its foreign policy and its citizens, than in showing remorse about the tragedy that took the lives of people from so many different nations.

According to Cason, the government only reaches out to an upper-class, a class which he has branded the "me group." Cason believes that it is this group that U.S. politicians look to accommodate because of their overwhelming wealth and power. Categorizing the *me group* as a party that "emphasizes inequality," Cason went on to explain that "we can't have a decent world until we take world equality seriously." Newsflash, Mr. Cason, universal equality is an idealistic approach to what the future may bring. Also, since you care so much about equal opportunity, do you take into consideration the thousands of people lost in the attacks, representing over 60 other nations? When the planes crashed into those towers the whole world was affected. People of various countries, nationalities, ages, and races woke up that morning to go to work. How can their innocent deaths justify a retaliation against the United States' past or current foreign policies?

Mr. Cason should also remember that our nation's government officials are elected by the people of this country. Since the majority of the population does not consist of the upper-class or *me group*, then it is the middle and lower

classes who vote these politicians into office—these same middle and lower-classes whom Cason has the most sympathy towards, claiming that he *relates to their struggle*.

If Cason truly feels that the power of the *me class* is too tyrannical, then maybe he should emigrate to a socialist Garden of Eden such as Libya or Vietnam where he can share his dreams of equal opportunity. The College of Staten Island should be embarrassed and disgusted to know that they have an anti-American professor on campus.



Don't tread on me

All editorials on this page are non-staff student submissions and do not express staff or college opinion.

Tag Art? Graffiti-Busters

Edward Ranieri

People see it everywhere, on walls, fences and even schoolyards. It's not litter, it's graffiti. In Staten Island, graffiti started to become popular in the '80s and has been a popular form of vandalism ever since. Staten Island has become so inundated with graffiti that the police department now has its own graffiti task force.

Michael Mottola is the head of the

graffiti task force. Before the '80s, when graffiti wasn't a major crime, kids who were caught writing graffiti would just have to pay a summons. Nowadays, when someone gets caught in the act of vandalism, that person could get up to a year in prison.

The Staten Island Graffiti Task Force joined forces with the a similiar task force in New Jersey where graffiti is a problem as well. Most bombers (graffiti enthusiasts) damage property in both Staten Island and New Jersey. To these travelling graffiti artists the vandalism becomes a field trip as well as a method of destroying property.

The vandals are starting their destructive habits at an early age. The average graffiti artist starts writing in spray paint or marker at the age of 14. Unfortunately, these so-called artists can't get into much trouble so far as the law is concerned. Since they are minors, they can't be arrested or fined for what they do. Kids get a slap on the wrists while the cost of damaged property is left to the taxpayers.

Whether graffiti is done because the artists want attention, name recognition or just simply want to cause trouble is a question people often ask. But none of these questions justify spray-painting your name on a clean wall. Graffiti has to stop, otherwise it will get out of hand. This island isn't a big mural to draw on, its our home. To put a stop to graffiti we must continue so support the task force and partnership with New Jersey.

As for a slap on the wrist for the minors, parents should be held accountable. Whatever damage their child has done, they should pay.

The Banner Not Exactly Hitting the Spot

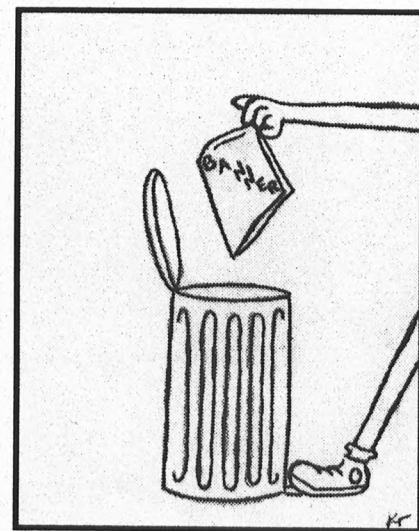
Michael Bruno

Among the campus masses here at The College of Staten Island, sufficient evidence might suggest that a philosophical discrepancy exists between the publication known as *The Banner* and its patrons. *The Banner* claims to be a newspaper produced for the students of The College of Staten Island, by the students of The College of Staten Island. It is in fact nothing of the kind. The truth is, 90% of the students that have to go to CSI could not care less about *The Banner* even if it was being sold as out-house wall paper. To the average hard-working student, *The Banner* simply does not matter or figure into their lives in the slightest. The only people who seem to care whole-heartedly about the paper or read it for that matter, are those who are responsible for it. These of course are journalism students, most of whom are

good writers but obviously seem to care about nothing more than using the publication in order to see their own names in print as well as for resume fodder. There is really nothing wrong with this if you happen to be a journalism student, as all of this seems completely viable and totally beneficial to your needs. After all, its only human nature to want to help yourself. But their work does not sufficiently adhere to the wants and needs of those who are screaming to be spoken to. Even the letters to the editor are all sent in by journalism students. Do the proprietors of this paper seriously believe that the average CSI student is reading this thing? The campus drinking water, profiles about the somewhat delusional aspirations of some of our performing arts students and hokey horoscopes are hardly issues with which most college students are concerned. CSI students do not want to read about how frustrating it is to register or about how awful the parking is,

they experience these things first-hand every day and do not need any reminders.

A college newspaper should be an outlet for students looking to take a break from the daily horrors their education presents. A college newspaper should be loud, progressive, explicitly frank and in some instances it should even be crude and vulgar. Above all, it should be plain, old-fashioned Benny Hill style fun. In essence, it should embody everything that college life in this country is all about in the midst of what little down time we are lucky enough to have. If college students want to read about issues that are really important, they'll pick up *The New York Times*. The writers and those who sing the praises of *The Banner* simply need to realize that their publication is there to serve the audience that is presented to it. This service would be better appreciated if it tried to make us smile instead of trying to make us think.



Is The Banner doing it for you? Michael Bruno, expert on being a meanie, thinks otherwise.

The Third Eye

By Madame Toni Ann Fischetti

Aquarius: The Water Carrier
January 21-February 18

Your key phrase is "I know." You not only embody "knowledge," you also just "know" a lot of people. Wink, wink. You expend a lot of energy socializing, but not enough on getting to know yourself. Resolve to get comfortable with solitude. Friends come and go, but you always have yourself.



Taurus: The Bull
April 20 - May 20

Your key phrase is "I have," and you can definitely be a little indulgent when it comes to possessions (remember that \$300 handbag you charged, girls? I think you do). Make a vow of simplicity because however spoiled, you've got a knack for appreciating the basic beauties of life! Remember the old Utilitarian mantra: Quality, not quantity.



Leo: The Lion
July 23- August 22

You've got this immense charm and magnetism, Leo, but at times this can become pompous and supercilious (Like my SAT words? In other words, you can get a big fat head). A good resolution would be to try to remember that the needs and desires of others are just as important as yours.



Scorpio: The Scorpion
October 23 - November 2

Can you say "passionate," because no one is as passionate as you are, kids! Try toning it down though, especially when interacting with others. Work a lighthearted joke or two into your repertoire (Stop me if you've heard this one. Knock-Knock!). And don't forget to smile.



Pisces: The Fish
February 19 - March 20

Your good lil' fishie heart makes you a sucker for any sob story or clever line, and boy, do you believe it! This year be aware of your naiveté and resolve to use it your advantage (I'm sorry Professor! That thesis paper was due today?)



Gemini: The Twins
May 21 - June 20

Listen up Twins. This year, take it easy! You have this insatiable and restless desire to attain new information, but you seldom see things through. Take up a calming hobby—something arts and crafty, like basket weaving—and really focus on results. Don't stop until all the elbow macaroni and Popsicle sticks are glued tight. Then hang it on the fridge and smile!



Virgo: The Virgin
August 23 - September 22

Your key word is "analyze," and it's your penchant for bringing order to chaos that makes you who you are. Let's try something different this year. Be more spontaneous! Run through the fountains at 1P! Chase the geese lounging on the campus greens! You'll thank me for it.



Sagittarius: The Archer
November 22 - December 21

For you to be truly happy, you must be unconfined (not too unconfined. At least you remember to wear underwear...I hope) and you're never shy about asserting your needs. But sometimes you overlook the needs of others. Resolve to listen more intently and remember to include those you love in all your adventures.



Aries: The Ram
March 21-April 19

Selfish! Selfish! Your key phrase is "I am," but this year try thinking about someone else for a change! Why don't you use that noggin of yours and help out at the Peer Tutoring Center? Not only will you be helping others, but you'll also be raking in Karmic brownie points!



Cancer: The Crab
June 21 - July 22

You're too sensitive to constructive criticism, Crabs! You take even the most lackadaisical things to heart! This year, stop internalizing what people say because you've become too bogged down by your sensitivities. Just shake it off and rock on.



Libra: The Scales
September 23 - October 22

New Years is over, so take off the mask, babe, and stop hiding your emotions! This year, resolve to bare your emotions more. Go rent *Steel Magnolias* and cry, you'll feel a lot better, plus it reduces your risk of spontaneous combustion.

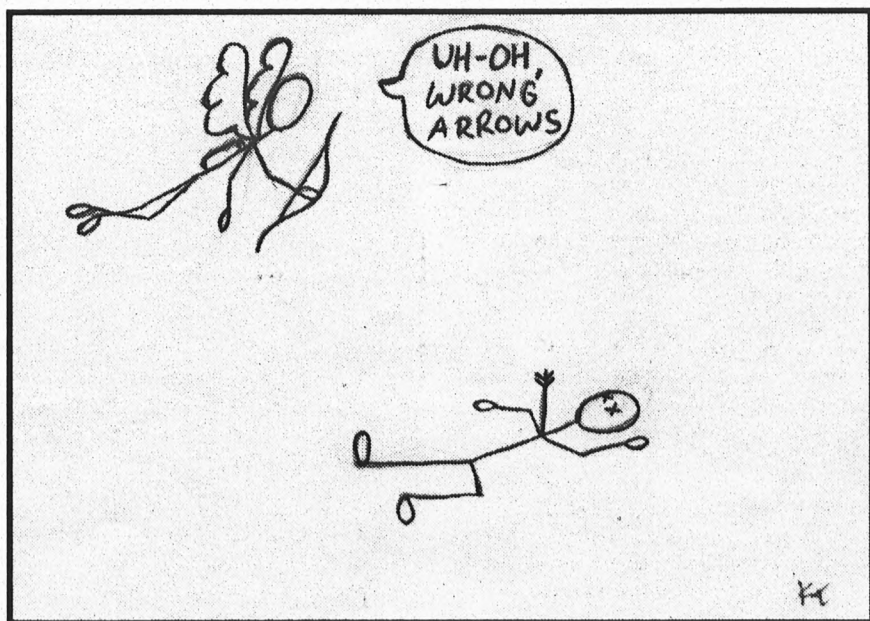


Capricorn: The Goat
December 22 - January 19

Because you're always so focused on achievement you may neglect your emotional life, Cap. Vow to use your vacation days this year and spend more time with the family. They miss you. Hurry, before they post your face on a milk carton!



Parallel Universe



Stoopid Cupid

Parallel Universe
Is The
Zany
Invention
Of Our
Illustrations
Director,
Katy
Troiano



Vampire Valentines

BANNER

WINTER BALL: RUNNING WITH SCISSORS

John Coyle

The game's necessary cruelty bares its ugly head this time of year. The CSI Dolphin Baseball Team needs to cut their roster down to 25 diamond-dandies. But as the list begins to creep downward towards that quarter-century mark, the choosing of who stays to play another day becomes that much more difficult.

"This year we've got some serious talent," says senior Tommy Consolmagno. "It's a shame we can only take such a small number of guys. Some will get hurt."

Such a tiny few left to play the game they love, so many given the pink slip.

Of course it's terrible to see someone who gives it all he's capable of every single day, who leaves his heart out on the field, and it's still not enough. But this is college baseball we're talking about. You need to be at the next level in order to hang in with the big boys. So I compiled a top-five list of things that are "must-do's" at this level of baseball.

NUMBER 5: Discipline. If you're the kind of guy who can't take shit from anybody, playing anything organized, especially baseball, is simply not for you.

NUMBER 4: Physical Condition. Don't think that if you're 40 pounds overweight, get winded after running to position, that you have any kind of a shot making the squad. The best thing about conditioning is that it can be improved on.

NUMBER 3: The Big Four. Hitting, Fielding, Throwing, and Running. If you have three of the four you're in good shape. But if more than that eludes your capabilities, better hang up those cleats. It's painful, but it's reality. God didn't put you on this earth to wear pinstripes.

NUMBER 2: Confidence. If you feel like you have no business being out there, you're going to perform that way. Being confident in your abilities is vital to success. Plus, it let's you have more fun when you're playing. Small self-esteem creates huge stress problems, and makes the game nothing but bad.

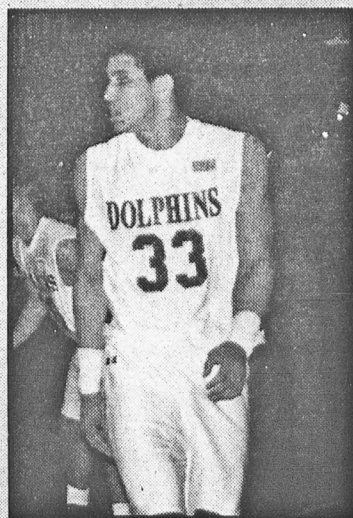
NUMBER 1: Baseball Smarts. All the greats say that baseball is 10% physical, 90% mental. They are 110% correct. You've got to know what to do after every single pitch is thrown. Your brain has got to be working overtime because if something is forgotten, chances are the baseball will somehow find you wherever you are. So be prepared.

Guys are bound to get cut, it's inevitable. But if you take into consideration these five important guidelines, maybe you'll be invincible from the CSI scissors. Or wherever you use your leather and wood.



Hey, batter batter batter. Sw-iiiing batter. He can't hit, he can't hit! Photo: Jeff Gutkin

SEE ALL-STAR DAVID PAUL IN ACTION



BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Thursday	January 31	NYC Technical College *	Home	7:30 PM
Monday	February 4	Brooklyn College *	Away	7:30 PM
Wednesday	February 6	Medgar Evers College *	Home	7:30 PM
Friday	February 8	York College *	Away	8:00 PM
Wednesday	February 13	SUNY - Purchase	Home	7:30 PM
Saturday	February 16	CUNY Tournament	Away	TBA
Tuesday	February 19	CUNY Tournament	Away	TBA
Friday	February 22	CUNY Tournament	Away	7:45 PM

HOME GAMES IN BOLD

* CUNY AC GAMES

CUNY Tournament games all held at Hunter College

SPORTS

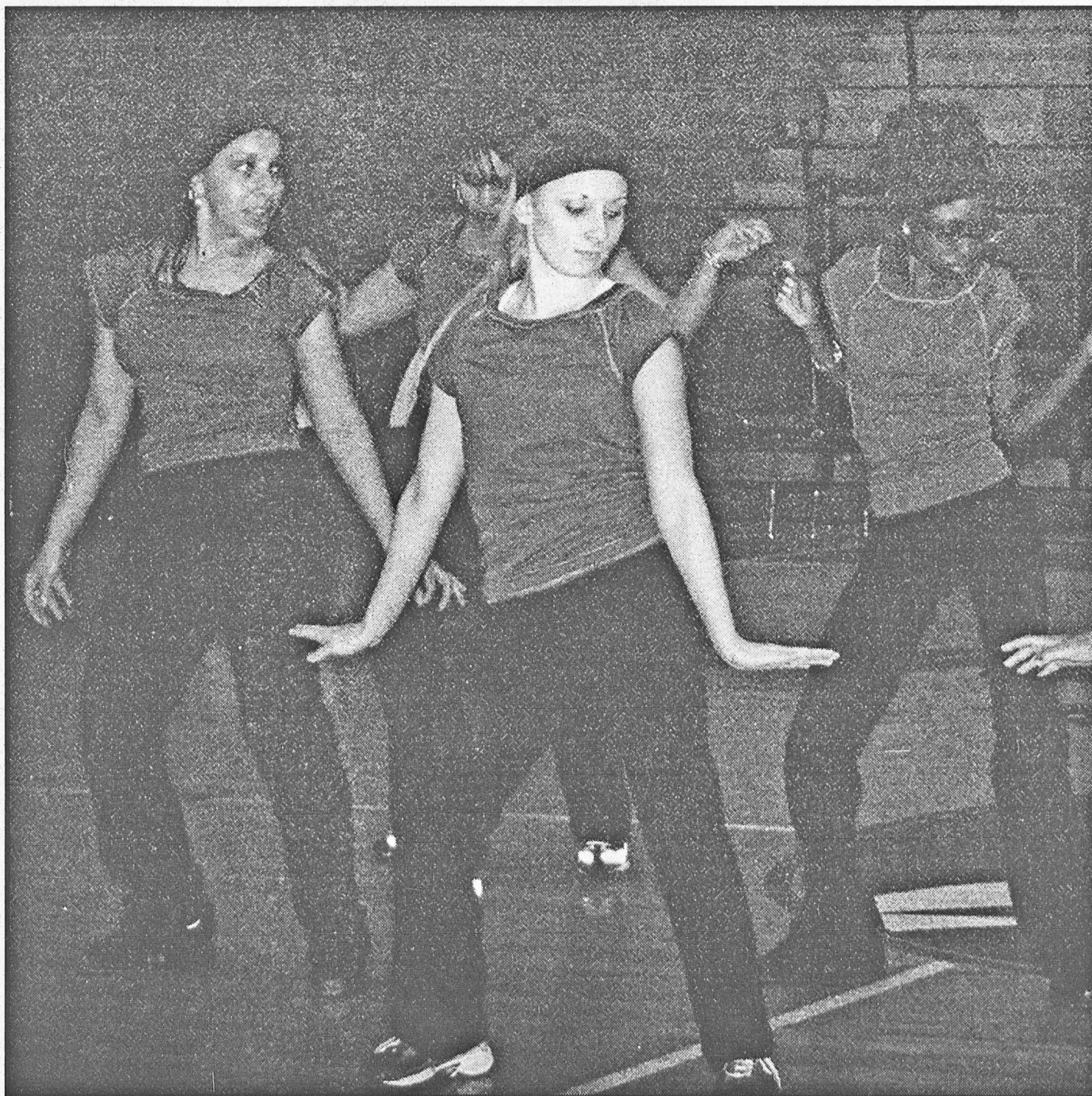
EVERY GOOD ACT'S GOT ITS OPENING

Natasha Moore

*By and by,
the most enthused people at
Dolphin basketball games
are the vendors.
But this season there's
a new girl in town.
As a matter of fact,
there are 14 of them.*



Photos: Jeff Gutkin



In an effort to jazz things up at basketball games, the Athletic Department has allowed a number of eager students to implement a new program. As no small side-show, the *CSI Dance Team* has joined the Dolphin brigade.

What now comes off as a polished and quite fetching routine, however, did not come to be without a few false starts.

"[Before anyone in the Athletic Department knew] we already had flyers all around campus telling everyone about auditions," said co-founder Abigail Linnaberry. "We were calling it *CSI Basketball Dance Team* and had no idea we needed permission to use the college's name."

When Linnaberry and the team's other co-founder, Brooke Sileo, approached Athletic Director, Dr. Harold M. Merritt, he already had a Dance Team audition flyer.

"He was humble about it," said Sileo. "He wasn't upset at all." Dr. Merritt thought having a dance team was a great idea and might present an opportunity to generate revenue for the program in a budget-wary season.

When asked about the teams' dubious grassroots beginning, Dr. Merritt said, "Personally, I was excited. Any time students walk in to the recreation center, I'm pleased. In their case, I was doubly pleased. They have far exceeded anything I thought they'd be able to do in the small time frame they had."

Before they hit the courts, the team debuted at a student run talent show. The routines they worked so hard on got a dress rehearsal at the event.

"You could repeat a dance routine more than a thousand times during a practice, but it's nothing compared to when you're finally on stage doing it," said one dancer, Christina.

You can see them doing it at the basketball games.

Peace Conference Held on Island's South Shore

Debra Ercole

President and top aides meet at Conference House to discuss the war with Mother England

"The old Conference house you are asking about?" asked the man that lives across the street from it. "That old house just takes up a lot of space, and it belongs to the English. We should have burned it."

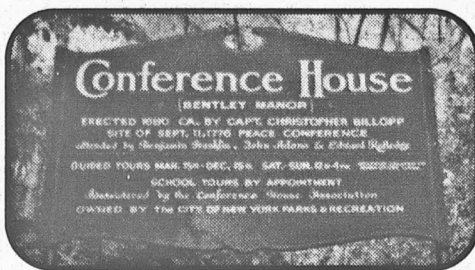
The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the office of Staten Island Borough President writes that the Conference House is the only surviving monument of the manner of life of our Americans 17th century.

Where the Fate of the U.S. Has Changed, written by C.J. Henderson, explains that some 330 years ago a powerful landowner, Christopher Billopp built a great stone house on the southern tip of Staten Island, on 932 acres of land. The property was given to him by the Governor.

A century later, Billopp's great grandson offered the old Billopp house as the meeting place for a peace conference. Lord Howe suggested that this conference take place so the American and British governments could discuss the American Revolution. The peace conference was held on September 11th, 1776.

Sara Beth Hobel author of the *Guide of Historic Houses in New York City Parks*, wrote that the Admiral Howe, England's representative, met with the Continental Congress including members Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Edward Rutledge. The Billopp house, or as it's known nowadays, the Conference House, became central as war advanced on Staten Island. "The Colonel set command here. Billopp's militia and British soldiers lived here. American soldiers attack the house repeatedly."

Henderson wrote that after the Americans won the war, Christopher Billopp was forced to give up his house and land. For the next 150 years the house passed from one owner to the next, all the while remaining obscure. One owner converted the residence to a inn. Others made structural alterations. At the present time, the house and its

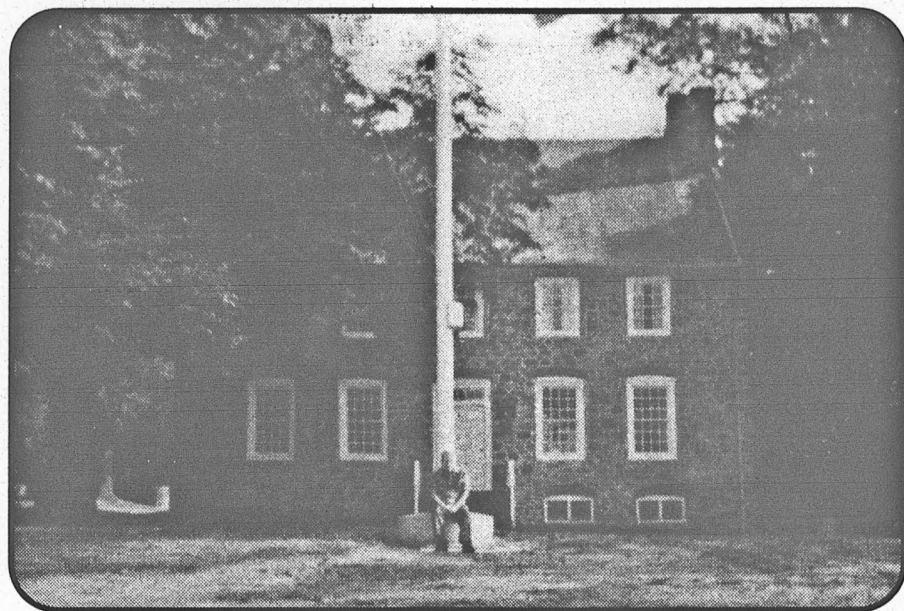


furnishings are bold in appearance, and are of the colonial style.

The house itself is rectangular. It boasts an impressive main hall, as well as an attic of immense dimension.

The masonry comes from local stock,

unusual small stones, mortar and seashells. The first floor is the parlor where Franklin and others met for the peace conference. The master bedroom and colonel's office are one flight up. The basement is furnished with a huge colonial kitchen with a fireplace. The basement also contains a dungeon that was used for imprisoning rebel soldiers. It is rumored that an escape tunnel was fashioned, leading from the basement to Raritan Bay.



"The old Conference house...it belongs to the English, we should have burned it."—said man in picture

From Undergrad To Assistant Director of Admissions

Steven J. Hager

Anyone riding a city bus or subway car in the last few years will no doubt have noticed ads from the City University of New York encouraging New Yorkers to hop aboard the CUNY Express. Anyone drawn in by this curious metaphor lining up against your train's ceilings will remember that the CUNY Express makes all stops on the path toward success. One of those stops is apparently the College of Staten Island.

You may have never met him but if you entered the college within the last two years, Emmanuel Esperance Jr., the Assistant Director of Recruitment and Admissions, may have helped you on your own path to academic success.

"We like to say that we are the gate keepers. We try to market the school, recruit students to apply to the college and hopefully enroll them," Esperance said. "We create college students at CSI. That's what we do."

Esperance, a 28 year-old Brooklyn native, graduated from Midwood High School then decided to "cross the street" to attend Brooklyn College. He had initially planned to transfer to SUNY Stonybrook after a

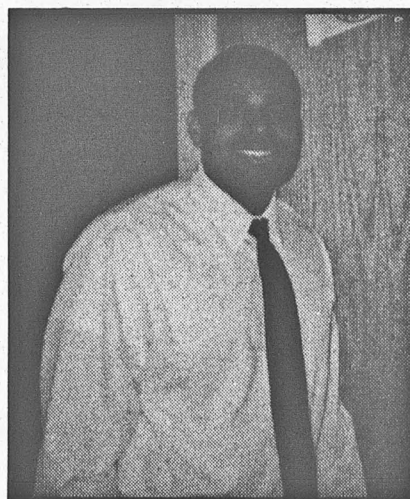
year but wound up getting his Bachelor's degree and finding his true calling, a career in higher education.

After receiving his Masters degree from Baruch in 1999, Esperance came to CSI in April 2000 to oversee the admissions process for undergraduates. After some restructuring within the department, he now coordinates all aspects of graduate admissions and recruitment.

"When you're an undergrad, it's not just about the academics, it's about finding out who you are," said Esperance. "There has to be a balance between academics and what happens outside the classroom because that's what really matters on the undergraduate level. I'm probably here now because of the work I've done outside of class. By the time you've reached the graduate level you've matured, you're more focused and have picked your discipline."

While billboards for the college's recruitment open house line the scenic vistas of Bay Street and Richmond Terrace, Esperance knows that his office is not just catering to the typical Staten Island crowd.

"Our recruitment territory goes beyond Staten Island. It extends to Brooklyn, New Jersey and beyond. We are the only public institution on



Emmanuel Esperance Jr., Assistant Director of Recruitment and Admissions, and homegrown CUNY product.

Staten Island. We offer a beautiful campus. It looks like you've gone away to school and it's a great opportunity for someone who wanted to go away but could not."

As an undergrad he found a work study position within the Sociology Department at Brooklyn College. He decided to stay and, as many students

do, changed his major several times. He began with Chemistry and ended up in Math Education. "By that time I knew I wanted to work in higher education, there was no higher education major at the undergraduate level, so I picked something in education."

The son of Haitian immigrants, Esperance credits his success not only to his strong upbringing but also to the strong mentoring he received from Joe Benedict, Director of the Student Union Building Organization at Brooklyn College (SUBO). "He played a very big part in getting my start in higher ed. From student activities I went into admissions."

Esperance loves helping students and has found a home within the CSI community. His office (2A-404) has touches of his own eclectic personality: From the black and white photographs of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (given to him by the photographer) that stare forebodingly at his desk to the cultural artifacts from friends and students from other countries that line his shelves; from the large-frame photo of *Star Trek the Next Generation* (his favorite series) to the jazz compact discs on his desk. It all clues into a man who helps mold young people, a sculptor of students.

Too Ugly? Need a Date? Ask Andre...

Andre Springer

"You don't want people to fall in love with the person you aren't."

Dear Andre,
I have been trying to change the way I act and look for a very long time. It doesn't seem to be working that well. I want to change my appearance drastically because I feel that I will get more attention and dates that way. Can you give me some tips on how to change my appearance?

Desperately Seeking

Dear Desperately,
I am really sorry to hear that you are trying to change the way you are simply because you think you are not noticed. It is OK to change bit by bit, but why would you want to get rid of your entire personality? You are not going to be able to change what you are; it is built inside of you. Even if you do manage to change what you are, how long do you possibly think you could hold up the charade?

Think of it this way; You are going out to a club with your buddies. Your attitude is completely different, your style is different, and everything about you is different. So you meet this girl and you start to date her. Later in the relationship you find yourself at home, with her, watching a movie. Now that you are so wrapped up in love or in "crush" with this girl you don't notice that you are starting to act like your old self again. You start scratching in places where no one even wants to know; you start picking your crusty nose and passing nauseating gasses. You should be very happy if she decides to stay with you.

The point I am trying to get across is simply: Be yourself. Only thing that you might want to change is the minor

things like hair, manners, and presentation. Don't try to be something you are really not. You don't want people to fall in love with the person you are not. But if you are really bent on changing your look and personality, call *The Ricki Lake Show!*

Dear Andre,
It has been three weeks since I received a call from this guy I met at a club. Do you think that he is still interested? Or do you think that something has gone wrong?

Loquisha Jackson

Dear L.J.,
Girl, if he has not called you in a couple of weeks I think that he is trying to tell you something.

Maybe he is not interested in you or what you have to offer. On the other hand, he just might be busy. Why don't you give him a call and see what is going on in his life? If he does not call you in four days, then you should realize that he is not interested. If he didn't give you his number, I think you should know he was not interested to begin with. Sorry!

Dear Andre,
We are two beautiful women, smart, and outgoing. Why is it that we cannot find a date?

Chocolate and French Vanilla

Dear Smart and Outgoing,
Have you ever noticed that whenever you are looking for something it seems as though you can't find it? Well, this concept applies to you and your problem. Either you are looking too hard or you are just being too picky.

Pride is one of humankind's most troublesome emotions. Mingle a bit, get back into the habit of things. If you are as beautiful as you say, then I don't think it should be a problem. Take your time, but if you are really desperate, then you should ask some of your friends to hook you up with one of their friends.

It's always best to ask your closest friends to hook you up with someone. They know your taste, likes and dislikes.

Andre's bottom line: Stop being so picky! You could be missing out on some good times. So what if he has a pot belly! So what if he is thirty and still living with his mom and three kids! Go out

and party, it's not like you are getting married to him!

Dear Andre,
I have a HUGE shopping problem. Last week I bought an eight-hundred dollar jacket and the week before that I went shopping and spent well over six-hundred dollars. Now, if I were a super-rich chic I would not have to worry about spending so much money. But I'm not super-rich. So, I am always making myself broke! What should I do? I need some serious advice. And boo, I love your advice column, your s**t is tight.

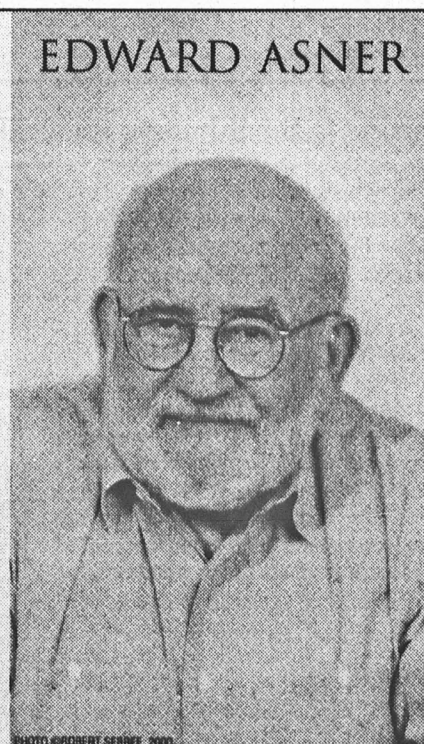
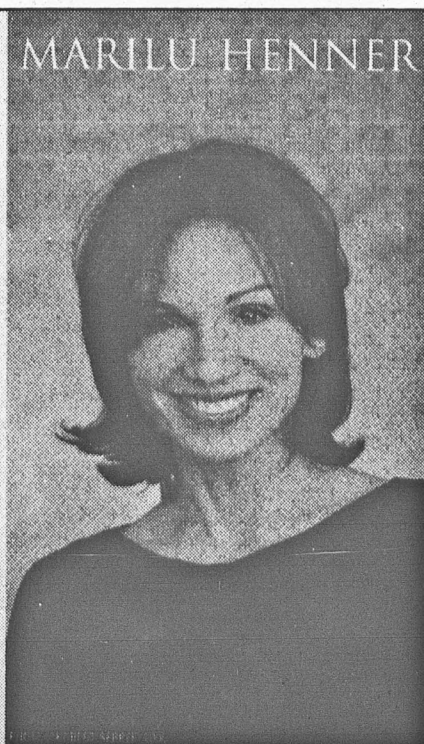
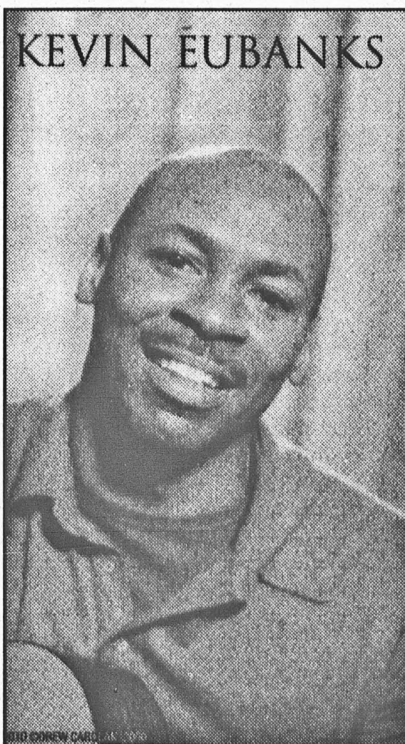
Baby Ghana

Dear Baby Ghana,
Thanks for the compliment, smurfette. Girl, can you be my sugar mommy! (Just kidding) This shopping problem of yours has to be well treated. I don't think anyone can really give you advice on how to stop shopping as much as you do. What I mean is that I'm sure a heap of people probably advised you on this topic but you still have not listened to what they had to say.

It Usually takes a devastating event for someone like yourself to realize that it is time to change. The best thing I can tell you is to make sure you have money to get by on. If you enjoy shopping, then do your thing. But if you see it as a problem I honestly think you should see someone with credentials. Not to sound like I am putting you down, but this is actually a psychiatric condition.



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Party Like a Rock Star @ \$10.00 a Night

Being a student ain't easy on the pocket these days. Here's how to live the caviar life on a tunafish budget.

Jessica Mendez

A dilemma faces college students. We go to school, work long, sometimes ungodly hours, and deal with the every day trials and tribulations of being over-worked and underpaid: stress, stress, and, oh yeah, stress. Then our paychecks come, and there is that marvelous second right before you open it

ing on a budget. I can hang out with my friends and still have enough cash left over to pay my bills, commute and eat. It's simply a matter of knowing all the little tricks to finding maximum enjoyment at a minimal price. I know, you're too busy to roam the internet, guide books, newspapers and magazines to

Get on Mailing Lists

This is a good idea for anyone, because not only do you get discounted admissions to wallet-crunching hot spots like Webster Hall, but you also get up-to-the-minute happenings about every club imaginable. The best way to join these is to go online and become a regis-



Tired of waiting in line? Sorry, this article is about budget issues. Illustration: Jessica Mendez.

where you forget that your hard earned cash has been heavily taxed by Uncle Sam and you are just glad that, for the next day or two, you won't have to survive on a diet of cereal and Cup-a-Soup for lunch. You're ready to party, to take that cash and have some fun with it.

Then comes the mental budgeting of the paycheck: Metrocard: \$30. Books: \$150 (and that's if you're lucky.) Lunch for work: \$25. Credit card: \$75... and so on. Before you know it, you're mentally readjusting your budget: Books: \$75 (I can survive on the notes and in-class discussions alone). Lunch: \$10 (Cup-a-Soup is just fine). Credit card: \$20 (Well, that's why minimum payments were invented!) After all this, there is barely enough money to survive, never mind actually go out. Or is there? After all the studying and working we do, we need some sort of release, and making it a Blockbuster night every night is just not going to cut it. Well, my friends, that's why you have me. I am the queen of liv-

find out where to go. Fortunately, my job as a librarian and two hour commute to school leave me with some time to research. Consider this your primer.

The Weekdays: Not Just for Must See TV anymore!

Some of the most happening parties in and around New York City take place during the weekdays. To draw crowds, many places offer reduced admissions or forgo the dreaded cover charge altogether. This is a great way to check out normally expensive and exclusive clubs (burly bouncers aren't quite so picky on the weekdays, even if they pretend they are). A very popular night for club-heads on a budget is Thursday. Thursday nights are usually pumped with energy thanks to the growing number of college students who blatantly refuse to attend Friday morning class. However, if you're strictly a weekend socialite, you may want to...

tered member at club-oriented websites, which send you e-mail updates and allow you to register on numerous guest lists. You'll feel like a star and be the envy of all your friends, I swear! Or maybe they'll just join themselves. Anyway, some good sites to sign up on are: www.clubplanet.com, www.sheekys.com (killer for honest club, bar and lounge reviews), and www.websterhall.com. You may also want to...

Read a Paper Every Now and Then

No, I'm not talking about the New York Times or the Daily News. I'm talking about the paragons of sarcasm, wit, and entertainment hot spot listings...no, I wasn't talking about the Banner either, but you flatter me, really, you do. Pick up The Village Voice and the New York Press. Both papers are 125% free and have listings for just about every single event the city has to offer, including lots of free events that aren't widely known

Seven Days of Partying For \$10 or Less

Clubs are as fickle as the ex that keeps begging for a second chance, so call ahead, 'kay?

SUNDAY

Mardi Gras (Cheetah, 12 W. 21st St., NY, NY 212-206-7770): \$10 OK, so it's not exactly free, but how can you say no to this hip-hop/house/fashion show/live performance/art exhibit extravaganza? All that and beads, too! A lot cheaper than a trip to New Orleans!

MONDAY

Flow Foundation NYC (Leopard Lounge/Sin Sin, 248 E. 5th St., NY, NY 212.253.2222): FREE This is for the drum 'n bass-loving slam poet in all of us, and the mic is open for you to bare your tortured creative soul.

TUESDAY

UK Friendly (Shampu, 9 Avenue A NY, NY 646-602-2590): FREE Wish you were raving in some smoky underground garage/club in London? So do I, but for now, we'll all have to settle for ultra-hip Shampu's night of UK garage, jungle, and house.

WEDNESDAY

Dr. Hump (Barmacy, 538 E. 14th St., NY, NY 212-228-2240): \$3 Do you like sex?...think about sex?...wish you were having sex right now? Well then, let Dr. Lucky school you while you talk about sex, play bingo for sex-related prizes, and listen to songs about sex. I know, it's not free, but isn't the perverted bingo alone worth it?

THURSDAY

Differen Thursdays (Dock St. Bar and Grill, 691 Bay St., Staten Island, NY 718-720-0900): FREE All you Island club kids can groove to deep house, tribal, and trance music till the wee hours of the morn without so much as a subway token.

FRIDAY

Fashion Fridays (Eugene's, 27 W. 24th St., NY, NY 212-462-0999) FREE This, my friends, is hipster gold! It's free, it's fashionable, and it's the type of place that will have people dropping their jaws asking, "Omigod, how did you get in?" Just smile mysteriously, shrug, and send me a telepathic "thank you."

SATURDAY

Buttafunk (Korova Milk Bar, 200 Ave. A NY, NY 212-254-8838): FREE Under a name (and aesthetic) right out of "A Clockwork Orange," it's got to be good. The hip-hop and drum 'n bass permeate your bones, and it offers milk shakes of a most interesting sort.

continued on page 11

Land of the Free? Home of the Blame?

Melissa Panarella

*Public points fingers
at what may have
incited the
WTC tragedy*



Panelists assemble in the Recital Hall to respond to the September 11th attacks against the United States.

Ever since the horrific events of September 11th, most people would assume that the citizens of the United States would be unified in their conviction that it would be necessary to avenge these "acts of war."

However, this has not been the case. On Wednesday November 28th, the *Third Rail* and the *S.I. Greens* organized an assembly to address the World Trade Center tragedy and America's response. Eight panelists were each given fifteen minutes to express their reactions to the terrorist attacks and the retaliations that have taken place in Afghanistan.

there are no other alternatives but to engage in war, and that the principle of proportionality have been considered. One must conduct one's own war and take responsibility for this war. According to Burkum, "We are not currently involved in a war."

Other panelists disagreed with this statement, particularly Marty Goodman, a transit worker and member

Israelis any support as they continue their fight with Palestine.

The dissatisfaction with American foreign policy was a recurrent issue throughout the meeting. Professor Harry Cason, who specializes in Political Science at CSI, talked about a small group of people he believes runs this country. They are called the "me" group and have no collective national

America became involved in war against people who would not bow down to their policies. They also agreed that the innocent lives lost at the World Trade Center were sacrificed on the altar of corporate America and United States citizens have been draped in a new American flag—the dollar bill.

A more patriotic perspective came from two other panelists.

"There is no justification for terrorism," said Professor George Sterns. He admitted that his perception of society prior to the attacks had moved away from moral ethics and drifted towards shallowness and egocentricity. However, Sterns feels the "beauty of democracy allows us to come together." The effect of this calamity has helped strengthen the nation and as a result, form communities, thus drifting away from a "me" standpoint.

Michael Christiano, a professor at Wagner College approved of Sterns' ideas, saying, "The United States past sins do not justify these crimes."

The audience was given a chance to react to the panelists' opinions. Some left-of-center reactions came from a

"...the innocent lives lost at the World Trade Center were sacrificed on the altar of corporate America and United States citizens have been draped in a new American flag—the dollar bill."

The first speaker, Keith Burkum, a philosophy professor at CSI, opened the meeting by elaborating on the meaning of a "just war." He outlined different criteria that ancient philosophers developed in explaining how a war might be considered righteous and appropriate. Focusing mainly on the ideas of St. Augustine and Thomas Aquinas, Burkum's agenda stated that a just war exists when war is initiated by legitimate authorities, there is a just cause, there is a need for correct intention,

of the New York City Laborers Against The War. He argued that it is time to look past the tragedy and look for solutions without bloodshed. Goodman believes that "we should not punish a country because of the actions of a few" and views this war as one that is not in the interest of the working people, but for those with a corporate agenda. He also strongly denounced United States foreign policy, particularly our policies regarding Israel, claiming that the United States should not offer the

interest. He believes that the "me" group consists of the upper class and they are responsible for the establishment of the United Nations, who do not appeal to a majority of working class, but a majority of affluent businessmen.

Two other speakers, Dave Edwards a free-lance reporter and Brenda Stokely a social worker, agreed with Cason's theory of U.S. foreign policy. All three rehashed previous incidents in United States history in which an imperialist

more middle-aged group who tended to agree with most of the panelists in their disapproval of foreign policy and the influence and corruption of big businesses. Younger college students' responses were more loyal and some said they would continue to "wrap themselves in the flag of patriotism."

Regardless of who or what people may blame for the carnage of September 11th, all who participated in this discussion held common ground in their condemnation of this unfathomable ordeal.

PARTY LIKE A ROCK STAR @ DISCOUNT PRICES

continued from page 10

about. If you prefer glossy pages, you can opt to spend \$3 on a copy of Time Out New York every once in a while, though the only time I ever pick TONY up is when they have a special issue. Hey, convince your friends to get a subscription, or wait until your neighbors get one and discreetly borrow it and slip it back in the hallway before anyone notices...is that why my Cosmopolitan magazines always show up late? Anyway, if you're not in the mood to travel, you can always ...

Abuse Your Friendly Neighborhood Lounge

Every neighborhood has them: that hip hidden spot with good music and an even better vibe that all the insiders know about. Then it becomes a sensa-

tion and you're fighting to get in the door! For me, that place is Halcyon (www.halcyononline.com), a downtown Brooklyn lounge that is packed with pretentious new comers but still curbs my craving for a milkshake and giant oatmeal cookie at 1 AM. For all you immersed in all things Bay St., there's Dock St. Bar and Grill. These places are either free or dirt cheap depending on the night and have some of the best entertainment around without having to cross the bridge or ferry-hop. So, make them your spots now before those Manhattanite wannabe yuppie bastards take over! And no matter where you spend your evening, remember:

**Looking Like A Million
Doesn't Take A Million**

Yes, you can get past the velvet rope militia without spending your life savings. Knowing how to shop is key for this one, because there is often a fine line between "bargain" and "bargain basement" that you never want to cross. For guys, this is usually easy, since khakis or dress slacks and some hair gel pretty much get you in anywhere. Girls, on the other hand, have a lot to consider. Remember this ladies: they'll never know it's not Donna Karan/Versace/Diesel/etc. Stores such as Bang Bang, Forever 21, Wet Seal and NY&Co. all boast impressive styles at a reasonable price. Still wary? I'll put it to you this way: if some running-man, cabbage-patching-MC Hammer pants wearing-fool spills his cheap drink all over your new dress, would you be

more pissed if it cost you \$35 or \$335? Thought so. And speaking of drinks...

Learn to Like an Early-Evening Buzz

I have two words for you: Happy Hour. Most places have crazy drink specials for the after-work crowd, and they sometimes have complimentary or low-priced pub fare as well. Buffalo wings+potato skins+\$3 margarita=happiness.

OK, I've imparted some of my wisdom, but a girl's only allowed so many words per article. Just remember that no matter where you think you might end up, call ahead for dress codes, age restrictions, price, and theme night info. I can't guarantee you'll have enough money left over for necessities like soap, razors, and late night Dominoes pizza cravings, but I tried my best. Now that you have the basics, use them for good. And dammit, don't embarrass me! I have a party-girl rep to protect.

Jan / Feb



SAT&SUN

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

28

Last day before first day of classes.

29

First day of classes
Late registration

30

Tickets on sale for the PDC
Trip: Beauty and the Beast
on Feb. 13th

31

Late registration.
Batman@1C 211
First show 12:20

1

Don't say a word to that person in your new class that you have a crush on.

2

Homework?
Did someone say homework?

3/4

Super Bowl Sunday.
Get ready for the new commercials!

4

Last day to withdraw from a class with a 75% tuition refund

5

Last day to add a course

6

PDCFilms
12-7pm 1C-211
Bring popcorn

7

Ask out the person in your new class that you have a crush on

8

Go to Manhattan.
Spend too much money.
Support the economy.

9/10

Watch The Simpsons on Fox @ 8 pm

11

Last day to withdraw with a 50% refund

12

College Closed
Lincoln's Birthday

13

In Times of Crisis
1C -Bijou

14

Happy Valentines Day!
Valentine's Day Band
performing @ 1C-Rotunda
from 1:30-3:20

15

Get ready for a 3 day weekend. Sweet!

TOP 10 WAYS TO KICK THINGS OFF AT CSI IN 2002:

10. Actually go to class.
9. Instead of waiting for a parking spot, paint your own.
8. Demand your foreign language be Phonics.
7. A fifth of vodka + cranberry juice + ice = great English papers.
6. Smile more. Say hello to people as you walk by. And most important, lock the door when you masturbate.
5. Your car is not your junk drawer. Purchase a vacuum or hire a maid.
4. Actually do your homework.
3. Write a Letter to the Editor denouncing *The Banner*.
2. Wake up every morning and remind yourself: Your life is yours to create:
1. Ignore numbers 10-2, stay home, watch *Smurfs*.

QUOTABLE CROONERS

- "Honeybees are buzzing, the leaves begin to stir. I'm in love with my second cousin. I tell myself I can be happy forever with her."
—Bob Dylan
- "I get oodles and oodles of O's, you know. I get oodles and oodles of O's. But all I am is man, and once an embryo."
—De La Soul
- "I'm just learning how to smile."
—Everclear
- "Y'all gonna make me lose my mind, up in here, up in here. Y'all gonna make me act a fool, up in here, up in here!"
—DMX
- "It just takes some time, little girl. You're in the middle of the ride. Everything everything will be just fine. Everything, everything will be all right, all right."
—Jimmy Eat World