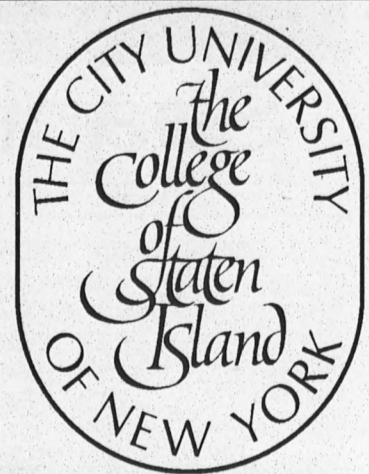


THE

BANNER

CSI'S OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER



VOLUME III, ISSUE XVII

APRIL 12, 1996

**BANNER
EXCLUSIVE**
ALIENS AT CSI ...page 7

Fiesta



Photo: John La Martin

Xiomara Cabrera warming up the Dance-A-Thon

**Car Thefts
Sweep
Campus**

...page 3

**CSI Rallies
Against
Budget Cuts**

...page 3

Spanish Club Holds Dance-A-Thon

By Yvonne Villa

Spanish pride was celebrated at the Campus Center when the Spanish Club hosted their Dance-A-Thon Thursday, March 28 at 2:00 PM. Approximately 150 students gathered together for the event which raised nearly \$400 for the club.

The Dance-A-Thon was a contest in which 12 couples danced non stop for two hours. Professor Francisco Soto, Professor Zelda Brooks, Professor Carlos Abad, Student Sibi Geevarghese, and *The Banner's* own Michael Garofalo judged the dancers based on style and dancing techniques. The rules, as announced by Professor Soto was they could not stop dancing for any reason, even if the music stops (which at times it did). When a judge tapped them on the shoulder they were disqualified.

Cheers came from the crowd when the Dance-A-Thon began. Students watched the contestants as they danced to music such as Salsa, Merengue, Raggae and Hip Hop.

"We have been preparing this event since the beginning of the semester," explained club member Xavier Nieto. "It was difficult at times. Getting money from Student Government was hard because we had to fill out a lot of paperwork." He continued, "It was also decided to cut the original Dance-A-Thon time from four

hours to two because the judges didn't have enough time and we did not want the contest to become boring."

"Where do they [the contestants] get this energy?" exclaimed Student Government Senator Natalie Williams. "The Dance-a-Thon is very nice", said Student Leonila Medina. "I am enjoying it very much and all of the dancers are doing a great job." Theresa Ha, another student said, "I think that each dancer has their own talents, dancing styles and techniques." She added, "I think that the Spanish Club should do this more often."

The Spanish Club is doing the Dance-a-Thon to have the school know that the club is here," explained Xavier Nieto. "We want the whole school to learn about the Hispanic Culture. We wanted to bring together not only Hispanic students but all students." "I am very happy that the Spanish Club is growing," said Professor Soto who is also the Faculty Advisor for the Spanish Club. "I would hope to see North American Students participating in the Spanish Club and to even see them learn Spanish." Professor Abad

added, "I like the fact that two non Hispanic girls are participating in the Dance-a-Thon. It shows that dance is international. It eliminates barriers between the different cultures."

The crowd cheered on the three final couples in the closing half-hour of the Dance-A-Thon. The last song played was "Bamboleo" by The Gypsy Kings in which the dancers gave it their all. The event ended with a lot of cheers. The contestants hugged each other. Some Spanish Club members ran over to the contestants with glasses of water.

Luis Cruzatte, President of the Spanish Club, spoke before he announced the winners. "There are no losers here. We are all winners." He jokingly commented, "We have more people here than at the rally yesterday." He also thanked everyone for being there and for their friendship. Cruzatte added that it was a very difficult competition because everyone danced terrifically. Third place couple was Lissette Lara and Oscar Diaz. Second place couple was Lina Chica and William Nuñez. First place contestants were Martha Tejada and Cristian Hernandez.

After the announcement of the winners, the contestants continued dancing. "I am tired. It is very difficult to dance for so long, especially after midterms," said Cruzatte, who was also one of the contestants. He added, "A lot of people talk about apathy in the school. This is one of the ways to fight it."

"It is always a pleasure to host an event sponsored by the Spanish club in the Campus Center," said Michael Silva, Assistant Campus Center Director, "Their events are a lot of fun and they have great decorations."

Martha Tejada described her feelings about the day, "I am very happy with the contest because the participants are from different countries and everyone enjoyed with happiness and friendship the pride of being 'Latin American'." She added, "Even though the Dance-A-Thon contest could not give out the prizes, it did not matter because we had fun with the club." Finalist Lissette Lara said, "I am a little tired but I wish I could do it all over again." Participants walked from the Dance-A-Thon with smiles at the success of the evening. Another contestant, Martha Becerra commented, "I enjoyed dancing to all the different types of music." Contestant Nury Ormeno added, "I enjoyed dancing very much. I did it for the fun more than anything."

We have more people here than at the rally...

Nominate Yourself as a Student Representative

Nomination Period: March 18 - April 19

Positions available on Student Government, College of Staten Island Association, College Council, Auxilliary Services & Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee

Forms available in 1C-207 Beginning March 18, 1996

Student Elections will be held May 6 - May 12

Good Morning to Study Abroad

By Frank Truncali

Mary Handley, Dean of Administration at the American University of Rome, spoke at Good Morning CSI on Tuesday, March 26. Dean Handley introduced the opportunities available to CSI students who study abroad in Italy. She explained that students can receive credits toward their degree while living in "historic, cosmopolitan Rome."

The American University of Rome is a tuition-funded institution based at a small campus on the Janiculum, Rome's highest hill. Handley stated that, "CSI students will enjoy the company of many American students from the other sponsoring institutions." Therefore, CSI students will not have this multinational experience alone. She added, "that no previous knowledge of Italian language is

necessary to study abroad at the American University of Rome."

Students can study abroad for a semester or summer session and take courses in international relations, international business, Italian studies, liberal arts, or communications. Since "there are many social trips for the students arranged by the University to places such as Venice, Pompeii and Florence," as explained by Dean Handley, the trip would not be all hard work.

The costs for studying abroad are reasonable, financial aid and scholarships are available, and anyone interested in the program should contact Ms. Cindy Sittler in the Center for International Service as soon as possible. Dean Handley ended the discussion by saying that "studying abroad is a memorable experience and more than anything you learn something about yourself."

The costs for studying abroad are reasonable

New Social Work Bachelor's At CSI

By Christopher Alvarez

This month the department of Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology unveiled the new Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work, to begin at the College this fall. Currently only a concentration of social work is offered. The new Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work, (BASW) curriculum will allow students to prepare themselves for general practice, or advance Graduate degree in this increasingly popular profession.

For a degree such as this to be instituted, the department had to petition a number of administrators. The final approval came from Governor Pataki. The only missing piece is accreditation from the Council of Social Work Education- a crucial requirement. Most graduate Schools and jobs demand that education meet all the criteria put forth by the Council. According to Professor Bucaro, coordinator of the BASW, "Accreditation is just a matter of time. For those who enter or graduate from the program before the accreditation, they will receive it retroactively."

The curriculum will consist of a number of perspectives from within the profession. Jennifer DeWaters, treasurer of The Social Work Club explained, "The program to be added will be much more intensive, which will allow us to compete for job placements." Apart from the basic and distribution requirements, there is a specialization module in which students

choose an intensive area of study. Other courses range from Principles of Biology to the traditional Social Research and Sociological Theory. Qualified applicants are currently being interviewed for the teaching positions the Social Work courses.

One of the more impressive additions is the emphasis in Field Work from the Professional Foundation Content. The aim of Field Work is to apply theoretical knowledge to a practical setting. Under professional supervision, students in their senior year are placed in agencies to work with a myriad of populations. Professor Brandler of the Social Work Program said, "This is not only an excellent opportunity for the students, but also for Staten Island in the service they will provide."

Acceptance into this program requires completion 40 credits, SWK 200: Introduction to Social Work, as well as an overall GPA of 2.5. All of these prerequisites must be achieved before applying for the formal admission into the program. Applications for the BA in Social Work, are available in the PSA department in 4S-223. Students interested in applying for the program are asked to submit applications now for the Fall semester, there are no spring admissions.

A final note for those students already enrolled in the Social Work concentration, according to Professor Bucaro, "Despite the phase out of their program, those students will be able to complete their degree."

The only missing piece is accreditation- a crucial requirement.

RASH OF CAR THEFTS:

By Jennifer Valle

A sweep of car thefts has once again occurred on campus. "To date, there have been ten car thefts on the CSI campus," said Auto Crime Squad Sgt. Tom Jones. He continued, "They are targeting a specific kind of car."

According to security reports, 44% of the cars stolen this year were Honda Accords- one in the month of February and three in March. Investigators also claim that the Honda Accord occurrences in comparison to other car thefts on campus are being done by different people. Also targeted are Nissan Maximas and Toyotas. "They steal the airbags and radios from the cars, nothing else," said Sgt. Jones. He continued, "Two or three people work together, they like to remove the radio and airbag while they drive the car."

The first of the ten thefts occurred February 14th, when a 1984 Chevy was stolen from Lot#1 between 12:00 and 2:00 PM. Shortly afterward, the first Honda Accord was stolen February 20th between 12:00 and 5:00 PM. "The cars always disappear early evening. There is a definite trend," said Sgt. Jones. He continued, "People have orders, they are told to steal certain kinds of cars for parts- in this case, airbags and radios."

In March, three more Hondas disappeared from the campus lots

between the 7th and the 15th. Again, the thefts occurred between 4:00 PM and 10:00 PM. Although security performed a canvas search of all of the lots, results turned up negative. Sgt. Jones stated, "These thefts are being done professionally."

About eight of the ten cars stolen from campus were recovered on different parts of the Island- minus the

anywhere between \$700 to \$1,000 dollars." He continued, "Radios are always popular, those cost thousands to replace."

"This trend goes beyond the College," Jones commented. He continued, "There have been 10 car thefts from the UA theater and 46 more car thefts from the Staten Island Mall." He added, "A good majority of the thefts

there was over three thousand car thefts. By 1995, the number decreased by half." said Sgt. Jones.

Despite the decrease in thefts on the Island, the amount of stolen cars on campus is surging. Sgt. Jones commented, "Students should be aware of suspicious people in groups of two or three who don't look like they are looking for parking." He added, "Were else can you find such a wide variety of cars like the one at the college."

For the present, students are advised to purchase alarms with cut off switches as well as The Club™ to further safeguard their automobiles from theft and damage. "It may take a few extra minutes to put The Club™ on your car, but it may save your car," said Sgt. Jones.

Director of Campus security, Gene Martinez, has also made an effort by adding more patrols to the parking areas. Aside from issuing memorandums concerning the thefts, security has placed plain clothes security officers on lots. Undercover investigators have also been brought on campus.

Although he did not reveal details, Sgt. Jones stated, "We have a few leads, the thieves have shown a specific trend with their stealing style- they do certain things that we have picked up on." He added, "We will catch them."

A replacement airbag- junkyard price- goes for \$450 dollars... from the factory, it can run between \$700 to \$1,000 dollars.

radio and airbags. Two of the cars were found on Forest Hill Road. The cars were not used for joyrides, and were left clean according to reports.

The latest of the thefts at CSI- a Jeep Wrangler- occurred March 26th but is suspected to not be connected to the Honda thefts.

Although airbags seem trivial, Auto parts dealer Richard Castolano explained, "A replacement airbag- junkyard price- goes for \$450 dollars. If you get it from the factory, it can run

were Hondas- there is a trend on Staten Island."

In spite of 590 car thefts on Staten Island from January 1996, officers reported a decrease of 17.8% in car thefts on the Island. "We attribute this to better record keeping, tracking, and the auto crime squad has been concentrating on gangs that are known to steal cars."

Further statistics revealed that car thefts have been readily decreasing on Staten Island. "In 1993,

STUDENTS CRY: NO MORE CUTS

By Yvonne Villa & Jennifer Valle

Close to one hundred students attended the rally against the proposed budget cuts at the fountain Thursday, March 26th at 1:30 PM. "We want to educate people on how the cuts will affect students... CSI students don't usually know about what is going on," said student activist and *College Voice* writer Marco Sainte.

Last year, despite rally attempts, a tuition hike of \$750 dollars was passed. The proposed cuts for this year entail a \$250 dollar hike to tuition and 50% reduction to the Tuition Assistance Program [TAP]. Mr. Sainte commented, "We have to be even tougher now... one way is to make more students active." He continued, "If you send an army out to fight a battle, and it drags on- no matter how good your army is- you'll lose the battle and the war if you do not send reinforcements. You do not send the exact same army to deep fighting, you refresh them."

The rally was held in "open mike" style- if a student had any feelings to express about the cuts, they merely stepped up and voiced them. Professor Manuela Dobos spoke about the major increase in class size since last year's cuts, "This is really when you need to work with students on a one-to-one basis."

Professor Harry Casin, empa-

thetic to the needs and fears of students said, "We all have a serious obligation to defend human rights! People say you can buy education but it's a bogus statement because there are not enough jobs." He continued, "What happened to the idea of student aid? That idea has been flushed down the drain. You cannot promote your rights without an education- keep up the fight."

Despite attempts made by NYPIRG and the *College Voice*, the turnout was less than expected. Upon seeing the lack of motivation, *College Voice* Editor John Paul Patafio said, "Where are the students? It's for damn sure that it's our lives we are messing up." NYPIRG Coordinator

Neysa Pranga said, "[Students] are not really aware yet of how this [the cuts] will affect them." Professor Roberta Klibaner commented, "They'll notice it when they get their tuition bills."

One of the only Student Government Senators present, Natalie Williams addressed the crowd, "Go tell all of the representatives with BMW's, and nine offices that we [the students] count." *College voice* writer Louis Bardel said, "The movement has to go beyond the rally, students should look to become organized." He continued, "The budget cuts are working against the standard or, quality of life- students need to educate themselves."

You cannot promote your rights without an education.

MANDARINO CHIROPRACTIC

Attention:

- *Auto Accidents
- *Work Related Injuries
- *Slips and Falls
- *Neck Pains
- *Back Aches
- *Stress Management
- *Licensed Massage Therapist on Premises*

For a free consultation with examination, bring this flier to:

Dr. Frank Mandarino
1272 Richmond Rd.
Staten Island, NY 10304

Don't Suffer Needlessly Any Longer!!!
Please call for an appointment.
Tel. # (718) 667-2190

Dr. Frank Mandarino
Chiropractor

Diplomate of the American Academy of Pain Management
Certified Chiropractic Sports Physician

TABLE OF CONTENTS

News.....1-3

Features.....4

Editor's Page.....5

Commentary.....6-7

Arts.....8

Of Dice & Men.....9

Sports.....10-12

JOIN THE BANNER TODAY!

THE BANNER IS PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS OF THE COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND. ALL WORKS CONTAINED WITHIN THIS PUBLICATION ARE THE PROPERTY OF THEIR CREATORS, AND ARE PROTECTED BY COPYRIGHT LAW. NO MATERIALS WITHIN THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRINTED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, IN ANY FORM, WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE EDITORS. OUR OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 2800 VICTORY BLVD, BUILDING 1-C, ROOM 228, STATEN ISLAND, NY, 10314. OUR NEWS BUREAU CAN BE REACHED AT (718) 982-3115 OR 3117, FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION DIAL (718) 982-3115. FAX (718) 982-3140. OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE THOSE OF THE WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY SHARED BY BANNER STAFF.

Greetings from China

By Freddy Alvarez

It's been now a little over three months since I arrived here in Nanjing, and all I can say is that it has been the most challenging and fun three months of my life.

I still remember making the decision to come to China. At first I was somewhat reluctant, since I did not have any language skills and did not know what to expect. All I know was that is was going to be something new and exciting to experience. Well, I am glad I made that decision. Until now, it has been a great experience that I would be able to obtain.

For me, this was the best time to have been able to come to China. I am a senior at the College of Staten Island, knowing that I was going to graduate soon, I knew that I would not have another opportunity to study in China and do some traveling.

As I mentioned before, I am glad I made it here, this was all possible thanks to the study abroad program in China offered by the school.

This is especially a great time to see China, since China is going through so many changes and economic reforms to help modernize China and catch up with the West. It is very exciting to see.

Life here in China for me, and I can also say so for my friends in the CUNY Program, was surprisingly easy to get accustomed to.

One of the reasons for this is the hospitality of most Chinese; not just in Nanjing, but other parts of China as well. In my first week in China, I was fortunate to have been invited for dinner at my Chinese friend's house, there I was given a warm welcome and made to feel at ease with them, even though I could not say much.

Another factor that helped us get used to our new surroundings was the life-style that we are privileged to have here. Our standard of living is close to that of the States. I say privileged, because Chinese students do not receive the same services that we have at our dormitory. Sure there are little things that I miss from back home, but when I think about all the great experiences that this country has offered me, this feeling becomes obsolete.

The program itself helps the students, to get accustomed to the life here. Through the help of the people in charge you can get a lot of things accomplished. The teachers are always here to help with something, like buying train tickets (which is hard), and even finding a job for you teaching English, if you so desire. The teachers are great, they are a lot of fun, somehow I was under the impression that they were going to be curious and strict. I was wrong.

Even though I did not know much of the language at first, I was able to do mostly what I wanted. It's amazing how much vocabulary you can pick up in a few days, I remember my first weekend, some of my friends and I went to purchase used bicycles and with the little language that I know, I was able to bargain and pay the price I wanted to pay. Bargaining was so much fun, that sometimes I purposely go out and buy something in the street so I could bargain and practice my language skills.

With the vocabulary that you learn in the street and the basic structure of the language that is taught in class, you are able to accomplish a lot of things. Just being able to use what you learn out on the street, is so rewarding that it makes you feel good that you spent the time to learn the lessons in the book. It is really an ego booster. And it always keeps you eager to learn words and phrases that you can use next time.

Of course "getting" the language is not as easy as it sounds. I tend to make a lot of mistakes,

but those mistakes don't go on for too long. There is always somebody to correct you. The Chinese are very patient, and most are more than happy to help with the pronunciation and sentence structure. This is experienced especially when you travel by train. It is almost inevitable that you will strike-up a conversation with someone.

Traveling in China is so much fun, a little bit tedious, but very adventurous. It's easy for something unexpected to come up, which makes the trip a lot more interesting. So far, I along with some friends, have done a decent amount of traveling and cannot wait for the program to end so we could venture further inland, where maybe there is little or no Western influence.

As far as the culture, it has been very interesting to observe. although life here demands less of the things we seem to need to live comfortably back home, I learned to like the Chinese life-style better. Life on campus is totally different from our campus.

The Nanjing campus is very pretty, half of the buildings are old Chinese buildings, which adds a mood of an ancient place full of knowledge and wisdom.

The campus is also a great place to meet Chinese friends, who are very eager to meet foreign friends.

During the first weeks you get to meet Chinese students who want to language partners. This is a perfect way to learn the language and culture. Some you

see once in a while, others become good friends, the ones you know you will want to keep in touch after you leave.

At the moment I have two very good friends that I enjoy going out with. Through them I learned a lot about Chinese life and culture and their values. The people in my program are all fun to hang out with.

Through the program I got to know all of them very well. Over the past couple of months we have become good friends; they kind of become your family here, everyone looking out for each other. You also get to meet other Americans from other programs and other foreign students that live in the same dormitory. So there is a lot of exchanging different thoughts and ideas, which makes this place a little more interesting than your ordinary dormitory.

Well, that is all from China for now. To sum up my experience here, all I can say is that this place has had a very positive impact on me. I never really thought that I was going to like it here as much as I do. This program has a lot to offer to students who are thinking of studying abroad. If you are looking for some place to go study abroad, somewhere out of the ordinary, where you will be challenged in almost every way, China is the place.

**Freddy Alvarez
China Program
Fall 1995**

Freddy Alvarez is a Senior at The College of Staten Island. Originally from Bolivia, Freddy studied in Spain (CCIS) as a Sophomore and expects to complete his undergraduate degree in Marketing with fluency in English, Spanish and Chinese.

As a financial aid recipient, Freddy was able to apply his award to the study abroad program and also received a travel grant award for the CUNY China Program.

If you would like to find out more about studying in another country through The College of Staten Island, please contact the Study abroad coordinator, Center for International Service, Building 2A, Room 206, Tel (718) 982-2100 or Fax (718) 982-2108.

This place
has had a
very positive
impact on me

PSYCHO RAMBLINGS

By Michael Garofalo



It would seem that Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Governor George Pataki forgot about a little clause in the mission of our university, to bring quality education to ALL residents of New York. By constantly raising tuition, they are violating all of what CUNY stand for. It would also seem that they failed basic economics.

In 1847, when CUNY was founded by a public referendum, it was entirely free. It was this way until a little over a decade ago. Nowadays, tuition prices double every few years while services continue to dwindle. It looks as if someone wants to cut out the poor from higher education. I figure since we've decided that the poor are not good enough, we should eliminate other unpleasanties.

OK... first the stupid people. You all gotta go. If you didn't get a 1200 or above on your SATs... GET OUT! I'm not interested in the fact that New York High Schools are decaying and students just slip through the cracks. Who cares if you can't read or write past a ninth-grade level. Go get a job in The Mall. Retail is the highest employer of Americans you know. This way maybe after 5-10 years you might actually make more than \$10 an hour.

Sound harsh? Well, its supposed to be. If your 'stupid', you would want to go to school to become well educated. If you're poor, you would want a degree to make more money. Unless your cruel, why would one deny someone the one thing they need?

You would think it was designed this way. It takes your average CSI student five years to get a four year degree. The longer you stay, the more money you pay. As for remedial courses, we can fill those up easier than 400 level courses. (You know, the ones you need to graduate, they're only offered every two years, and even then you will need an over-tally.) Hey, its not the college's fault, they just don't have the money to pay for more professors.

Who do we blame then? Who else, our elected officials. They used the usual hype to get elected. "I'm going to lower your taxes." To save a few extra bucks during tax time, ruins the whole economic system. The difference of an education means how much more money you will make. Working towards a career, not just a job, enriches your lifestyle. You make more money, you pay more taxes, and you buy more things, again paying more taxes. No education... you make less money, you pay less taxes, you buy less, and you need money from the government to make ends meet. Makes me wonder what they taught our Mayor and Governor in school. (George and Rudy didn't go to CUNY.)

Could it be that politicians have a sinister motives to keep New Yorkers unhappy? Doubtful, but they are under pressure to 'balance the

budget'. (The buzz term used whenever massive cuts are made.) As politicians, they hear the problems of all of New York. They are going to deal with the ones that effect them the most first - its human nature.

Our Mayor and our Governor went to private schools and they don't see the importance of the primary goals of CUNY. Why would they? To them, "we're getting a deal." In all honesty, I can't blame them. They think they're doing the right thing. I guess they just don't know the stories of people who work all day for \$4.25 an hour, just to take one night course.

We need to get politically active. We can rally with the best of them, but last year all the Mayor noticed was that we spelt his name wrong on some of the posters. He then used this in the media to gain even more support from his voting block.

His insolence should not go unpunished. When voting time comes around, we should all say, "you're fired". Unfortunately... I wish it was that easy. Americans are now forced to vote for who will hurt them less, not who do they like more. Are there any good leaders left? (It's probably someone stuck working in fast food trying to figure out how to pay for classes next term.)

It would seem because anyone can attend, rich or poor, CUNY is less respected. This is truly unfortunate, for CUNY is owed a huge debt by New York. This institution delivers on what it stand for. "The Poor Man's Harvard" brings higher-education to ALL. It picks up the slack when other provisions fail.

I personally would go as far to say an education in CUNY is better than the preppy-private colleges. CUNY is real world because CUNY is diverse. Just because anyone can attend does not mean that anyone can graduate. If a student cannot cope, it should be because of lack of trying, not lack of funding.

The Statue of Liberty is one of the things New York is famous for, and it doesn't say bring me your rich. Why should our college be any different?

Tell the Mayor and the Governor exactly what you think and make sure something as precious as an education is not ripped away from those who need it most.

What's goin' down...

CUNY's Operating Budget will be reduced \$57.6 million in State Aid from '95-'95.

A net loss of \$50 million in TAP funding to CUNY.

This means...

- More tuition increases
- More class reductions
- Less services
- Less financial aid
- Less staff and faculty

Letters...

We, the members of the Greek [Letter] community at CSI, feel that we are being looked down upon by many of our fellow students and faculty members and we would like to know why.

We feel that even though we cooperate with student government and the student body, we are constantly being criticized. We don't seem to know why we are being treated like this. Did we offend someone?

All of the good we do is overlooked. In this year alone, the various clubs in the Greek community have organized countless fund-raisers and have many donations to charitable organizations. If the CSI community would stop harassing us for a minute and come up for air, maybe they would see all the good we do.

Greek lettered organization can do a lot of good for this school if we were given the chance. We pride ourselves on being good leaders and organizers. We would like to be given the chance to involve the rest of the student body, but it seems that none of you care. We set up tables in the cafeteria for our fund-raisers and everybody walks by including the members of The BANNER and the members of Student Government.

Maybe you have nothing better to do, but we do, so if you have nothing good to say about us, please don't say anything at all.

Sincerely,
Amy Nelson
Vice President
Sigma Alpha Sigma

I'm sure you were mistaken about that part with The BANNER staff... right? I mean wasn't your club listed on page two of "The Lights Out" issues? (Banner III, XIV - Feb. 22, 1996) I believe The article was entitled "SAS to the Community: We Care!"

Even better, the said article is also on The BANNER homepage for the entire world to see. Check out...

http://www.csi.cuny.edu/unauthorized/the_banner/archive/iii_xiv/in_csi_news.html

"The BANNER: Yeah... We'll print that."

As for Student Government... they don't like us either. Hey, I'm sure there's more than 200 members in the Greek Community. You can vote yourselves a new Student Government since only 0.5% of CSI students vote.



Editor - In - Chief
Michael Garofalo

Associate Editor
Richard Arroyo

Business Manager
Ralph Mastrangelo

- News Editors.....Yvonne Villa & Alice Marino
- Sports Editor.....Michael Anderson
- Commentary Editor.....Christopher Zeyer
- Arts & Entertainment Editor.....James Scotto-Lavino
- Copy Editor..... Alex Geraghty
- Business Secretary.....April Butensky
- Distribution Manager.....John La Mantia

STAFF: XIOMARA CABRERA PETER MATLAK,
ERIC MINTON SEBASTIAN DANESE
RON MAGNUSSON RYAN MONROE
JENNIFER VALLE

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Onwuchekwa Jemie

Immediately Recall the Current Student Government

By Louis Bardel

On the ninth day of this past February, *The College Voice* interviewed Student Government President, Meri Kaufman. For all objective purposes, for the moment, it was a positive interview. Under the light of the latest round of budget cuts to CUNY, like a near sixty million dollar cut in operating funds and 11.2% reduction in financial aid, Kaufman spoke righteously of wanting to, "get the message out..." and "...what I want to do is mobilize student government."

She followed these rally cries by saying, "I think that if we can be willing to work together, and *The BANNER*, and everybody else, to get this news out to students and start getting them incensed. Because what's happening is that their education is being taken away from them."

Forty six days later, not a peep was heard from any of the student Senators against the budget cuts. There has been no organizing for ral-

lies and Student Government has done the usually ineffective letter campaigns. Not until March 27, when a rally was held here on campus, which was organized by NYPIRG and *The College Voice*, did we hear from the barely elected Student Government. Senators Natalie Williams, and Joseph Canale got up and told the students to "Register, and vote!", and all that power to the people rhetoric that rings hollow coming from these apathetic representatives of the student body.

It was a real case of opportunism on Student Government's part because for all their fanfare and feigning to be student leaders, they had not even remotely organized anything except maybe their personal resumes. The one exceptions are Senator Charlo Almeda and Vincent Cobb -who showed up to organizing meeting prior to the March 27 rally.

Obviously embarrassed by the March rally, which they did nothing for, as well as their ineptitude as student leaders, the Student Government

held a meeting the day following the demonstration. The meeting was ironically called 'special' since Student Government had known about these cuts for at least three months. It is truly representative of the type of leaders twelve-thousand plus students pay twenty six(Part time) to fifty three dollars(Full time) a semester for. Perhaps they need to get kicked in the ass some more, and all of the student body should pour into their office and demand that their elected positions be immediately recalled. With leaders like Student Government, next year's enrollment is sure to drop again-just like it did last Fall by one-thousand students!

So Student Government Finally Had A Meeting!

What was discussed at this "Special Meeting?" Senator Genduso had a revelation; and then stated that student's voices and concerns needed to be heard. Senator Natalie Williams

reincarnated last year's rendition of 'Beating a Dead Horse' by suggesting that a postcard campaign be launched similar to last year. That being the year that CUNY students saw their tuition raised by \$750. Senators Tom Watson and Tina Jefferson also wanted to beat a dead horse, by seconding and thirding Natalie's proposal, but offered to spend \$2490 doing it. Senator Genduso felt that Student Government should make up the postcards as well, for another five hundred bucks; maybe with cute teddy bears on them? The sum total of this operation is \$3,000 of student money being spent. For what, we shall see.

Now that student government has become militant users of the post office box, we hope to see them out there in the coming days getting the message out, as SG President Kaufman used to say. By the way, our esteemed president Ms. Kaufman- the one who talked about working together- did not bother to show up.

The Pleasures of New York City

By Xiomara Cabrera

New York is one of the most famous cities in the world. It's famous for its landmarks, entertainment, and especially its freedom. People all over the world admire New York City, that's why it's visited by a great number of tourists all year round. That admiration has brought thousands of immigrants to live in the "Big Apple".

The City of New York is one of the best constructed cities in the world. Its buildings were made with an iron base for protection in case of

earthquakes. This way the people of New York are protected, and the buildings wouldn't be destroyed easily. In New York we have the Statue of Liberty, a symbol of freedom. In this country we have freedom of speech and action. This liberation is the main reason why most people feel attracted to this spectacular city. I believe freedom is good, but too much of it can be harmful. I say this because the excess of freedom can lead people to commit mistakes which, in the long run, could have bad consequences.

The sightseeing in New York

City is breathtaking. I will just mention a few of the best ones. The Twin Towers, a part of the world's financial capitol and a architectural marvels. The Empire State Building, one of the highest buildings in the world and the first one to be visited by tourists. Also, it's well known by almost the entire world after the movie "King Kong" came out.

Let's not forget to mention 42nd Street, located in the center of Manhattan. It's famous for its night life, theaters, and movie plazas for all ages (from G-rated to triple X). Another

characteristic is the variety of night clubs that offer a diversion to everyone, especially those looking for love, fanatasies, and adventure. You never know what to expect when you visit this street of wonders.

There is much more to say about the pleasures of New York City. Books have been written about all of them. Therefore, I'm going to conclude by saying that the "city that never sleeps" is like a tramp. You feel attracted to its beauty, and once you visit, you may never leave again.

Assholes, Morons, Idiots, and other Animals

By Erik, C.A. Swanson

Have you noticed the condition of the world recently? Have you noticed just how many lies and mistruths other people say to make your life miserable? Have you noticed that they just don't care? I have. I see it everyday. I see it at home, work, government, with friends and acquaintances, T.V, and even on the fucking Internet. I feel people are self-centered to the point where others don't matter. Why? The answer is simple: People are stupid.

I have been thinking about why people are such assholes since I was seven years old. I have traced the answer to pure human stupidity. Why else would people "forget" about others. Only basic stupidity would allow people to believe that the world revolves around them. Also, only basic stupidity would let people sacrifice their humanity in return for worldwide computer connectivity. I have compiled a list of many stupid things that people do. Of course, I can't list everything because nearly everything people do is stupid, but here goes:

•**Marriage: and Belief In Love:** This sounds good (sarcasm), I have to fulfill my basic instinctual need to reproduce

with one person for the rest of my life. Great, just fucking Jim Dandy. Just deal with it. You need to have babies, so the race goes on. Love is non-existent.

•**Economics:** Yeah... make me work so I can buy food. If I don't have money, I can't eat. If I don't eat, I die. Thank you so much.

•**Status and Styles:** Hey, you're better than me because your parents buy you *Tommy Hilifiger* pants, and I can only afford *Levi's* on my *Burger King* salary. That makes sense. The world can see your fucking boxers since your *Tommy Hilifiger's* pants are hanging half way down the crack of your ass, but you don't care, you're cool. If that's cool, then I'm damn proud not to be.

•**MTV:** Why do you let *Idalis* tell you what music you like, and whether you hang out with the right crowd? Turn on *Politically Incorrect* and learn a thing or two.

•**Government:** (Well... you knew it was coming.) In the constitution, you have the rights to free speech and to bear arms. Which one do you think more important? I think it's free speech. I really don't see the US being invaded anytime soon. Now, think about this for a minute. What causes the most harm, promotes the most violence, and

gives stupid people a method to eliminate smart ones? The answer is guns. What is being systematically taken away from us a little at a time? The answer is free speech. The right to bear arms is unaffected though. Why? Because guns are the weapons of the stupid, and speech is the weapon of the smart. If you were the government, which would you fear more?

What is the function of the government? Isn't it to make the laws to regulate and aid the lives of the citizens? Isn't the government here for us? Don't they make laws for us? Aren't they supposed to make our lives better? Let me tell you, the last pay raise they gave themselves didn't affect my life a hell of a lot.

What do you need to be elected to office? I think it's good ideas and a want to help the country and its people. But do you know the real reason. I'll give you a hint: \$\$\$\$\$. If I come up with a solution to all the United States's problems and wanted to do something, I couldn't because I'm poor. By poor, I mean I don't have \$200 million dollars to spend on a campaign. Bottom line... The people who have multitudes of money control the government.

•**Methods of protest:** Hey, I've got no

problem if you have an opinion to express. If you don't want to eat meat, go on your bad ass self. Just leave me the hell alone about it! If you feel smoking is so wrong that you yank a cigarette out of my mouth, get over yourself!! If you feel that your message can only be heard if you and your friends block the Brooklyn Bridge for hours, get on with your life! If you feel that your opinion is right and everyone else's is wrong, and you have to tell them so, wakedafucup!!! Eat a Big Mac, smoke a cigarette and stop wasting your youth.

Conclusion:

I think I've made my point. But in case you missed it, here it is again: many people in the world are morons. They're selfish, blind and brainwashed. For example, it's true that a good percentage of people are illiterate, but it's not because they are dumb. It's because nobody cares enough to help them. That's wrong, and that's stupid. By the way, stupidity is learned. Everyone gets the chance to be smart, but most people choose not to be. I hope that I have reached some of you, and I hope you have a better understanding of your world and society. Think loud.

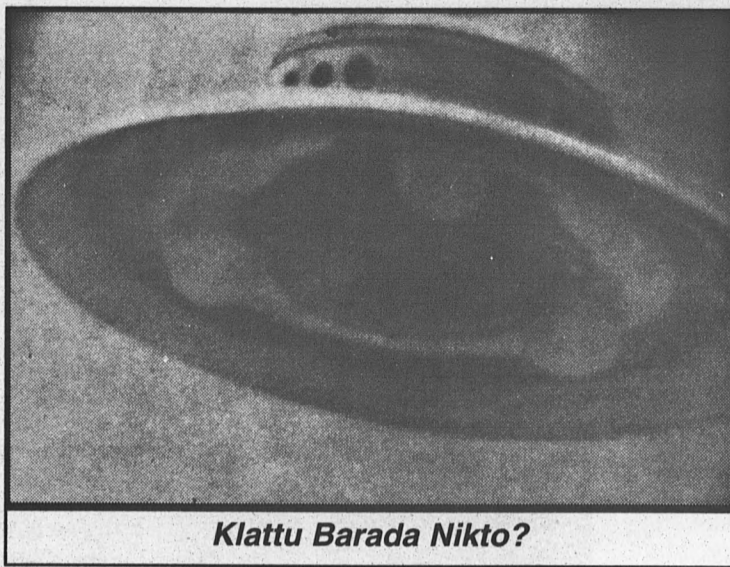
Are Aliens Visiting CSI ?

By George Perry

Britain has crop circles. Roswell...well that was a weather balloon. Peru has the Nazca Plains. Is it so hard to believe CSI has not been visited by aliens.

Case in point. Has anybody observed the landing runways that have mysteriously appeared in the vicinity of 4S? Well, this reporter has. I have personally witnessed the strange phosphorescent blue, yellow, and green lines in front of 4S and 6S. They create an eerie myriad; destroying all vegetative life where they lie.

These are not random patterns but the product of intelligent life, whatever that life may be. Perhaps these beings are drawn to the chemical signatures 6S is known for. Perhaps it is the *geodesic significance* of the underground venting structure on the east side of the 1A building. For those privy enough to have seen satellite images



Klattu Barada Nikto?

of this campus, when a straight lines are drawn bisecting each structure on this campus are joined and a 60 degree arc is then drawn from each of the farthest four points, a cross is formed in the center of a hypocycloid with four cusps. An image virtually identical to that found where Hangar 18 is located.

College administrators and staff alike have declined all inquiries into this matter despite sightings by witnesses who have seen officials in protective environmental suits collecting samples from the edges of the markings.

Until official releases confirm or deny any allegations related to this story stay tuned for pending urgent releases.

If you see anything strange please report it to The Banner 1C-228.

CHANCELLOR W.A.R.: ON OUR SIDE?

By Jennifer Valle

Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds has been brutally attacking the impending budget cuts (as she did last term). While fighting these cuts, she sent down a series of cuts to CUNY programs including SEEK, remediation courses, and credit requirements for Bachelor and Associate degrees. While a proposed \$750 dollar tuition hike was on the line, Chancellor Reynolds was centralizing a special group of CUNY officers to be later known as the *SAFE* (Special Assisance For Events) team. They would answer directly to her.

During last year's fiscal emergency, the Chancellor managed to get positive press for herself by 'genuinely opposing the cuts' while, at the same time enforcing a centralized billing system throughout CUNY known as the Student Information Management System [SIMS]. This billing system would slow down registration at the College of Staten Island because each

bill would be disbursed from the CUNY central office.

When the question came before her last year (whether she had plans to centralize CUNY), the Chancellor responded, "I wouldn't be able to centralize CUNY, it's too big to centralize." However, her actions are quite different. When asked if she would once again use the fiscal problems to push more centralizing restraints, the Chancellor became angry and spoke to student reporters in a harsh and uncalled for tone- a tone which may have said a lot about her recent actions.

It has also been discovered by the *Brooklyn College Excelsior* that the Chancellor has lists of students that were arrested during the riots and rallies last year. The Chancellor denied these allegations of 'black listing' at a

press conference March 6th. (The black listing consists of names, social security numbers, addresses, GPA's and designated colleges.) She stated they were not black lists, but in fact lists for concerned parents of arrested students. There is only one question that remains, why are they still on file and why were they faxed to college presidents? It seems as though the Chancellor has more on her mind than protecting CUNY from harm. As a matter of fact, it seems as though the concerned advocate for CUNY is only concerned about fulfilling her dream of a centralized CUNY under the vise of saving CUNY.

In addition, the most recent project of the Chancellor which was not passed by the state was additional funding for another CUNY college to be established in Harlem. One can only

ponder how a Chancellor could advocate for a new college when others are in dire need of funding to remain operational. At the conference of March 16th, the Chancellor said, "Students need another college, the Manhattan colleges are so overly crowded that there is barely enough room to walk in the hallways. The students deserve another college." What she failed to realize was that students need their current colleges upgraded to accommodate them, not another college that would eventually fall into the CUNY budget pool- where it would not have a chance to grow because of the choking cuts being made by the governor. Again, the Chancellor's politics are unclear and conflicting.

Where it seems the Chancellor is fighting for CUNY, it is apparent that she is really trying to pull the wool over the students eyes. In short, never fully believe the nice things you read about people, lest you be fooled into trusting a poisonous snake with ulterior motives.

The Chancellor has lists of students that were arrested during the riots.

Resurrection: Fact or Fable?

By Steven Guzzi

Some people believe that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is a fable or an exaggerated idea proposed by over enthusiastic Christians. The fact is there is plenty of evidence. Allow me to explain.

First, the Old Testament predicted it (Psalm 16:10). Also, Jesus Christ, who claimed to be the son of God, predicted his own crucifixion and resurrection. By such claims He can only be a liar, lunatic, or lord. He often referred to Old Testament prophecies in demonstrating to his apostles that He must rise from the grave. Jesus spoke of himself in the third person, saying, "And they shall mock him, and shall scourge him, and shall spit upon him, and shall kill him: and the third day he shall rise again" (Mark 10:34).

Now how many people do you know who make such predictions and actually are able to fulfill them? Not many I'm sure. Jesus died for our sins because the penalty of sin was hell. Somebody had to pay the penalty for

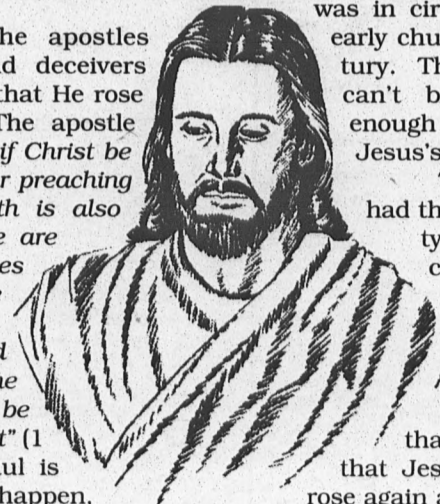
us, Jesus was that somebody. Being Jesus though, He couldn't stay dead. If He did, nobody could be saved. If Jesus didn't rise, then we would all go to hell for our sins.

Also, all the apostles would be liars and deceivers since they testified that He rose from the grave. The apostle Paul tells us, "And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not" (1 Cor. 15:14-15). Paul is saying if it didn't happen, then apostles were liars. Everything they and we believe as Christians would then considered wrong and foolish.

Since the New Testament was written, edited, and composed by the

eyewitnesses of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection, they are, in my opinion, historically reliable accounts (Luke 1:1-4). The complete New Testament was in circulation amongst the early churches in the first century. Therefore, the accounts can't be fables since not enough time had elapsed from Jesus's resurrection.

The New Testament had the self-corrective quality of being able to be checked by the original eyewitnesses. In connection with the evidence for the resurrection, the apostle Paul tells us that the true gospel is that Jesus died, buried, and rose again according to the scriptures. He appeared alive after his crucifixion in front of the 12 apostles and over 500 eyewitnesses (1 Cor. 15:3-6). Since these New Testament writings were being circulated to the churches, the resurrection must have been com-



mon knowledge. If it wasn't, the people who received the apostles' writings would have immediately known that it was false and crazy, but the report was true and that is why Christianity succeeded in spreading.

He appeared to his disciples and demonstrated the resurrection as fact. Jesus didn't just appear to his disciples, but they saw, felt, ate, and read the scriptures with Him. He didn't just make appearances to one person at a time, but on many occasions He appeared to a group of people. There could be no mistake it was Him. Fabrications? I do not believe so.

"To whom [Jesus] also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God" (Acts 1:3). God has given this evidence so we could know the true way of salvation. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

Comet Hyakuate

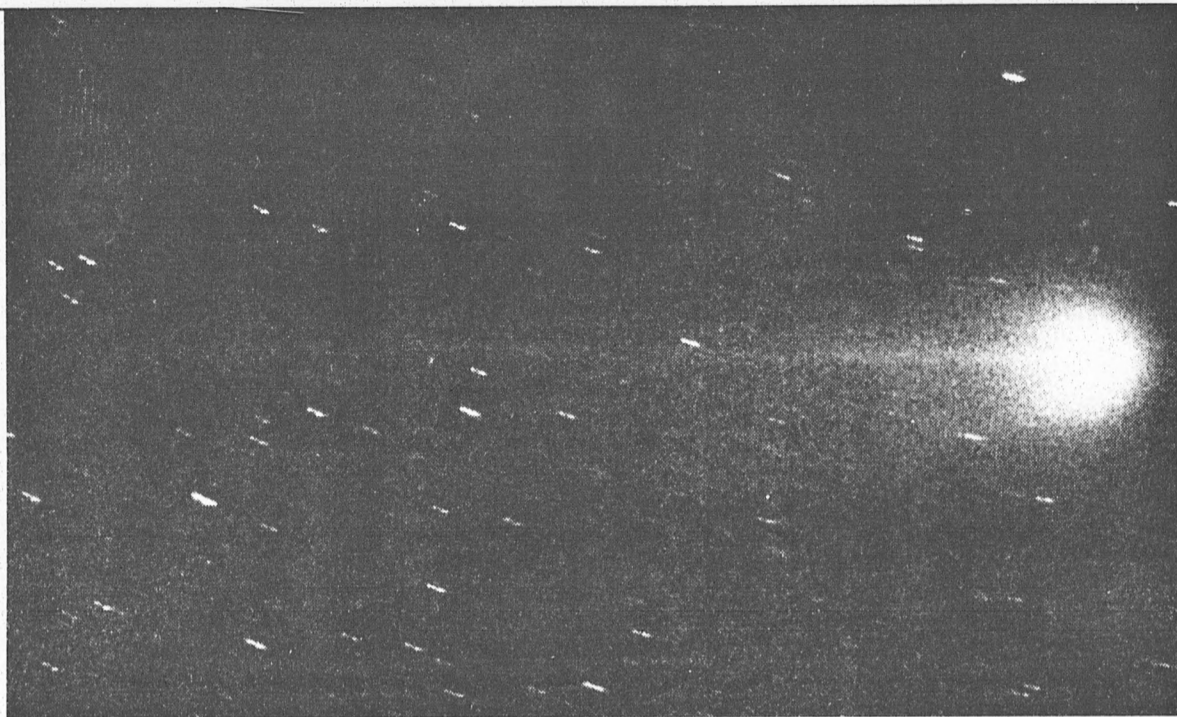
By John Pulizotto

According to Astronomers, comets are made up of a mixture of ice, dirt, and spatial debris that may have been left over from the creation of the solar system five and half to six billion years ago. This photo of Comet Hyakutake was taken at Voor Hees State Park, Johnson Observatory, in North Jersey. On March 26, I witnessed this phenomena.

I drove with a friend to Voor Hees State Park to get away from the light pollution on New York City. The further we got into North Jersey the darker the sky got. My friend, Zeav-Love, and I were half way up when there when we saw the comet. The sky got brighter. It was unbelievable. We saw a definite head with a long tail of spewing material light up the sky. It was a shock compared to the tiny blur we saw through Staten Island's polluted sky.

When we finally arrived at the observatory, our eyes had to adjust to the dark. When the comet came, the light was astonishing. The comets tail was as long as the Big Dipper, if not longer. The crowd of about 300 were amateur astronomers, with a few professors of Astronomy from CSI (including Professor Irving Robbins). Everyone was mesmerized by the comet.

Comet Hyakutake is approximately 10 millions miles from our planet. That's about four times the distance between the Earth and Moon. It still will be bright enough to be seen with the naked eye through mid-April.



Comet Hyakutake will light up the sky this month.

Rodger & Drog Special: SPRING BREAK

<p>Drog tells Rodger "Just because it's spring break doesn't mean you could cut class."</p> <p>where is everybody?</p>	<p>Rodger and Drog do a funnel from 40 feet up like the way they see it on T.V.</p> <p>One Schlitz going down</p>	<p>Rodger and Drog decide to celebrate April Fools day.</p> <p>Maybe scaring grandma with shotguns and chicken outfits wasn't a good idea.</p>	<p>Rodger and Drog don't have money to go away to Spring Break so they have to make do with what they have at home.</p> <p>CAN I put the milk away now?</p> <p>c'mon mom! This has to be a record.</p>
<p>Spring Break means water sports...</p> <p>This water sure is cold.</p> <p>I can warm it up a little.</p>	<p>Rodger and Drog persuade Stae Forbes into Parting the kill/ Van kull so they can all go to Nudy Bars in Jersey.</p>	<p>watching Television after being thrown out of the park</p> <p>C'mon, I just ordered the Joy Luck club from Pay Per View!</p> <p>No! Full House Marathon!</p>	<p>Drog gets Rodger Drunk</p> <p>he doesn't seem to have a belly Button, I could give him a Prince Albert</p> <p>Deek! Discount Tattoo Peircing</p> <p>Yea and put Drog #1 on his Butt!</p>

OF DICE AND MEN

WRAS WRAPPED AROUND MY KNEES HOLDING TIGHT TO TEARS OF ME WHEN I DREAM NO COVERED BRUISE NO TEARS NOR SCREAMS AND LIFE OF RAIN AND WIND SUFFERING AND SUITED TO THE WINDS MEASURES NO PRETTY CRIES ALL THIS TIME HELD IN JUST SUFFERING TO GO THAT NO ONE WILL KNOW MY VIKINGS ARE COMING THANK YOU THESE TAVNS ARE LOCKED TUCK-TOCK, THEAR GOES TO THE CLOCK UP ABOVE IN THE SKY I CAN SEE YOU COUL BUT WHY IMBARE MY HEART ON THE WISHING STAIR.

THIS MONTH: WARHAMMER

WRITTEN BY STYVIN J. PAUZOLIS,
FREELANCE CONTRIBUTOR

This month's review focuses on Games Workshop's **Warhammer Fantasy Roleplay** (or "WHFRP" for those who are too lazy to write it out), a game of grim fantasy adventure in a grim world full of grim people who lead grim lives and face a grim fate. All in all a feel-good kind of game.

Seriously, WHFRP (yep, I'm one of those lazy people who won't write it out) is a game in which the characters are faced with a world fraught with violent and dramatic adventure on a level that many other games simply cannot offer. While this is an impressive statement it doesn't mean that this game is for everyone. The differences between WHFRP and most other games will serve as a big deciding factor in who would and wouldn't enjoy the game.

The current trend in fantasy gaming today seems to build either fantastically mysterious worlds (i.e. TSR's **Planescape** or FASA's **Earthdawn**) or utterly despairing worlds (i.e. TSR's **Darkness** or, well, most other current products); WHFRP on the other hand manages to combine both of these elements into an interesting blend of fantasy-horror. This is not to say that WHFRP is focused on this concept, but it does lend itself exceptionally well to the genre.

One of the reasons for this is that in Warhammer, combat can be far more deadly than most other games. In fact, in Warhammer characters tend to die in two ways: horribly and often. This is due to the tendency of most enemies to be close to equal to your character with respect to fighting. This makes every fight a potential opportunity to get your characters body perforated in ways that are, at best, unnatural.

Another reason for WHFRP's natural tendency towards fantasy-horror comes from the fact that this type of genre is meant for mature players. For some reason Warhammer seems to lend itself to mature playing. Perhaps it has something to do with the writing, the artwork, or the dark, foreboding atmosphere, but something about the game just lends itself to a different style of play.

The System

The WHFRP system is a simple one that works on the most basic principles. Most of the rules are, at best, very, very loose. While some players may think this is a bad trait, it actually is one of the chief reasons that the game is so enjoyable.

Why is that, you may ask? (go ahead, ask) Simply put, simple rules leave you free to concentrate on the actual roleplaying, rather than the rules surrounding it. In the case of WHFRP this is helped by the fact that the rules are so simple that you can easily estimate what a rule would have been even if they never actually wrote it (as is usually the case with almost every game known). Almost every situation in the game can be resolved on a single percentile roll, with the numbers needed for success usually coming from a stat that you will be rolling against (since the stats run from either 1 to 100 or 1 to 10. In the case of the latter you simply add a zero to figure what the percentage is).

For example, if your character needs to try to hit someone and has a "weapon skill" of 39 (yes, weapon skill is actually a stat in this game), obviously you have to roll 39 or under on a d100 (that means a hundred-sided die, geek. Didn't you read last issue's installment!?). Pretty clear, isn't it? However, if your character has been running from some horrifying being that has been stalking him through some ancient ruins and he finds

himself cornered by his foe in a tower with no way to escape you could either (a) look through your characters skills and find if you have the ability to climb down the side of the tower, or some such nonsense (as if this hellspawn is going to give you a chance to do this!) or (b) you could run at it and try to do something insane like throw it off the tower. In most games such an unusual action would be difficult to resolve. In WHFRP you would just look at your strength (lets say it's a 4) and add a zero to it (now a 40). Just roll equal to this or under like before (though, perhaps with a modifier; big, slaving abominations don't usually like it when you try to throw them off of towers).

To most players this sort of freedom is a godsend if they know how to use it. Gamemasters should learn to love it too, since it makes improvisation a snap, leaving them free to do whatever they wish. All of this leads players to concentrate more on the story and on characterization, thus giving you a realistic and interesting game. This is the games strongest point.

Character Generation

Character Generation in WHFRP is an original affair, and making a character is about as simple as can be while still allowing for quite a few interesting twists. While it has many standard concepts, such as the average selection of four fantasy races (Dwarves, Elves, Halflings, and, of course, Humans), Warhammer is original in that it doesn't use a class-based system wherein you decide to be a fighter, a thief, a cleric, etc. as most other games do. In WHFRP careers are determined according to a basic category chosen by you, assuming your stats are good enough (the categories being warrior, rogue, ranger, or academic). Once you have chosen the basic category you must randomly determine what your exact career is (soldiers, pit fighters, body guards, and nobles are all examples of warrior careers). These careers grant equipment, skills, and an "advanced scheme" that tells you what stats this career will allow you to raise by spending experience points. Beyond this career you are granted a few random skills to round out your character and you're ready to go.

The character generation system is solidly designed and easy to use, but does suffer from some problems. Chief amongst these is the entire systems utter lack of balance. It's almost as if the designer decided that he would be a rebel and make a game that lacked even the vaguest form of balance. In the character generation system they have designed, it is not unusual to create characters that are too powerful, or pathetically weak. In fact, there is a possibility of making a character with a starting strength of up to six(!). This may not mean much to you, but considering a dragon has a strength of seven, I'd say it's a bit severe! To compound this problem there are the other non-human races that defy fairness. The Dwarf and Halfling stats are not too unbalanced, but the Elf stats are simply ridiculous. Any player who immediately looks for the most impressive stats, regardless of what kind of character it will be, will undoubtedly play an Elf.

While this is bad, you can overcome it if your game takes on a grand, epic sort of scale. A character such as this can take on a legendary sort of heroic (or villainous) status.

Other problems exist on a lesser level, but the last problem worth mentioning is that the system has a tendency to exhaust itself after a while, as there are only just so many interesting careers to play. Most careers are, in fact, not even worth considering allowing in the game (not many players will envision the career of "rat catcher", "servant", or "beggar" as the premier profession of choice

for their characters). In the end, out of the 100+ careers listed in the book only 30 or 40 will seem worthwhile. Out of that, you will find many to be very similar and after a while you will just become bored with the choices available.

Don't get me wrong, the character generation system is very clear and enjoyable. Characters can be made in a very short period of time and tend to be complete in most respects. The problem of balance (which you can adjust to) is the only serious flaw there is, thus I find little lacking from this system.

Combat

The combat system is one of the games highlights. It is simple, fast, easy, and fluid. There is very little that I can say against it, but other players may not like the fact that almost every weapon in WHFRP does the same amount of damage. In fact the difference between a sword, an axe, and a mace is... well, none. The only time the game differentiates is when it comes to two-handed weapons (+2 damage), flails, etc. Another positive, yet potentially negative point is the death factor. In this game, if a combatant successfully hits his foe he will roll a d6, adding his strength stat (which runs from 1 to 10), and subtracting his opponents toughness stat (also from 1 to 10) as well as any armour to determine how many points of damage his enemy takes (usually an opponent will only have from 7 to 12 wound points). The kicker here is that if you should roll a six for damage you may roll an additional d6 and add the damage to the total. If you should roll yet another six, then do the same, this continues until you fail to roll a six. As you can tell this can make the game extremely deadly, since an ordinary wound can do quite a bit of damage.

The one important point that can offset this impending doom is the concept of "fate points". A fate point can avert any death or doom, regardless of what it is. This is supposed to represent the character having been destined for a different fate. A character only starts with about three or four of them, but they are tremendously helpful. Unfortunately, once they're gone... they're gone.

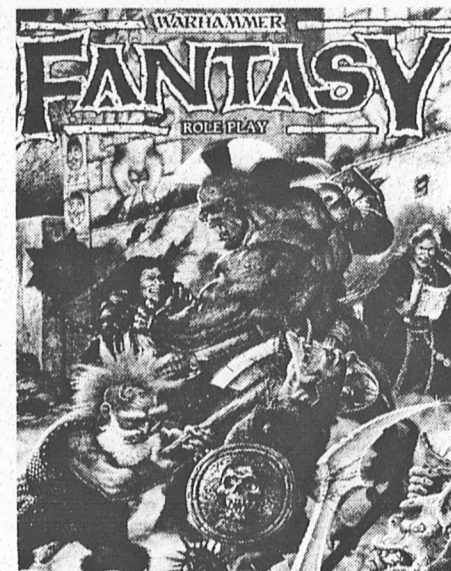
The addition of this idea is one of the nice features of so potentially deadly a game.

Magic

While the combat system may be excellent, WHFRP's magic system is the exact opposite. It is a sad excuse for an advanced magic system, lacking even the most basic idea of balance. To start, the system is based on "magic points", which is not a bad method to use, even if it is a bit tired and overused. That is where the positive points seem to end. The system is so extreme in its design that it is thoroughly unwieldy.

A spell-casting character begins the game as a wizards apprentice. This is a lowly wizards helper, used mostly as manual labor and taught precious little of magic. From these humble beginnings, with only a few little cantrips (minor spells) at his disposal, he begins the long, rigorous climb to the lofty position of wizard. Sounds right? It isn't.

Cantrips in Warhammer are mostly useless spells, but the occasional spell such as "sleep" (puts an enemy to sleep), "open" (opens any non-magically locked door), "magic lock" (prevents anyone from picking or forcing open the locked door/object unless it is smashed to pieces). I don't know about you, but these seem rather powerful for simple cantrips. After the apprentice completes his career (about eight sessions the way I award experience, about two sessions if you listen to the books insane method) the character



may advance to level one wizard. This would seem logical except a level one wizard is INCREDIBLE!!! At level one you can get "fireball", the spell that is the staple of most high-powered wizards in fantasy. You would think, being a level one spell, it would be less powerful. Nope. A level one wizard can cast (on average) 14 (!) fireballs, which does very good damage, can hit groups of enemies, ignores armour, and hits automatically. This is too extreme.

This would be bad enough, but combine this with the low number of spells available (only ten first level battle magic spells) and the fact that the highest level is a wizard of the fourth level, you will find too many limits combined with too much power. A combination like that can destroy a game.

One final bit of absurdity is the ingredients required for these spells. Some are small and simple, while others are completely absurd. One example would be "cause stupidity", a third level spell that requires... get this... the brain of a giant. How in God's name do you carry this stuff? Better yet, who writes this stuff? The magic system is obviously the games weakest point.

Odds & Ends

One of the nice things about WHFRP is that they give you most everything in one, single book.

The book contains a bestiary of all known races, including intelligent races (men, dwarves, etc.), monsters (dragons, doppelgangers), and everything in between. This is very convenient, as it saves you the trouble of having to buy another book.

You will also find a section on religion, including all deities of the world (though they overlooked Tzeentch, changer of ways, and Slaanesh, god of forbidden pleasures; both of which have been greatly detailed in WHFRP's sister game, Warhammer Fantasy Battle: **The Lost and The Damned & Slaves to Darkness** supplements).

Of course the game includes details on the Old World, the name of the place in which the game takes place, as well as the standard (typically weak) first adventure, entitled "The Oldenhaller Contract", provided with a few pregenerated characters for those who are in a rush.

In closing I would say that Warhammer is a good, solid game that offers a great many things, but also threatens with a few serious bad points. On the whole I find it to be one of the best fantasy roleplaying games on the market. If you're looking for a good, grim, nasty fantasy-horror game then this is it. If not, then remember: I never liked any of you.

Past Is Key To Success For '96 Yankees

By Tom Krasniqi

The Yankees begin this season with many question marks and a host of veterans that they hope will carry them to the division title, something they haven't had since Ron Guidry was in his prime. They made a great run to capture a wild card spot last season but much has changed since then. Buck Showalter was let go and Joe Torre assumes the managerial position for the Yankees. Another bonehead move by the "Boss". He lets another good manager leave because of his bigger than his waist line ego i.e. Lou Piniella. Torre is in a tough spot and I don't think he will be up for this challenge. He's an old coach who has seen his better days as a manager (what better days?). I envision Joe Torre being fired by the middle of the season. I think he may be baseball's version of Don Nelson. Nelson was a guy whose strong armed coaching tactics caused Knicks players to revolt against him and that eventually got him fired. Torre is the same way. Those tactics don't work on today's players. I predict that Joe Torre will be fired by the middle of the season. You read it here first!

The 1996 Yankee team looks like a formidable one that will compete at least for a wild card spot in the ever so tough American League East. They made some good off season acquisitions, but they also made some bad decisions. Here's a look at this year's squad and what you might expect:

Pitching: It's good and can be very good, but there are still questions that must be answered. Re-signing staff ace David Cone is a no-brainer and he should have another terrific year. Promising lefty Andy Pettite will blossom into a good one but must keep developing and avoid the "sophomore jinx". The Yanks decided not to re-sign

Jack McDowell and instead signed left hander Kenny Rogers (no, not the singer and the guy who roasts chicken) to a \$20 million deal. He has been shaky during the spring. Another key to the season, pardon the pun, will be Jimmy Key. Key has recovered from shoulder surgery and has performed well in the spring but will it last? Melido Perez and Scott Kamieniecki are decent starters but they're hurt. The most intriguing starter is former Met phenom Dwight Gooden. Gooden has said he has a new lease on life and is ready to go. Oh, really? Haven't we heard this one before? Don't count on many great things from the former Dr. K. He's pretty much washed up and I can't believe that he's gotten another chance and friend Darryl Strawberry hasn't.

The bullpen has to perform and they're led by closer John Wetteland. Mariano Rivera and Jeff Nelson will be the set-up men. They blew games last year and that cost the Bombers dearly. Remember Game 5 against Seattle? I sure do. But all in all, this should be a positive unit for the Yanks especially if Jimmy Key and Kenny Rogers come around.

Infield: Don "Hitless Man" Mattingly is gone and will be replaced nicely by the newly acquired Tino Martinez. Martinez will hit over .300 in Yankee Stadium, hit close to 30 homers, and is sound defensively. This was a brilliant move by the Yankees. Because of injuries and/or free agent losses, Mariano Duncan will start the season at second base. Pat Kelly and Tony

Fernandez are hurting physically (you can also make the case that Fernandez is hurt mentally as well). Rookie sensation Derek Jeter will play shortstop and is a star in the making. The ancient Wade Boogs returns to the hot corner (that's third base for all people not hip on baseball lingo) and should be good enough to hit over .300 again

and play excellent defense despite his age (37). This is a good group, especially defensively, but must get offensive production from Jeter and whomever plays second. The Yanks foolishly let catcher Mike Stanley sign with Boston and instead traded for light hitting Joe Girardi. This move could haunt them

down the road because Stanley was a clutch hitter and provided the Yanks will power from the right side of the plate, something they really don't have now.

Outfield: The Yanks were in need of a lead off hitter so they acquired veteran Tim Lincecum. However, he's hurt and will start the season on the disabled list. Underrated Gerald Williams will take his place in left field until "Rock" Raines gets healthy. Williams is decent defensively and swings a good bat. The Yankees have one of the best center fielders in baseball in Bernie Williams. He can do it all and carries on one of the more distinguished and fabled in all of sports traditions and that is center fielder for the New York Yankees. Bernie certainly doesn't let fans down in the respect that he will be a star for many years to come. Paul O'Neill returns to right field for the Yanks and will supply plenty of power and

production. Ruben Sierra will be the designated hitter and will be counted on to clout 25-30 homers and drive in over 90 runs. Depth will be a factor. The Yanks don't have many other quality outfielders besides Gerald Williams. Jim Leyritz is a quality utility man but is a big head case who teammates don't like too much.

Lineup: Looks like a good one with Bernie Williams, Boggs, O'Neill, Sierra, and Martinez and should be able to score some runs. The big key will be Raines. He must set the table for those guys to cash in. There are two problems with this lineup: lack of speed besides Raines and the lack of righty bat with some power. The Yanks will run into some big problems against the like of California, a team with lefties in the starting rotation.

Prediction: The Yanks have good enough pitching to compete in their division. Baltimore and Boston will provide tough competition for the Bronx Bombers. Pitching and power will be good enough for the Yanks to win 85-90 games but they will finish second behind Baltimore. The Yanks will compete for the wild card again but they will fall short this time. When it comes down to it Yankee fans, you will miss Buck Showalter and Mike Stanley and that's going to be the main reason why you will not see the post-season. And you can all thank Georgie.

QUICK OUTS: The Knicks have played considerably well under interim coach Jeff Van Gundy but don't be fooled. Van Gundy will have to win the NBA title to keep his job and you know that's not going to happen. The Knicks will have a new coach when 1996-97 season gets underway and his name will be Larry Brown.....The Nets will find themselves in the lottery once again and that will only help them more. What the Nets need is an impact player at the small forward position and they will have some good players to choose from. Syracuse's John Wallace would be a nice fit into the Nets' equation.....The NFL Draft is fast approaching and the Jets and Giants are in a prime position. Jets pick first and they will take USC star wide out Keyshawn Johnson, considered to be the best wide out to enter the draft since Jerry Rice. With him in there, the Jets offense suddenly looks potent. The Giants pick fifth and will probably take LB/DE Simeon Rice out of Illinois. Rice is a pass rushing machine that they desperately need. If he's not there, they will probably opt for Ohio State WR Terry Glenn.....The Rangers have been struggling lately, since they made the "Goon Trade" acquiring Marty McSorley, Shane Churla and Jarri Curri from Los Angeles. Philadelphia has passed them in the standings and now you must start to second guess the many moves that they've made. The key will be getting Mike Richter healthy.

(Tom Krasniqi can be heard on the sports talk show, "Sports Action" on Sunday nights from 9pm to 11pm on 88.9FM WSIA Staten Island)

I predict that Joe Torre will be fired by the middle of the season



This is a plug for our chicken.

This is a plug for theirs.



At Kenny Rogers, we use a traditional cooking method that's over 200 years old. We slow-roast our chicken over a real hardwood fire to lock in all that juicy wood-roasted taste. We think it's the only way to roast chicken. Especially if the electric goes out.

NOW SERVING MOUTHWATERING TURKEY

KENNY ROGERS ROASTERS

HYLAN BLVD.

1409 HYLAN BLVD. 351-9300



AMPLE PARKING

KENNY ROGERS ROASTERS

939 RICHMOND AVE. 370-0500

COMPLETE MEAL DEAL

ONE QUARTER CHICKEN, TWO SIDE DISHES, ONE MUFFIN, ONE BEVERAGE
(EXTRA CHARGE FOR ALL WHITE MEAT)

\$3.99

LIMIT 1 COUPON PER PERSON, PER VISIT, THIS OFFER NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER SPECIAL. GOOD AT STATEN ISLAND LOCATIONS ONLY. COUPON EXPIRES 02/29/96

\$1.00 OFF

ANY HALF CHICKEN DINNER

(EXTRA CHARGE FOR ALL WHITE MEAT)

LIMIT 1 COUPON PER PERSON, PER VISIT, THIS OFFER NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER SPECIAL. GOOD AT STATEN ISLAND LOCATIONS ONLY. COUPON EXPIRES 02/29/96

Friday, April 12, 1996 BANNER

http://www.csi.cuny.edu/unauthorized/the_banner/



DOLPHIN REWIND



Records:

Women's Softball (0-4)

March 22 at Rutgers-Newark L 0-1

March 26 at Brooklyn (DH) L 7-8

March 21 at Jersey City State W 13-11 Second Game L 4-9

March 23 at Kean L 15-23 March 27 at Georgian Court L 1-9

March 24 at Baruch (DH) W 8-1

Second Game W 11-0

March 27 at Ramapo L 6-8

Men's Tennis (1-1)

March 25 vs New York University L 2-7

March 27 at Lehman W 8-0

Pro-Predictions

K r a z ' P i c s

AL East	NL East
Baltimore Orioles	Atlanta Braves
AL Central	NL Central
Cleveland Indians	Houston Astros
AL West	NL West
California Angels	Los Angeles Dodgers
AL Wildcard	NL Wildcard
Seattle Mariners	New York Mets

Michael Anderson's Pics

AL East	NL East
Boston Red Sox	Atlanta Braves
AL Central	NL Central
Cleveland Indians	St. Louis Cardinals
AL West	NL West
California Angels	Los Angeles Dodgers
AL Wildcard	NL Wildcard
Baltimore Orioles	New York Mets



What's in your Future?

Independent Living Association, Inc. is offering the key to your future. Do you want:

- to help others?
- internship opportunities?
- extensive training?
- shifts on weekends? evenings? mornings? overnight?
- a job close to home?

Become a counselor!

ILA is a growing not - for - profit agency providing care for developmentally disabled adults throughout Staten Island.

Open the door to your success

HS diploma and drivers licenses a must.
Ask for Dept C at 718-852-2000 for more information

The Future of the Yankees

...page 10

BANNER Sports

Friday, April 12, 1996

Dolphin Sports

...page 11

Mets Ready for an 'Amazin' '1996

By Michael Anderson

It's spring again baseball fans! The start of another season is upon us. And if you're a New York Mets fan, then you actually have reason to be happy. The Mets have themselves a good team that will be primed to make a run at the wild card position. Starting with the Mets young and potent pitching staff, the Mets might be playing ball until the middle of October. This year there's a possibility that there will be no more empty seats at Shea Stadium this October. There isn't a proven 30-40 home run hitter, but Met brass feel that a bunch of average home run hitters will do. Here's what to expect from the Mets this year.

When it comes time to talk about up-and-coming All-Star catchers, Todd Hundley is one of them. He was having a great year last year until injury set in. He had 15 homers and 51 RBI in only 90 games. His batting average was .280, but his defense was great. He played the catching position with ease which isn't too easy to do. Also, he will be asked to take control of a young and potent pitching staff. He has the talent to be the second-best catcher in the league behind Mike Piazza.

There was never a better Met first basemen than Keith Hernandez. And there probably never will; however, Rico Brogna isn't too shabby. He plays first almost as good as Hernandez did. Hitting-wise, Hernandez was better, but a .289 hitter with 22 homeruns and 76 RBI is

pretty good. If Brogna stays healthy, first base won't be a problem.

Last year, Jose Vizcaino proved to be the most steady mainstay in the Mets line-up. He played shortstop almost flawlessly. And that's why he's moving to second base. Seriously, he played really great at short, but the Mets want to showcase their shortstop prospect, so Vizcaino will move to second. The Mets are hoping that Vizcaino can play second base just as efficiently as short.

The shortstop that the Mets want to showcase is Rey Ordonez. Defensively, he's supposed to be just as good as Ozzie Smith. Offensively, well there's always his defense. He's not a great hitter, has very little power, doesn't hit for average, but that's not what the Mets want from him. He has hit reasonable well in spring training, but it won't probably won't persist. The Yankees also have a showcase shortstop in Derek Jeter. He is the New York shortstop with hitting. Put Jeter and Ordonez together, you have one hell of a Cal Ripken.

When the Mets traded David Cone to the Blue Jays they received Jeff Kent. At the time he was a third baseman and when he arrived to New York he became a second baseman. When ideas of putting him back to third heated up, Kent would squash the thoughts by stating how he wouldn't play there. However, this year he had no choice as the Mets would have traded him if he wouldn't move. Kent decided that third base is better than

no place at all.

Last year the Mets platooned outfielders. This year they have two definites and one question mark. One definite is new centerfielder Lance Johnson. Lance Johnson not only will be the centerfielder, but the lead-off man. He gives the Mets speed that is coveted for a leadoff man. In center field he brings back some memories of Mookie Wilson. Great fielder, not a great arm, but will throw himself against the wall for a ball.

The possible off-season steal came when the Mets acquired left fielder Bernard Gilkey from the Cardinals. When the Cardinals signed Ron Gant, Gilkey became expendable. The Mets were happy to scoop him up. He's a proven clutch hitter that can hit 20-something homeruns. He's got speed, a great arm and plays great defense. Will probably bat in the third spot in the lineup.

The Mets season will fall solely on their pitching staff. Experts have called the Mets staff one of the best in baseball. It all starts with Bobby Jones. Last year he was 10-10 with a 4.19 ERA. He's not a fastball pitcher, he's a control pitcher. Last year, he didn't have much control and that's why his numbers were less than spectacular. Hopefully, this year there won't be a repeat of this.

In my mind Jason Isringhausen is the ace of the staff and the first pitcher in the most potent, young threesome. He had a great first

year. He finished up 9-2 with a 2.81 ERA. That's really good considering he didn't play until after the All-Star break. The Mets are hoping he doesn't go through a sophomore jinx.

The second part of the Mets young, potent trilogy is lefty Bill Pulsipher. He had a decent year with a 5-7 record with a 3.98 ERA. He showed some flashes of brilliance late in the year after struggling with his first starts. The biggest question is whether he can stay healthy. He has had problems with his elbow that will keep him out of the lineup for at least a month. Dallas Green feels it's caused by his motion. If this guy is 23 and having problems with his elbow already, how long can he last? It's key for him to be in the lineup because the Mets need a lefty in the starting rotation.

The best arm in the Mets staff could belong to rookie Paul Wilson. The Mets had the number one pick in the draft a couple of years ago. Unlike Shawn Abner in the 1980's, Wilson probably won't disappoint. In spring training he has looked awesome. He has looked like the Rookie of the Year. He has looked like the next Tom Seaver. I know it's only spring training, but he took the World Champion Braves starting lineup and showed them that he's the real thing.

This year the Mets will celebrate their tenth anniversary of their last World Series title (1986). The Mets will come close to the wild card, but Tony Gwynn and the San Diego Padres will take the spot in the final week.



Spring 1996 Calendar: 1R Open Hours

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
Pool	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Volleyball	7:30 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.		1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	7:30p.m. - p.m.				
Badminton		12:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.			7:30 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.			
Racquetball	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.	
Fitness Center	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 9:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.	7:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.	
Step Aerobics	1:25 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	1:25 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.				
Basketball	11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.	11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.	11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. 7:30 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.	1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.		
Table Tennis		7:00 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.	12:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	12:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	7:30 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.		12:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	
Early-Bird Workout	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.		8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.		8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.			

*Hours are subject to change for special events