

THE BANNER

October 10, 2005

CUNY Security Breach

Students' Personal Information At Risk

Kevin S.P. Mamakas

In an age of heightened awareness about identity theft, Newsday has reported that more than seven-hundred CUNY students, employees, and former employees have had their social security numbers made public on a 32-page EXCEL spreadsheet that could be accessed by a simple Google search. More information inadvertently made public featured a 100-page file that

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Photo: Google Images

After a security snafu, the Social Security numbers of more than three-hundred Queens College Law Students appeared on the internet. They have since been removed.

CHIEF LIBRARIAN MEETS GOALS, FACES CHALLENGES

Clifford Weimer

Wilma Jones eye catches a yellow model Volkswagen Bus and grins because that was the first car she ever drove, as a ten-year-old girl in Sierra Leone, South Africa.

On the lush campus of CSI it is impossible to not notice its largest building. Three mammoth stories high, the CSI library is home to a priceless collection of resources and information in the form of books, periodicals, computer labs, archives, and films to

name a few. It is the college's most important building. To keep such an extraordinary facility running as flawlessly as it does takes an equally special person. That person is the Chief Librarian, Wilma Jones.

Jones exudes intelligence and enthusiasm. Nearly six feet tall, she has a smile that seems almost as big as the building she works in. Her qualifications are notable, earning two Masters degrees from Northern Illinois University; Library and Information studies in 1992 and English in 1990. Jones is now a Doctorate

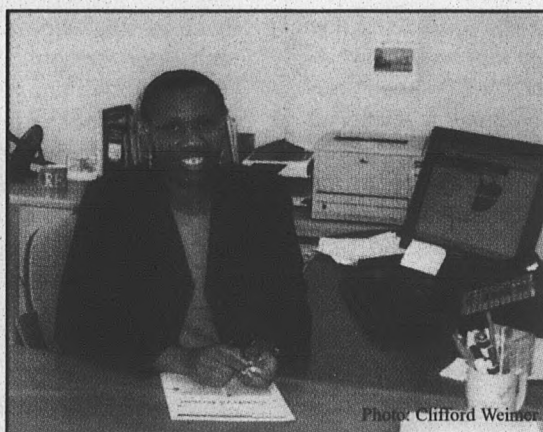


Photo: Clifford Weimer

"Helping people has led me to grow as a person in a different way," CSI's Chief Librarian Wilma Jones said. "I want to share my views on a life from another world

candidate from New York University.

Jones has been with the CSI library since September 1992. She has steadily climbed the ranks for the past thirteen years. She was awarded the position of Chief Librarian in January of last year after acting on an interim basis since July of

2002. She was chosen after a nationwide search because of her immediate impact as the acting Chief Librarian.

"Most people in my position would have been scared to show initiative," Jones said. "I was active immediately."

Jones was not content to keep things running as they were; she wanted to make things better. In her short tenure as acting Chief Librarian she changed the homepage, refurbished the entire first floor, recruited new people and created the digital learning lab. Since her position has been made permanent, she has done much more.

The library is not without its problems. Laura Scott a junior at the college is

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CSI Brass & Teamsters Steward Duel Over Campus Safety Should Peace Officers Carry Guns?

AnnMarie Costella

CSI peace officers currently carry handcuffs, pepper spray, and nightsticks. However, CSI, like all CUNY schools (with the exception of Lehman College in the Bronx) has chosen not to provide officers with firearms.

"We have probably the safest campus in the CUNY system," said Vice President for Finance and Administration, Angelo J. Aponte. "Overwhelmingly the types of incidents



Photo: AnnMarie Costella

Vice-President Angelo J. Aponte asserted that CSI remains one of the safest schools in the system, and no need exists for armed peace officers.

that we do have, involve students with cars bumping into each other while going in and out of parking lots, or arguments over parking spots."

But on September 4, 2004, a dispute over a parking summons occurred behind the Campus Center, and it quickly escalated into a brawl. A group of men, which included two former CSI students, attacked and injured four peace officers. It took eleven minutes for the NYPD to arrive. In an interview given to the Staten Island Advance, CSI peace officer and union shop steward, Shawn Rutz stated: "We're required to confront criminal suspects without weapons. It's ridiculous. How do you do police work without police equipment? We have police authority, yet we have no weapons. It doesn't make any sense." Although Rutz feels confident expressing his opinion, numerous other Public Safety officers interviewed for this article declined to comment.

After the Staten Island Advance article was released, Officer Rutz received a warning from the administration to refrain

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Students Fall Victim to Ticket Scam

David Maltz

It's a practice that's been going on for years. Salesmen enter classrooms selling discounted tickets to comedy clubs and cruises, and claim that they are representing the Office of Student Life. There's just one problem: They have no affiliation with the Office of Student Life at all.

"The Office of Student Life would never go into classrooms," said Carol Brower, Director of Student Life. "We want to keep Student Life separate from academic life."

According to Brower, individuals and corporations are banned from coming on campus to solicit to students, yet despite the ban, corporations continue to send part time workers to CSI to do just that. Many of these workers are apparently unaware that what they're doing is illegal.

"People aren't really allowed to come to the campus to solicit," she said. "It's been going on several years." Brower noted that many times, what appears to be free entrance to a club or cruise comes with strings attached, such as a \$10 drink minimum, and that students aren't always adequately informed of these conditions when they purchase tickets. "Our students are potentially being ripped off," she said.

However, an informal survey of several students by The Banner revealed that students were unaware that solicitation goes on and none wanted to directly comment. However, according to Brower, the illicit activity is still going on. "We've gotten many students coming to the Office of Student Life asking for the discount tickets," she said. "Only we weren't offering anything. That's how we found out about it."

The Office of Public Safety is the

organization charged with enforcing the ban and removing the solicitors from campus. "Public Safety is aware," Brower said. "Public Safety tells them they aren't allowed on campus."

"They can't do it without Student Government Approval," said Gene Martinez, Director of Public Safety. "Once they [public safety] are notified that someone entered the classroom, they escort them off of the campus." Despite that, the college has no planned legal recourse against the solicitors and in the meantime they keep coming back for more.

The college has begun to notify students of the scam by posting notices in CLUE News and by sending out e-mails to students.

Brower encourages any students who encounter the salespeople to notify Public Safety immediately.

The American Democracy Project

The New York Times THE BANNER



Uninformed Attacks on Bush Carry No Weight

Matthew Bellino

With the massive media coverage of America's affairs, what is subjective truth, what is definitive, and what is your actual opinion?

Throughout our nation's lifetime, we have been bombarded with various sources telling us what the truth is. Now that we are involved in yet another controversial war (as if war could ever not be controversial) and we are being devastated by natural disasters, the detailed explanations of corruption within our governmental leadership hits us like the bombisings in Iraq.

Here at the college of Staten Island, as an English major, I have watched many of my writing and reading courses somehow be turned into political science classes. With one mention of politics, war, and specifically the infamous George W. Bush, the classroom erupts into an all out attack on America. If you listen to too many people on campus, you'll hear that not only were both of our past elections stolen from us by the Republican Party, but also that Bush is a complete ignoramus. You'll hear how it is actually his fault for the war, and his fault for New Orleans.

The consistent issue of the berating and belittlement of our 43rd president, on a personal level gets under my skin. It seems that every comedian, actor, actress, show host, and professor wants to prove that Bush is some miserable idiot that can't find his way out of a paper bag. There is no conclusive proof that both elections were illegitimately won. In fact for every "cry baby proof" that the Democrats have, the Republican Party has opposing "proof." But what about George W.? Does six years as Texas Governor (the first in Texas history with consecutive 4-year terms), a bachelor's degree in history from Yale University, a Master of Business Administration from Harvard Business School, and service in the Texas Air National Guard all amount to Being stupid simply because he can't always speak as well as most politicians? I'm not saying Bush is a genius; what I am saying is that if people are going to bash him, do it legitimately, don't just cop out and say how dumb he is. If you have a problem with our President, back it up with reasoning that makes sense.

The same goes for the war we are raging in Iraq right now. A full schedule

of classes, papers, part time or full time jobs, and the pursuit of at least a little time of relaxation can seem to beat students over the head like a Louisville slugger. I know personally how difficult it is to manage time, but that shouldn't be an excuse for us not to know what is going on in our nation. This article is written as a call to back up one's political opinion. One professor here at CSI asked his class about the issue of war in Iraq. Students were asked to respond to articles and tell if they were "proud of the war." Sophomore Mark Hansen said that he was when asked for his view, but later thought deeper about the question. "Am I really proud of for? No, of course not. Am I supportive of America? Absolutely. Does anyone in that class really know enough to legitimately talk about it? No."

Do you know enough? The next time someone writes an article on Iraq, or you hear Chris Rock bash Bush, will you know enough to come to a conclusive opinion of your own? We are the next generation. We will be the next Governors, Mayors and Presidents. We as American citizens should be able to support more than our troops, we should be able to support our own views.

Saying "I take responsibility" Is Not Enough

Ron Aguilera

As appeared at SalsaMerengue.com

A few days ago, when glancing through one of the local newspapers, I read a response from President Bush to a reporter's question about the government's capacity to react to a catastrophic situation, and his answer was a puzzling and petrifying reverberation of the question. "I want to know how to better cooperate with state and local government, to be able to answer that very question that you asked: Are we capable of dealing with a severe attack or another severe storm? And that's a very important question."

If Michael Brown, the director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, was slow to react, President Bush should have reacted faster than him and anybody else. And even though it was said that the president has the resting pulse of an athlete, he also has the reflexes of a turtle.

Many people, including Howard Dean and rapper Kanye West, are accusing President Bush of racism. Their accusations wouldn't have any foundations if it wasn't for the fact that New Orleans is a city composed of 67.25% of Blacks or African Americans (U.S. Census 2000).

"I don't think it's racism, I think it's economic," Colin Powell said. "But poverty disproportionately affects African-American in this country." Well, Mr. Powell, so why does it affect African-Americans so out of proportion?

Racism or not, the truth is that President Bush failed to take opportune action and this brought uncertainty to the general public in the United States.

The War in Iraq and the fight for "democracy" has become his primary concern. And the reality is, as Pulitzer Prize winner Jimmy Breslin points out in his article, While Bush Fiddles, New Orleans Dies, that President Bush has "told Americans to send donations to the Red Cross and the Salvation Army while his administration sends billions and billions of tax money to his personal war in Iraq."

Not surprisingly, according to the AP-Ipsos poll President Bush's popularity has dropped below 40%. In contrast, the Venezuelan firm Datanalisis divulged that the results of the last poll were in favor of President Chavez, with 71.2 % saying that they like how the government is being run. So who is really doing the right thing for their country?

President Bush was on vacation during Hurricane Katrina, and some say that he is putting into practice the art that he learned from his father: how "to vacation through an Apocalypse."

Hopefully, New Orleans and all the places that were destroyed by the hurricane will be cleaned and rebuilt soon, so that everyone can go back to their homes. But cleaning the image and reconstructing the confidence in President Bush is going to be Public Relation's Mission Impossible.

Over 10,000 Participate in NYC Tunnel to Towers Run

Matthew Safford

West Brighton native Stephen Siller could not have known the impact his actions would have when he strapped on his fire-fighting gear and ran into the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel headed toward the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, never to be seen again.

But four years later at the annual "Tunnel to Towers Run," as 10,000 participants, and thousands of volunteers and supporters gathered to commemorate Siller and the 342 other firefighters who died that day, the impact of their sacrifice on the city they served is clearly astounding.

Equal parts memorial, fund raiser, and community healing event, the 5 kilometer run is an opportunity for the people of New York to come together and build something positive from the wreckage of that dark day four years ago.

At this year's run, amputees from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, with artificial limbs, firefighters from London, and two Banner staffers, Luke Crisalli and Tom Bradley were among the thousands at the Brooklyn starting line on the cool Sunday morning.

Starting out on the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, the runners followed in the footsteps of Siller and passed through the

Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, where 343 firefighters wearing banners bearing the names and likenesses of all the firemen who died on 9 / 1 1

stood, cheering them on. After exiting the tunnel, the runners went to the corner of Vesey and West Street, greeted by throngs of supporters who waited and cheered near the finish line.

After the run, the banner-bearing firefighters—led by Rudolph Giuliani—marched in a procession to the end of Vesey Street. The former Mayor later spoke at the event alongside Fire Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta and Siller's brother George, who presented one of the awards given out by his brother's foundation.

After the speeches and songs by Danny Rodriguez and a Bruce Springsteen



The crowd listens as Former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani addresses the crowd.

tribute band, the packed crowd of runners, press, volunteers and supporters mingled and enjoyed food from sponsors who set up booths along the end of Vesey Street.

Prior to this year, the event had raised close to a million dollars for various charities, including The New York Firefighter's Burn Center

Foundation, and this year's event was bigger and more successful than ever. As the NYC community heals, they seem to have taken the familiar motto "never forget" to heart.

While holding on to their memories of the loved ones lost, they have begun to accomplish something monumental. The terrorists may have succeeded in knocking down a few buildings, but through events like the Tunnel to Towers run, out of the ashes of a tragedy, the spirit of community which holds all New Yorkers together is growing ever-stronger.

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unhappy with the behavior of some of the students. "Sometimes some of the other people get too noisy, Scott said. "It can be hard to study in the day. You are also not supposed to eat in the library but everyone does."

Jones admits that she would like more security in the building but she has larger issues in her mind.

"My biggest challenge is finding new ways to get students into the library," Jones said. "We try hard to consistently come up with new ideas for programs that will get students to come."

Jones is succeeding in her goal. Last year, Jones said that 400 more students used that Library than the year before.

Katherine Wilson, a senior who works in the library has noticed the change.

"The library especially the computer rooms are busier than I have ever seen them, Wilson said. "If your Professor gives you notes on Blackboard, (The internet posting site) you have to visit the library to learn how to use it."

Jones recognizes the increasing diversity as a value to be cherished. One imaginative program that Jones is especially proud of is the Virtual Classroom, a course that teaches students from CSI, Turkey, South Africa, China and more. Jones is also proud of The Tuesday Film Fest in the Library shows films from all over the world to students, who then write feedback to Jones.

Jones convinced the Auxiliary services to allow the library to discontinue textbooks that were in the eight to ten to fifteen dollar range in favor of the more expensive

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ones that are harder for the average student to afford. "The bookstore is still making a profit, Jones said.

As much of a treasure she is to the college, Jones's community service spans the globe. She was recently awarded the NAACP Humanitarian award for her work helping immigrants from Africa. She is active in a non-profit organization called NAH WE YONE, which means, "It is our own." The group is helping refugees from the gulf coast recover after hurricane Katrina. Jones's eagerness to help others comes from a dark time in her life.

"In the 1990s, my country was going through a civil war," Jones said. "I was here in America unable to do anything but rely on others to help my family. I will never forget what others did for me; in return I will always aid however needs it."

Security Breach

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included direct deposit bank information.

"It's a human error," said CUNY spokesman Michael Arena. "Once we became aware of it, we immediately identified that problem and protected that file."

CUNY sent out a memo to the people affected telling them how to go about protecting their identities, and it blamed the central CUNY computer for not enabling a privacy setting on the files.

The error was discovered by a CUNY student who decided one day in mid September to Google their own name. Some people do it for entertainment reasons, but now they will be doing it to make sure that a human or machine error did not release their information.

The official CUNY explanation details that the Hunter files were accessed 217 times between July and September, before the files cache were taken off Google the Friday after the error was detected.

This error has caused a great deal of concern in CUNY. The thing that is most frightening is that there is currently no way to know if this has ever happened before. Some staff members in other CUNY colleges like CSI have not even heard about the security slip in Hunter of Queens College.

The security of the student and staff private information in CUNY has become an unexpected and unreasonable issue that involves all of CUNY. CUNY students and staff should not have to worry about our security in a place that is supposed to be our second home. The information is not believed to be purposely leaked out, but it is almost as bad as if it were stolen by an insider. The information was slipped past security and that is what matters.

The University has initiated new security measures and testing procedures to prevent future slips. There will also be a person on the job monitoring the system soon.

Peace Officers Armed?

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from discussing future incidents with the press. Both Aponte and Director of Public Safety Gene Martinez deny that the administration wanted to downplay the parking lot brawl, and have claimed that Officer Rutz violated CUNY guidelines by divulging the names of the perpetrators as well as other information contained on the incident report.

"The administration conveniently forgets that I am a union official," countered Rutz. "I have the right to comment even publicly on issues that affect the health, safety and general welfare of our officers. I made the moral decision to go public with this information out of a genuine concern for the safety of the people I represent. We strongly felt that the administration's policies did not address our genuine safety concerns. I could not stand by and wait for another officer to be hurt or possibly killed."

Martinez, on the other hand, claimed that Rutz may have had financial gain in mind at the time he spoke to the Advance. "Officer Rutz is a union shop steward, and as a shop steward, he is trying to get more money for his members. If officers are armed, the appeal or the process for getting them more money is a lot easier than if they're unarmed."

Officer Rutz maintained that he was motivated solely out of genuine concern for the safety and well being of his officers. "I am an unpaid volunteer union official. I have no power to bargain for contracts or financial compensation," said Mr. Rutz.

If the decision were made to arm the peace officers, several new factors would need to be addressed. Weapons training would be expensive and time consuming. The officers would need to complete a ten-day, full time course, in order to qualify to carry a firearm and attend an additional full day training course twice a year. Armed peace officers that work within the CUNY system are only allowed to carry a gun while on

campus. After completing their work, the officers have to place their weapon in a locked box. An area on campus would need to be set aside strictly for the purpose of storing weapons. Extra safety precautions would have to be taken to prevent unauthorized persons from gaining access to the weapons.

Both Aponte and Martinez asserted that CSI's peace officers would not be issued a firearm anytime in the near future. "The fact is we have taken steps to address the weakest aspects of public safety, through staffing, physical changes in the landscape, and capital improvements in terms of lighting, and the end result is where we are right now," said Aponte.

But Officer Rutz remains concerned about the possibility of campus altercations. "It is our position that any delay, whether it be 30 seconds or two minutes in length in the response time to a violent incident, especially one requiring a firearm, is far too long," said Officer Rutz.

Gene Martinez believes that the peace officers' uniformed presence, and frequent patrolling of the campus acts as a deterrent because most criminals do not want to enter a situation where they are outnumbered or can be positively identified. "It is my firm belief that a city college, a college within the confines of a major city, has no need for firearms at all. In fact, I think there would be more of a problem with accidentally discharging or unjustifiably discharging a firearm, at a student or someone else than there is with self-preservation of the officers."

"I wholeheartedly support the college's position regarding our Public Safety officers and the decision that they not carry firearms," said Vice President for Student Affairs, Carol Jackson. "Our Public Safety Officers have done a wonderful job keeping the community safe."

Some students like 23-year old David Jaramillo agree that the introduction of firearms would do more harm than good. "I think it would be a bad idea to give the peace officers weapons because what if someone takes their weapon away and uses it on them. It will

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WSIA Prepares To Go Digital—But Can Anyone Listen?

Marissa Gessin

Some people may be unaware of a profitable and dynamic club on campus. CSI owns the only radio station in Staten Island, WSIA.

With the largest sign on campus, students still mistake WSIA for the bookstore. After they realize that they have in fact not entered the bookstore, students then turn around and leave instead of inquiring about one of the most advanced college radio stations in America. Over the next few years, WSIA will become even more advanced. Evolving like other radio stations, WSIA is going digital.

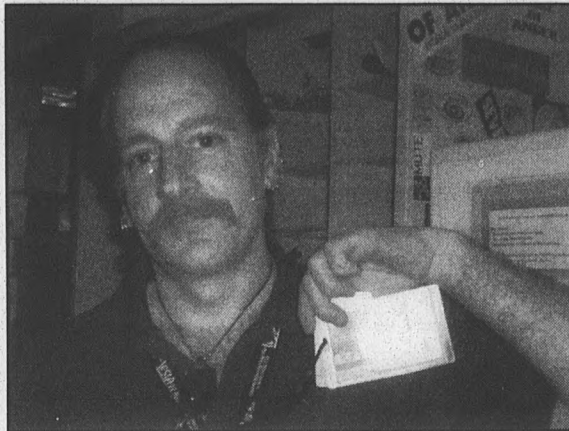
A student run organization, WSIA does work hand in hand with the college itself. "There are two types of college radio stations," says John Ladley, Chief Engineer. "The first is the student run (into the ground) radio station. The second is the station that is run by the college. Many times the stations are part of the curriculum. WSIA is so unique because we have struck a balance between the two."

As the story goes, some kids at the old CSI campus began their own radio station in a broom closet. After a few years it grew into something a little more than a closet. When Ladley joined WSIA in the winter of 1991, the station had only three rooms, an on-air studio, a news studio (secondary studio) and a production room. In 1993-94 The College of Staten Island moved to the Willowbrook campus and

Ladley had the responsibility of overseeing the move of the entire radio station. It was through this experience that the students realized Ladley was a necessity. "By the time the place was put together," explains Ladley, "I was made Chief Engineer. I never really wanted the job, just kind of got it."

The on-air studio has been done over twice and the production studio will see its fifth makeover

shortly. Every time, students have been heavily involved. Ladley, wearing Levi's, a black polo shirt, about 20 small silver hoops in his ears with his long brown mullet gelled back, always teaches the students how the process works. "I learned how to fix a board, CD players, and dual monitors," explains Laura Parnizari, the student Engineering director at WSIA. "I have taken apart carts, CD and tape players. Also, I helped install the new (on-air) board. It was agonizingly painful. All the wires had to be stripped and have little pins attached. It was a lot to learn."



John Ladley has been at WSIA for 14 years. He is helping WSIA transition to digital broadcasting.

Most people may know what a CD player is, or an on-air board, but very few people know what a cart is. Carts were important tools for radio, however they will

soon be obsolete. As a dynamic medium, radio always changes. WSIA must change too. Soon WSIA will be Staten Island's only digital radio station. The process will be a long and tedious one, as the Chief Engineer,

Ladley will have to work with and teach students as they go. Although his technical skills brought him to his current job, Ladley has a huge task ahead of him. He knows that installing everything will take days. "I know what I'm up against," he says with a smirk.

In past years the relationship between the college administration and WSIA had been lacking. It was not until recently where the college realized the potential that WSIA has. "The college has come to realize what a great tool WSIA is for recruiting people who are interested in radio as a

career" explained Carol Brower, Director of Student Life. "It is also a tool for the college to promote itself. They won't let it flounder, fall apart." Through their new understanding of the importance of WSIA, the college was able to obtain a grant allowing for the upgrade of the Production Studio. "It will be completely digitalized. This process does not effect the sound that a consumer hears," Ladley explained, "but it does change the quality of the pieces made."

Continuing the process of keeping up with the standards means digital transmission. "I'm not convinced that consumers are on board with this," says Ladley. "They will have to go out and buy new digital radios for their homes and cars." In order to receive the digital transmission, consumers must have digital receivers. The grant money does not cover making the transmitter digital. WSIA will have to raise that money itself, and it costs from \$75,000-\$100,000. That number does not include installing the new machinery.

While always a step ahead of what other college stations are doing, WSIA continues to flourish. Unlike stations where the students lack any supervision, WSIA and the administration of CSI work together. Also, unlike other college stations, the administration doesn't control what could be a fun, as well as a learning environment. The college and WSIA have mutual respect. "Other college stations run by the administrations don't make leaders," Ladley says. "They make sheep."

Job Listings Available at Career Placement Center

Khadijah Rentas

Hundreds of students pass it each semester on their path to renewing their parking decal for sorely overcrowded lots. It is an office one can almost see through if not for the dozens of small rectangular papers taped to the windows. A close read of those papers advises students of the full-time jobs available in their field of study. The Career and Scholarship Center in 1A105 stands as more than an office to just look at from the outside. A few minutes inside can change a student's life.

Through the glass and inside the Career and Scholarship Center sit staff members ready to help any student interested in how to gain future employment and valuable scholarship dollars. On a desk, brochures publicize the center's activities. Across from the desk and against the window, a resume drop-off box. Here students can deposit their resumes and return to a professionally edited version. Miguel Henriquez received on the spot attention.

Henriquez typed the advised edits of his resume he received just minutes before into one of the five computers available in the Career and Scholarship Center. A senior with a major in business and finance, Henriquez used the popular resume critique service provided last semester, too. As part of the

resume referral service, the office alerted him through mail last semester of a full-time job opening in his field. He called the contact at the company to learn of the position and heard he needed to first graduate before he could obtain that particular job. "You have that piece of paper," said Henriquez. "You have that degree you have a high chance of getting a job."

The range of programs provided by the Career and Scholarship Center allow CSI graduates to remain competitive with other recent graduates in the job market, said Caryl Watkins, director of the center for the last 11 years. The resume critique service has anywhere from 30 to 100 resumes in a week, said Watkins. Most students use the service in conjunction with job fairs like the SI Collegiate Job Fair organized by the center. "We're trying to leave an impression," said Watkins. "And the best way to do that is to go to the students."

The Career and Scholarship Center offers 26 workshops in six categories this semester including "What is an Internship and How Do I get One" and "Interviewing Techniques & Tips."

Along with special events, the Career and Scholarship Center also advises students on scholarship and fellowship opportunities. "When I came in we were just career placement and then

became career placement, scholarships and awards," said Joanne Hollan, assistant director of the newly named Career and Scholarship Center. "We really wanted to be a resource for students."

Trained in psychotherapy and with experience as a counselor, Hollan joined CSI in October 2000. She works directly with students—as does Watkins—on resume development, interviewing skills and application processes. Some of the more popular scholarships and fellowships include 100 Hispanic Women Scholarship, Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship, and the Soros Foundation Scholarship for New Americans. Deutch Bank, Clear Channel, and Oppenheimer rank as the more popular internships students receive through leads from the Career and Scholarship Center. However, the center has difficulty following the overall success of students.

"Once they graduate and once they get the job of their dreams rarely do they report back to us," said Hollan. "And it's not a problem just for CSI but nationwide."

Sometimes Hollan hears of success stories by chance when she unexpectedly sees a student she remembered obtained an internship or fellowship through the office.

Such was the case with a female

student that discovered an internship opportunity with Goldman Sachs through the center. She landed the job and had a successful experience, said Hollan.

Others have reported, like a communications and music major student from Japan who asked Hollan to spend more time with him on his interview skills because he was self-conscious about his English. He scored a job with Sony, said Hollan.

The position with Sony did not appear in the computer job database. Available to students in the center. Watkins lists this as a complaint some students have. However, students that obtain jobs or internships outside of the center's database do say they had help interviewing and taking advantage of the other services like the resume critique.

Hollan insists the Career and Scholarship Center not be interpreted as a job agency to students. Instead, it prepares students through workshops and events like the business etiquette luncheon and career expo to develop skills necessary to achieve the job of their choice. "You're not born knowing how to interview. You're not born knowing how to network," said Watkins. "You need people to help."

From the Editor

It's hard to believe it's October already.

With Fall upon us, things will slowly start to change. It will get colder (hard to believe given how warm it's been), the days will get shorter, and leaves will fall from their trees. The Banner is no exception.

You may notice that we have a brand spanking new look to the Arts and Entertainment section; that's thanks to our resident Comics Editor/Graphic Designer Enrique Innocente, who worked harder than just about everyone else on this issue (not that the rest of us of us slacked off; we all had to work our asses off thanks to last week's crazy schedule).

But that's not all. We have a fall fashion section brought to you by Tom Bradley. Mellissa Seecharan and Enrique Innocente teamed up to cover Across the Narrows, spending an astonishing 13 hours there just to see Oasis perform.

On a more somber note, the 4th annual Tunnel to Towers run was held in memory of Staten Island firefighter Stephen Siller. Banner staff members Luke Crisalli and Tom Bradley took part in the run, while Mellissa Seecharan and Matt Safford covered the event and put together an awesome, compelling photo spread.

So long for now and keep reading The Banner.

-David Maltz

SG Recap

Anne DeMarzo

In response to a Student Government invitation, CUNY Board of Trustee members, Dr. Kay Pesile, Kenneth Cook and Lauren Fasano attended the September 22nd SG meeting to discuss student concerns.

"CUNY must do more than offer an education," said SG senator Robert Duru. "It must offer an affordable education."

Trustee Pesile, who is a CSI business professor and a CSI alumnus, who once served as the President of the CSI Student Government, stressed the importance of voting in local and statewide elections. She stated that perhaps Staten Island businesses could be asked to donate funds for scholarships.

"What is being done to make sure CSI students are being placed in significant places in business?" Duru asked. "Success inspires students to give back."

Last February, the Alumni office, along with the PDC, Accounting, International Business and Marketing clubs, cosponsored the well-attended Business All Stars. "We have to look into doing more things like that," said SG President, Taiwo Olasupo.

"It think it is great for students to have access to members of the Board of Trustees," said Carol Brower, Director of Student Life.

Academic and Curricular Affairs Commission (ACA) announced that after a four-year campaign, the Faculty Senate has approved the Pass/Fail option. The resolu-

Letters To The Editor

Re: "The Student Behind The Mask (And The Costume)"

I really enjoyed reading this upbeat story about Mr. Anthony Gallo. I get a sense of how much he loves his job and the money involved. I would love to see more feel good stories like this one in The Banner. Scott Zeller did a great job on this profile of a CSI Student.

-Andrew Rafferty

Re: "Men's soccer shows heart in shutout victory"

Going to the CSI men's soccer games is quite an experience. The dedication every player has is shown in the intensity of their game. It is also entertaining to hear their coach, Vito, on the sidelines screaming in Italian at the refs or the other coaches. He is awesome though and gets his players pumped up. This article captures the spirit of the soccer team and the atmosphere at the game. They have a great chance of making the NCAA tournament if they keep playing together and strangely as they ate doing now.

-Carinne Fassari, Junior

Re: "Seldom Used CIX Accounts Blamed For Failed Sex Offender Notification"

I happen to agree that the failed use of CIX accounts could've played a role in nobody knowing about a sex offender or anything else for that matter. I didn't even know what a CIX account was until last semester, and I wouldn't know how to access it if I needed to. These accounts are a good idea, but students should've been better informed on them.

-Mike Smith, Junior

Re: "Seldom Used CIX Accounts Blamed For Failed Sex Offender Notification"

This is my fourth year at CSI. I have received numerous letters from the school about many things. From my acceptance letters, to information about about parking and invitations to participate in leadership events. Every one of these items have come in the mail. I always look through my "snail mail" hoping something good will be there. The College relies too heavily on the CIX system. For those with Internet access,

tion generally applies to electives, and the academic departments may exclude some courses.

"It was great to see an initiative that started a while back go from one student government to another and continue until it was resolved," said Brower. "It shows that students do have a voice, administrators listen and changes are made."

Student Government meetings for October are scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 6th and 20th. Meetings are held in 1C-206 during club hours: 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

we already have e-mail accounts.

Most of us would prefer they stay out of our educational career. I'm sure they receive bills as well as from the postman. If people don't read their snail mail that's one thing, but the CIX system is useless to the vast majority of the students in the first place.

-Marissa Gessin, Junior

"Re: Student volunteers Her Time at College Radio Station"

The article on Marissa Gessin was great. Students who read it saw how working hard and networking is extremely important in today's world. After college, people like Marissa will have an extreme advantage over those who did not participate in extracurricular activities.

-Jennifer Miller, Junior

"Re: After Katrina. the Cronyism Continues"

The extent of the failure of the federal government in dealing with the disasters of the past month may never be known. How the government amends these mistakes and asserts it's willingness to change will end up deciding the county's future. Hard issues face politicians in the coming years, especially Republicans. It's time to pay more attention to the environment of the world and the people of America. These are challenges that Republicans notoriously avoid. If Republicans don't change, the majority of the political affiliations of those we elect will.

-Cliff Weimer, Junior

"Re: Remedy Performs at CSI"

The title "Jewish Rapper Remedy Performs" is a little problematic. When I first read it, I thought the article was going to be about him performing. But it focused more on his Jewish background rather than the actual performance. More people would have liked to hear about that. However, the article was informative on his work in the Jewish community. Maybe you should have tried a title like "Remedy Raps for Jewish Community."

-Mario Cardaci, Senior

"Re: Women's Volleyball"

After reading the Banner this week, an article stood out in the sports section. The article was about the women's volleyball team. Since coming to CSI, I haven't seen any sports games, nor have I even really heard of a game coming up. To actually read about sports and the team at CSI was interesting. The article had good information about the previous games and the newcomers to the team. In the future I would like to read more about sports and maybe even see a schedule.

-Rafal Bogucki, Freshman

Peace Officers Armed?

Continued from page 3

only make things worse."

But the abundance of dense wooded areas on campus concerns many students. "There are all these woods. How do I know there isn't some psycho sitting in the woods, waiting to get me when I go to my car?" said 22-year-old, Jaclyn Alessi. "It's very unsettling." According to Vice President Aponte, four acres of brush and low hanging trees have already been removed and he assures that students are more likely to encounter a raccoon than a criminal in the remaining woods.

Indeed, poor lighting, dense wooded areas, minimal ID checks, level 1 and 2 sex offenders on campus, and unarmed peace officers, leave many wondering if the potential for violence may be growing.

"I think that the officers should be armed," said 24-year-old student, Nakibar Loney. "They should at least be able to protect themselves. CSI is an open school. Someone could claim that they are coming here for one reason, when they really intend to do something else. We may not have had to deal with these problems in the past, but the student population is increasing."

The presence of level 1 and level 2 sex offenders on campus has also raised students' safety concerns. Aponte indicated that numerous precautions were being taken as a result of their presence, including knowing where and when these individuals are on campus, at all times. "We are mindful of the fact that we have a level 1 and a level 2 sex offender on campus, and we have taken internal steps to address that," said Aponte. "That information is confidential and we are not going to share that with you."

CSI relies on the 122nd police precinct to provide any additional aid that they might need. Martinez feels confident that the expert training and quick response time of the NYPD would be more than sufficient should any incident requiring firearms present itself. "The very nature of any law enforcement activity is dangerous. There is always an element of what if I come up against someone that is better armed than me or better trained than me," he said. "No one has ever asked a law enforcement officer to be a hero. If an officer realizes that he is in a situation where he is overpowered, then he retreats and calls for assistance."

Gene Martinez argued that there are differences between peace officers and police officers; specifically with regard to the jurisdiction they have to enforce certain laws and make certain arrests. He insisted that they are not one and the same, nor should they be thought of as such.

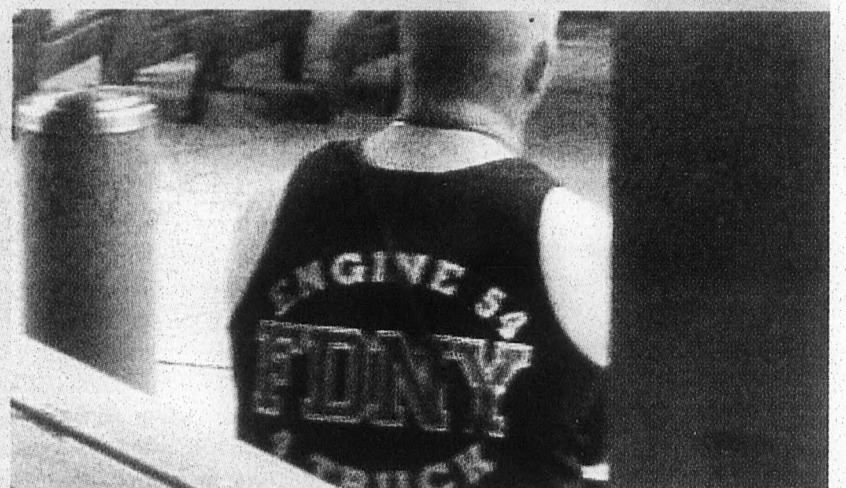
Rutz disagreed. "Peace officers while on duty and especially while conducting security operations in relation to the campus possess the same statutory arrest powers and authority to use force to effect an arrest, or in the defense of another or themselves as a police officer. This is how we were trained and it is supported by the criminal procedure and penal laws. We are sworn law enforcement officers."

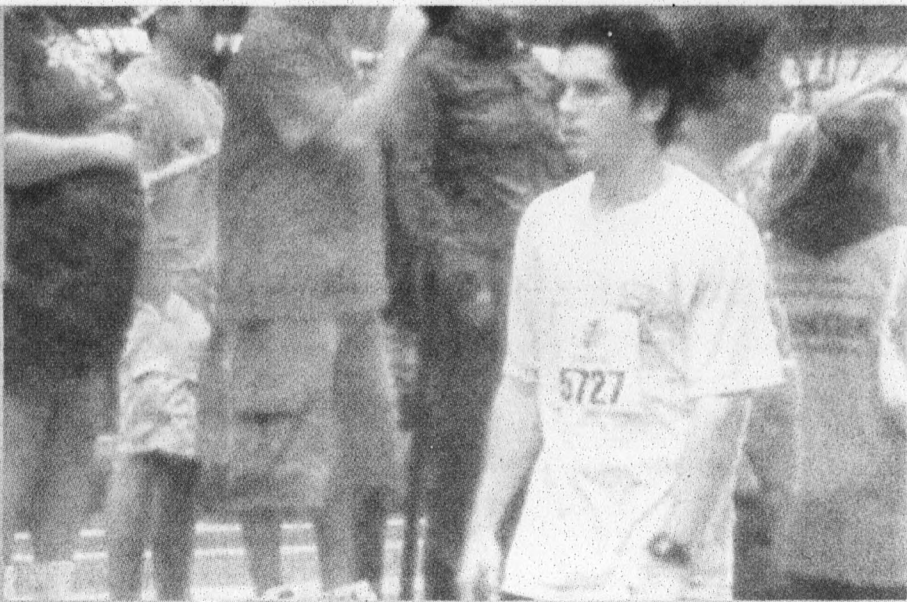
Tunnel to Towers 2005

Photos: Mellissa Seecharan and Matt Safford; Page layout: Enrique Inocente

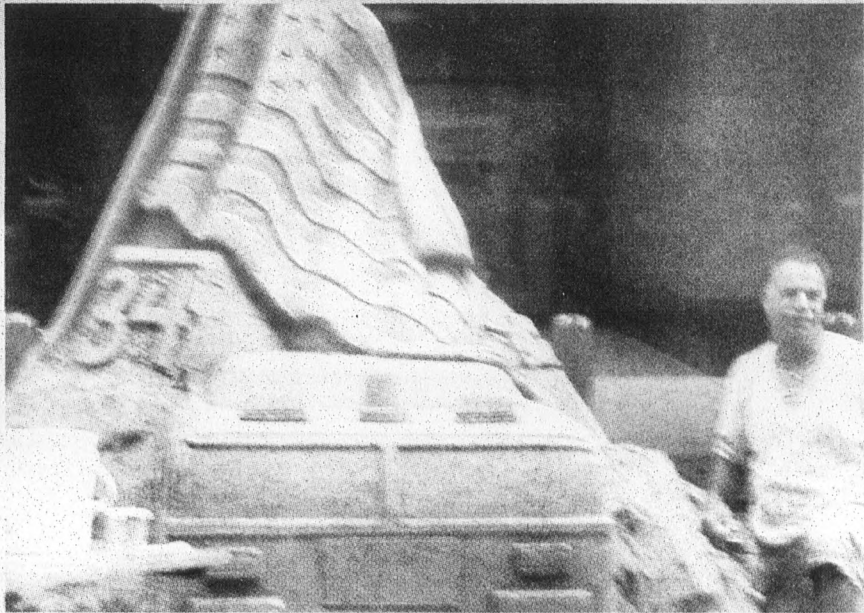
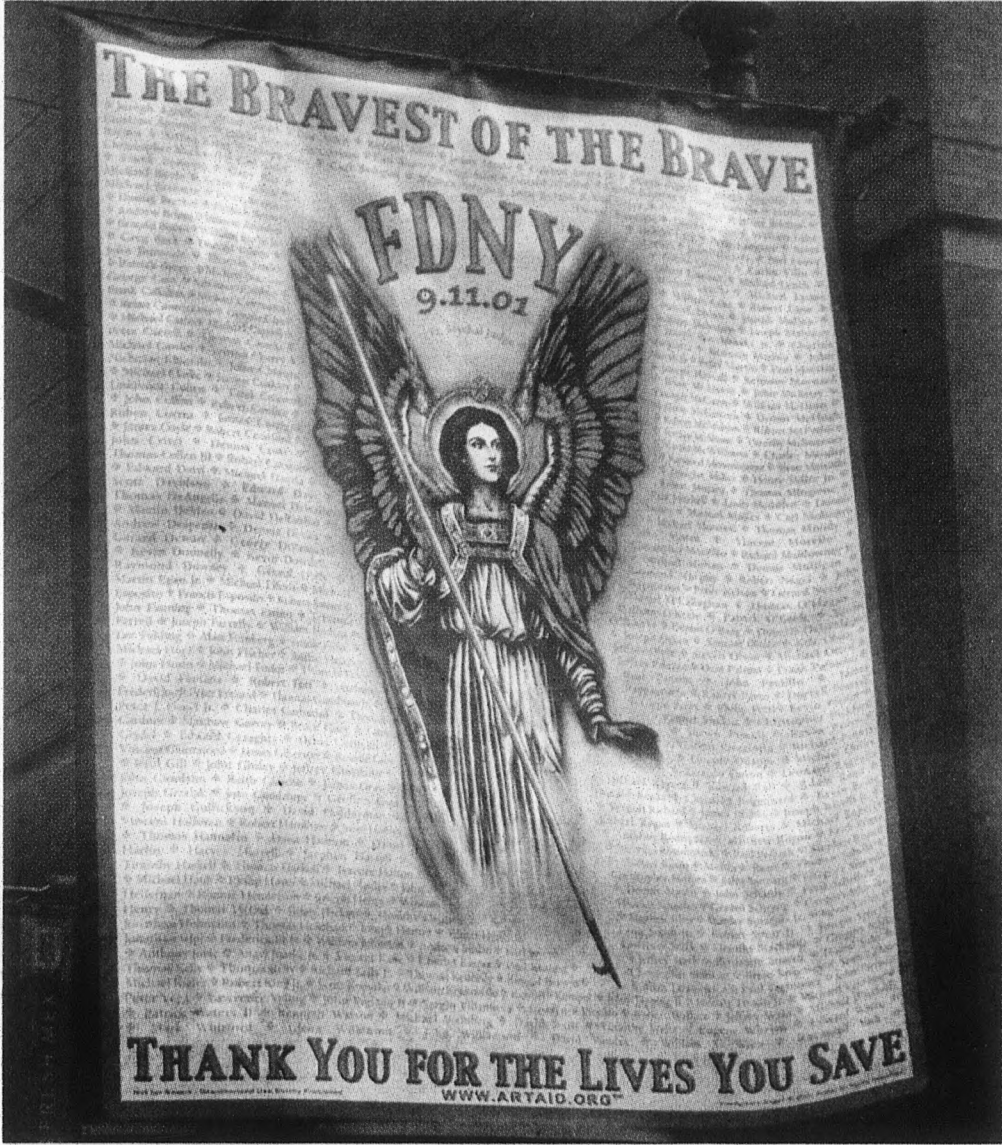


On September 25th, more than 10,000 people took part in the Tunnel to Towers Run. Racing in memory of Staten Island Firefighter Stephen Siller, the 5k run retraced the path Siller took as he ran in full gear through the Battery Tunnel to the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

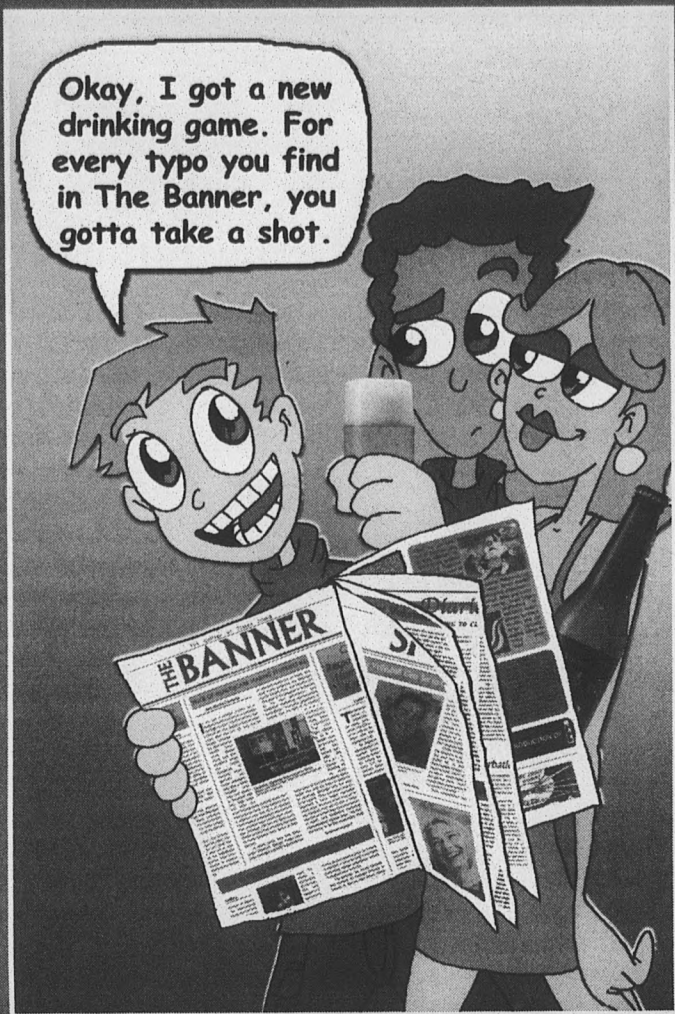




CSI students Luke Crisalli (above) and Tom Bradley (upper right) took part in the run.



comics



3 pages

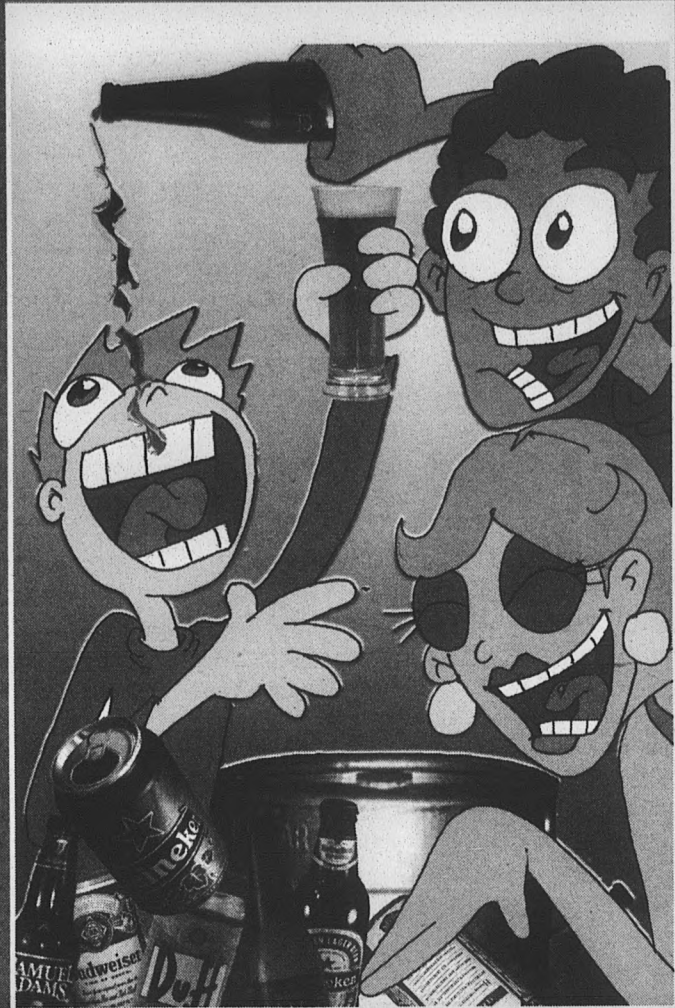
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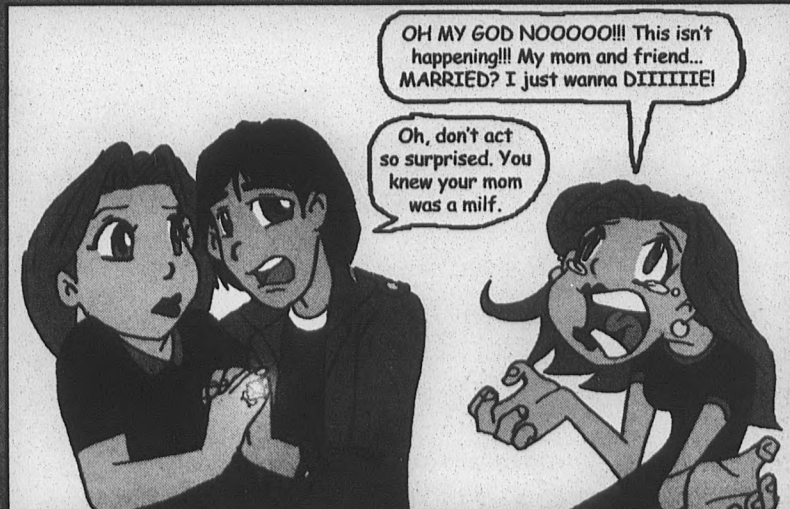
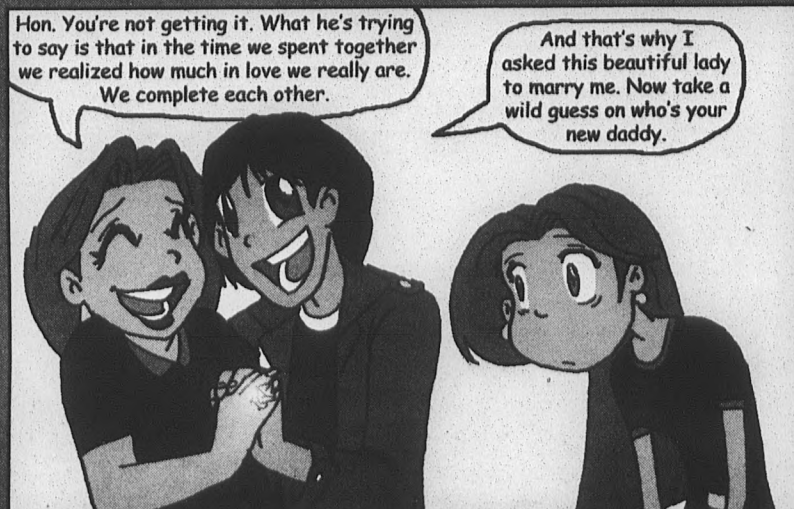
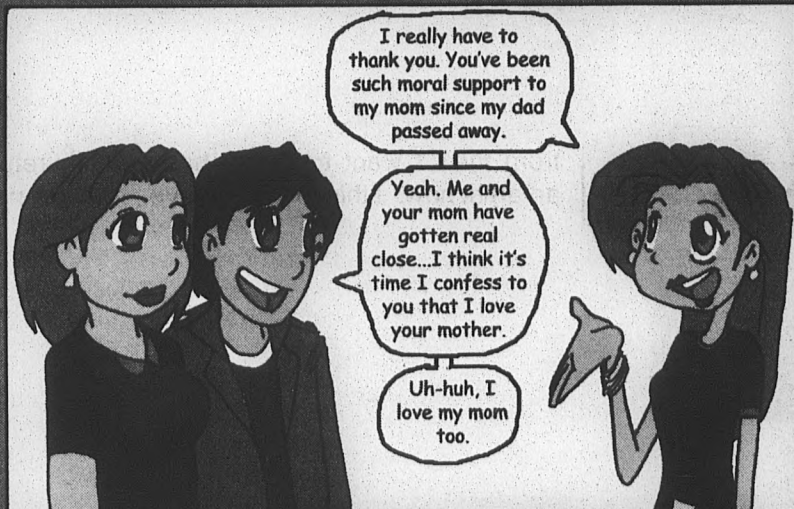
typos

later...

An
Enrique Ignacio Inocente
Joint



An Enrique Ignacio Inocente Joint



WTF

Title- A Contract With God
Artist- Will Eisner
Publisher- DC Comics
\$12.95



If you love comics but don't know the name Will Eisner then you better go back into the hole you crawled out of, and read your Archie comics. But wait. Let me kick some knowledge before you crawl back where you came from. Will Eisner is the godfather of the comic book medium we know today as the graphic novel. He began his career early in the 1940's with a weekly superhero series entitled The Spirit. Realizing comics could

be used to tell a more meaningful story about real people, Eisner set out to redefine comics as an art form, and did so with his first graphic novel in 1978, A Contract With God.

The DC Comics publication of A Contract With God is a collection of four Eisner graphic novels about the residents of a Bronx tenement building in the 1930's. The title comic, A Contract With God, portrays the life a rabbi who made a contract with God, but when his surrogate daughter

dies, he blames God for her death and breaks the contract. Other stories depict the lives of street singers, supers, and families struggling to survive the Great Depression in New York City. Eisner captures the grit and realism of his characters, not only in the art, but also in honestly written dialogue. The result is a powerful graphic novel that strikes a provocative nerve in the observer.

-Enrique Inocente

Inside the Comics Studio

Today's Guest: Billy Tucci



Interview By: Greg Tumbarello

Billy Tucci began self-publishing his own highly successful comic, Shi, over ten years ago, which is currently optioned as a major motion picture. Shi is one of the most notable female characters in comic books, but let's have Billy give us the rundown in his own words:

GT: What is Shi about and where did you get the idea for the story?

Billy Tucci: Actually, the story came out of history. She's a descendant of the warrior monks of medieval Japan, and I brought that over to today's society. It's a modern day samurai tale and she's literally a soldier in a war that's existed thousands of years before she was ever born. It's a thriller and Shi is a very reactive character.

GT: Did you do a lot of research before writing the story?

Tucci: Oh yeah. I'm a research fanatic. I just fell in love with the Japanese culture and the more research I did the better the character got.

GT: How did you get into comics and how did you begin producing Shi?

Tucci: In college my friends all read comics and got me into it. Upon getting out of college, I really had the bug and wanted to draw

comic books, so I submitted my artwork to all the major publishers and got turned down by everybody. Then I decided, "I'm going to do this on my own."

I proceeded to get turned down by everybody else with my character [Shi] and I guess I believed in the character so much that I just kept working at it. It took

me about two years to get the first issue where I wanted it and I solicited it. Our numbers were good initially (37,000 copies). Within three weeks of the book shipping, we had reorders for over 140,000 books and it just took off from there.

GT: What were the biggest problems you faced when you first



Billy Tucci's Shi gears up for some serious ass kicking.

started publishing?

Tucci: Well, it was an "on the job training" and I literally had to make every mistake that you could make. But this was all really before the book hit. Once the book came out it was great, but we could never meet demand, ever. I still have that problem. I recently went to Dark Horse with the new series to lift that burden from me. I want to be an artist now. I think I'm at that stage where I want to be creative, and spend time with my family and have a better quality of life. I spend so much time doing business stuff, and that takes away from my art and my time to draw.

GT: Are there any changes being made to the story for the screen adaptation?

Tucci: They feel the original story is too similar to Kill Bill even though it came out almost ten years after my story.

GT: What's the story for the movie?

Tucci: There is a girl who is totally detached from her Japanese past. She's living in the United States and inadvertently brings the enemy here. She's been hidden here by her grandfather and his four old buddies, who are

these warrior masters, who brought her here to get away from it all. Through working for the Brooklyn Museum of Art, she puts on a display that tips off her enemy, who are trying to find the last of this sect that are now in America. The film opens up like an American film and ends literally like an Asian film. As it goes on she gets more in tune with her Asian side, and the more she does the stronger she gets. She has to really return to her roots to save her grandfather and her friends.

GT: Out of everything you've done in comics, what are you most proud of?

Tucci: I'm appreciative that people respond to something that I came up with. People ask for my autograph and I'm stunned. People pay me to do something I love.

GT: Do you have any advice for those artists and writers out there trying to break into comics?

Tucci: Try and do it yourself. If you're an artist and you're good you will get work. It's much more difficult for writers and I think the best thing to do is to do your own book.

Billy Tucci will be making an appearance to sign autographs and chat with fans at the National Convention being held on November 18-20 at the Penn Plaza Pavilion in NYC.

Lauren Taylor's Freshman Diaries...

*Time
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A month and change has-gone by since I began my student life at the College of Staten Island. I can't believe how fast the moments of time, of my time, are flying by. I never experienced that myself, but my parents and older family members share with me that "time will pass in a blink of an eye" especially when you get older. Am I older? That is a scary thought. How old is 'older'? I don't want time to "pass" so

quickly and I certainly do not want to be OLDER! Older than what? Why does our age increase the speed of the clock?

That second hand looked still when I was sitting in a boring class in grammar school and in high school. That second hand is the same one from my youth. It follows me everywhere. Staring at that clock in high school and waiting for the change of class bell, seemed like an eternity.

In those days, I wanted the clocks' second hand to move and time to pass. I desperately wanted the clock to tell me that my school day has ended but now it is not that way at all. I enjoy my College of Staten Island classes and therefore I very rarely look at that legendary clock, the ball and chain of my day.

The fact that I now possess a Drivers License decreases the time it takes for me to get to my destination in

comparison to walking or taking the bus. I am usually promptly waiting for a ride, ready on time but waiting. I am glad that I am now in control of my precious time, and others now wait for me. I believe that maturity has taken over my spirit, not age. I might be a little older, but yes, I am better. I feel that I now appreciate my education because I make the decisions. I am now in control and the clock, with its 'broken' second hand does not dictate my life anymore. My organizational skills do.

S

Sex and the Island
Anne Marie Dooling



I don't need to tell you how small Staten Island is. And living on a place the size of a thimble creates numerous social problems, especially when it comes to dating. It can often be difficult to bump into someone new, and it's even harder to meet someone new who you'd like to date. In a place where most of the couples have been together since junior high, and everyone seems to be paired up, it's very easy to get discouraged. And during these in-between periods even the most tame individual is bound to start feeling lonely... sexually.

So what's a girl to do when she needs to feel the weight of a man on top of her... or beside her... or under her... or in front of her? Well, you could go out to one of the many (aka 3 or 4) good bars on the island, dress like your going to the Copacabana and cross your fingers that an alien ship landed in Miller's Field last night and dropped off a crop of new men, or, you can recycle.

In the dating world, recycling is when you go through a dry spell and decide maybe that guy you dated a few months ago wasn't that bad, or at least not bad enough to stop you from meeting him again, if only for sex. It's essentially sex with the ex, and it's got advantages and problems.

Just calling up an ex for sex can be tricky on it's own. If it's not well received, now you've got someone who thinks your sitting home pining after them. But it's seemingly a much easier option than searching for someone new, especially since you already know the guy and it's a much more casual conversation then you'd have with Vito or Jimmy at the bar. After calling the ex, if your successful, you've gotta find a time to meet them, or run into them; you've gotta go through all the motions of preparing to get laid during your sexual dry spell (see: bikini waxes, ect...); and then there's the sex itself.

If it's good, feelings may start to redevelop. If it's bad, your back at square one and you just wasted an entire evening you could have been out making out with someone you didn't already reject. The whole idea of recycling is a worst gamble than the 2-4 Hold 'Em tables at Caesar's. But if it's so tricky, why recycle?

At CSI alone the number of female students is nearly double the amount of males, and this is a tiny mimic of the Island, itself, where everyone is already a couple by age twenty. It can become very lonely being the third wheel time and time again. Even if we love our coupled

friends, it can be very difficult to relate. Maybe we need to concentrate on school or a career. Maybe we're holding out for someone who gives us butterflies. Maybe we're just not into anyone around here. Being single does happen. And as much as we'd like to believe times have changed for us women, being alone in a world of two's has not become any easier than it ever was. This is especially true in the Noah's Ark replica we live on. Sometimes the only option is to call an old familiar number.

The major problem with recycling men, though, is that much of the time it can actually make you lonelier than when you started. Sure, you're getting laid, but it's awkward. Your feelings come into play; you start to believe you're a couple again. In women, who's feelings of love are chemically induced by intercourse, we can actually fool ourselves into feeling something for this person we just had sex with, even if we did dump him the first time. There's also the desperation factor. Are women who return to a man they didn't really like, just for sex, actually just desperate for a man in general? Are we fooling ourselves with the sex alibi and really just looking for a familiar face and some company? Any of these can be a viable

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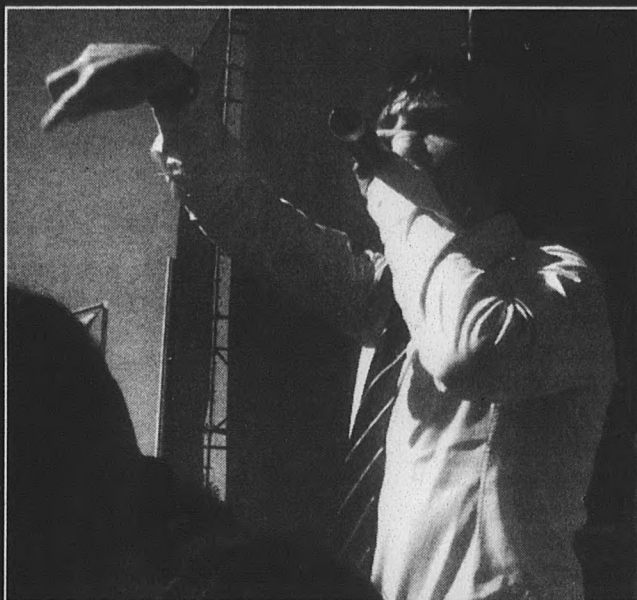
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Did it end well? Why did it end? Was the sex good? Because if your traveling down a road you previously closed off, and probably for a good reason, the sex damn well better be worth it.

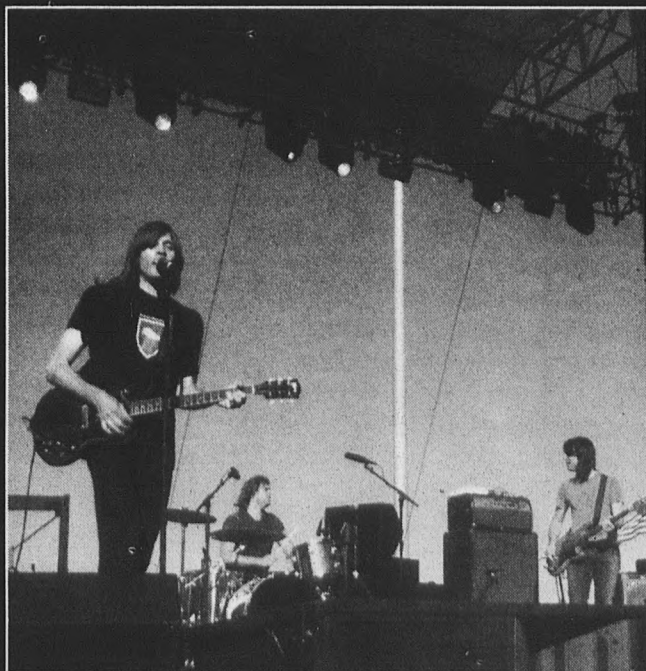
ACROSS THE NARROWS

ROCKIN' OUT IN STATEN ISLAND!

Photo Review: Mellissa Seecharan and Enrique Inocente



Fans gathered on October 1st and 2nd at Coney Island Ballpark (Brooklyn) and Richmond County Ballpark (Staten Island) to see Kasabian, Doves, Beck, Gang of Four, New York Dolls, and especially Oasis. The Brit rockers put on an amazing show to thousands of exhausted fans who endured hours in the heat and horrendous opening acts.

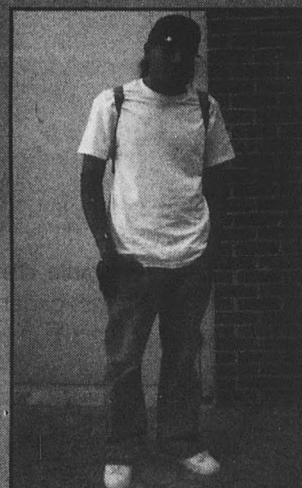


Fall Style at CSI

Thomas Bradley



Name: Chip Watson
Job: Student
Glasses: Gazelle
Hoodie: Iceberg
Jeans: CalvinKlein
Kicks: Nike Vandals
Bag: Vans
Favorite Brands: PRPS, Vivienne Westwood, Bape, G Star, Member's Only, Vans
Hated Brands: Seven Jeans, Men's Guess, Rocawear, Prada (kicks), Jerseys
Wants but can't afford: Bape leather Bomber jacket



Name: Pavel Valera
Job: Armani Exchange, SoHo
Hat: Yankees New Era
Shirt: Hanes White Tee
Jeans: Buffalo
Kicks: White Air Ones
Bag: Iceberg Army Store Sidekick 2
Favorite Brands: Bape, Polo, Armani X, G Star, Levi 501
Hated Brands: Prada, Chinese Slippers, Name belts, Miskeen Shirts, Anything Airbrushed
Wants but can't afford: Leather LV bag with LV sweater.

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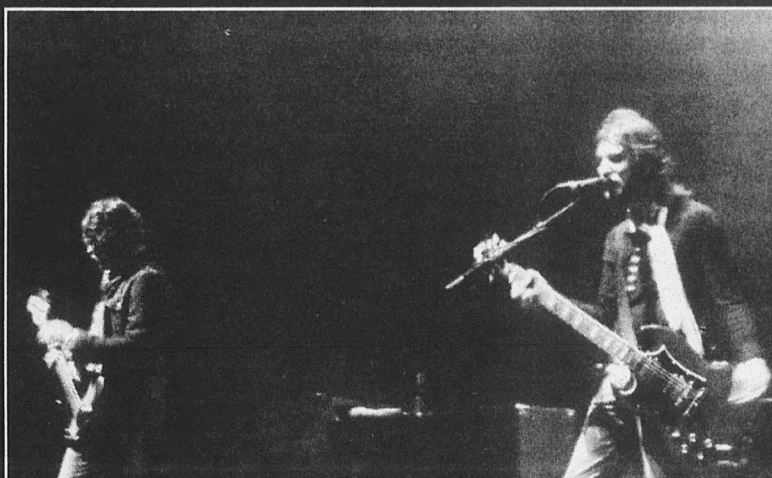
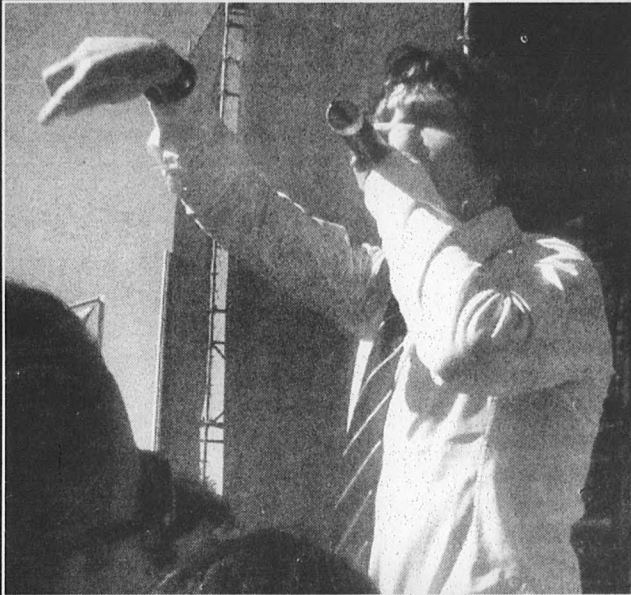
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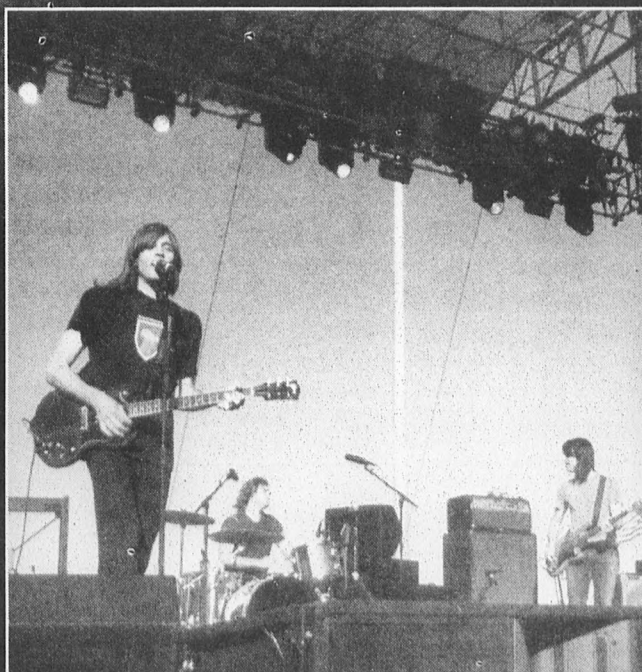
ACROSS THE NARROWS

ROCKIN' OUT IN STATEN ISLAND!

Photo Review: Mellissa Seecharan and Enrique Inocente

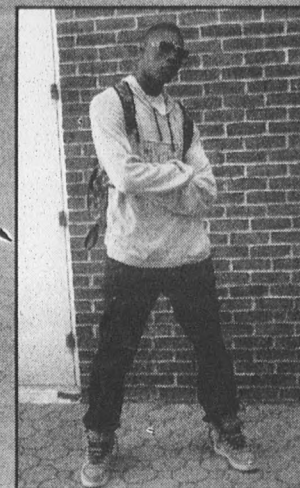


Fans gathered on October 1st and 2nd at Coney Island Ballpark (Brooklyn) and Richmond County Ballpark (Staten Island) to see Kasabian, Doves, Beck, Gang of Four, New York Dolls, and especially Oasis. The Brit rockers put on an amazing show to thousands of exhausted fans who endured hours in the heat and horrendous opening acts.

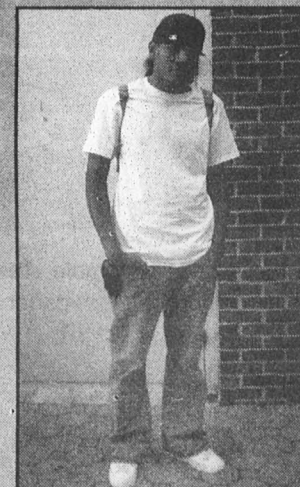


Fall Style at CSI

Thomas Bradley



Name: Chip Watson
Job: Student
Glasses: Gazelle
Hoodie: Iceberg
Jeans: Calvin Klein
Kicks: Nike Vandals
Bag: Vans
Favorite Brands: PRPS, Vivienne Westwood, Bape, G Star, Member's Only, Vans
Hated Brands: Seven Jeans, Men's Guess, Rocawear, Prada (kicks), Jerseys
Wants but can't afford: Bape leather Bomber jacket



Name: Pavel Valera
Job: Armani Exchange, SoHo
Hat: Yankees New Era
Shirt: Hanes White Tee
Jeans: Buffalo
Kicks: White Air Ones
Bag: Iceberg Army Store Sidekick 2
Favorite Brands: Bape, Polo, Armani X, G Star, Levi 501
Hated Brands: Prada, Chinese Slippers, Name belts, Miskeen Shirts, Anything Airbrushed
Wants but can't afford: Leather LV bag with LV sweater.

SPORTS

October 10, 2005

CSI Goalie Grew Up with Soccer

Frank Arnone

Jennifer Miller played soccer ever since she was a young girl, by either playing on the street with friends or joining her very first team.

"It all started in the fifth grade," said Miller. "Me and my friend from down the street joined the soccer team together." Jennifer and her friend Elisa Sciortino played soccer together since their first practice at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School in Staten Island. The sport not only brought the girls enjoyment, it gave them several memorable moments. It was more than just a sport for the two vivacious youths; it shaped their childhood providing them with some good laughs while getting down and dirty on the playing field—without a doubt what being was all about. The two girls' friendship grew



Jennifer Miller momentarily pauses on the soccer field. She has played soccer since the 5th grade.

stronger and so did their love for the game. Who would have known such a young age that soccer would become Jennifer's number one pastime?

In the beginning, naturally being so unfamiliar with all the positions on the field, the coach let the girls try the many different positions to figure out their niche. The coach used his knowledge and expertise to teach them the fundamentals of the game including the tricks and tactics to be an extraordinary player. As Miller avidly progressed in the sport and began to learn the ins and the outs of the game, it would soon become obvious the position that she would be perfect for. Her coach saw vast improvements in her talents, specifically her quick-moving legs and feet and outstanding hand-eye coordination, two very important traits that a goalie must possess. As a goalie "it's exciting to stop the shots" said Miller, "especially when the game is close."

As Miller grew up she continued playing for Our Lady Queen of Peace and positively improved her game. Consequently, the very thing that once consisted of just some good laughs and getting a little bit dirty became more competitive for her, every game presented a new and exciting challenge.

Miller's bond with soccer continued to grow, as did her bond with Elisa. Together they embarked on a new challenge; playing a more experienced, aggressive soccer in high school. The girls who were both eager and a little bit nervous to start high school began their career at

Susan Wagner High School. High school sports require more dedication and ability, but like in their early days of soccer they were ready for the challenge. They were fired up to play for their new high school.

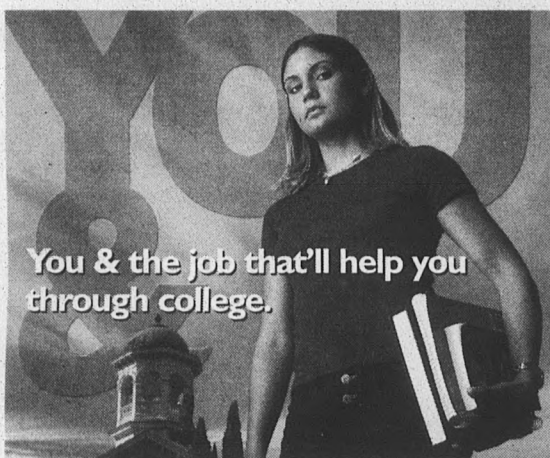
"I could remember the first day of tryouts," said Miller. "They were so long and intense." The final day of tryouts was tough for the girls; both Jennifer and Elisa really hoped they made the team. When the last and final tryout was over, both girls were overjoyed to find out that once again they would be playing together. Jennifer continued on Wagner for the next four years, where she experienced many challenges head on, which ultimately caused her to excel in her sport.

Soccer characterized Jennifer's social life and high school career. It was not just a sport, but also a means for her to make strong bonds and friendships with the girls both on and off the field. At the same time, she remained

close with Elisa. Each year her team made the playoffs and competed for the championship.

Despite the responsibilities that came with being a soccer player, Jennifer was still able to balance her activities and became an overachiever in the classroom. As a straight A student, she earned a full scholarship to CSI. Unfortunately, accepting the scholarship would mean no soccer team and she and Elisa would be separated for the first time. But she couldn't pass up such an opportunity.

After attending CSI for a year something fantastic happened. CSI started the first girl's soccer team. She would get to play again. The team was assembled hastily and lost the first four games, but won the CUNY championship, a heart-pounding overtime thriller. "When the last second of the championship came to an end, it was the best moment of my life," said Miller. "We won!"



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New York



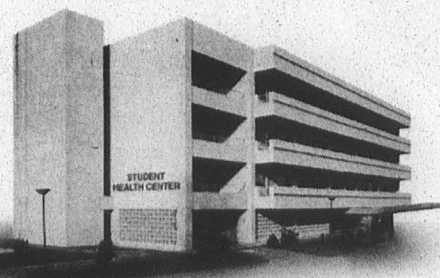
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