

# THE BANNER

November '01

# LET'S GET

# INVOLVED

Photo credit: Jeff Gutkin

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# From the Editor

Perhaps when the jarring events of September 11th find their way into our history books, we will have made some real progress toward peace. For now, we wait and watch CNN, hope and pray. Many of us have lost loved ones, and friends—all of us have suffered.

Personally, I cannot refer to another time when I've been more shaken or scared, and pulling myself together right now feels about as possible as lifting 100 million tons of steel and hurling it at the heavens.

Paul Simon wrote, "We come on the ship they called the Mayflower, we come on the ship that sailed the moon, we come in the age's most uncertain hour to sing an American tune."

What should we sing today, in this time, and for our children? I suppose anything might do, because this too, is an uncertain hour. I don't feel guilty, but I don't feel blameless. For sure I pray, but for what I'm not sure. I've been seeking a sense of restitution, but I refuse the solidarity and fellowship of those who hate so blindly. Before the 11th I was looking forward to raising children, growing old with my wife, maybe even sowing a humble garden someday. But today I can't feel tomorrow like I used to. Today I wonder: How can I think of putting another child on this planet? This is not the song I want to sing, but it's real and it's the one I've had the last month or so.

Most recently though, something that doesn't love a war has pulled me toward new intimacy, has coaxed me away from my hatred, has shaved off my beard of cynicism, and has brought me closer to the line I started out on.

Maybe I have the first fibers of a new song -- a song of renewed appreciation for all things uncertain, all things not yet determined, everything that's undone, everything that's not yet doomed. This song must be about uncertainty, but equally her Siamese-twin, hope. It's a song about a create-able universe where uncertainty signals promise, not fear.

—Frank Duffy  
 Co-Editor-in-chief

*The Banner wishes to apologize to Student Government for:  
 six hamburgers, four hot dogs, three bags of Ruffles,  
 and some soda.*

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# Eclectic Collection of Staten Island Performers Cook Up a Smorgasbord of Arts with a Side Dish of Charity

Lisa Carp

On September 11, tragedy struck our nation, our city, our community, and our college. While we grieve for our friends and neighbors, for heroes and strangers, the question everyone seems to be asking is, how can I help?

It is with this sense of offering that the Staten Island Arts community has begun preparations for an Island-wide fund-raising collaboration entitled Straight from the Arts. The three-day marathon of events, which will include performances and presentations by well-known local musicians, dancers, actors and poets, as well as CSI students and faculty, and local high school and middle school ensembles, will take place at the CSI Center for the Arts, Snug Harbor Cultural Center and numerous other smaller venues throughout the Island. "This is what we can do," explains Regina Paleau, marketing director for the CSI Center for the Arts. "It's not a great contribution considering what other people were doing, but it's what we know how to do, how to present entertainment."

Numa Saisselin, Managing and Artistic Director for The Center for the Arts, who is coordinating the effort, says he "was contacted by many concerned people wanting to do benefit performances to aid the victims of this tragedy." He "thought that rather than many disconnected efforts - this was a time for all Staten Island arts and cultural institutions, performers and entertainers to band together to make a difference for our community." With all individuals and venues involved donating their time and services, 100 percent of the proceeds will go directly to the Staten Island September 11th fund.

Clearly, the benefit will provide much needed financial relief for the numerous Staten Island families affected by the World Trade Center attacks. But it also provides a unique opportunity for local artists as well as CSI faculty, staff and students to express their sympathy and fulfill their own need to assist our wounded community. Professor Elizabeth Lee, technical director for the CSI dance, music and drama program, is coordinating their theater and music presentation. She explains, "I did have a group of students that wanted to do a benefit so this was perfect. This can get them a bigger audience, more exposure and they can be part of something that sounds really wonderful."

Professors Katharine Goodland and Christina Pugh are organizing "For What Binds Us," the CSI English Department's program of readings. Professor Goodland believes the project is "a good way for the English department to be part of the arts community on Staten Island" and hopes the event "will encourage people to continue building this relationship." The pro-

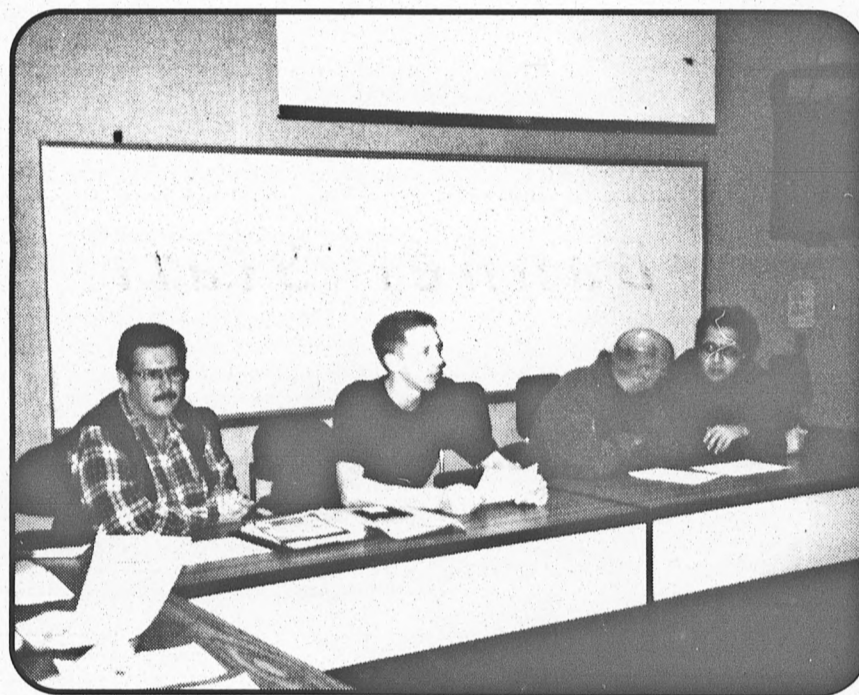


gram will include both poetry and prose by several faculty members, many of whom are published writers and poets, as well as readings from CSI students Frank Duffy, Donna Ryan and Karin Kempert. Professor Pugh says in addition to showcasing talent, the program is also "exposing students to the possibility that poetry can be healing as well as edifying."

Professor Fred Kaufman is among the eleven faculty members participating in the reading. A Resident of lower Manhattan, Professor Kaufman, along with his wife and two small children, have been unable to return to their apartment following the attacks. He says when first approached about the program he "felt he was already deep in the experience... and had a lot of other commitments." But when Professor Goodland asked him to read he said yes. Kaufman, who admits to "certain reservations about the utility of these things generally," is looking forward to hearing what other people have to say. He says, "art can help people deal with their grief and have a sense of community."

And perhaps this is the single most important contribution that Straight from the Arts has to offer. With more than 30 arts organizations and individuals participating, the program provides an excellent opportunity for all members of our community, young and old, to come together and share in whatever form of artistic expression speaks to them. Just maybe, with the support of our neighbors and through the power of the arts, we can begin to find strength in our unity and transcend our grief.

*Lifting spirits and raising funds, Island Arts Community bands together to present Thanksgiving weekend benefit series*



*Straight from the Arts* committee members Bruce Andreason, John Jankowski, Ray Scro, and Mike Moreali meet to discuss the upcoming benefit.

## Friday Nov. 23

8:00pm CSI Center Lecture Hall (\$10)  
*From Mourning to Morning Poetry of loss and celebration by The Sepoy Rebellion*

8:00pm CSI Center Recital Hall (\$5)  
*Scenes and Selected Music featuring CSI Students*

8:00pm CSI Center Williamson Theater (\$15)  
*A Night of Jazz featuring The Ray Scro/ Mike Moreali Band, and guests.*

## Saturday Nov. 24

11:00am CSI Center Williamson Theater (\$5)  
*Poko Puppets*

3:00pm CSI Center Recital Hall (\$10)  
*Solo & Chamber Music Marathon*

8:00pm CSI Center Concert Hall (\$10)  
*Staten Island Rocks featuring SI's hottest acts, such as Cat Daddy Jones, Sean Gallagher, Barfly, Soul Vyne, Green Room, Smug, Das Phrogge, and more*

## Sunday Nov. 25

12:00pm Cargo Cafe  
*Jazz Brunch (\$5)*

3:00pm CSI Concert Hall (\$20)  
*Staten Island Symphony's "Salute to America"*

3:00pm Muddy Cup Coffee House (\$5)  
*A special reading by local poets and writers*

5:00pm Cafe Verboten (\$5)  
*Jazz, featuring Nicole Russo, Edie Kuffner, Rich Bennett, Ed Jackson*

## Sunday Nov. 25

8:00pm Dock Street Bar & Grill (\$10)  
*Another evening of SI's hottest bands, including Woof! Woof!*

8:00pm CSI Center Concert Hall (\$20)  
*Festa Italiana featuring Michael Amante, "Tribute to Bobby Darin," comedian Jack Fontona, impressionist Vark Verselli and more!*

# Statuary Symbolism: An Oversight of Sights

Join grad student and resident satirist John Perazzo as he makes the rounds of the grounds and offers to explain the recondite meanings behind unheralded and untitled works

## John Perazzo

You need someone great at telling you what's great to tell you what's great. If a Van Gogh were hanging in the cafeteria, would you feel compelled to look at it carefully in order to understand it? In conversations I have had with the student body (the mind being out of town), responses to sculpture questions ranged from total ignorance to damned near total ignorance.

Outdoor sculpture is unavoidable. It exists as part of the common environment. You can avoid movies and museums, but you cannot walk out of 1P facing the walkway that connects the building to the library without encountering *Torak*, a work by Mark Mennin. Of course, you might walk by it without noticing it because it has not been deemed worthy of attention.

"Sculpture" is a general term, which applies to all fabricated objects of whatever composition. It is divided into statuary (sculpture in the round) and relief (raised from a background).

A map of the sculptures on campus indicates that there are eighteen pieces. Most of them are abstract statuary. Here is a comment about the abstract statuary taken from the website of the DePaul University Art Gallery: "...form is so reduced, context so diffuse, and inspiration so expansive, a viewer here and now, can see anything in art; or nothing. As painter Frank Stella said in 1966: 'What you see is what you see.'"

*Torak* is a metal ball in a socket. The socket is composed of two thin, circular bands of metal connected by metal rods. The whole thing rests on the ground outside the walkway entrance and to

the right. From this giant eye, a cement-like substance extrudes like a squeeze of toothpaste. The circular base is beginning to sink into the ground, causing the work to tilt. Rust gnaws at it. The artist may be suggesting that life is tentative. We too will one-day sink back into the ooze from which we all sprang. On the other hand, it may be simply sinking into the mud and, somewhere, a construction crew is missing a wrecking ball.

Across from 1P, you can see *Moon Marker*, something like a concrete pillar sprouting blue concrete wings, by Don Porcaro. From a distance, its shape suggests to those familiar with Catholic imagery, the Virgin Mary. Upon closer inspection, it is completely void of human qualities. If this piece were titled, "Virgin Mother," some would insist that it be treated reverentially; but this confuses image with reality. A statue or painting is not a living thing. No matter how much effluvium a goose drops on it, a statue never gets offended. One can abuse the living, but you can't hurt an image.

Outside and in front of the library, if you are inattentive you can walk into *Ellipse* by Win Knowlton. This large metal hoop predicts the size your head will be if it absorbs all the ambient wisdom. Actually, it used to be part of the graduation ceremony. The symbolism is self-explanatory. The graduate jumps through the hoop while grabbing his diploma and getting a check on his forehead.

**This large metal hoop outside the library predicts the size your head will be if it absorbs all the ambient wisdom.**



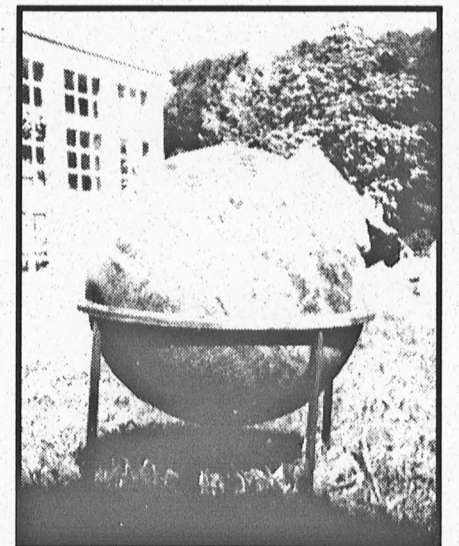
*Moon Marker*, by Don Porcaro

Not all the works are abstract. Big Stride, near 1N, is an exception. It is a realistic, finely wrought depiction of a common sight—a woman walking around without a head. Perhaps there should be a guillotine behind her. She may be looking for her head. But if she finds it, she won't be able to pick it up because she also lacks arms.

Clearly, this appears to be the body of a woman (albeit suffering from static cling). But what if a fish head were placed on the statue? Would it still be a woman? Or would it be a reverse mermaid? A head, it appears, is an indispensable ingredient for making a positive species identification. What is the artist, obviously skilled, trying to say? The woman's movement is making great strides but is not getting ahead.

I cannot play through the entire course of eighteen. *Staten Island Arch* by Sarah Haviland, on your left as you drive south from Victory Boulevard, caused a controversy because of its possible resemblance to some viewers of an aspect of a nude woman. It has also been suggested that it delineates a shape like a police badge or a diagram of the internal reproductive system of a woman.

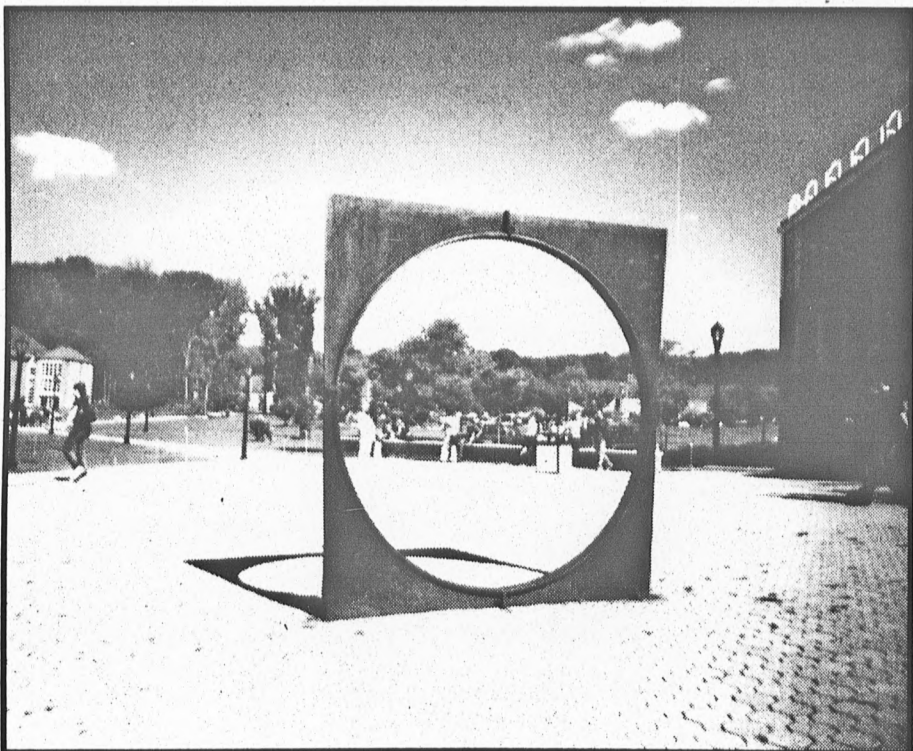
*Ark*, two wood planks cabled together with metal rods, sails on a sea of grass. It is the work of Daniel Wurtzel. All the creatures large and small should be grateful that their ark was built by Noah.



*Torak*, outside of 1P

None of the above is meant to demean anyone's efforts or deny the probable skill involved in creating these pieces but shouldn't more effort be made to bridge the giant gap between the world of abstract statuary and the student body? If I placed a miniature version of one of these sculptures on your kitchen table, wouldn't you want some explanation?

This campus is probably the foremost Sculpture Park on Staten Island. Shouldn't all the pieces be labeled? Put on good footing? Wouldn't a brief biography of the artist be helpful?



Outside the Library you can see *Ellipse* by Win Knowlton.

# Letters to the Editor

Joe Tacopino answers the inquiries of curious, outraged, bereft and inspired students and faculty. Why haven't we received a letter from you? Come on, get involved!

To The Editor,

*I'm not really the sappy, emotional type. I mean, my friend's appendix burst once and I told him, "when you die I'm gonna dance on your grave." Of course I said it jokingly, but nonetheless, I'm a pretty mean guy. When I read the "From The Editor" piece at the very beginning of October's Banner, my cold heart was actually touched! That is some strong writing my friend. I really don't know who wrote the piece, Joe or Frank (or both?), but that shit is golden! If you can get through to a heartless, sadistic bastard like myself, then you sir, got talent!*  
—Chris

Chris,

To answer your question, it was me (Joe Taco) who wrote October's editorial. I guess it's a big compliment that a "heartless sadistic bastard" like you would enjoy my "sappy, emotional" editorial.

## Horoscopes

To The Editor,

*Do you believe in fate? The article (Oct. 2001 Horoscopes, What the Stars Have in Store for You) may make you believe, or may just be a form of entertainment, either way I love the edition of this column in the Banner and hope to see further predictions in upcoming papers.*  
—Alison

Alison,

Do I believe in fate? Well actually I've recently come to the conclusion that our destiny is controlled by the gravitational pull of the moon, but that's another story. I'm glad that you like the new section and there should be plenty more to come. Laura Luna is a gifted professional unlike that amateur astrologist Miss Cleo.

To The Editor,

*My name is Victor Ramirez. I would like to congratulate you guys for the excellent job that you are doing. I like everything about the paper. It has interesting sections and is very informative. However, one section does not fit. This section is the horoscope section. I believe it's a waste of time to devote a whole page to horoscopes. That page could be used for something more important.*  
—Victor

Victor,

I'm sorry you were so disappointed about our horoscope section. Did the stars give you a bad prediction? If so, better luck next time.

## Troubled Waters

To The Editor,

*We would like to clarify some issues raised in the October 2001, article "Troubled Waters." First, Shah Jayman was asked to conduct the survey mentioned in the article on behalf of the Professional Staff Congress (PSC). Second, a summary of the survey was sent to President Springer who, in turn, made it available to Vice President Hudacs. Finally, we are waiting for their reaction to the summary.*  
—Executive Committee,  
CSI's Chapter of PSC

Executive Committee,

Thank you for your concerned response to "Troubled Waters." The Banner stands by its story.

To The Editor,

*It's cool that when my mom is not around in school, the Banner is looking out for my well being. ("Troubled Waters," Oct. 2001) As an athletic student in CSI who is constantly drinking the fountain water, I never imagined that it could be bad. I love the article and I want the Banner to keep me posted if there is change. As of right now, I am like a red and white stop sign, stopping my teammates from drinking the water when we are practicing in the gym at 1-R.*  
—Rebecca

Rebecca,

We here at the Banner would like to think of ourselves as a maternal presence on campus: keeping the students form danger while nurturing them into sophisticated individuals. As for the red and white stop sign, I have to admit it was a pretty good idea for a Halloween costume.

## Lobster Boy

To the Editor,

*"Lobster Boy" rocks! I've really enjoyed reading "Mutant Lobster Boy" comic strip in the Banner. I'd like to learn more about the person behind the comic. Can you do a profile on this talented artist?*  
—Bill

Bill,

Chris Sorrentino certainly is a talented artist. If you would like to know more about the man behind the *Mutant Lobster Boy* you can visit [BadBenFranklin.com](http://BadBenFranklin.com).

To the Editor,

*"I'm not queer, but it's still not right" (Mutant Lobster Boy 2001), this cartoon is horrible. It makes as much sense as a two-year old who made the comic. It's discriminating to everyone who is queer. "Fruitcake" isn't necessary to say, it's not even funny. To me, it seems the comic illustrates that Lobster Boy gets beat up and abused by anti-semitic people. Cartoons like "Garfield" and "Peanuts" were good but this is pure crap. Native American Indian Club, where did that come from? The comic expresses that anti-semitism is always going to be around, but why illustrate it in a comic. Why not an article?*  
—Edward

Edward,

I read your letter a few times and still am not too sure what exactly you are trying to say. Lobster Boy being queer does not refer to his sexual orientation, but his awkward genealogy. You can learn more about this in our current issue. Also, I am not aware that Lobster Boy is Jewish

## More and More Mold

To The Editor,

*I was blind and you let me see! (More and More Mold..., Oct. 2001) I couldn't believe my eyes when I was reading about mold plaguing our classrooms and halls. What*

*was so shocking was that I was sitting in the room (2N 003) that part of the article was on. I never noticed the mold before reading your paper, but (now) I am very aware of the mold in every classroom I'm in. I've even called the phone number given in the article as well. Thank you for letting me see something that was literally right on top of me. I never thought the news could hit so close to me as it did. I hope you continue to write news that affects us all on a day to day basis. By the way, the mold has since been removed from the classroom.*  
—Kris

Kris,

I was so happy to hear that the mold was removed from your classroom. Thank you for participating by reporting your findings of mold. This is just an example of what we can do as students to make CSI a happier, healthier place to spend our college years.

## Something For Nothing

To The Editor,

*A free semester...really??? (Something For Nothing, Oct. 2001) I've been attending this school since 1998 and have heard bits and pieces about a free semester for those who have attended this school for all four years. I can't tell you how confused I was concerning this matter since most (faculty) didn't explain to me fully what it means. Thanks to your article, I now understand and have a name of someone who I can go discuss this in a little bit more detail.*  
—Katrina

Katrina,

Good luck getting your free semester.

## Health and Wellness

To The Editor,

*Stress! Ahhhh! It is a dreadful word! (Health and Wellness, Oct. 2001) I am so happy to find that finally someone is giving credit to yoga as a stress reducer. When I tell people that I practice yoga, I receive a sideways glance and a raised eyebrow. Most people think of it as a trend that went out years ago but it is in fact quite effective. Thank you for the voice of reason.*  
—Kathryn

Kathryn,

Yes, stress is a dreadful word. This was just our first Health and Wellness column. I'm glad that Sherry Papir is willing to contribute. Now we can all learn how to live a little bit healthier.

## CSI Unites after 9/11

To The Editor,

*Proud to attend CSI (CSI Unite Behind Their Leaders, Oct. 2001). I have always enjoyed attending CSI but as I read Scott Axelrod's article I couldn't have been more proud. As a resident of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, I often miss out on local news. I was impressed with President Springer and our "CSI community" as they bonded together during this crisis. The grief counseling services and hotlines that were quickly started up show just how unique CSI really is. I was also glad to hear that security measures have been increased. Congratulations to those who pitched in!*  
—Heather

Heather,

I have to agree with you that the school handled this catastrophe in the best way possible. President Springer addressed the situation immediately and the school was quick to offer help to anyone who needed it. I have to thank Scott Axelrod for reporting these events in the days following September 11th.

## American Hi-Fi at WSIA

To The Editor,

*I didn't know that that American Hi-Fi was coming to CSI. I'm a little disappointed; I would have liked to attend the large crowd. However, I am grateful for the article and lovely picture shown in the Banner (American Hi-Fi stops by WSIA for a chat and Jam, October 2001). It is unfortunate finding out you missed an interesting event, but hopefully you can get the same enjoyment from reading the article.*  
—Laura

Laura,

As far as I know the American Hi-Fi WSIA performance was not a scheduled event, it was more of a last minute type of deal. Also, there was no large crowd attending, the performance took place in a studio about the size my bedroom closet. So, if it makes you feel any better the only thing you really missed was a short glance at some one-hit wonders.

**The Banner  
Wants to Hear  
From You!**

To submit letters  
go to our mailbox  
in 1C, Room 207

Also: What to do with  
all those crazy  
questions that have  
been haunting you?

ASK ANDRE!

# Who's Making Your Clothes?

## NYPIRG's Battle Against Sweatshops Rages On

### Daniel Botting, NYPIRG Representative

The Triangle Shirtwaist Company, a garment company, ran what we now refer to as a sweatshop. An informal definition of "sweatshop" is a workplace where employees are subject to extreme exploitation, including very low wages or non-existent benefits, poor working conditions, and harsh discipline.

On Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1911, 146 people, mostly young women, were killed in a fire on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> floors of the Triangle Shirtwaist Company building in New York City. Trapped by exits that were kept locked by supervisors, many of the women chose to jump to their deaths rather than be overcome by the smoke and flames. Eyewitness accounts of the fire and of women falling, their clothes sometimes burning as they fell, galvanized a nation.

In response to the Triangle Shirtwaist fire and other events, unions were strengthened and more stringent labor laws were passed. By the 1960's sweatshops in the United States had been practically eliminated.

Unfortunately today, here and abroad, sweatshops are making a comeback. Globalization, fueled by new "free-trade" regulations, is helping the realization of a new global sweatshop economy. Some of the United States' largest multinational corporations, Nike, Gap, Wal-Mart, and Disney, have had independent human rights monitors document their use of sweatshops. Still, all four use sweatshops today.

According to the National Labor Committee, an independent human rights organization, corporations are pitting workers around the world against each other in the "race to the bottom." Nike and other multinationals compete with each other to produce products under the cheapest possible conditions, demanding that contractors produce more at an ever-lower cost. In countries where labor rules and regulations are non-existent, and where jobs are hard to come by, big companies can do as they please to maximize profits. People, desperate for work, are being exploited; settling for starvation wages (even by their country's standards), no benefits, no human or worker rights protections, no occupational health and safety or environmental regulations, no taxes, and no unions. Even here in New York City sweatshops are not uncommon.

A couple of years ago a woman named Julia Pleitas came to a human rights office in El Salvador with a chilling story to tell. She had been fired from her job at the Formosa Textiles factory because she couldn't come into

work that day since her daughter was ill. As he was firing her in front of all the workers in the factory, the manager shook her, hit her, and finally, literally kicked her out of the factory.

For the privilege of working in that factory Julia was paid 41 cents per hour, which is not enough for one person to live on in El Salvador. She would work 12 hour days, 6 days a week. At the factory, pregnancy tests were administered to the female workers; if they tested positive they were fired or put in the most physically demanding jobs.

Ms. Pleitas took a sample of the label she was sewing. It turns out that she was making Nike shirts that retailed for

Wal-Mart uses over 1000 factories in China where the average pay is 23 cents an hour, not enough to live on. Gap uses factories on the island of Saipan, where workers are imported from China, Bangladesh, Thailand, and the Philippines and forced to work in horrible conditions. The list goes on and on.

From a consumer's perspective, buying options are extremely limited. Many shoppers would like to avoid purchasing clothes and other products manufactured in sweatshops, but that is essentially impossible; there is no way to know under what conditions particular products are made. The clothes that people buy and wear, the toys children

mal, since current wages and conditions are so poor. Across the garment industry the cost of the labor that goes into a particular piece is extremely low - typically, less than 1% of the final retail price of an item of clothing represents wages paid to laborers in a sweatshop. Consumers could be guaranteed at very little cost that the clothes they wear and the products that they use are not made under unacceptable conditions. According to recent polls, Americans are overwhelmingly willing to incur modest costs in order to avoid purchasing sweatshop products.

Of course, the multinational corporations plead poverty. They argue that they cannot afford to improve conditions. Yet their executives and shareholders make tremendous profits. Nike CEO Phil Knight alone has an estimated worth of more than three billion dollars - and growing. The Walton family, which owns Wal-Mart, is worth over \$60 billion. The staggering inequalities of the global economy allow the Phil Knights of the world to jet-set around the globe while the workers who sew their company's products live in misery.

The Triangle Fire was an awful tragedy. But such disasters are not confined to the past. In Bangladesh, on November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2000, 53 workers, including 10 children, were burned to death behind locked exits when a fire swept through the Sagar Chowdury Garment factory. In Hamlet, North Carolina in 1991, 25 perished in a factory fire behind locked fire exits much like the workers in the Triangle Factory. El Monte, California, shocked Department of Labor inspectors raided a sweatshop where 72 immigrant workers were confined 24 hours a day by threats of rape and murder in a factory where they stitched garments for major apparel labels. These are not uncommon situations. We can do better.

Whenever we buy a pair of Nike sneakers, a Gap jacket, or a Mickey Mouse t-shirt, we are supporting that corporation's business practices. We need to know where corporations make their products, and under what conditions, so we can make educated choices when we go to the store. We cannot afford to be ignorant any longer. Call Nike at 1-800-806-6453, and call Gap at 1-800-GAPSTYLE, and demand that they disclose the locations of ALL their factories.



seventy-five dollars in the United States. The workers share of that money was 24 cents for each shirt that they assembled, far less than 1% of the final retail price of the shirt.

Nike tells us that it does not use sweatshops. They say that stories like Julia Pleitas' are a thing of the past. They have all sorts of information on their website to deny that they use sweatshops, and yet they still refuse to disclose the location of approximately 1% of their factories. Today human rights groups find constant labor violations in Nike factories all over the world, many of them even worse than at the Formosa Textiles factory. Other Nike factories in El Salvador do not allow workers to talk, wear makeup or unionize.

And Nike is not the only corporation.

play with, and all sorts of other products are produced behind closed doors. The companies do not seem to want consumers to be informed about the awful conditions they create. Fortunately, the situation can be remedied. The cost of dramatically improving conditions in the factories is mini-

## Get Involved

Join NYPIRG's Campaign to End Sweatshops. Call Dan at 982-3109, or email [dbotting@nypirg.org](mailto:dbotting@nypirg.org).

# Quit For You, Quit For Mom, Quit Already!

Louisa Odone

On August 22nd, I lost my best friend, who happened to be my mom. She was diagnosed with lung cancer last year. The doctors believed that chemotherapy and radiation would help. She began treatment in January and I began to see the ramifications of this deadly disease. I watched my mom slowly and painfully disintegrate while asking myself, why? All of this pain and suffering could have been prevented had she not been addicted to nicotine.

It may have been too late for my mom, but it doesn't have to be that way for you. I believe in my heart that my

mom's death was not in vain. If I can help one individual stop smoking, prevent one family from losing a loved one as I have, then I will have succeeded. I can't imagine my life without my mom and yet I don't have a choice. Sometimes I think if she was able to see the pain I go through each day missing her, she would have stopped. Maybe mom didn't have a choice, but you do.



Mark  
Your  
Calendar

**The Great American Smokeout** is Thursday, November 15, 2001. Make a plan to quit. The Wellness Program will have a work shop that day in the Campus Center, room 211, from 1:30 p.m- 2:30 p.m. This is also a PG Clue event

**Free Smoking Cessation Support Groups** will be held every wednesday at 12:00 noon in the peer drop-in center, 1c, 111. Please call or stop in if you would like further information  
(718) 982-3113

## The Return of the Pink Moon

The man behind the song behind the Volkswagon commercial

Kathryn Troiano

You have most likely heard him recently and, if you have a pulse, you are probably left wondering "who is that"? I know I was.

In the Fall of 2000, Volkswagen began airing a commercial for their Cabrio model with a soundtrack that has forever changed my life. Opening with the strumming of an acoustic guitar, a beautifully deep baritone voice follows, "Saw it written and I saw it say, Pink moon is on its way." Nick Drake, the British folk artist, is the musical mastermind behind the song *Pink Moon*, the title track of his last album, originally released in 1972. Before it were his just as brilliant

pieces of audio art, "Five Leaves Left" (1969) and "Bryter Layter" (1970), all three grossly overlooked and unrecognized only now becoming must-have treasures of an up and coming cult following.

Born June 19, 1948 in Rangoon, Burma to an upper middle class English family, Drake suffered from physical ailments forcing his

family to move to the more hospitable climate of England. There he was raised in the countryside of Tanworth in Arden where from his little orange chair in his little country home rose a language spoken by a guitar and understood by the soul. Diagnosed with depression, insomniac Drake spent many nights awake creating, discarding,

and creating again, or joining the company of his mother who woke from the shuffle of his pacing.

Due to the increase of interest in his work, all of his albums have been digitally re-mastered and packaged, now including lyrics and rare photos. Previously unavailable material titled "Time Of No Reply" was released in 1987 and a compilation titled "Way To Blue - An Introduction to Nick Drake" came out in 1994. Also purchasable is the 4 CD box set, *Fruit Tree*.

On November 25, 1974, at the age of 26, Nick Drake died in his sleep from an overdose of the antidepressant Tryptizol. The world is full of ironies like an anti-commercial folk artist's song selling a car and it taking his death to bring his music alive.

**Nick Drake is the musical mastermind behind the song *Pink Moon*, the title track of his last album, originally released in 1972.**

# What Do The Stars Have In Store For You?

## Laura Luna

### Scorpio: The Scorpion October 23 - November 2

Happy Birthday, Scorpio! This month, you will surely be dealing with some extremely intense emotions. Being passionate is one of your deepest virtues, but don't let jealousy ruin a good thing. Your intuition is keen, you will sense when there is truly something to worry about. Be sure to be honest when it comes to other people's resources. Doing otherwise will only hurt you in the end. Your personal relationships may need a little more attention than usual towards the end of the month. Although it may not be obvious to you at first, there is someone there that needs you. Keep your eyes and your heart open and you will find this person. Chances are they're already right there in front of you. Something big is on the horizon for you, so long as you don't let your emotions steer you away from the path. The end of the month may be stressful, but whatever you do, keep your emotions in check and jealousy at bay.



### Sagittarius: The Archer November 22 - December 21

You may be better off not taking any risks in the very beginning of the month. Spirituality may be an issue that you have been trying to suppress. If you open your mind a little, you may surprise yourself. You take a philosophical attitude this month, and matters of life, death and transformation are in the fore. Your belief structure may be in need of some fine tuning, but don't be too apprehensive. What at first may seem scary may be beneficial in the end. Explore new ideas instead of brushing them aside. Spend some time alone sorting through these issues. Towards the end of the month you may feel you want to run away. Take some time and thoroughly examine the situation.



### Capricorn: The Goat December 22 - January 19

There is some sort of quest on the horizon for you this month, Capricorn. You have an adventurous spirit, but it doesn't always get the proper outlet for expression. This month is the exception. Work related issues take up the majority of your time during the beginning of the month, but you will still find time for social indulgence. Discipline has never been a problem for you, but try to go easy on those who seem to act in a reckless way. Take the time out to relax with friends or you may find yourself burnt out. This month may bring wealth, financially or emotionally.



### Aquarius: The Water Carrier January 21 - February 18

The beginning of November is a time of strong ideas and opinions for the Water Bearer. Power struggles and ego battles are probable, but your superior intelligence is likely to award you with the spoils by the time the battle between you and your boss or coworkers ceases during the second week of the month. Remember that making an intellectual connection is sometimes just as rewarding as making a romantic one. Be wary of investing a lot of money in something that you don't know a lot about. Usually if something seems too good to be true, it is. Though being trusting is a virtue, beware of others who may try to take advantage of you. Try some experimentation or investigation into things that may seem peculiar to you. You may be surprised at what you find.



### Pisces: The Fish February 19 - March 20

Pisces dreams of turning over a new leaf as November begins. Count on friends and family members to help you make important decisions. You may feel confused or misunderstood, but don't let despair as it is your nature. All will turn out for the best if you remain aware of other's motives. Better energy surrounds you as the Moon makes its way into Cancer on the 5th. If someone is trying to deceive you, you are likely to call them out. Have patience, issues will work themselves out by themselves. Don't let others push you to escape reality. Your emotional side is beneficial to you only if you let it out in a constructive manner.



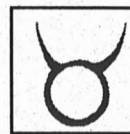
### Aries: The Ram March 21 - April 19

This is a month of personal transformation for you, Aries. You will approach conflicts in your life in a highly confrontational manner. This doesn't have to be a negative experience for those who you are confronting, in fact it may prove to be refreshing. This is the time to release yourself from the past and get on with your life. In turn, you will be opening yourself up to new experiences. An air of ambition surrounds you towards the end of the month, but don't hurry to accomplish your goals. You may feel the need to know every last detail of a situation which at first appears extremely mysterious. No worries, little by little the answers will be revealed. Remember, wisdom has patience.



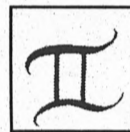
### Taurus: The Bull April 20 - May 20

Someone may be testing your willpower this month, Taurus. They may be sensing your resistance towards them or a situation that involves them. Although it may be aggravating, listen to their opinions and try to be fair. If you refuse to change, you may risk losing out on a profitable venture, be it love or business. You may find that you need to determine where your resources are the most beneficial. Your ambition will be high this month, all you have to do is take care of the details. You'll find that the things you want are all out there waiting for you, and they're free! The Capricorn moon from the 7th thru the 18th will assist you. This is an intense time for you because the sign of Scorpio is your natural opposite in the zodiac. Though your feelings are important, just remember that not everyone can sense them or feel them the way you do.



### Gemini: The Twins May 21 - June 20

Inconsistency in the beginning of the month may throw you off balance. You may have trouble making decisions, but don't let this set the tone for the whole month. Logic will prevail after the second week. Try not to let yourself be forced into an undesirable circumstance, your intuition is usually right. Live in the moment, try not to let long term decisions affect you too much. There will be plenty of time to indulge your social nature when the moon is in Aquarius on the 20th and the 21st. If you force and ultimatum on someone, you might end up losing that person. See how you can combine your forces and make the situation better.



### Cancer: The Crab June 21 - July 22

Others cannot always read your mind, Cancer, so don't be afraid to let your opinions be known. If you don't speak up now, be prepared to be quiet for the rest of the month. Money and family are synonymous this month. Secrets may come to the surface, so it's important to voice your opinion in an honest fashion. Others may sense that you're not being completely open with them, so deal with problems head on. Your reputation as a friend or a lover may be at stake. This is a time for releasing your subconscious wants and needs. Though it may be hard, try not to let your emotions send you into a whirlwind. Money may be tight now, so you wouldn't want to over



### Leo: The Lion July 23 - August 22

Don't let your pride come in between you and a good thing this month. Reaching a compromise will be beneficial to you and all those around you, so try to bend a little when it comes to power struggles. Take a lighthearted approach to any philosophical or intellectual discussions in the beginning of the month. This doesn't mean you have to give in, just be a little flexible. Work may be stressful, but you certainly have the know-how to deal with the situation. You have the ability to stimulate creativity, so keep that in mind. Others will see you as an inspiration, as long as you keep their best interests at heart. Health may also be an issue that's in the forefront of your mind lately. It's not as hard as it may feel to keep healthy.



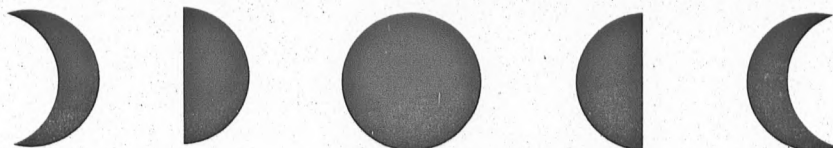
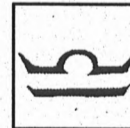
### Virgo: The Virgin August 23 - September 22

November is the month of communication for Virgo. Your friends and family will look to you to tell them the truth. But be sure to mean what you say, because your words may easily be confused. Try to incorporate what you want for yourself and what others need from you. Money matters may creep in as the main focus of the month. Try not to pick apart every little detail about the relationship. This is a time to seek out what is healthy for you and what isn't, especially when it comes to sex. Others may turn to you for financial advice, which suits you just fine because you have the practicality to remain neutral. The end of the month will usher in a more relaxing time.



### Libra: The Scales September 23 - October 22

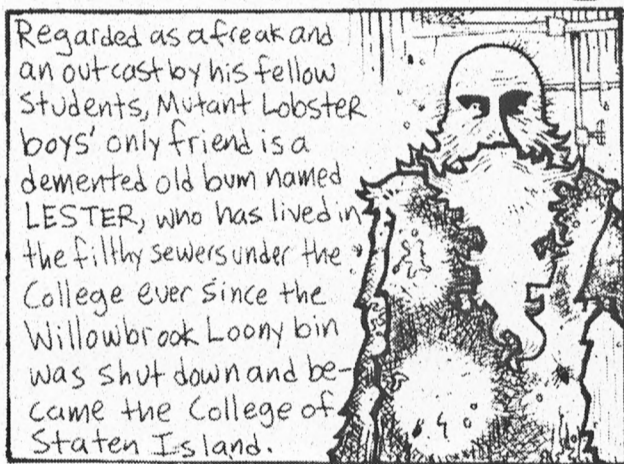
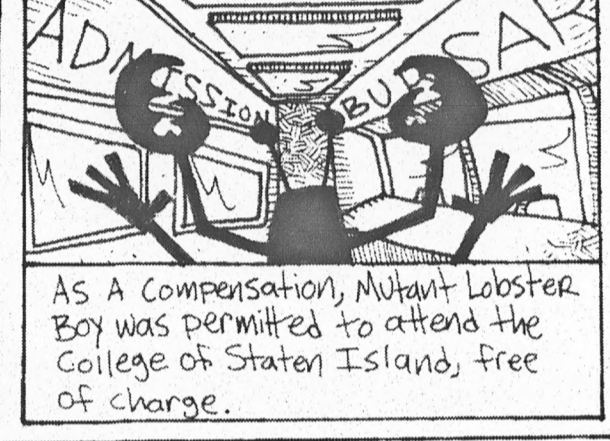
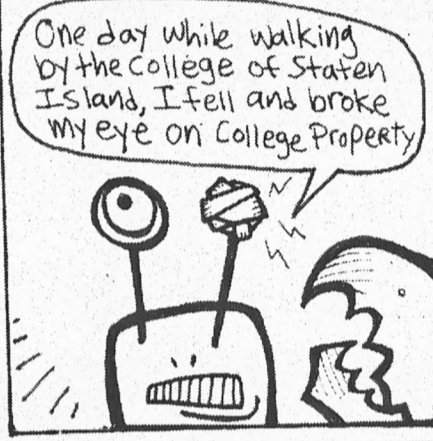
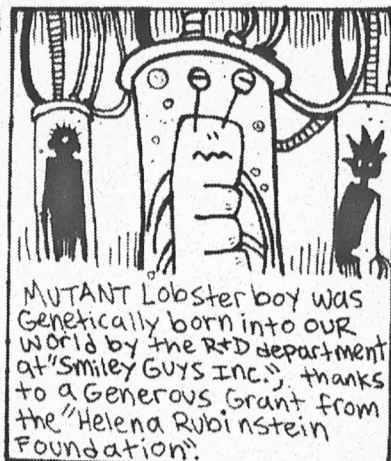
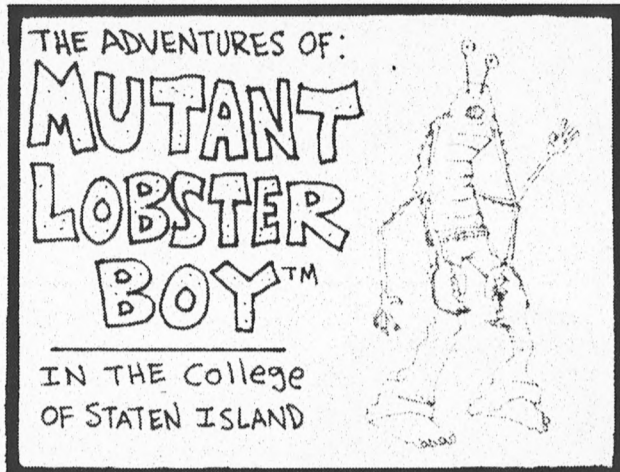
This month begins on a very high note for you, Libra. You will sense the right time for practically any endeavor, whether it has to do with money, love or school. Problems may arise with the people you live with during the second week, but there's no need to worry, it will all work out soon enough. Friendship is what this month is all about, and you may find success through your friends. Try not to second guess yourself when it comes to love, because you may ruin your chances. You may feel the need to be what others expect of you, and this will lead you to acceptance within a certain group. But remember to be true to yourself in the process. You may feel you should delay certain changes that need to be made, this may be fine for now but eventually you will have to face them. Balance exists in everything in the universe, but sometimes it may be hidden from us. Don't worry yourself trying to figure it all out.





# Mutant Lobster Boy

## "The Back Story"



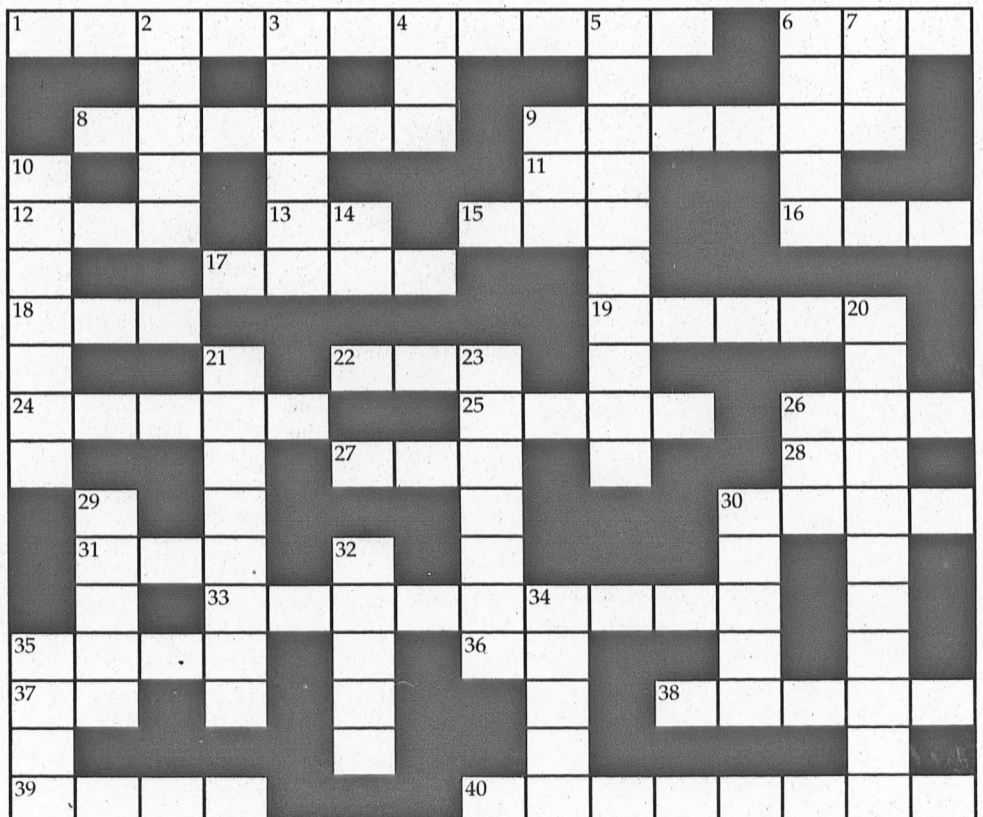
By Chris Sorrentino

**Across**

- 1. Type of Rock
- 6. Door Opener
- 8. Harrison or Foreman
- 9. Queen of
- 11. Manuscript
- 12. Throw Rug
- 13. Not Out
- 15. Question
- 16. As
- 17. Precipitation
- 18. Neck Adornment
- 19. Wild Animal
- 22. Not On
- 24. Stories
- 25. Contact
- 26. Recede
- 27. August Sign
- 28. Lead Symbol
- 30. \_\_\_\_\_ In Full
- 31. Poorly Lit
- 33. Monopoly Property
- 35. Day
- 36. Artificial Intelligence
- 37. Yet
- 38. Salivate
- 39. Pottery Oven
- 40. Ideas

**Down**

- 2. Trick Or Halloween Figure
- 3. King Arthur's Wizard
- 4. Fish Eggs
- 5. Winter Sport
- 6. Immature Cat
- 7. Printer Measurements
- 9. British Naval Vessel
- 10. Copy
- 13 Not Out
- 14. Opposite of Yes
- 20. Lucky Charm
- 21. Winter Month
- 23. Southern State
- 26. ENUIR Prot Administer
- 29. Thoughts
- 30. Card Game
- 32. Flower
- 34. Halloween Figure
- 35. Opposite of Light



# Dissatisfied with Student Government? Join the Club. Or Start Your Own.

*New club commish takes matters into her own hands.*

## Lisa Carp

As a CSI student, where do you turn if you feel student government isn't working for you? Well, if you're CSI's new club commissioner, a third year sociology and women's studies major, single mother of two, and self-proclaimed control freak, you turn to yourself.

After spending her first two years of college life as president of CSI's Parent-Guardian club, Kristen Lindtvedt says she "became frustrated dealing with a student government of eighteen to twenty-year-old students who really weren't sympathetic to the issues facing student parents." So, last spring she decided to run for club commissioner, a student government position.

Kristen won the election and was seated in June. She says she felt obligated to resign from her previous position, stating, "I think it would be a conflict of interest, approving a budget for my own club."

So, how is it that a full-time student and single mom can take on the additional responsibilities of student government? Where does she find the time? "I'm a terrible procrastinator," explains Kristen. "I find I get more accomplished if I'm totally overloaded."

On an average day, Kristen is up before dawn preparing breakfast for her children, six-year-old Kaitlin and four-year-old Zachary. After driving her daughter to school and dropping her son at CSI's childcare center, Kristen arrives at the Campus Center ready to begin her day. She divides her time between her duties as club commissioner, (which include meeting with and chartering each of the schools forty-five clubs), attending classes and coordinating her children's various activities. "I live here," explains Kristen, "some days I don't get back home until 10:30 at night."

At twenty-seven Kristen is confident and independent. She attributes her personal strength to her difficult childhood. "Basically I've been on my own since I was fourteen." Kristen, who was born on Long Island, moved to Minnesota with her parents when she was three. Her dad, she recalls fondly, "had huge ambitions but just didn't know what to do with them." The family moved often from one failed busi-

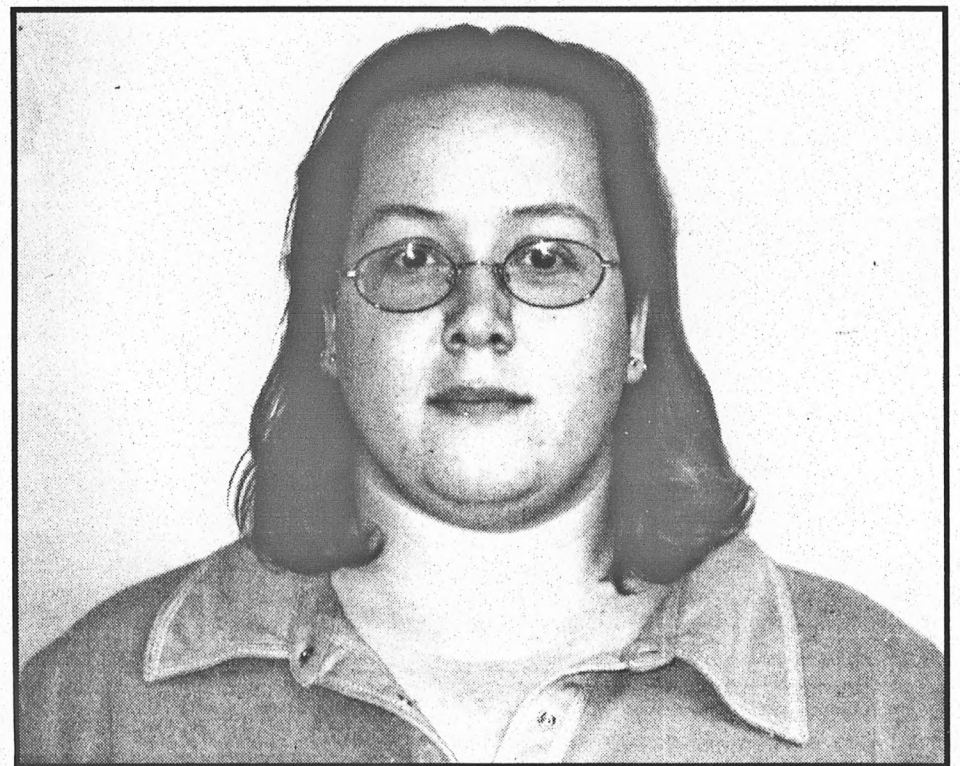
ness venture to the next.

Shortly after her brother, Roy, was born in 1980, Kristen says her parents began arguing all the time. "All I remember really is a lot of yelling and fighting, and alcohol was always a factor." After her parents divorced in 1982, Kristen says "the family splintered." Her dad moved back to New York and her mom's life "spun out of control." The next few years of Kristen's life were spent moving from one relative's house to another. In 1992, Kristen dropped out of high school and moved to Staten Island to care for her ailing, alcoholic father.

Kristen's dad, who had also dropped out of school, encouraged her to go to work rather than return to high school. But with no diploma and little experience, Kristen found it difficult to find a good job. The jobs she did find, like working at a deli in the mall and selling coffee at Starbucks, didn't pay well enough to support her and her dad, especially as his health deteriorated, and he was no longer able to work himself. She knew she needed to return to school, but she didn't know where to begin.

It was around this time that Kristen began dating her now ex-husband Steve. It was Steve's mother who suggested Kristen apply for CSI's ARCH program. She had read about ARCH, a program specifically designed for adults returning to the classroom, from an ad in The Staten Island Advance. And so, in 1995, at twenty-one-years old, shortly after giving birth to her first child, Kristen began GED classes.

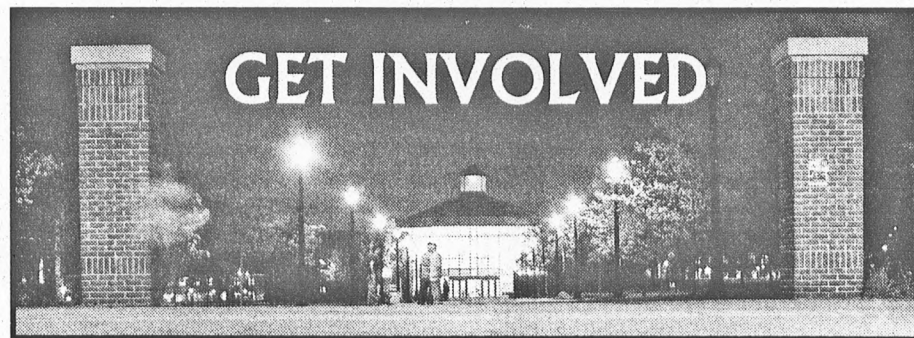
She took and passed her GED exam on May 13, 1997, one day before giving birth to her second child. In the fall of



Kristen Lindtvedt, CSI's new Club Commissioner and single mother of two, wants to protect the interests of student-parents.  
Photo credit: Lisa Carp

**While there are stipends available for student government positions, Kristen chooses not to apply.**

**"It sends the wrong message to students, when student government officers get paid."**



1999, after spending a year at home with her children, Kristen returned to CSI as a college freshman.

Kristen's involvement in campus

activities began even before her first semester. After attending a summer meeting for the childcare center's PTA, Kristen decided to attend the first meeting of the organization's parent/guardian club. It was at this meeting that five new officers were scheduled to be chosen.

Kristen, one of the five people who attended the meeting that evening says, "The officers were basically picked by pulling names from a hat." Kristen was elected president. She spent the follow-

ing semester not only adjusting to classes and exams but also to the club chartering process. While she admits it was hard work, Kristen describes the past two years as "a great experience."

Clearly, Kristen is not intimidated by a challenge. In her new role as club commissioner, she has had to devote much of her summer developing this year's extensive chartering packet. In addition to her personal responsibilities, she spends several hours each day reviewing chartering information and evaluating budget proposals. While there are stipends available for student government positions, Kristen chooses not to apply. She says she feels, "it sends the wrong message to students, when student government officers get paid." Although she believes "Marlene Springer does a marvelous job catering to non-traditional students," Kristen plans to continue working to protect the interests of student-parents, as well as the interests of the many student clubs and organizations campus wide.

**"I'm a terrible procrastinator," explains Kristen.**

**"I find I get more accomplished if I'm totally overloaded."**

# President of Muslim Student Association: An American Tale

## Kathryn Troiano

At the age of seven, he and his family moved from their homeland of Pakistan and came to the United States. Thirteen years later, he is a successful student majoring in Information Systems and President of CSI's Muslim Student Association.

His name is Ali Rehman, and like many others before him, he and his family came here in search of a better life. Although his father held a decent, well paying job as a banker in Pakistan, he had a better future for his children in mind, mainly in terms of education.

Upon entering the Spring 2001 semester, Ali found himself being pressured into assuming the role of the MSA's President for its former headman who had taken the semester off. At first he was reluctant, but he finally accepted the title and its responsibilities. As the semester progressed, the young man devoted much time and energy to the association, resulting in what some consider the MSA's most successful semester. Many of its members give Ali the credit but he objects to that notion stating with admirable modesty, "A leader is only as good as the people leads."

To his knowledge, the MSA began in 1992 or 1993 but at the time it was not that active and with few members, it died out. It later revived and has begun to flourish, at ten member strong the association carries a diverse population with more sisters joining and nationalities ranging from African-American to Indian and Pakistan to Arab. The MSA has also started to advertise, realizing that many students

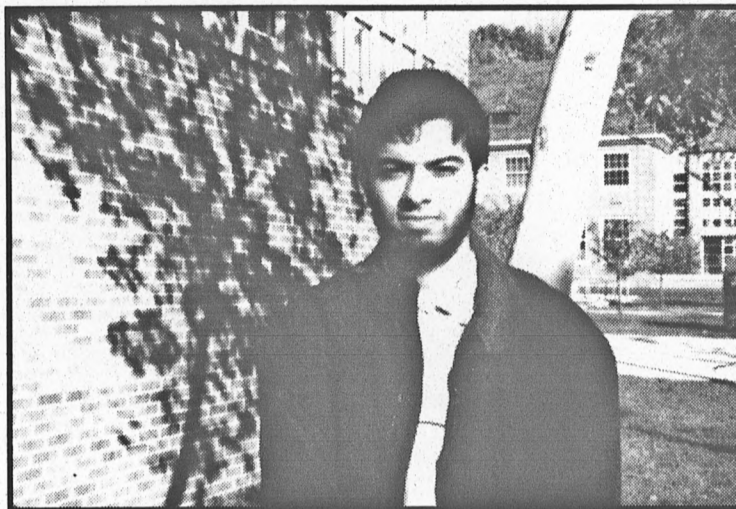
do not know about them. Their mission statement is simple: provide an environment on campus that is compliant to their faith, allowing Muslims to feel free to pray and study the Koran; granting safety, security, and identity. The MSA also reaches out to non-Muslims to teach and inform them about Islam and eradicate misconceptions, to which Ali blames the media.

Due to the recent attacks on the World Trade Center, the media has been giving much attention to the Islamic religion, mostly negative.

"I do think that there are misunderstandings between the West and Islam," Ali said, "and I do think that people with vested interests try to exploit this conflict for their own purposes." When the news broke of an aircraft crashing into the side of the North Twin Tower, Ali was being stirred awake by his mother, but could not make sense of what she was saying. Turning on the television, he witnessed the second planes collision into the South Tower and his first thought was "who are these people?" While the whole world pointed toward the Middle East, Ali, and others as well, debates whether there are any terrorist groups that have enough funding and inside connections to accomplish the horrific act.

With the possibility of backlashes against the Arabs and anyone with an

Arab appearance, he feared for his younger sister in junior high school and for the women in his family who dress in traditional Pakistan clothing. Ali reports that neither he nor his family have experienced any violence, in fact,



Ali Rehman, President of the Muslim Student Association. Photo: Troiano

he says he received numerous e-mails wherein non-Muslims extended comfort to their Muslim neighbors, cried in each others arms.

"I really think on a whole, the American people are very understanding," he said, "...because of this incident, people actually came together instead of breaking apart."

Ali revealed that while Islam is the fastest growing religion in America, it is also the most misunderstood. To set some things straight, he helped put into perspective some common Muslim practice (though not only pertaining to

Muslims). Ali explained that the word jihad, that we, the American population have come to know as "holy war" is much simpler than that. It means to struggle, strive, exert energy, or put effort into. Waking up and coming to college is a form of jihad and you do not have to be Muslim to perform it. The hijab, the head covering (hijab means "to cover"), is viewed by some as a form of oppression but in fact, many Muslim women find it liberating. It symbolizes her relationship with Allah (God) while it protects her modesty.

Ali gives this as advice, "Keep your mind open; extremists exist in every religion and Islam is not the exception...don't take your anger out on the wrong people." He and the MSA, with help from the college, are working to put together special programs to educate the campus community on Islam, Muslims, and Muslim people. Look for fliers on campus to be aware of the MSA's activities or you can visit their web site at [www.ummah.com/msa-csi](http://www.ummah.com/msa-csi), they meet on Wednesdays and Thursdays during club hours. A copy of the Koran is available as a reference in CSI's library.

"This is the perfect opportunity to have more communication and become closer as a college community," Ali said with optimism.

## Concern or Discrimination?

### A Muslim Student Speaks Out Against Negative Reactions to Recent Attacks

## Ghanim Khalil

In the wake of the September, 11th attacks on innocent civilians, many American men and women have taken upon themselves the task of ridding the United States of all forms of domestic terrorism by targeting Muslim Americans and those who even slightly resemble Arabic features or wear Islamic dress. These patriots have used various tactics to aid the Bush Administration, which include murder, attacks on Mosques, discrimination toward Muslim and Arabs, biased media coverage, as well as physical and verbal assaults. Not all of these crusaders against evil are ignorant minded individuals who simply wish to express their hatred toward what they perceive to be Islam and Muslims. Some of these

nationalists are highly educated men and women in positions of power, influence, and dependability. This concerns me greatly. I am a Muslim and a former U.S. Marine. Not only am I all too familiar with Islamophobia in the United States Armed Forces, but also in the civilian environment, where popular media empires, such as CNN, have covered Islam in a predisposed fashion for decades.

As a student at the College of Staten Island, I am concerned about the growing number of highly educated staff members who are slowly revealing their hatred for Muslims on campus, particularly those who have been worshipping God in the school library. Recently, practicing Muslims have been approached and told that they are not allowed to pray in the library. The justification seems to be that CSI clubs can not gather and/or hold gathering of a religious nature in 1L. Here is where ignorance of

what Islam is, produces discrimination. Muslims worship God five times a day at specific times. When the time to worship approaches, Muslims locate a suitable place, face the holy city of Makkah (currently in Saudi Arabia), and commence their worshipping sometimes individually and at other times in groups. This daily activity has nothing to do with club activity. Practicing Muslims of CSI don't gather to worship God as a club, but as a group of individuals who follow Islam as a way of life. The most convenient place for worship has always been the library.

The United States evolved into a nation, which is still rooted in the idea that each member of mankind is free to worship in any way he/she chooses, as long as it doesn't violate the rights of others. This is an idea, which is not always put in practice. In C.S.I, I am the purely convinced that some faculty members as well as students have a

made it their business to prevent Muslims from praying in the library. This was not an issue before the attack on the World Trade Center. Muslims have been praying in the library for at least five years and were never told they couldn't. It is an issue now because the barbaric attacks in Manhattan have created a backlash of barbaric treatment towards Muslims everywhere, including CSI. I urge people who lack tolerance to at least distinguish the difference between Muslims who take the path of terrorism (less than 1%) and the Muslims who don't (99%). I also urge people who are tolerant to speak out against the discrimination CSI Muslim students are experiencing at this moment. We hear that certain faculty members are "concerned" that Muslims may face more discrimination if they keep worshipping in the library. In this case, the cloth of concern is certainly hiding the body of discrimination.

# For the Love of the Game

## Coach Flahive Shares the Secrets of His Success as a Coach on and off the Court

### Melissa Panarella

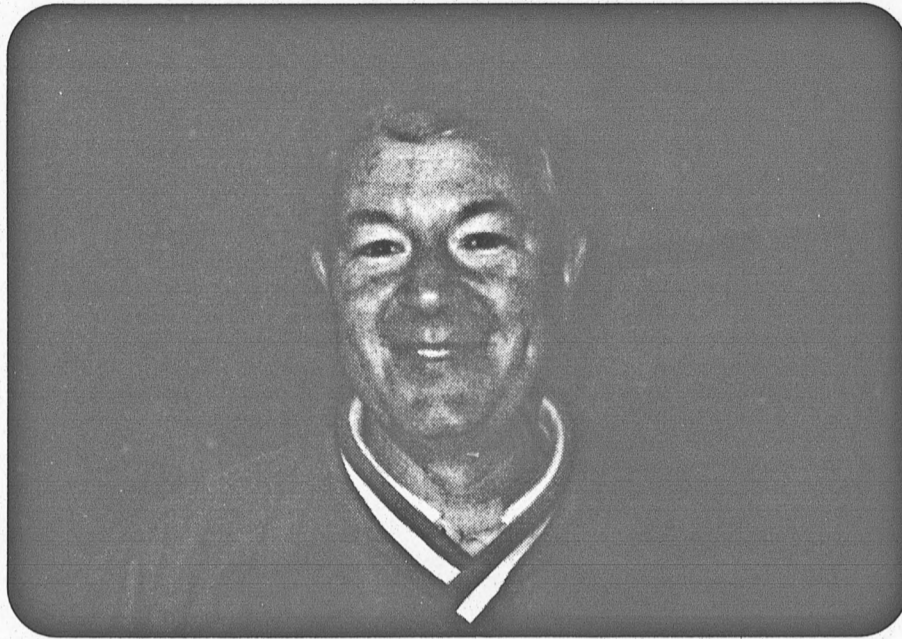
Most men would love to be surrounded by a lot of women. But for the assistant coach of the women's basketball team, this reality can be more challenging than enjoyable.

When one first meets Tom Flahive, they see an ordinary forty eight year old man. Residing in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn with his wife of twenty-six years, the father of two enjoys watching television and reading the latest Tom Clancy novel. He works the midnight shift for Keyspan, and hopes to retire in five years so he can move to San Diego, California.

However, there is something that sets this man apart from other men- his passion and dedication to women's basketball. Mr. Flahive's love for the sport began in high school and continued in his years at St. Joseph's College.

After graduating from St. Joseph's he took a break from basketball as he and his wife Virginia began the expansion of their family. He returned to the game as his daughter Kelly's CYO coach when she was nine years old. As the years went by, his coaching experience began to broaden. He worked for St. Francis College in Brooklyn for two years. Unhappy with their coaching techniques, he left to become part of the basketball staff at his college alma mater. It was while he was recruiting at St. Joseph's that he met Marguerite Gualtieri.

At the time, Ms. Gualtieri was recruiting players for Long Island



Keyspan employee by night, C.S.I basketball coach by day—and enjoying every minute of it. Photo credit: Melissa Panarella.

University. After leaving LIU, Ms. Gualtieri became the head coach of the women's basketball team at CSI. She wanted Mr. Flahive to assist her with these duties. In 1998, Tom Flahive joined the CSI family.

This man really does treat all of his players like family. He reminisces about particular events that have made him feel closer to a team who he calls, "The girls". He proudly talks about how Captain April Nelson tore her ACL as a freshman and in his words, "busted her ass to get back". He brags about how

last year's center (now this year's assistant coach), Courtney Aimetti won the CUNY's Most Valuable Player Award. When the team goes on road trips he admits his paternal nature does not go unnoticed. "When we're at a hotel I want to make sure that all their rooms are right there for me so if something is wrong I can hear it," he confesses. "I would be destroyed if something ever happened to these girls. It would ruin my entire life if anything ever happened to any one of them."

Coach Flahive prides himself as con-

necting with the team on the court as much as he does off. He emphasizes the importance of effectively communicating with players so they are not intimidated and can enjoy playing the game. He anxiously awaits the arrival of the new season with confidence and determination. After winning the 2001 CUNY championship, he hopes to hold on to that title for this season as well. Although he admits the team's size is their main weakness, he believes they can compensate by uniting and playing as a team. The team is highly offensive minded and according to Coach, "Every player is an offensive weapon." If the girls maintain a solid defense and if each player knows their role, the coach believes the team will go to the NCAA tournament once again this year.

Returning key players include: April Nelson, Keisha Cook, and Pamela Barone. The tallest player, Janna Tramutola did not play last season but with her return comes a firmer defense. Donna Przysiewski, a player barely reaching five feet, provides speed for an up tempo offense. First year players include Jaclyn Rock, Leia Albano, and transfer student Kate Morreale.

After the season opener against St. Joseph's College on November 24<sup>th</sup>, Coach Flahive's schedule will become very hectic. For the next few months he will be found practicing with the team six days a week in 1R, hopping on busses for away games, or devising strategies with his fellow coaching staff. If it means that in the end he and his team will win another championship, his job to keep "the girls" happy will be more of a success than the actual title itself.

# A Tale From the Foreign Student Affairs Office

### Natalie Baginski

Most American students will never get

to meet her, but every international student at CSI knows who she is. In the office of Foreign Student Affairs, she is the person behind the paperwork.

Nearly 500 foreign students attend CSI. Keeping track of a group this large is one of the many crucial responsibilities of the office of foreign Student Affairs.

Currently located in building 2A, room 206, the bustling FSA office has been the home away from home for Pauline Baselice. Always ready with a smile, she and her colleagues help both current and prospective students through mountains of paperwork and



Pauline Baselice from Foreign Students Affairs

bureaucratic red tape. Her friendly, demomother-like manner puts one at ease, and makes the often-intimidating experience of being alone in a foreign country a little less scary. Offering students a place to turn to, Pauline faces issues ranging from immigration protocol to how to open a bank account. She offers advice on finding a place to live, explains what is required for a driver's license, and what one might need in the way of work authorization.

A vast number of students and scholars come to the U.S on a visitor's visa and then wish to change their status to either F-1 (undergraduate) or J1 (graduate/professional) status. Pauline helps students through the process.

Even if a student just needs to talk, there is always someone there for them.

Pauline is that person and is always more than happy to help anyone with even the smallest of problems. "I love dealing with foreign students... I think I've learned more from them, than if I had read a book a week. I wouldn't have learned as much about other cultures, other people, countries, personalities, than I did directly from the students. It has been a blessing for me, really."

Born to Italian immigrants, Pauline grew up in Gravesend, Brooklyn. Though she was encouraged by her family to finish her secondary education, she set aside her aspirations of attending college, married and settled down as a housewife and mother soon after, as was common for women of her generation. "There was some old-world thinking in the way I was raised. Lots of our forefathers did not emphasize women going to college. It was more important for the men...because, what was a women going to do besides get married and have kids, right? That was the logic at the time."

Pauline and her young family soon outgrew their small apartment in Gravesend and began searching for a new family home. Staten Island caught their eye with new, affordable proper-

ties and the Baselices promptly packed up and moved in 1974.

When she took up the job as foreign student advisor in 1976, Pauline's desire to attend college was rekindled. In 1980, she boldly enrolled in a course at CSI. "I said to myself: you know what? Now it's time for mom to go and do what she's got to do."

She found a passion in learning and without further deliberation, she enrolled full time. Juggling studies, home and family, Pauline steadily achieved her Associate's, her Bachelor's and most recently (three years ago), her Master's degree in English language Arts.

Despite her initial fears and misgivings about college, she had a wonderful learning experience and came to realize that CSI was a unique place, with students of all ages and walks of life. "Nobody ever made me feel like 'what is this old lady doing here'."

She feels that her accomplishment was a great step for herself and an inspiration for other women of her own and all generations to be bold and never give up on their dreams and aspirations. After a long and rewarding career, Pauline hopes to retire next year and spend more time with her eight grandchildren.

Forget politics, CSI's Kindergarten Boardroom bangs the gavel on the real issues of our time:

# Sweet Baby Cocoa vs. The Sour Patch Kid

## KRIS LOPRESTO AND DAN FULLER DEMAND: GIVE ME LIBERTY, GIVE ME DEATH, OR GIVE ME A CAVITY!

**KRIS:** Hershey kisses suck. Chocolate gets messy and it can stick to everything!

**DAN:** Same with candy!

**K:** When I think of candy I think of lollipops and hard candy. I don't think of chocolate as candy.

**D:** When I think candy, I think chocolate bars, lollipops and gum. Nerds are candy

**K:** Red Hots! Lemon Heads! These are examples of candy.

**D:** I don't deny those are candy.

**K:** Exactly, see they are candy more than snickers!!

**D:** Snickers has got caramel, and that's candy.

**K:** NO!

**D:** Yeah!

**K:** CARAMEL IS NOT CANDY!

**D:** What the hell is it then?

**K:** It's food, no way near the candy category! Do you see Caramel with its own bar? No. You know why? Cause no one would buy it!!

**D:** Where do you find Werthers? Where do you find Snickers? The candy aisle at the grocery store!

**K:** Like when you go into a candy store, you don't buy chocolate, you buy gummi worms! A chocolate store has a totally different smell!

**D:** No...

**K:** That candy aisle in the grocery store is a joke! They put everything in there! I think I saw NutriGrain bars there, too. What, is NutriGrain a candy now, too? My God, we have to have boundaries!

**D:** I've actually had experience in a candy store. I've worked in one. We sold chocolate as well as other types of candy.

**K:** Hello! I was an ice cream man! We never sold chocolate! You know why? Cause it's not candy. Candy melts and goes bad. Candy should never go bad.

**D:** Doesn't ice cream melt?

**K:** Ice cream isn't candy. It's ice cream. This isn't quantum physics here!

**D:** So what are you doing selling candy from an ice cream truck? You COULD have sold chocolate. To keep it from melting you could have kept it refrigerated.

**K:** Good Humor sells ice cream, yes.

But we had 3 shelves devoted to candy.

**D:** So? You could

have sold chocolate is what I'm saying.

**K:** No! We had had many discussions about this (me and my then boss). Candy should hold up to the test of time. It shouldn't need special rules. All candy must remain equal!

**D:** Anyway, the reason why there are such



Fuller (left) and LoPresto (right) stand by their candy.

things as a "chocolatiers" is because there are some stores dedicated entirely to chocolate. Is gum candy?

**K:** No, it's just gum.

**D:** You sell that from the truck too? I'm sure it was on the shelf right next to the candy. Gum equals candy. And gum goes stale with time.

**K:** No, gum was never "sold." We gave it out to the kids. It was a special treat.

**D:** For free?

**K:** Of course, free gum. It's a word that has haunted a veteran

like me for years.

Thousands

o f

**K:** I'm very low brow. I dig Bonkers and Sour Patch Kids.

**D:** If it's a candy store, all we CAN sell is candy and toys. We had bite-sized Snickers between the Pop Rocks and the cigar gum. Choc-covered pretzels. Dark, milk and white.

**K:** Okay,

you're saying that Pretzels are candy? Where does it end?

**D:** What about chocolate bricks?

**K:** Gummi bears covered in chocolate (yuck) are the other end of the spectrum with gourmet food. Choc. Bricks? I'm lost.

**D:** Bricks made from chocolate.

**K:** You're not talking about York peppermint patties are you? Cause those things are horrible.

**D:** Solid chocolate bricks. Now you're just being critical.

**K:** Umm, ill! That sounds horrible. How about fudge? Do you consider fudge candy?

**D:** Yes. I suppose you don't consider taffy to be candy.

**K:** You have got to be kidding! This is just crazy talk!

**D:** You don't do you?

**K:** What, like sea water taffy? No, but I consider Air Heads to be candy.

**D:** They're BOTH taffy!

**K:** But there are different degrees of taffy

**D:** How so?

**K:** You got your salt water taffy, you got your air heads, then you have your laffy taffy. The latter two are candy that one would find at the local Seven-Eleven, but "salt water" taffy is found at specialty stores.

**D:** Not necessarily. I can recall a time when salt-water taffy was found at Seven-Eleven.

**K:** Rock candy is the truest candy there is.

**D:** Rock candy is probably the hardest candy to find.

**K:** Why do you think it's not around any more? Cause they rethought the whole candy genre.

**D:** So now you admit taffy IS candy?

**K:** No. But it was never a big seller.

**D:** It WAS a big seller. But the subject at hand is chocolate.

**K:** No, I'm talking about rock candy. Chocolate is something that some people eat with a knife and fork.

**D:** Only because you CAN use a knife and fork.

**K:** Chocolate's the main ingredient for cake!

**D:** So is sugar.

**K:** Is all candy cake? No! It's pastry!

**D:** No, cake is candy!

**K:** So there you go. No cake is candy and no chocolate is

candy, either.

T h a n k

**Kris:** That candy aisle in the grocery store is a joke! They put everything in there! I think I saw NutriGrain bars. What, is NutriGrain a candy now? My God, we have to have boundaries!

k i d s ,  
"Free Gum? Got free gum?" Gummi bears are candy, there is no doubt about that. But with chocolate there are all these problems.

**D:** Don't get off the subject. Gummi bears are candy. In my store we sold chocolate-covered-gummi bears. Sold from a CANDY store.

**K:** That is gross.

**D:** We still sold it as candy.

**K:** See, that's more "gourmet."

**D:** Gourmet?

**K:** Yeah, it's like Godiva chocolate stores.

**D:** Not at all. Godiva is extreme gourmet.

you.  
**D:** No, sugar is a main ingredient in cake.

**K:** Have you ever bitten into a Mars bar? It's repulsive. It's like biting into a tube of fat. Admit it.

**D:** Not at all! Is sugar candy?

**K:** What, like Fun Dip? Pixie Stix?

**D:** Yeah!

**K:** Sure. But my Frosted Flakes aren't candy.

**D:** So you can't say chocolate isn't candy just because it's in some cakes. No, that's a cereal.

**K:** But you can't say chocolate isn't candy just because it's in a lot of things. Hell, a Big Mac has sugar in it.

**D:** Chocolate has sugar in it. Sugar is in us.

**K:** Chocolate has been masquerading as candy for too long. No one eats Raisinettes because it's candy. Its just food. So not everything is candy, it's just an ingredient. I'm sure there will come a day when a candy will not have any sugar in it, but until that day...

**D:** Thus, candy does not exist! Thank you!

**K:** What?

**D:** You just turned sweets into a philosophy.

## Dribble, Drool, Make A Pass

Katrina Lisa Winslow

Hey you! Yeah, I'm talking to you. Try to guess what's hot this season and don't tell me it's that navy pea coat on sale in American Eagle. This is something even better. I'm talking Cambells soup mmm mmm good and even a little yummy, too! Give up? It's the College of Staten Island's Men's Basketball team.

Picture this: You're sitting in the bleachers and in walks sixteen good looking men all ready to give it their all to win. Their ability and strength is overwhelming. You can see the desire in their eyes and the team's endurance as they play. You wonder why? Well, I'll tell you why. These men practice three hours, six days a week and with a record of twenty-two wins and eight losses last season, the more they put into it, the more they get back. They can't do it alone, though. They have wonderful coaches that work alongside them and train them to execute like a well-oiled machine. The head coach is Tony Petosa. This will be his thirteenth year working for this school. With him are three assistant coaches: Matthew White, Brian Gasper, and Craig Slep—all very handsome.

Each season consists of 28 to 30 games. It will begin in November.

Even if you don't understand what a jumpshot or a layup is (I just learned today), come out and support the burgundy and white and, what's more, have fun scoping around. Believe me, there's a variety of flavor. A little bit of this and a little bit of that. Whatever is to your liking, I'm positive you will find. Who knows, you might even score the winning basket.

## We Got Game: CSI Dolphins Get Ready to Tip-off Another Season

John Palermo

The squeak of sneakers against hardwood, the sound of basketballs bouncing, the swish of a net as it is pierced by a three point shot are the sounds you will here in the main gym at the sports and recreation center of the College Of Staten Island.

The CSI Men's Basketball Team is getting prepped for the 2001-2002 season.

The team opens on the road, at the Alvernia Tip off Tournament on Friday November 16. The Dolphins return home on Saturday November 24, against Manhattanville College. The team has an exciting new schedule; they play teams like Ramapo College, SUNY Farmingdale and SUNY Purchase. They also play their familiar rivals in the CUNY conference, along with other good teams.

Asst. Coach Brian Gasper, a former player for the Dolphins believes the team will have a good year. "We will have more fast break chances." Head Coach Tony Petosa said, "the team's success is based upon experience." The team has four returning starters. When asked about the team's strategy for victory Coach Petosa stated they would use a lot of last year's game plan; A half court defense mixed with a patient motion offence. Both Petosa and Gasper are very high on David Paul; last years CUNY Conference MVP and a Pre Season All American. Kassim Nesbitt, a returning starter, will probably play small forward, and carry a lot of the scoring load. Champ Albano will also return from last years Dolphins to handle the ball as this years starting point Guard.



Practice makes perfect. CSI Dolphins prepare for upcoming season.

I witnessed the rest of the team before practice having a good time shooting around and warming up. The team has a feel of looseness, yet they are disciplined when the practice started. This year's Dolphins look good as a team, the drills were smooth, the ball movement looked good in practice, and the warm up shots are rarely missed. I played Kassim Nesbitt in a one on one game last year I didn't even score.

The new season for the Dolphins will

hope to be a good one. The College Of Staten Island seems to be pulling out all the stops to bring the fans back to the games. Come out and support the Dolphins on their next quest for a CUNY title. Even if you're not a huge basketball fan, The Sports and Recreation Center are trying to make it a good time for all. If you can't make the games listen in to WSIA 88.9 FM. Catch you at the game.

## Ask Andre: CSI's Favorite Advice Columnist

Andre Springer

Dear Andre,

*I am a gay student here at the College of Staten Island. I've been having some emotional and lustful feeling towards one of my professors. He has been giving me looks as well. Do you think I should reveal my feelings for him or should I contain myself?*

—Anonymous rainbow

Being that you are a student and he is your professor, it is seen by most as unethical or rather not appropriate in a school setting. It does exist in virtually every school across the country. If you feel that this teacher has some tendencies towards you, then maybe you should go for it. But do you want to risk losing the respect of your professor if he does not concur with your feelings? The worst that could possibly happen is that your feelings might get hurt and there will be some tension between you and the teacher during class. MY advice is you should cool it a little, realize some-

thing might go wrong or might actually turn out for the better. If you happen to bump into him at a gay club then why not play around and pop the question!

Dear Andre,

*I have the biggest fear of germs. Whenever I go out with my friends to restaurants or clubs I have a fear of using the bathroom. What do you think I should do?*

—M. Jackson

You are not alone in this world! Many people actually have a fear of using public facilities. If you feel uncomfortable using the public rest rooms, start a regular routine of using the bathroom in the morning before you leave and after you come home from school or work. Did you know that the first stall in the bathroom is always the one everyone passes! So if you really have to drop the kids off to the pool go for the first stall. And if you are paranoid of germs, line the seat with toilet tissue. Good luck, and remember to always flush before you rush!

Dear Andre,

*I am a full time student at CSI. It takes me a long time to get to my classes. I was thinking about getting a car, but in order for me to meet this goal I need to get a part-time or full-time job. What should I do?*

—Anna Voiture

You have to realize what is more important to you, is it your education or is it this car? Working and taking a full load of classes is very hard, some people do it, but for them it isn't a choice. You however are lucky to have that choice. If you have a deadline and want to get school over with quickly then the full 16 credits you should stick with. If you want the car and are not in such a hurry to finish school then go for the car, but try not to work more than twenty hours a week. Remember to always weigh what is more important for you in the long run and your necessity. Honestly if you really need the car then drop the two classes and find work, but never neglect your school work, you will always have an education to back you

up but car can come and go anytime in life.

Dear Andre

*My girlfriend lives far away (Seattle). How do I hold back these urges to be with other girls? Do you think I should sleep with someone else behind her back?*

Charlie Brownsmith

Dear Charlie,

I think you should be the one to ask yourself these questions. Do you think that she is worth your time? How long have you been with this girl? Do you hold her picture next to your heart? It all depends on how you value your relationship with her. Cheat on her! Go for it! Just remember that when you do, if you really love her, you have just lost something grand. You betrayed your trust, loyalty, and love that you promised her in the beginning of this relationship. But if you don't hold these values to heart then go right ahead and indulge yourself in the flesh.

# Get Up, Get Down, Get With It!

There's something special in the air this time of year, and it smells like school spirit!

## Francis Duffy

Carol Brower asked me, "What has changed in your life since you emerged from the student body and got involved?" I bit my lip a bit. I suppose the slide-show of fond memories from the past year left me tongue-tied for a moment. "You know what?" I said, "I've really found a home here in 1C. Just the other day I was in the newspaper office singing, of all things, the theme to *The Golden Girls*, with six or seven people I met at the paper only this semester. Now I know I don't get the same feeling one does sitting around grandma's oilcloth, sipping hot cocoa and sharing memories and sweet potato pie here at school, but what I do get is far, far better."

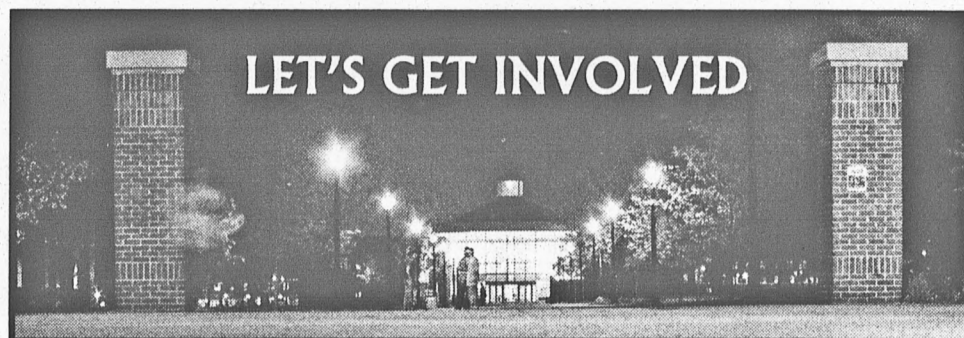
I've found and forged healthy friendships here. To be sure, since I broke the habit of bee-lining to my car after class I've made meaningful friendships with all sorts of good people. Lots of times, I'll have no reason to stay on campus. Still, I'll seek out someone to hang around with—the permutations of possible subjects to talk about are infinite. Getting involved, moreover, has warmed up campus faces, many I might have otherwise not approached. Even if I'm not great friends with all of them, I know them, we share a commonality; we're community.

I knew the college offered programs and activities for students, but I had no idea just how many. Some accidental investigation brought me to the office of student life. And that's when I met Carol Brower, the open-door director, who filled me in. I asked, "What can students get involved in at this point of the semester?"

"Plenty," she said. "There's the radio station, intramural sports in the rec center, peer counseling in the wellness center. You can become an orientation leader, join the mentorship program, or the ambassador program. Students who qualify are invited to become emerging leaders, but all students are welcome to attend the leadership series of lectures and workshops." (See our calendar on the back page for dates and times.)

The publications, newly revamped and freshly staffed are stronger than ever—we have a yearbook, a political journal, a student poetry anthology, an arts magazine, and of course the grab-bag -pot-pourri campus newspaper just beyond your glasses. Publications, as is with many groups, offers students both activity and experience, real experience.

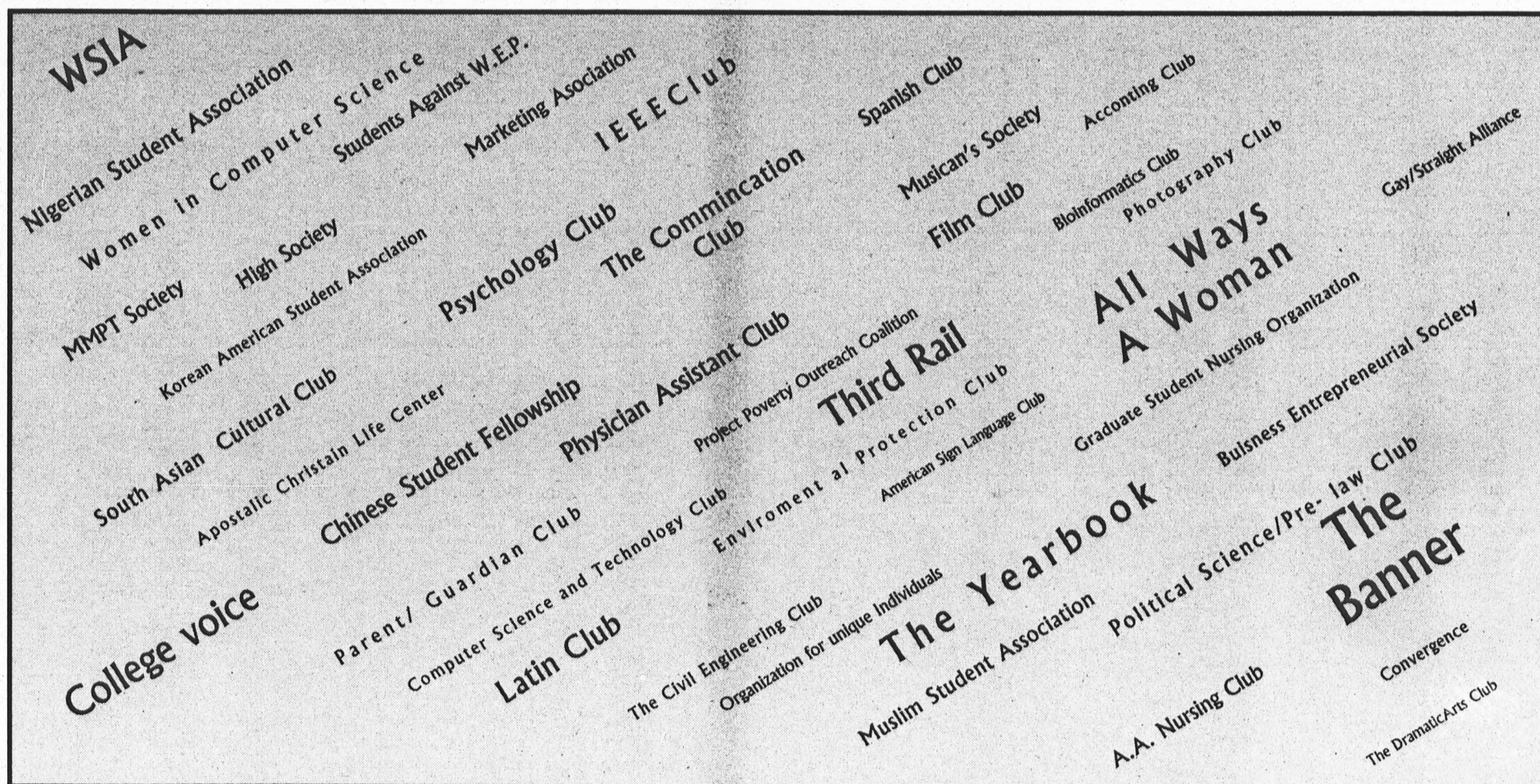
I asked Carol about experience. "Employers want to see involvement. Things have changed since I got my B.A.. GPA is no longer enough."



As a public service, Scott Axelrod and Kris Lo Presto provide

## THE TOP TEN REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME INVOLVED IN A CLUB

10. Make new and interesting friends who will one day be willing to donate an organ.
9. It will give you a chance to pretend you're in the witness relocation program.
8. Gives you two hours to drink coffee and smoke cigarettes with like-minded individuals.
7. Even if you quit 10 minutes into a meeting, you can still include it in your resume.
6. Get to play with expensive office supplies in a surrounding other than your local Staples.
5. You are now able to give a destination to food delivery boys instead of secretly meeting them in Parking Lot 5.
4. You no longer have to feel guilty about simply spending your parents' money on those pesky classes.
3. You can tell yourself in the morning, "They like me. They *really* like me."
2. Feel philanthropic by getting no money, no credits, and especially no trophies to place on your mantle.
1. You now have someplace to hide when you steal food from student government barbecues.



# And Now For Upcoming Events In November...

SAT&SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				<p><b>1</b></p> <p>All Saints Day</p> <p>Full Moon</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>James Polk Born, 1795</p> <p>Warren Harring Born, 1865</p>
<p><b>3/4</b></p> <p>Take the Garbage out!</p> <p>Read a Harry Potter Book</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Decide your Vote: Heads=Democrat Tails=Republican</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>Election Day</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>PDC Film Series "Legally Blonde" 1:30 @1C-Bijou Lounge(211)</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Last Day to Drop a Class Avoid WU's</p> <p>NYPIRG'S PeanutButter Jelly Jam 12:00-5:00 1C</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Clue Credit</p> <p>What is a thesis statement and how do I write one? 2:30 - 3:30 @2S-220</p>
<p><b>10/11</b></p> <p><b>Veterans Day</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Start of Homeless awareness week</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>CounselingCenter Workshop Changing Careers 5:30 - 6:20 @1A-208</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>PDC Film Series "Tomb Raider" 12::20, 3:35, 6:20 @1C- Bijou Lounge(211)</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>PDC Comedian Jamie Lissow 1:30 @ Green Dolphin Lounge</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>CounselingCenter Workshop Developing a more positive self-concept 10:10 - 11:10 @ 1A-208</p>
<p><b>17/18</b></p> <p>Sun. NYPIRG's campaign to end sweatshops</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Get sick and take a Day Off!</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Free HIV Testing 1:30 - 3:30 @1C-112 Health Services</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Pre-Turkey Day</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>Thanksgiving Day</b> <b>College closed</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>College Closed</b></p>
<p><b>24/25</b></p> <p><b>College Closed</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>CounselingCenter Workshop Dealing withfamily expectations 11:15 - 12:05 @1A-208</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>CounselingCenter Workshop Preparing for the new world 10:10 - 11:00 @1A-108E</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>More leftover Turkey for Dinner</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Student Government Meeting 1:30 @1C-201</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Watch Rocky II Again</p> <p>Full Moon</p>