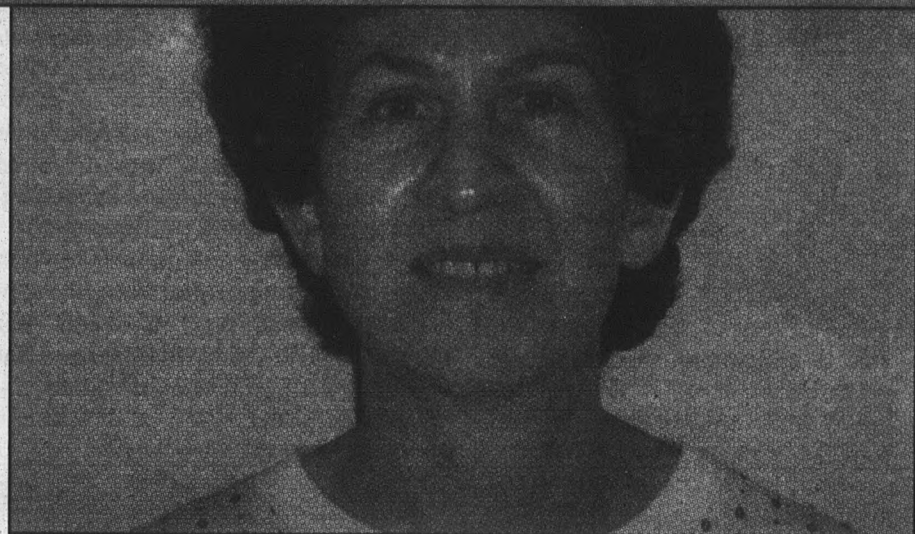


THE BANNER

December 15, 2003

What will Ruth Stark do with \$2.5 million?



Jennifer Mosscrop

CSI has been selected as the home campus for the Macromolecular Assemblies Institute (MMA), dedicated to the basic research and discovery of biomedical and biotechnology applications.

Last fall, the College of Staten Island received a \$2.5 million grant from the State of New York (with tremendous help from Senator John Marchi) as a part of the Gen*NY*sis program (Generating Employment for New York Science).

The institute will operate at CSI but will be available to other partici-

pating CUNY colleges and their teams of researchers from City College, Hunter, Brooklyn, York and Queens colleges. The researchers will be studying the underlying causes of diseases and may discover new assemblies of molecules that could be used for vaccinations or other healing or disease prevention methods.

To break it down in layman's terms, molecules are individual, atomic-level species found in the body. Macro means that they are large molecules or networks of molecules. The Biology and Chemistry departments aim to study how they

New Institute Makes Its Home at CSI

interact with one another and how they assemble together.

Dr. Ruth Stark, Director of the MMA, gave the example of a virus particle to be a macromolecular structure: "DNA, protein, water, all of these things together make it a macromolecular assembly."

Senator Marchi asked the college if they had any projects that were appropriate for the Gen*NY*sis program. CSI was interested in projects that would advance biomedical and biotechnology applications.

"They asked us to put together a portfolio," said Dr. Stark. "And because we had strengths in those areas, we were able to put together a credible proposal."

Dr. Stark added, "it was very intense because we had to do everything very quickly."

Students are involved in research with the MMA on different levels. PhD students in chemistry, masters students in Biology, and also undergraduates play a part. "We try to encourage biology and chemistry majors to do at least one or more independent study course, that's how they get involved in the research,"

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WHAT ARE THEY?

Shedding Light on the Metal Masterpieces

Jennifer Hermus

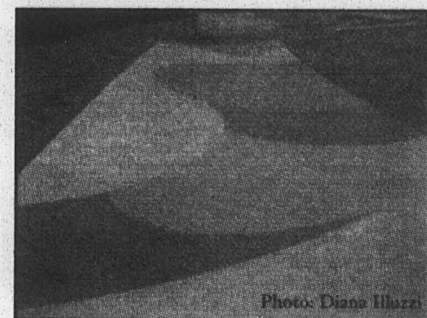


Photo: Diana Ilazzi

It has almost caused accidents with its gaudy and overwhelming presence on the grass behind 3A. It has stirred up whispers of curious speculation.

"I almost swerved my car when I first saw it. It's an eyesore," exclaimed Cristyn D'aversa. She also wondered if the CSI had bought the piece, and with skepticism pondered how much such a large piece might cost. Yet, the reticently awkward "art" installment remained unexplained.

Until now, that is.

Thomas G. Tyburczy, Deputy to the Vice President for Finance and Administration, isn't the man with all of the answers, but certainly the one with enough. Tyburczy diligently dialed department after department inquiring with the zeal of an investigative reporter. What he knew was that the piece was put on the grounds for temporary display while 1M continues to be worked on. Parts of the work have been stored behind 1M for the last 8 years and its holding ground is currently being used for agricultural products and building tools to be used on renovations.

According to Tyburczy, "We're going to be redoing the entire landscape [and] we needed to temporarily store it somewhere else." And for the last two months that somewhere has been behind 3A and even portions in the grass near 3S. "We did it because we had to get it out of the way and now we're rethinking. In a couple of weeks it should be out."

If you've seen the installation, you would have noticed that it is displayed in separate panels that don't

Continued on Page 2

COLDBLOODED COMMODITIES

Prehistoric Fossils Found in Floor Tiles of SI Mall

Michael Bruno

Just when you thought you'd seen it all, done it all and was ready for a nap... dinosaurs invade the mall. We're not talking about the wrinkled, blue-haired dinosaurs wearing too much makeup and those awful open toe shoes over their dark brown, opaque stockings. Nor are we talking about the dinosaurs who need to leave the mall by noon in order to eat dinner and be in bed by 4:30. Nope, we're talking honest to God 450 million year old fossils, and they're right under our very noses.

No need to be alarmed. The creatures that have been found in the bedrock of Richmond Avenue are quite dead and pose no threat. Worries about giant lizards eating small children, taking mountain-sized dumps in the food court or taking over as manager of Cinnabons should be put to rest. Your mall is still safe, at least until you run into Jeff Goldblum. If you do, just ignore him and he'll go away. If he tries to plug "Jurassic Park 4: The Lost Cause," run till his nasal shrills trail off into silence. Other than that, come on down to the mall and check out something pretty interesting.

So, what exactly is at the mall?

"The flooring for the mall is made up oceanic limestone that was cut and polished and used as tile," explains the man leading the study of the mall's geological treasures, Dr. Alan Benimoff, a professor at CSI's department of engineering, science and physics. "Each piece of tile is part of the limestone and the limestone once formed, many millions of years ago, an oceanic environment. How do I know that? I look at the fossils. There are actual fossils in the rock which was cut in such a way that it provides for us a cross section of all different kinds of fossils."

Preliminary analysis has shown that the tiles on the mall floor contain within them corals, gastropods (a type of snail) and brachiopods, prehistoric clams. Initial testing has dated the fossils back to the Paleozoic period which has a range of 543 million to 248 million years old, the latter date being the extinction period for most of what has been found thus far. Though the range in years is large one, Dr. Benimoff suggests that his efforts to accurately date and identify the specimens are presently incomplete. "We really have to do some further work on this - and we plan to," assures Benimoff who envi-

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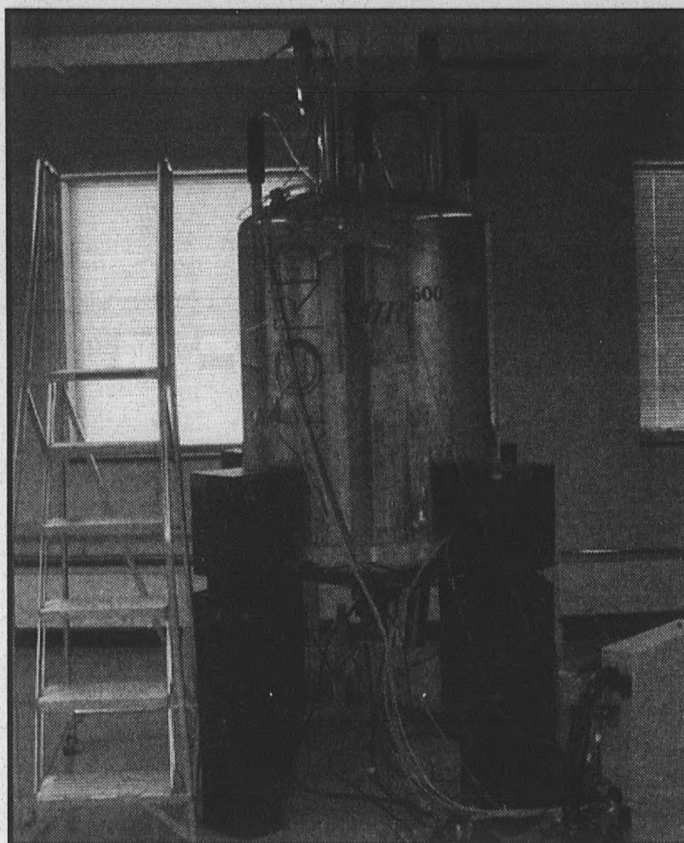
said Dr. Stark.

The MMA has a partnership with CSI's Discovery Institute, the summer program where high school students get to learn the basics of macromolecular assemblies.

Although the institute has not yet decided on what to buy, some of the \$2.5 million grant money will be used to purchase new equipment. "It is likely to be instruments for determining molecular structures and for producing new proteins and nucleic acids and things like that," Dr. Stark said.

The MMA has approval from both the college and CUNY central to hire five new faculty members in this area within the next five years.

Dr. Stark is looking forward to the future of CSI's biology/chemistry research. The MMA is a great accomplishment for the faculty as well as the students. "It is a recognition of the college both the present and the promise of the future," boasted Dr. Stark. "We would not have received the grant from the state nor would we



A big old cow milker? Think again. It's a big old magnet. Photo: Moss crop

have been chosen as the home campus for the institute if we didn't have the credibility that we do in these par-

ticular areas."

The chemistry department has been doing research on polymers and biopolymers and other related research for over thirty years. "That's the track record we had to present to the state, you don't get there overnight." Said Dr. Stark.

Dr. Stark hopes to branch out to new areas of study such as X-ray Crystallography which basically shoots x-rays at the ordered structures of proteins, DNA or RNA and

tries to understand their molecular structures.

Another area of study that the

department might branch out to is Computational Chemistry, which Dr. Stark explained to be a kind of "virtual macromolecular assembly" which uses the power of computers to predict the best structure that a certain molecule might adopt and try to understand why it formed.

"We have the facilities here for this kind of work," said Dr. Stark. "I think it's very attractive for students. Many students here are interested in computers as well as Biology and so it's a sort of marrying of those two."

Dr. Stark's new position as the Director of the Macromolecular Assemblies Institute allows her to coordinate the activities of the faculty CUNY-wide and provides new hiring of the staff. "A lot of it is administrative," she said.

She has a lot of confidence in the faculty and staff. "They're a strong group who did the right kind of work to fit the agenda of the institute."

Dr. Stark continues to teach chemistry here at CSI and the CUNY Graduate Center. She has been teaching at CSI for 19 years and is the head of the nuclear magnetic resonance facility.

continued from page 1

sions the Staten Mall eventually becoming a place where you can come in and learn all about what it is you've been stepping on all this time. "Once everything has been accurately identified, we would like for plaques to be placed throughout the mall explaining and pointing out what these things are. It can be a wonderful indoor laboratory or museum not just for our students, but for students all over Staten Island."

"It can be a wonderful indoor laboratory or museum."

—Dr. Alan Benimoff

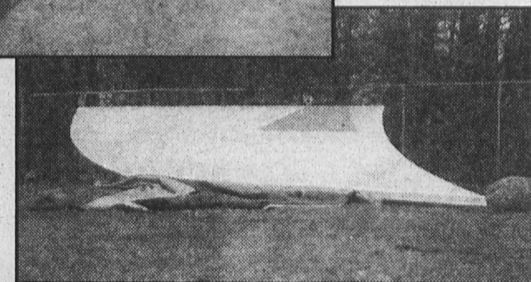
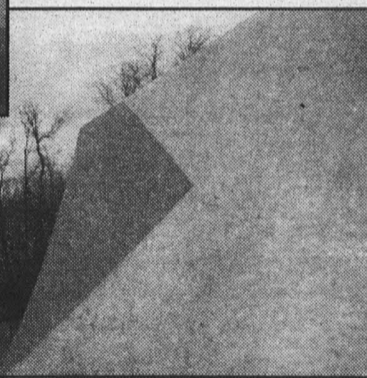
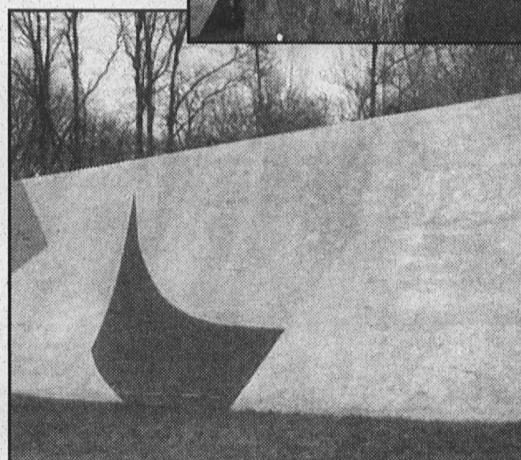
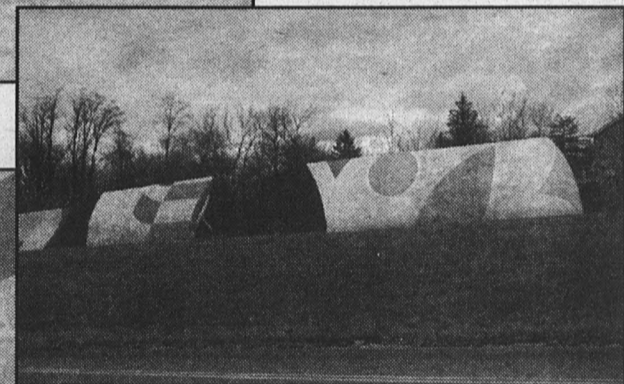
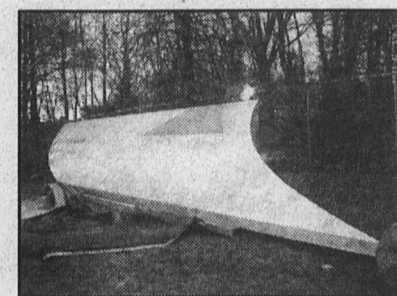
The mall? You can learn there? To some, this may suggest that the Apocalypse is upon us, but to those keen on the subject of how man rose from a puddle of chromosomes on some desolate shore to become the rocket launching, disease curing, "Osbornes" watching super beings that we are today, learning at the mall should be pretty convenient and fun.

One word of advice: If you do go down to the mall and begin kneeling on the floor to get a look at these things and someone asks you what the hell you're doing, either tell them you're looking for a contact or that you've forgotten to take your meds. They'll most likely leave you alone. No one wants to deal with crazy people. Just stay away from Cinnabons.

continued from page 1

seem to have a definitive relationship to the next. Each large, angular and apparently cement panel has colorful geometric shapes that look like a graffiti battle royale between the 'Minimalists' and the 'Fauve'. But the good news is, it's not ours! The work (whose name is either unknown or non-existent) is a professional piece that belongs to Hostros Community College, a CUNY campus in the Bronx.

It was originally intended to be an enormous mural and pieces came to CSI in 1995 while walls were being restored at Hostros. By 2000, CSI was officially asked by DASNY (Dormitory Authority of the State of New York—the gift giver and owner of CUNY) to hold all of the panels while Hostros was refurbished. Now let out a sigh because the piece will eventually go and CSI did not squander your money!



CSI's graffiti battle royale between the Minimalists and the Fauve will soon go back to Hostros. Photo credit: Diana Illuzzi.

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Photo Competition Gives Students Closer Look at the World

Jennifer Mosscrop

The winners to CSI's second annual photo competition and exhibition was announced on December 4th in the Center for International Services office during International Coffee Hour. Although there were only five winners, all seventeen photos are impressive and capture the student's experiences in a new and different world. The shots remind us of how expansive and beautiful the world is.

Michelle Cruz won the first prize of \$50 for "Beggars on a closed Ponte Vecchio," taken in Florence, Italy in March 2002. Cruz took home another \$25 for second place with "Tower of Firenze," also shot in Florence, Italy.

Yesenia Bello won \$25 for special recognition for "Larger Than Life," taken in Rome, Italy. Alexy Milyavsky's "The Onion Domes of Sergievposad" and Agne Gaijaouskaite's "A Starbucks Like No Other," won \$25 for honorable mention.

All prizes were contributed by CSI's Student Government.

Ann Helm, Director of the Center For International Services, hosted the coffee hour. Helm explained how the photo competition and exhibition was a way to "see how the world looks from someone else's perspective."

The photo competition was born last year, a brainchild of the Center for International Service's Special Programs Assistant, Winnie Brophy. "We wanted to bring together pictures from both sides, around the world and from right here in New York," said Brophy.

This year's theme was "A Glimpse of The World." CSI students captured



Eric Mayr, Michelle Cruz (winner), Professor Martin Bough, Carolyn Flynn, and Winnie Brophy. Below, left: Vito Connena flouts the world. Photos: Jen Mosscrop.

everyday life in China, Italy, Japan, and Posad while visiting international students gave us a chance to see New York through their eyes.

Phuong Nguyen, a student from Vietnam who rarely sees snow, took a picture of a snowy Silver Lake park in Staten Island. Takashi Yamada showed us her first birthday celebration in Queens, New York.

"When I went over to see the pictures," said Ann Helm, "I felt so lucky to be in so many places in a short period of time."

There are many different experiences represented in the library, which will be on display near the circulation desk until December 31st.

"Seeing that warm glow of the child's face in China and then feeling

what it's like to see the sun rise over the Coliseum or feeling the last cold snow of winter, there are so many other feelings," said Helm.

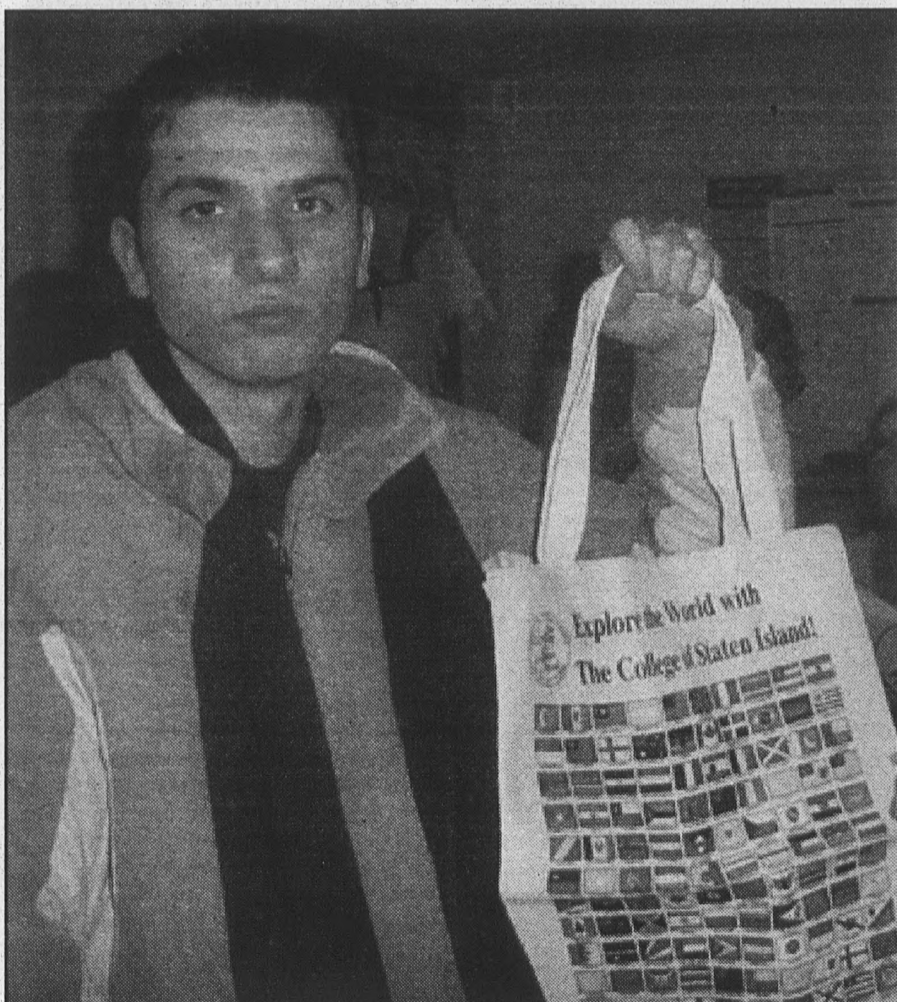
Professor Martin Bough from the Performing and Creative Arts department was one of the judges. Professor Bough has been a photographer for 40 years and has been teaching photography for 22 years. "I used to be a musician," he said, "until my father handed me a camera and it changed my whole world."

Mr. Eric Mayr and Ms. Carolyn Flynn were the two judges from the Color Photographers Club of Staten Island. Ms. Flynn was presented a special recognition certificate for the club's ongoing generosity in partnering with CSI. The club sponsored the photography workshop in October. The workshop taught students how to crop and frame their pictures. Mayr explained, "If we don't teach the youth about photography, we won't have any photography."

The Color Photographers Club is involved in many projects on the island. One project the club is involved with is the documentation of Staten Island's architecture. "This island was actually experimental ground for architects," said Mayr. "Unfortunately, the builders feel they can destroy it before we can appreciate it."

The International Coffee Hour is held about four times per semester and is sponsored by the Center for International Service. Winnie Brophy described the coffee hour as "a casual place for international students to chat and eat and get together after work." International student Sylvia Lasocka, visiting from Poland, added, "We don't have a lot of time to make American friends so this is a good way of socializing."

If anybody is interested in participating in next year's competition, contact Winnie Brophy at (718) 982-2100.



Letter From the Editor...

So here it is, the last issue of the semester. FINALLY! As much as I love my office, my staff, my contributors, and the publication as a whole, I have had it. I spend more hours in this office a week than I do at my actual job and get twice the aggravation. To be honest I have recently resorted to asking myself the question "Why do I do this?"

Doesn't everyone ask him or herself this question at one point in time or another? Every nine-to-fiver has to feel lost, worn out, and unappreciated sometime. This semester was indeed my time. Just as I underestimated the efforts put in and the hardships endured by my predecessor Kim DeLese, I sometimes feel as if my efforts, and the efforts of my staff, are taken for granted.

It was after the release of SEX @ CSI that I began to realize that despite the seriousness and professionalism The Banner attempts to convey in every issue, our paper still comes under fire. When The Banner reports on CSI events, faculty, and students, we were accused of being too bland. This publication has repeatedly been criticized by students who have claimed that we do not publish certain material because we fear the consequences we may face from administration. Just to make it clear to the student body, there is certain material that I as an editor will not publish because it does not reflect the mission of or distorts the message of this publication. If I were to submit a poem praising President Bush to Third Rail, or a hard news piece to Serpentine, neither would accept my work. I completely respect the press's right to editorial freedom. Why should an editor feel the pressure to publish every submission that comes his or her way?

People often fail to recognize the meaning of that word, editor. "One who superintends, revises, or prepares a literary work for publication," according to Webster. I could publish every submission as it comes to me. But I would be sure to hear how poor the grammar is in the paper, and how many typos there are. I believe CSI deserves a real student newspaper, not just a place to have anything anyone wants published set in type.

This may sound like a resignation. Far from it. I will not give up. I am incredibly proud of my staff and all of the work they have done this semester. Even when funds were not readily available for the publications, The Banner was hard at work putting together a excellent issues. While I don't really expect that others will view the Banner the way that those who work here view it, I still hope that the CSI community sees this newspaper as a publication that strives to keep students and faculty informed of the issues and events that shape their lives at CSI, in CUNY and on Staten Island.

I would like to wish the entire CSI community a restful and productive winter intercession, a happy holiday, and a joyous and healthy New Year.

Diana Illuzzi

Children's Center Faces Cuts

Nuha Othman &
Gina Abitabile

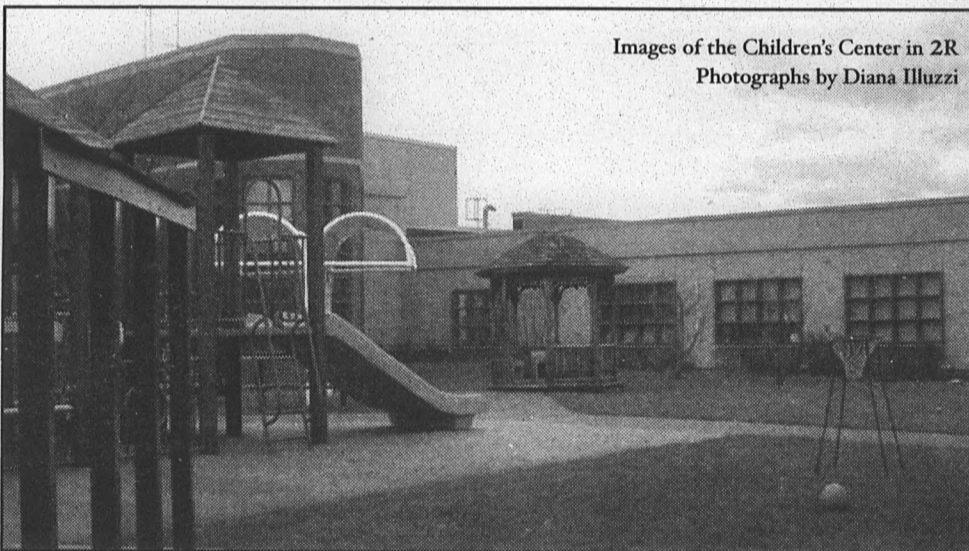
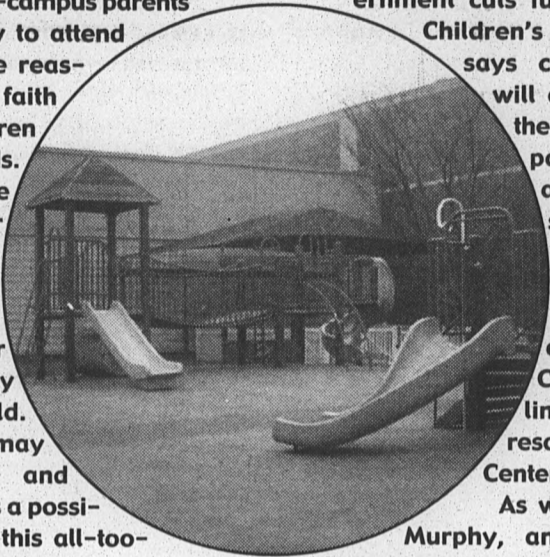
The Children's Center (building 2R, right behind the gym) constitutes one of the advantages of going to school at CSI. At \$2 an hour for childcare, the center gives on-campus parents the opportunity to attend school with the reassurance and faith that their children are in safe hands. At the same time, the Center also provides students with job experience, particularly for those in the early education field. Although all may seem "fine and dandy," there is a possibility of losing this all-too-convenient privilege.

Last March, members of the Parent/Guardian Group, here at the Center, gathered together to embark on a mission. This group set out to Albany, New York in an attempt to remind Governor Pataki that the funding for on-campus care was not mentioned in his first budget proposal the year prior. The topic of funding for on-campus child care, which is not only offered on our CSI campus, but also on eighteen CUNY campuses and far more SUNY campuses as well, sparked enough attention to question the permanence of Quality Early Care Education Services. The Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) is threatening to decrease funding for such on campus advantages as evening and weekend hours, summer sessions as well as the occu-

able on-campus child care and early education programs for the children of CUNY students".

Among many of the CSI parents/students upset with the risks is Kelly Cregan-Mc Clory. "If the government cuts funding for the Children's Center," she says concerned, "it will affect me and the majority of the parents that attend this school. These cuts will also affect the children that attend [the Center] and will limit the resources that the Center can provide".

As was shared by Murphy, another parent who managed to voice her opinion was Anna Cantor. Anna Cantor's published outlook was so powerful; her commentary was actually used statewide as a unanimous expression



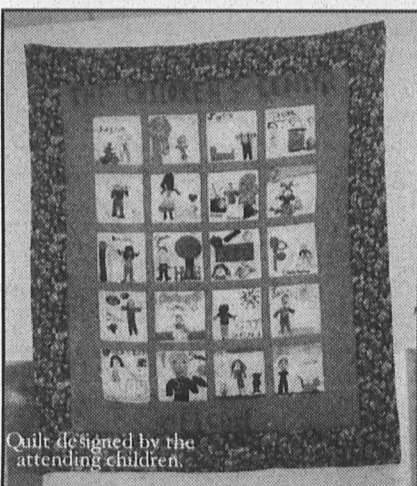
Images of the Children's Center in 2R
Photographs by Diana Illuzzi

of the parents and students opinions on the matter. Cantor's message was one that reflected the importance of a feasible security station to maintain her child in a safe environment while she chose to further her education. Murphy shares, "It's very important for the legislatives to actually see the real stories, rather than envision the scenario".

This coming March 2004, the Parent/Guardian Group of the

Children's Center plans to visit Albany to meet with the members of the State's legislative body. They have currently collected over 250 signatures; but far more is needed in order to make a difference.

(PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL THE CHILDREN'S CENTER @ CSI FOR SUPPORT OR INTEREST IN ATTENDING THE TRIP TO ALBANY: *** WAIT!!*** Ask Cynthia if it is O.K. to say this, if you want it here! (718)982-3186.



Quilt designed by the attending children.

pancy of several of the teachers and staff currently working there.

As adamant as the legislatives proved to be, the group, in addition to the Center's Director Cynthia Murphy, decided to start circulating petitions striving to inform the CSI public of the possible cuts being made to the Centers and the like. "The purpose of these petitions," shares Director Murphy, "is to ask Governor Pataki to continue funding for quality, afford-

Saving Money on Textbooks Utilize the Online CSI Book Exchange

Vanessa Joseph

Once again this semester, the CSI branch of the New York Public Interest Group (NYPIRG), the largest student-directed research and advocacy organization in New York State, is coordinating CSI's Book Exchange Cooperative. This latest achievement of NYPIRG makes this service available to students online for the first time. It allows students to save a great deal of money and time.

When students have completed the necessary coursework for a semester, and wish to receive a portion of the gold mine that they spent on their books back, they can go to NYPIRG's website at www.nypirg.org/bx and post the information on the books they wish to sell. Students can choose to post this information for a period of 30, 60, or even up to 90 days. Students who need to purchase books for the following semester can log on to the site and contact the students who are

selling the books they need. Then a price can be negotiated between the two students.

By using The Book Exchange, students can obtain their books directly from other students and avoid the high prices mark-ups typical of third party transactions. Students can also sell books they no longer need at prices that usually beat the bookstore's buy-back rates. Why should students lose so much money on books they are only going to use for a few months?

In order for NYPIRG to be able to keep offering this valuable and FREE service, students must log on and take advantage of it. For more information please call the NYPIRG office at (718) 982-3109

NYPIRG
BOOK EXCHANGE

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Whole Foods Market

is excited to announce that we're scheduled to open the doors of our newest location on Columbus Circle in early 2004! Please join us for an:

Open Hiring Session

Thursday, December 18th, 7am-7pm
Friday, December 19th, 7am-5pm
The Holiday Inn
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As Finals Near, CSI Students Talk About Cheating

It's the end of the semester and you've spent months . . . o.k., hours preparing for your final exam. As you eyeball your work, you notice your life-long buddy waving a Ben Franklin at you for the chance to sneak a peek at your answers. Now, the heat's on you . . . Do you give them your blue book to cheat off of for \$100?

No. If you cheat once you can get kicked out of school right? Although I would do it for \$1,000 or more.
Joseph Park, freshman

Definitely, if it was my friend. I would feel guilty if they failed because of me. Sharing is caring! And I would expect the same in return.
Jen Curcio, senior

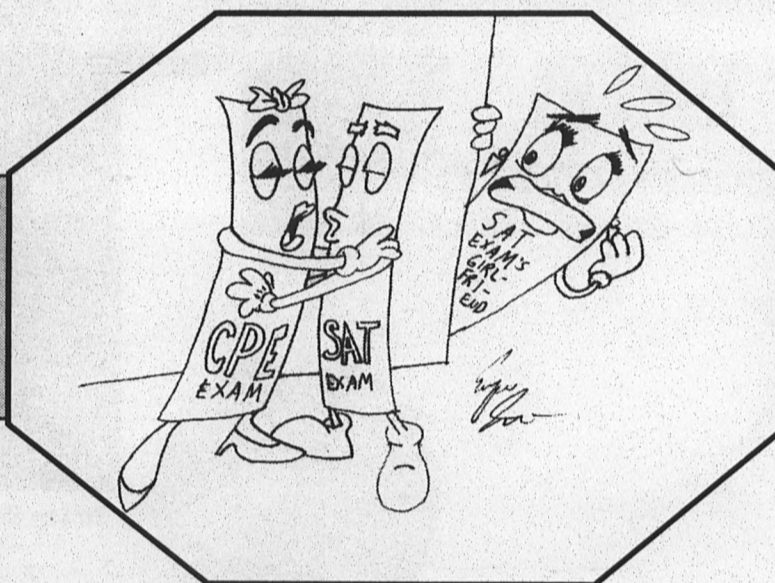
I think I would for a hundred dollars, I would help him. Why not? As long as he doesn't copy it word for word. For a hundred bucks? Hell yeah!
Joe Lau, sophomore

No, I'll feel like I worked too hard for someone else to cheat off of me. I wouldn't do it for anything. I wouldn't want to be bothered with something like that.
Elizabeth Lizardi, Senior

No, because I have gone through several, restless, sleepless, exhausting nights and I do not believe my sincere dedication is worth a mere 100 dollars. I would not do it for anything. I am simply not going to share my hard work.
Cerrita Telmany, senior

No. If I studied that hard, they should have at least had the decency to study a little bit. I wouldn't do it for any money!
Sully Samaniego, sophomore

To cheat, or . . .



not to cheat?

No, because I have a very strong conscience. I don't care if it were my sister, I wouldn't allow them to cheat from me no matter how much they pay. It is my hard work that got me the grade, and to let someone use me would not be a good friend.
Sara Losack, Senior

Not at all, because money isn't everything. You sat for hours working on it, and no one should take it away from you. Also, if they really wanted to do well, they would have sacrificed their own time to study.
Melissa Dario, Freshman

I wouldn't feel comfortable doing it, especially if it's something I've worked hard on and I wouldn't want someone else to get the credit for my efforts. I'd like to think that I can succeed or fail on my own without having to cheat or buy off someone else in order to get better results. I'd like to think they should do the same. I would actually do it only if I could write it for them with a slightly lower quality writing style than mine, and THEN walk away with my Franklin and a smile on my face.
Brian Richards, senior

I would definitely let them copy, but I'd give them like, only 75% of the answers. Yeah, with Christmas right around the corner, and he was a friend ... I'd probably do it for free.
Tony Chacko, sophomore

People will do what they can get away with. If the risk was minimal, it's an easy 100 bucks. Given the certain circumstances, if you can't get caught, why not?
Craig R., sophomore

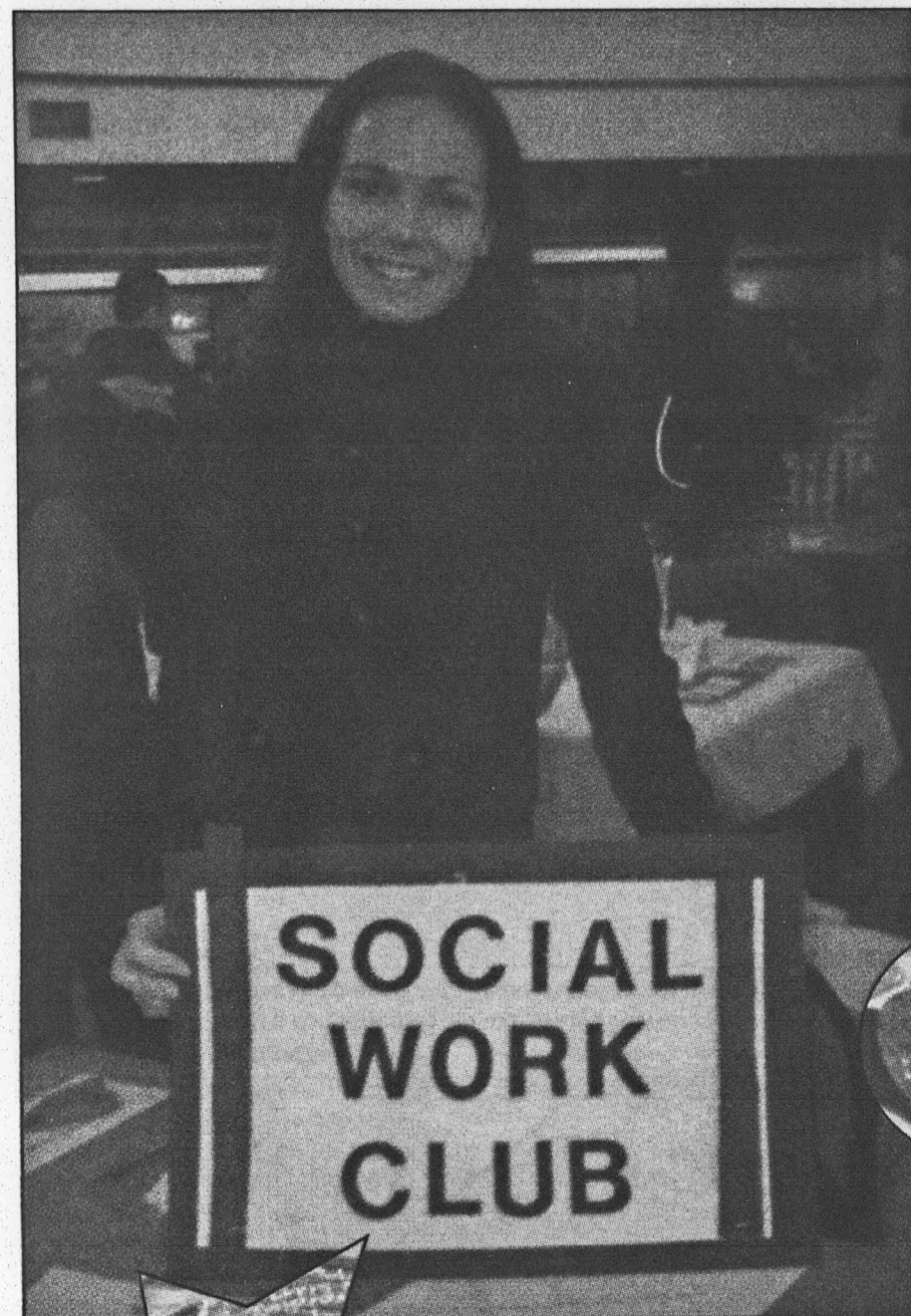
No, I wouldn't do it. Although I could use the money ... I would never. I don't think I would do it for any specific amount because I wouldn't want to be kicked out of school. I value my education.
Sherri Greenspan, junior

STUDENT

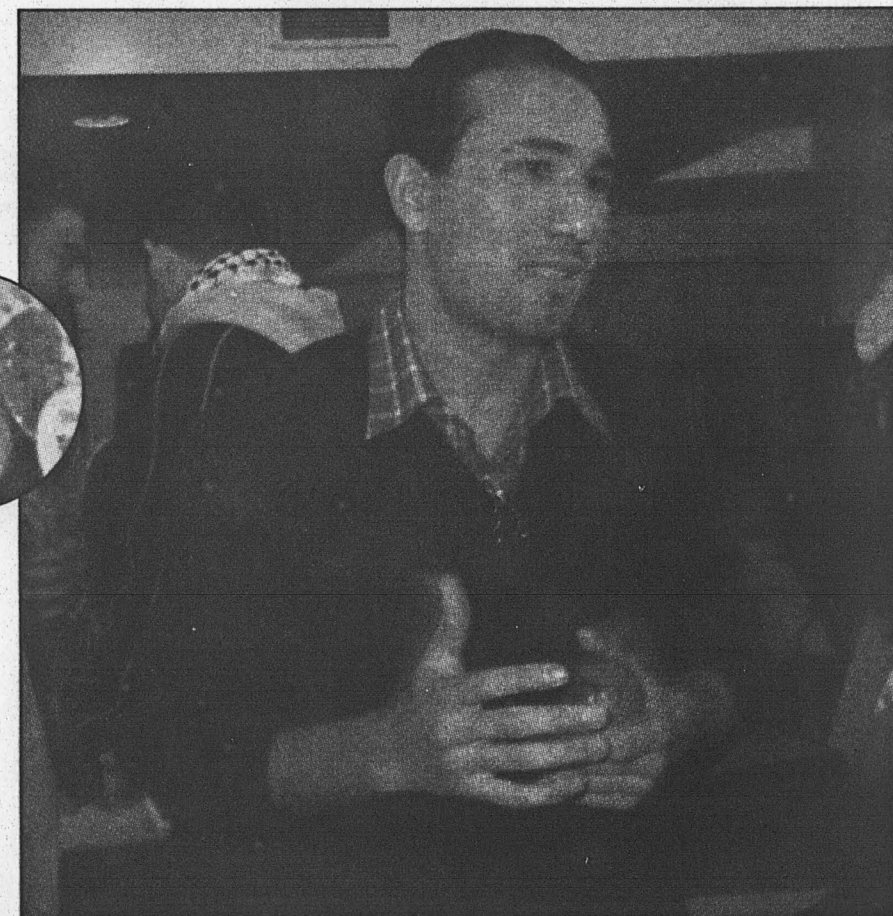
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FREDERICK KAUFMAN

CSI Wants Us to

A fair without roller coasters, clowns, or cheap teddy bears: it could only be December 4th's CSI Club Fair in 1C, where students were urged to sign up for various clubs. But fear not, for there were still cotton candy and sweets, toys, condoms, buttons, pens and piles of literature addressing sexuality, Christianity,



Kelli White



Sultan Chughtai

Join The Club

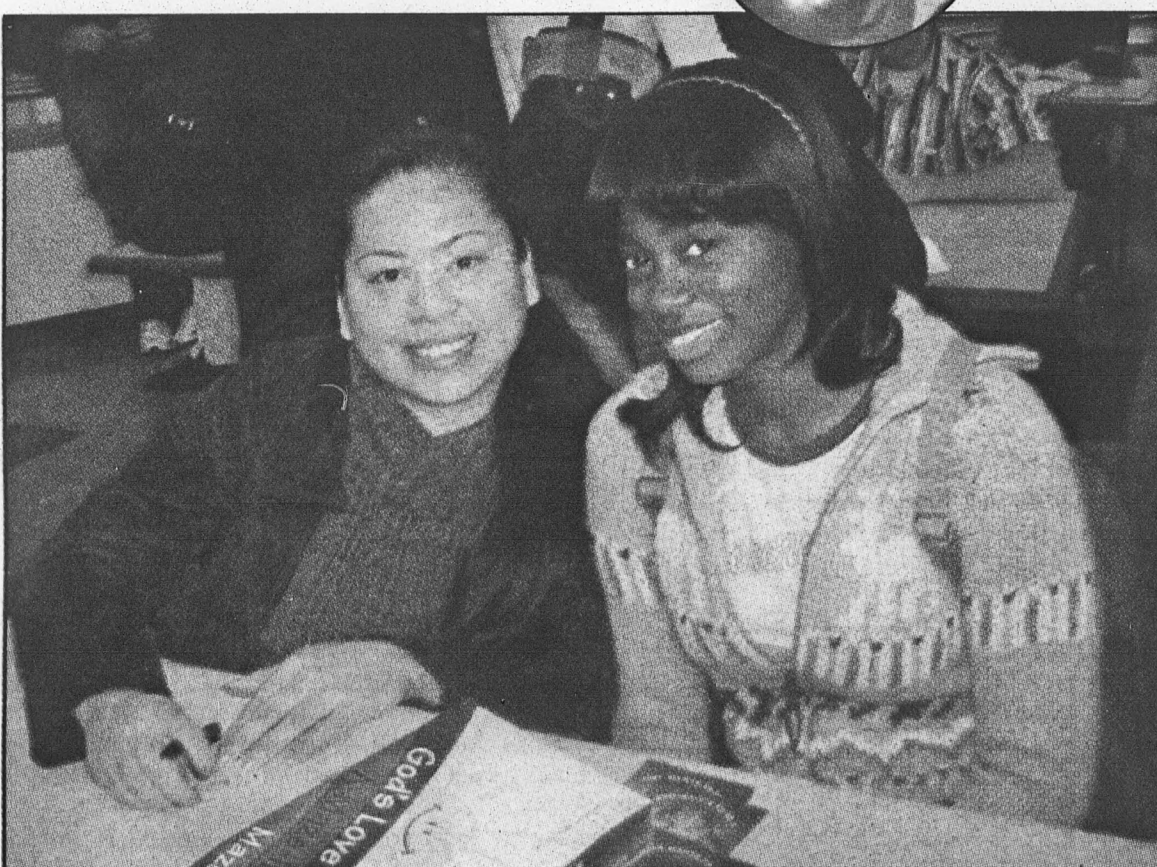
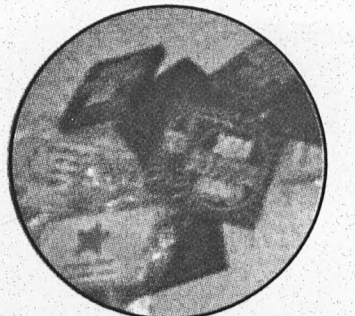
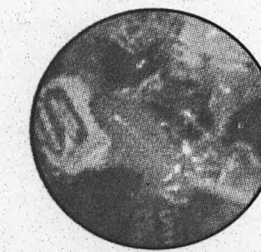
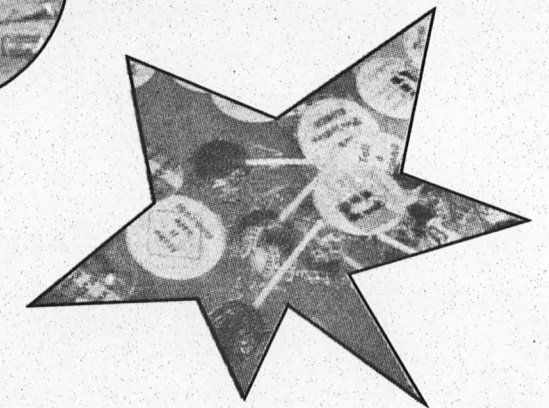
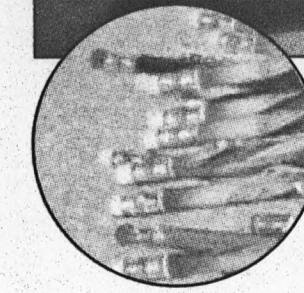
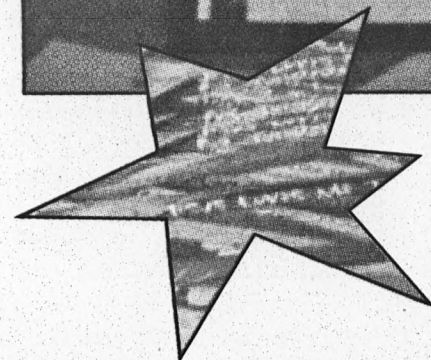
Islam, social work, marketing, Chinese, Italian, and Middle-eastern culture, the gay-straight alliance and all the ethnic and educational associations of CSI. No matter what your tastes, the clubs of CSI did their best to satiate all appetites. The afternoon constituted a fun, informative experience for the student body.



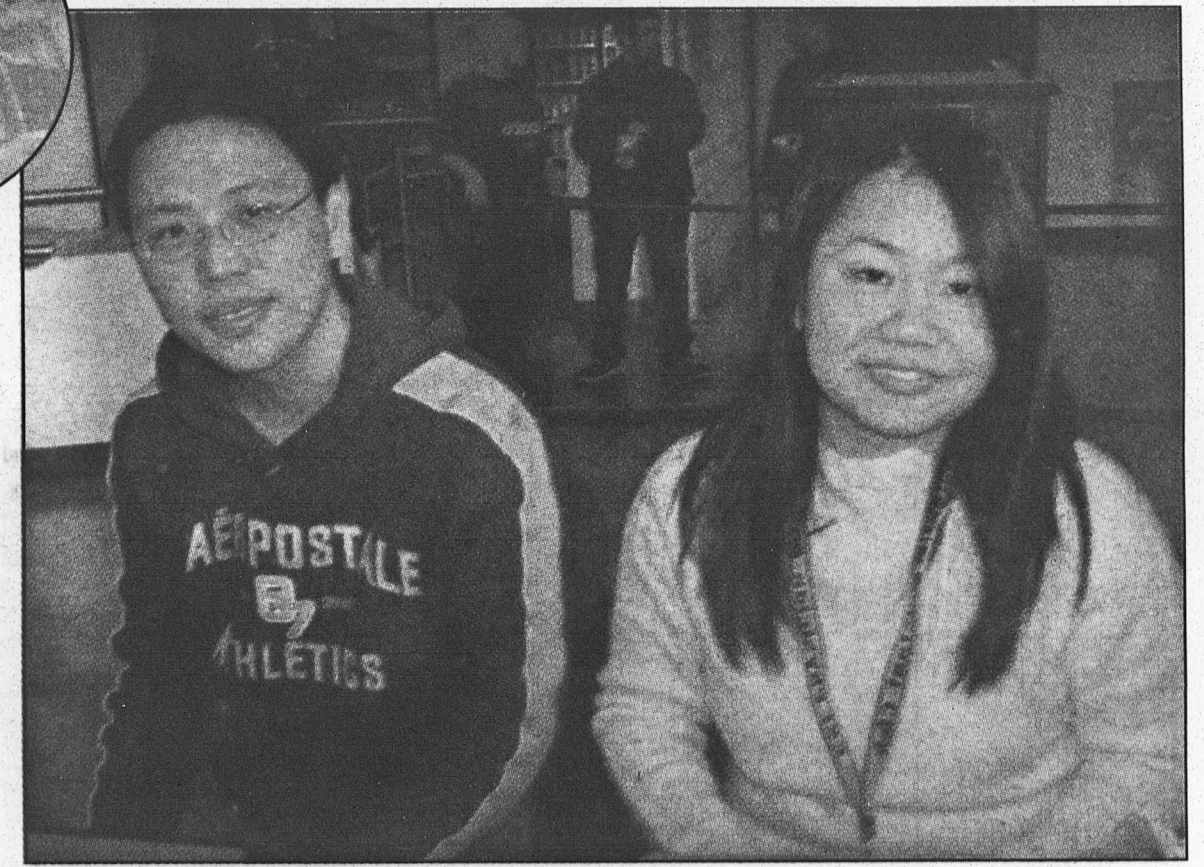
Christine Deosaran



Kris Deillo



Nightingale Almeda and Kimberly Smith



Kwok Zi Chin and friend

COMICS

CSI DAZE Enrique inocente

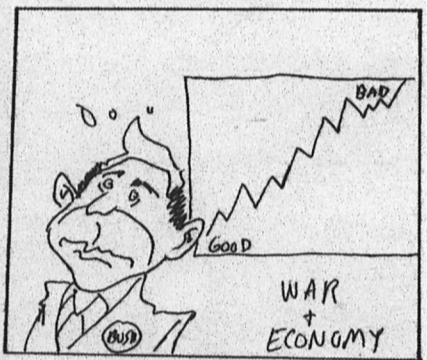
LAFF QUICKIE Enrique inocente



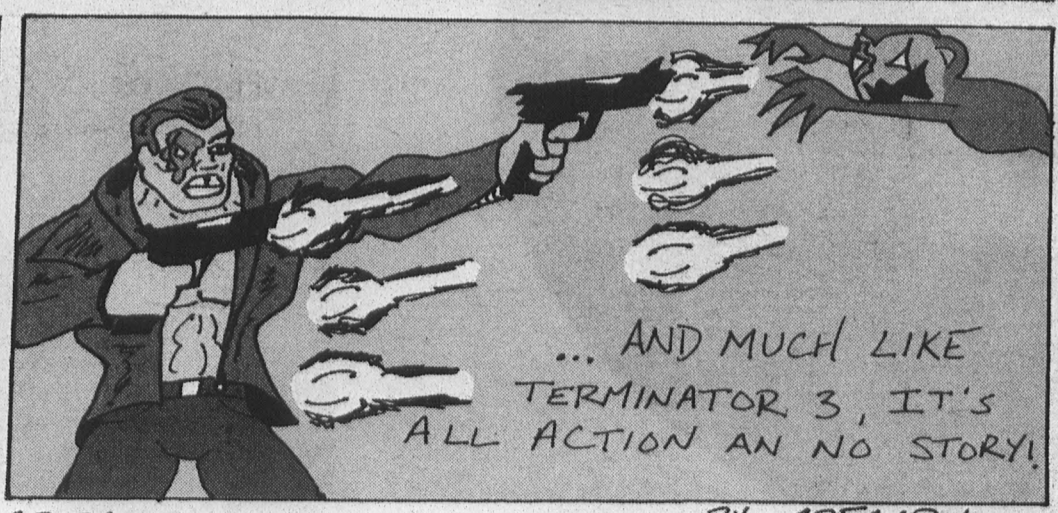
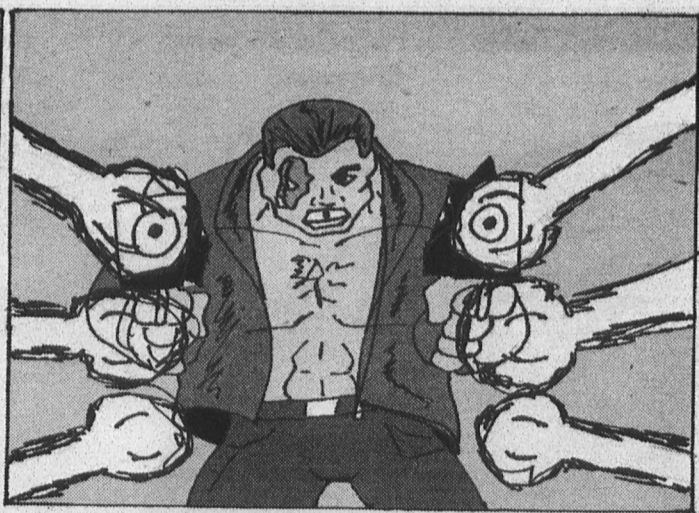
"AS YOU CAN SEE, EVERYTHING IS ALRIGHT."



?!!



"NEVER MIND..."



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Life... Love... & SEX

PROTÉGÉS AND PESSIMISTS—THE YIN AND YANG OF LIFE, LOVE, SEX

Some of you love me. Some of you hate me. And some of you actually use my column to further your own sexual agendas. Finally, someone figured out the purpose of my column.

Jessica Mendez

Since the inception of this column nearly one year ago, I have received many snarky comments about the nature of my column. Many people have supplied me with vague notions as to how I should write. Ah, but for every person with a half-assed opinion as to what is wrong with my column, I get triple the amount, if not more, of people who come to me seeking advice and thanking me for providing them with a personal perspective on life and all its sexual complexities. I don't write for the critics or the pessimists. I don't write for the scholars or the cynics.

I write for people like Leelee, a college student who felt she had no one to talk to about sex until she started reading my column. She has actually used one of my columns (the infamous Christina Aguilera one) to talk to her boyfriend about sexual partners and furthering their relationship. Leelee is my protégé, my friend, and one of the reasons I con-

tinue to be inspired to talk about my own sex life and discuss taboo topics. Surprise, Pessimistic Pansies, I don't write from a personal point of view to earn bragging rights.

I am a student, and by writing about my own experiences about sex, I am serving as a representative of the student body and all its various pleasures, heartaches and good times. I write from a personal point of view and a wider perspective, depending on the topic at hand. This is a column, not a "how to get laid" manual, although, if you recall, the beginning of the semester, I did write a column discussing various ways to tap some campus tail. Alas, most of my harshest critics have forgotten about this. They have forgotten about the columns that weren't completely sex-based. They forget about the emotional columns, such as the body image column that ran last semester. Too much sex; not enough sex. God bless subjectivity. (And to the

adjunct professor who linked my opinions to guilt, shame, and broken homes, thanks to perpetuating negative stereotypes and one-sided narrowmindedness. It is zealots like you that make me open my mouth even wider for my cause, both literally and figuratively, of course.)

I want to bring various subjects to the CSI community, and by using myself as an example, I can discuss the subject knowledgeably. Far be it from me to blah blah blah about something I do not know about.

Yes, this column has also helped to broaden my own image and allow me to get more adventurous and daring. Since I've begun writing this column, I have become friends with people who otherwise would never have talked to me. Writing is my outlet, my way to express myself. That I am able to share it with others is something I am thankful for. I have been criticized for every aspect of

my life, from the clothes I wear to the jokes I tell to my opinions on politics. It's called being an individual.

My point is this: straight up "how to" pieces are copouts. I did the "how to" piece at the beginning of the semester to introduce newbies to sex at CSI, but honestly, I figured that some people here would be smart enough to not have to have every lesson spelled out for them. For those of you who get that, congratulations. For the others, then get your sexual fix elsewhere. It's called freedom of choice, and writers and readers alike have it. So, thanks for reading and adding fuel to my creative fire. I'm off, on my search for more sexual adventures to appease, offend, irritate, entice, and, most importantly, inspire. See you next semester, hopefully with plenty to kiss and tell about—like it or not.



Top 7 Holiday Games

Dominic Fiduccia

I know what you're thinking. A top 7 list? What gives? Well, I thought it would be cool and different. Besides, the number 7 is a lucky number and you would hit the jackpot with any or all of these games.

1 Mario Kart: Double Dash!!

Nintendo, Nintendo GameCube

At long last, Mario Kart comes to the GCN with all-new tag-team action. Your favorite characters from the Super Mario Bros. Universe.

2 Tony Hawk's Underground

Activision, PlayStation 2, Nintendo GameCube, Xbox

For the first time ever, you'll be able to get off your board and explore 9 expansive levels on foot or by vehicle. Enjoy unprecedented customization by designing and naming your own original tricks through the all-new Create-a-Trick. Or, create bigger parks and include your own goals in the expanded Skate Park Editor.

3 Mario and Luigi: Superstar Saga

Nintendo, Game Boy Advance

After 20 years, Mario and Luigi share the spotlight together in this RPG handheld adventure: An evil witch has stolen Princess Toadstool's voice! The adventure is so huge that even long-time Super Mario Bros. Nemesis

Bowser helps out.

4 The Simpsons: Hit & Run

VU Games, PlayStation 2, Nintendo GameCube, Xbox

Save the town of Springfield with your favorite Simpsons character. Choose one of 50 different missions in this great parody of the Grand Theft Auto series.

5 WWE: Smackdown! Here Comes the Pain

Thq, PlayStation 2

The fifth installment of the Smackdown series is here. With over 60 Superstars and all-new Legends Roster. Plus new matches: Elimination Chamber and Bra & Panties.

6 Star Wars: Rogue Squadron III: Rebel Strike

LucasArts, Nintendo GameCube

The popular space shooter is back with a new on-foot mode where you can play as either Wedge Antilles or Luke Skywalker.

7 The Legend of Zelda: Collector's Edition

Nintendo, Nintendo GameCube

This game is a Zelda fan dream come true. The greatest of the Zelda games in one package, including The Legend of Zelda, Zelda II, and the N64 classics Ocarina of Time and Majora's Mask.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Professor Nancy Weatherly Sharp
Phone: (315) 443-9235

Minority students seeking careers as newspaper journalists are invited to apply for generous awards that combine graduate scholarships with internships.

The *Newhouse Graduate Newspaper Fellowship and Apprenticeship for Minorities* underwrites master's level study at the acclaimed S. I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University while providing on-the-job training at the Newhouse Newspapers.

Two winners a year receive free tuition, monthly stipends of \$1,100, health insurance coverage and up to \$3,300 in other benefits for 18 months of graduate study during which time they also work as interns at *The Post-Standard* in Syracuse, N.Y.

Later, after receiving master's degrees, the awardees work for a year as full-time apprentices either at *The Post-Standard* or at one of the other Newhouse newspapers across the country, earning competitive entry-level salaries.

To be eligible for the 2004-2006 competition, a candidate must have earned an undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university in a field other than journalism (with a B average or higher) by June 15 of 2004, be a United States citizen and either African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian American/Pacific Islander or Native American.

To apply he or she must, by **February 10, 2004**, submit a complete application for admission to Syracuse University's master's program in newspaper journalism. This requires taking the Graduate Record Examination no later than January 15, 2004. The \$50 Syracuse University graduate application fee will be waived for all eligible Newhouse Fellow candidates.

Winners have included: Ms. Elita Bradley of Fairfax, Va., and Ms. Gloria Gonzales of Los Angeles, Calif., 1994-96; Ms. Alisa Rivera, of Bronx, N.Y., and Mr. Argelio Dumenigo, of Newark, N.J., 1995-97; Mr. Pete Ramirez, of Austin, Texas, and Mr. Karl Turner, of Rutherglen, Va., 1996-98; Mr. Jonathan Todd, Southborough, Mass., and Ms. Theresa Cha of Broken Arrow, Okla., 1997-99; Ms. Shelvia Dancy, Jacksonville, N.C., and Ms. Paula Saha, Troy, Mich., 1998-2000; Ms. Michelle Hunter of Columbus, Ga., and Mr. Damian Guevara, San Antonio, Texas, 1999-2001; Ms. Dina Montes, San Antonio, Texas, and Ms. Fatimah Salleh, Kaysville, Utah, 2000-2002; Ms. Kasi Addison, Washington, D.C., and Ms. Nicole Harris, Minneapolis, Minn., 2001-2003; Ms. Tasha Flournoy, Seattle, Wash., and Ms. Amy Hsuan, Los Angeles, Calif., 2002-2004; Ms. Saba Ali, Wappingers Falls, N.Y., and Ms. Jenny Hurwitz, Westtown, Pa., 2003-2005.

Further information and application forms are available from Professor Nancy W. Sharp, 102A Newhouse I, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y. 13244-2100. She also can be reached by phone, 315-443-1124; e-mail, pegrad@syr.edu or FAX, 315-443-3946.

Cheeky British Vogue Clearly Covers the Catwalk

The Brits Capture Couture and Atelier with Finesse, while American Vogue Stays a Slave to the Country Club Socialite and Hollywood machine.

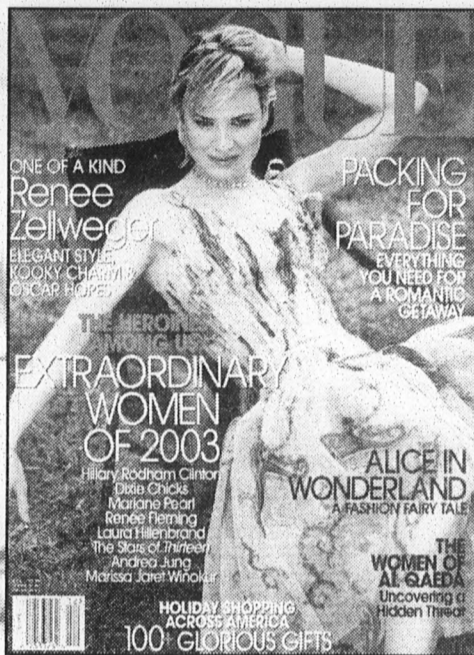
Jessica Mendez

As a fashionista, I have become jaded with the current state of American magazines. While I can deal with the consistency of magazines such as Marie Claire, Glamour, and Cosmopolitan, I have to say that Vogue has become disappointing. Don't get me wrong; Vogue continues to be the magazine for the high-fashion lifestyle in America, but lately, it has catered to the Hollywood machine in a way that is off-putting to fashionistas who value a little more creativity in their selection. This is where the Brits come in. British Vogue is tops all around, from the sleek, slick cover and creative layouts to the selection of designs showcased in said pages. If American Vogue is a Snickers bar, British Vogue is crème brûlée—rich, luxurious, and surprisingly affordable.

Anna Wintour, American Vogue's feared editor-in-chief has slowly turned American Vogue to a Hollywood Vanity Project. The cover features a smirking Renee Zellweger, star of the upcoming film "Cold Mountain," sitting in a lush green pasture. It's a shot that does not evoke glamour, sexiness, or style. The article about Zellweger, written by Jonathan van Meter, is rife with such revelations as Zellweger's brave decision to gain weight to play (quite ironically) Britain's poster child for city girl neuroticism, Bridget Jones. Its fussy, bland, and sloppy, much like the rest of the magazine's content. Vogue has eschewed its urban

sophisticate base in favor of the Hamptons whore set. Even standouts such as Andre Leon Talley's witty, catty, decidedly un-bourgeois "Stylefacer" column are stripped of sleekness by a rushed, choppy layout.

Not one to see my martini glass half-empty, I can say that there were some highlights to this month's issue, providing some hope that American Vogue will strap some stilettos onto it's petite sense of creativity. Besides Talley, Vogue's roster of the Extraordinary Women of 2003 includes opera singer Renee Fleming and "Seabiscuit" author Laura Hillenbrand, women not often considered newsworthy by American Vogue's



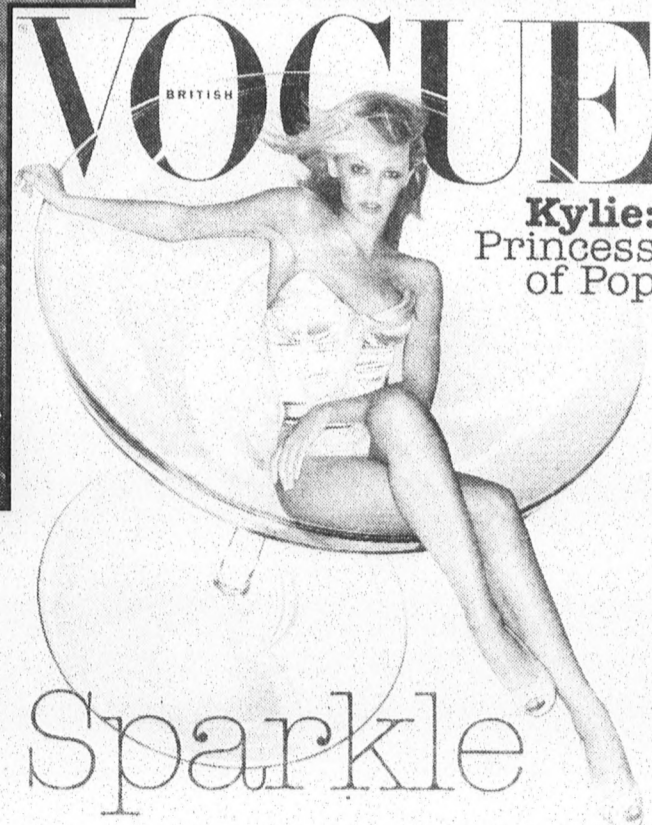
set, lounging in a martini glass. British Vogue has a history of keeping their coverage fairly balanced, focusing more on pop culture icons Sophie Dahl, Kylie, and Elizabeth Hurley as well as cover-gracing models Anouck Lepore and Angela Lindvall. Editor-in-Chief Alexandra Schulman and Creative Director Robin Derrick have a way of reaching the wealthy urban chic community while providing comfort for the cash-strapped city dweller. In British Vogue, a \$2,000 DSquared coat can live in harmony with a \$18 H&M Chainmail purse. The object here is not exclusivity; rather, British Vogue's focus is on style, pure and simple. Here, Nick Knight's article on Minogue is a real character study and retrospective on Minogue's career and style choices. Here we have both socialites (the Duchess of Devonshire), model Anouck Lepore modeling the hottest fiery red fashion, with some flashy courtesan chic for kicks. The layouts are far superior in British Vogue as well, such as the sweet and sexy lingerie collage framing Charlotte Sanders' saucy silk lingerie report.

All in all, British Vogue fulfills the promise that American Vogue has failed to fulfill. Luckily, British Vogue is readily available at Barnes & Noble, Hudson News, and most larger newsstands that carry imported magazines. Sure, it's more expensive than American Vogue, but the quality makes the price more than worthwhile. This is one British import worth indulging in. And Anna, enough with the Hollywood coddling! Let fashion be the focus! I will be the first in a long line of readers to thank you.



standards. The true standout, however, comes in the form of Hamish Bowles and Annie Leibovitz's lush Alice-in-Wonderland-cum-Couture-Fantasy, starring childlike ingenue Natalia Vodianova as well as a host of designers, including the outlandish genius John Galliano as the Queen of Hearts. It is an image that provides a small spark to the otherwise stodgy magazine.

Luckily, British Vogue has hit the perfect combination of class, couture fantasy, sex, edge, and pop culture, and that's all in the sleek, matte cover, featuring pop idol Kylie Minogue in a Stella McCartney corset



SPORTS

December 15, 2003

Hoop Hopes High as Dolphins Dash Back into Action Men and Women both off to 4-1 start. Coach Petosa returns.

Michael Bruno

Brace yourselves eager hoop fans, yet another season is thankfully upon us. Led by a bevy of both new and returning players (including one head coach) CSI's 2003-2004 basketball campaign has just gotten started. Both Dolphin teams have thus far sprinted out of their proverbial gates to record 4-1 overall records (as of December 11th) and if they can help it, neither will stop short of their goal of returning to the CUNY championships.

The men's team is coming off a season in which it was without Head Coach Tony Petosa for the first time in thirteen years. In 2002-2003, assistant head coach Brian Gaspar took over for Petosa who has returned this year to lead the Dolphins. Petosa returns to a team that boasts just four returning players from a year ago. However, the return of last year's conference MVP, junior guard Michael Stewart should provide some solace for the Dolphins and their coaches. A "big" new edition for Petosa's squad is 6'9" Junior center Neville Lestrade, a Curtis High School product whom the coach describes as "raw, but starting to come together."

Petosa likes what he has seen from his team so far, though he admits improvements can be made. "We're playing pretty good basketball right now, but we have to play



2002-3 conference MVP Michael Stewart looks to lead this year's squad. Photo credit: CSI Website

better." Petosa added that though the team has looked good early, because of the low return rate, optimism should be kept to somewhat of a minimum. "I wouldn't say I'm optimistic. I'd rather be guardedly optimistic. We lost a lot of good guys from last year to transfers and stuff like that. All that means is that some younger guys are going to get to play when normally they wouldn't and we're going to live or die with them. Hopefully we'll be successful."

Coach Petosa has essentially lived and died with the CSI basketball program until he took his "much needed" break. "I just wanted a change of life, get a different perspective. So I took the year off and it was a helpful experience," said Petosa, who returned despite realizing the good and the bad of being a collegiate head coach. "There are pros and cons to both. On one hand I missed being the head coach. I missed being the guy who ran things. But I didn't miss the overall pressures of doing this. But as a whole, did I miss it? Yes, absolutely. You just gotta deal with the pros and cons."

The Lady Dolphins are coming off a year in which they set a CSI record for wins in a season by posting a 24-7 record for the 2002-2003 campaign. They were denied by NYU in the ECAC conference championship game and are more than ready to attempt a comeback, despite returning just one of last year's starters. The Lady

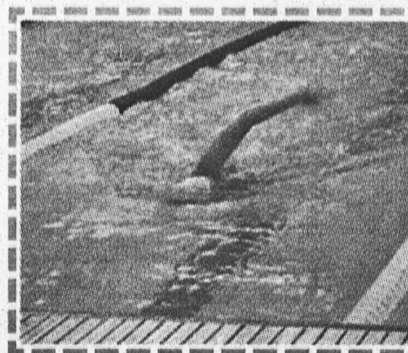
Dolphin's lone returning starter from last year's impressive club is junior forward and center Jacclyn Rock, the team's captain. "She's playing great and worked really hard over the summer. She's a great leader," said Head Coach Marguerite Gualtieri. The

team will also look to newcomer and senior forward Tamara Taylor. The transfer student from York College was 2001-2002 CUNY player of the year and should give the team a healthy boost.

"We were good last year because of our depth off the bench and now those girls are getting a chance to play full-time," said Gualtieri, who is in her sixth year of coaching basketball for the Lady Dolphins. "Even though we had a lot of talent and a good core coming back, we still didn't know how good we would be. It turns out that we're better than we thought. We have a lot of new girls and a lot of young girls, so trying to mesh is going to be the only challenge," added Gualtieri. The team's fast start suggests that the gelling process is going quicker than expected, and perhaps another big season is in the making. "They're a good group and they work really hard. We have a lot of young talent coming off the bench, so once everyone starts to play together, we're gonna get even better."

If you want to catch any of the exciting action this year's basketball teams are sure to provide, then head on down to the rec center for schedules or any type of information on the two squads. Admission to all CUNY sporting events is free with a valid CUNY ID card, so excuses for not attending are at a minimum.

WOMEN SWIMMERS GO 6-0



Dominic Fiduccia

So far this year, the CSI Women's Swim team has had a lot to be happy about. Since their first victory in a meet against the John Jay Bloodhounds on Thursday, October 30, they have enjoyed an undefeated season. They are now currently 6-0.

Their recent meet against long-

"We want to keep it going."
— Shaunna Boreham

time rival Hunter College was cancelled due to the blizzard of December 5th. The makeup meet will now be held on January 22.

"We have been working hard," commented Cheryl Gwizdaloski. "It feels good that we are doing so well."

Shaunna Boreham put it simply: "We want to keep it going."

On Wednesday, December 10, the Lady Dolphins defeated Brooklyn College, 95.5-91.5. Next, the women swimmers will face York College (January 8, here at CSI), then Hunter (January 22), and finally SUNY-Old Westbury.

Will the swimmers boast a perfect 9-0 when they head to the Bronx for the CUNY Championship on Saturday, February 7?



Newcomer Tamara Taylor, a transfer student from York College, was the 2001-2002 CUNY MVP and will spend her final season with the Dolphins. Photo credit: CSI Website