

THE BANNER

CSIS OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER



VOLUME V, ISSUE I

September 12, 1997

Most CSI freshmen aren't ready for college

(Written by Diane C. Lore and Kerry Murtha) (1997)

(Staten Island Advance). All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.

This article was originally published August 3rd, 1997.

The Majority of students entering the College of Staten Island (CSI) are not prepared for college-level courses.

According to figures compiled by the college, only 20 percent of last year's freshman class of 1,800 passed all three math, reading and writing placement tests signifying their readiness to do college-level work.

Of the 80 percent who didn't pass all three-R's, 30 percent failed one of the exams; 30 percent failed two, and 20 percent flunked all three tests.

Consequently, CSI has scheduled more than 70 remedial classes in basic math, reading and writing this fall.

CUNY officials point to a growing immigrant student body as one reason for the high enrollment in remedial education at both its senior and community college campuses. Indeed, nearly half of the system's 200,000 students speak a language other than english as their native tongue.

At CSI, however, that figure is less than 10 percent.

Nevertheless, the school's enrollment in remedial education remains high.

Like other colleges throughout the City University, though, CSI adheres to an open admissions policy, which does not require students to take the standard college entrance exams before acceptance to the institution - as private colleges and universities do.

Exams such as the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) test verbal and math skills. Older students, who have been out of high school for several years, also account for a large percentage of CSI's enrollment.

Forty-six percent of students who enrolled at CSI last fall were older than 25, while 63 percent of students who graduated in 1995-96 academic year were older than 25.

CSI enrollment statistics are not available for this fall's freshman class, but the class schedule lists 31 remedial classes in reading and writing skills offered by the English Department, and 40 remedial classes by the Math Department.

Overall, remedial courses account for about 24 percent of the total course work of CSI freshmen.

Registration begins Thursday and continues throughout the month on scheduled days.

"Getting students up to college level work

consumes a significant amount of our resources," admits Dr. Leonard Ciaccio, special assistant to the president for external relations.

"One of the things it means is that we have to either spend a substantial amount of money to hire adjuncts to teach these classes, or use our full-time faculty, which means they may be unable to teach advanced courses in their field specialty," he explained.

According to the CUNY Budget Office, remediation costs a little more than \$1 million at CSI in 1996. CUNY spends about \$35 million of its 1.2 billion budget on remedial education.

...70 Remedial Classes in Basic Math, Reading and Writing this fall.

Moreover, CSI is still working its way back from budget cuts of a few years ago, which forced faculty and staff layoffs, larger classes and fewer course offerings.

Critics of CUNY have said the problem is systematic and have called for a tightening of admissions and academic standards across the board. CUNY chancellor W. Ann Reynolds, who came under fire for failing to upgrade standards during her tenure, announced last month that she was resigning to become president of the University of Alabama's Birmingham campus.

City University trustee and Staten Islander Alfred B. Curtis Jr., Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's appointee to the board, said he finds the situation "very troubling."

"The problem seems to be systemic; it's a sad commentary. It's wonderful to offer access to higher education but you must be prepared to do college work," he said.

"We need to take a critical look at the whole issue and [create] an agenda that will lead to kids being better prepared for college and for the work force," he said.

Private colleges and universities also routinely administer placement tests, which require them to schedule remedial for freshmen whose basic skills are not up to par.

At Wagner College, approximately 10 percent, or "40 to 50," of the 420 incoming freshmen are expected to take a remedial course in basic writing skills this fall, according to Dr. Susan Robinson, associate provost.

She said the english department may schedule "two or three" classes, which Wagner refers to as "preparatory" courses. St. John's University also administers placement tests and basic skills to its incoming freshmen; it was not immediately known how many freshmen at St. John's will take remedial classes in the fall.

CSI refers to remedial courses as "developmental" or "prerequisite" classes, which are required in order to move on to more advanced work.

The classes do not satisfy requirements toward a degree but are listed on a student's transcript.

In June 1995, the CUNY Board of Trustees voted to limit students to 1 Year of remediation at its ten senior colleges; students with the need for more remediation must begin their studies in an associate's degree program.

Jerome Berg, Staten Island's former trustee who was recently replaced by Curtis, was a strong proponent of alleviating CUNY's need for remedial classes.

Among other initiatives, Berg rallied for High-school testing as an early indicator of the need for remediation.

He also advocated CUNY's Language Immersion program, which is now available at five CUNY campuses and provides immigrant students with the chance to learn English before enrolling in college courses.

The class of 2000, which entered CUNY last fall, is in fact being touted as the best prepared class since the University began its open admission policy in 1970.

CUNY officials attribute the improvement to a four-year-old collaborative program between the University and the Board of Education known as the College Preparatory Initiative (CPI).

CPI is designed to encourage public high school students, who account for more than half of CUNY's beginning freshmen, to enroll in more demanding academic courses in an effort to boost their college performance. Gradual implementation of the program began in the fall of 1993 and is expected to be completed by the fall of 2000.

At that time, students enrolling in all CUNY degree programs will be expected to have completed 16 academic high school units approved as college preparatory by CUNY and Board of Ed. officials.

Requirements will include four units in English, three in math, four in social sciences, two in lab science, two in a language other than English and one in fine or performing arts.

CUNY officials report that students entering CUNY with 13 or more CPI units showed higher first semester grade point averages, better retention rates and more credits earned.

Chancellor Reynolds Leaves CUNY

By: Holly Lenahan

CUNY's chancellor, W. Ann Reynolds will be leaving CUNY to become the president of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She announced on July 17th she will be leaving CUNY in mid-September.

Before becoming the Chancellor of CUNY, Ms. Reynolds worked as the Chancellor of the California State University. She resigned from her position in California over a dispute with the University's trustees over raises she had given herself and other top executives. Ms. Reynolds had raised her salary from \$136,000 to \$195,000. She also raised the salaries of college presidents to \$145,000 from \$110,000. Ms. Reynolds and the board chairwoman, Marianthi

Lansdale had been delegated authority for salaries from the trustees. After raising the salaries the trustees complained they had not been consulted about the need for raises.

Ms. Reynolds became the Chancellor of CUNY in 1990. A CUNY search committee decided that she was not at fault in the dispute between herself and the trustees at the California State University. Her selection was approved by a 17-member board of trustees at CUNY on the basis of her demeanor in two interviews and her record.

Within the past year Ms. Reynolds has faced a great deal of tension between herself, Governor George E. Pataki and Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani. The Governor and the Mayor hired a new board of trustees who voted to take \$1 million out of her budget to hire its own researchers, consultants and legal staff. The purpose of these researchers was to supply itself with information and advise aside from that of Chancellor Reynolds's.

Ms. Reynolds claimed to have worked with the board on making several changes in CUNY. Apparently they had worked together to create immersion programs to teach English to students before starting college. They had also worked on making High School coursework more rigorous for potential CUNY students. Nevertheless, the board criticized her job performance, claiming that remedial programs which she had supported were unsuccessful and CUNY education was poor under her leadership. A Professor, who asked to be unnamed, was quoted in the March 30th issue of the New York Times saying, "The Chancellor has been publicly humiliated by these people. If this were Japan, she would have fallen on her sword."

Ms. Reynolds accepted the job of President of The University of Alabama at Birmingham which has a \$1.3 billion budget. She claims to have had positive experiences with CUNY, and is looking forward to her new position in Alabama.

Student Liberation Update

By William Wharton

CSI Student Union/CSI Student Government President

Returning to the college after a long summer break is never an easy thing for students to do. The task of returning to the College of Staten Island (CSI) has been made even more problematic due to the constant bashing the City University of New York (CUNY) has taken in the media. Indeed, this summer has been one of drastic changes both locally at CSI and most especially at a CUNY wide level. As a result of our election victory last semester the CSI Student Union has been able to develop into one of the most active forces in the student struggle on campus and throughout CUNY. In order to assist the students of CSI in their transition from summer break it is essential to give a brief description of the events that have transpired and the actions of the Union while students were off campus.

On a CUNY wide level the summer ushered in a new conservative controlled Board of Trustees (BOT) and ushered out the equally conservative Chancellor of CUNY Ann Reynolds. Trapped in the middle of a power struggle that involved the BOT leadership, Chairwoman Ann Paolucci and Herman Badillo, and the students of Hostos Community College, Reynolds bailed out of her post and escaped to the University of Alabama at Birmingham. While the students of CUNY will not miss Reynolds or her policy decisions which diverted millions of dollars from education and into a paramilitary security force, known as the S.A.F.E. team, the issues raised by the BOT have sounded warning bells for students and educators throughout CUNY. The dispute between the students of Hostos and the BOT revolved around the imposition of a flawed writing exam, the CUNY Writing Assessment Test (CWAT), as a graduation requirement a mere three days prior to graduation. In response to this, students protested against this politically motivated measure and spilled out into the streets of the Bronx in order to express their outrage. Hostos students, with the assistance of student advocate-attorney Ron MacGuire, then took their case to court and won a preliminary injunction which allows them to receive their diploma's while they await the results of the larger lawsuit. The BOT, with the help of various local newspapers including the Daily News and the Staten Island Advance, used the crisis they created as an opportunity to attack CUNY and begin the process of eliminating the policy of open admissions, a policy which they view as expensive and wasteful. For many CUNY students open admissions has allowed them their only chance to receive a college degree.

Open admissions was a policy that was won in 1970 as a result of bitter struggle between the Black and Latino students of the City College of New York (CCNY) and the various White political forces in New York City. CCNY is located in Harlem and prior to 1970 its student body makeup, mainly White, did not reflect the makeup of the community which was largely Black and Latino. After several peaceful attempts at opening up the school to the community, the students engaged in a strike which resulted in the takeover of 5 buildings on campus. As a direct result of the pressure and militancy applied by these students the policy of open admissions was enacted. Thanks to the sacrifices of these courageous Black and Latino students all of us here at CSI have access to a college education. As a result of the conservatively charged BOT's political maneuvering open admissions is currently far from secure and as responsible students and citizens we must begin to take

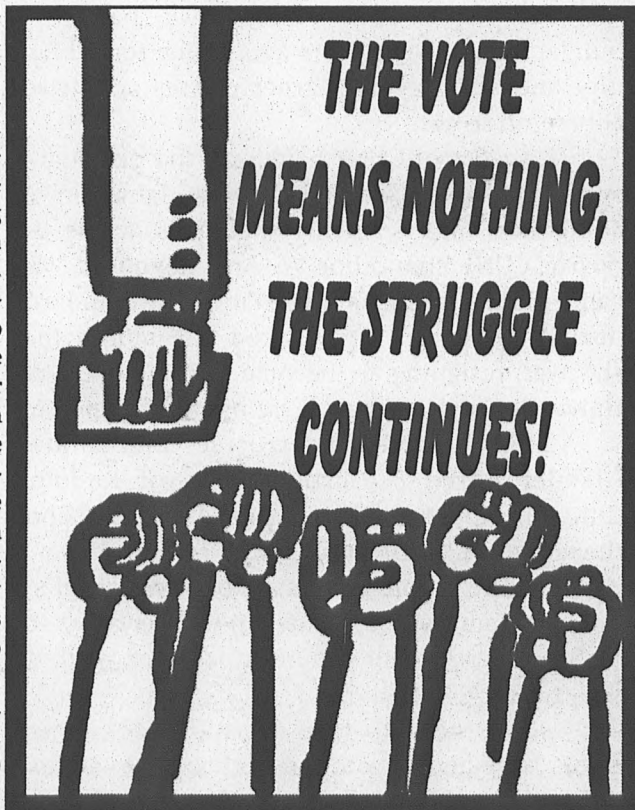
measures to defend open admissions from those who wish to challenge it on the BOT or any other political body.

Back on campus the CSI Student Union has been working diligently and effectively to enact progressive changes. The 1997-98 budget includes \$150,000 worth of student activity fees which have been liberated from the reserves. Many new services will be enacted as a result of this liberation including a speakers series which will bring some of the biggest names in the intellectual community to campus, extended coffee services for evening and weekend students, an allocation for the purchase of library books to increase our currently limited holdings and a joint project with the New York Public Interest Group (NYPIRG) called the Book Exchange which will provide students with low cost used books to name just a few of the changes that are in the works. In the area of increased access to facilities for students the Union has made some amazing accomplishments. As a result of the pressure placed on the Administration, library hours have been extended on weekdays and Sunday hours (12-5) have been added, computer lab's will be open until midnight on weekdays and the Campus Center hours will be extended. All of this would not be possible without the Union's goal of building a mass student movement at CSI and the participation of many students at CSI. Off campus the Union has worked with the students at Hostos during the CWAT controversy, the Staten Island Teamsters Union during the recent strike against UPS, CUNY wide meetings geared towards defending open admissions, marches in Philadelphia to demand the release of political prisoner Mumia Abul-Jamal and we recently marched with 15,000 other New Yorkers in a rally in support of police brutality victim Abner Louima.

While we have achieved many victories we have also faced stiff resistance from the Administration. In order to properly serve the students at CSI we have begun the process of opening up the books of the college to understand exactly how funds are being spent. This investigation has set off defensive flags all over the administration which have effectively cut the Student Government off from the information they need. To combat this we have filed two Freedom of Information Acts in order to exercise our constitutionally guaranteed rights to examine the financial information at this public institution. The process of investigating the administration has clearly illuminated the need for the Student Union to stick to the original tenets of the organization.

It is essential that the Union continues its mission of building a mass student movement on campus. As such, we request more from the student body than any one else does. In order to continue to re-shape CSI into a student centered, student run University students must get involved. Getting involved translates into many different things for many different people. For some it means joining the Student Union and becoming an active, vibrant participant in the struggle for student rights, while for others it

may mean something as simple as not purchasing books from the Barnes and Noble run CSI Bookstore because they price gouge students. Whatever way it comes out, our hope is that it does indeed come out. Student victories have been and will be won through activism, not through passive or dealing with the Administration, to think as much is to deny one's identity as a student, not a politician or an Administrator. The CSI Student Union wholeheartedly welcomes all those students that are interested in enacting the changes that will democratize our school and create a bright, vibrant institution for the 21st century!



Controversy at Hostos

By John La Mantia

Hundred plus students at Hostos College were given a surprise when told they can not graduate with out passing a writing assessment test (WAT) this past term. This was told to them only days before their graduation. These students took a test that only a handful could pass. People would ask why over a hundred students could not do this. There are two reasons.

One reason is how Hostos is set up. The college was explained in a May 22nd New York Times article entitled, "City U. To Require English Test At Hostos." It stated, "What makes Hostos unique in the City University system is that it was created to allow bilingual students to take many classes in Spanish. About 80 percent of the 5,000 students at the college are Hispanic. Each year, about half of entering freshmen score too low on the college's English placement test to enroll in regular English courses and must take classes in English as a second language, which are non credit courses."

The second factor is how English is taught at Hostos. An article written in The Chronicle of Higher Education wrote about this. "The instructors often rely on outmoded techniques, omitting rigorous instruction in grammar, spelling and writing. In some years, as few as 10 percent pass the writing competency test. The rest repeat second-language courses as much as three or four times and must pay each time." What is covered on this test makes these courses useless.

The test offers two questions to students asking them to choose one. The students are not allowed to use dictionaries and had a time limit of fifty minutes. The items reviewed for grading are organization, sentence structure, punctuation and spelling.

This test is similar to a CUNY placement exam which incoming freshman take here at CSI. The difference with the WAT test is that it is given to Hostos students right before graduation. It checks if they have reached college level writing. There has been some debate about the exam.

Herman Badillo, a CUNY trustee agrees with taking the exam. He is quoted to say, "We have to have standards that apply throughout the university, and proficiency in English is one of them." Mr. Badillo also commented, "If they've written strong-enough essays to pass the composition course, they should be able to do this test." Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who stands by the exam said, "We should be setting higher standards, not reducing standards." There are some people that disagree with them.

"I don't think one paper reflects the capacity of any one student," said President of Hostos student government Yamile Mendez. "Student who grew up writing and speaking Spanish often need more than fifty minutes to craft a descent essay in English." Brian Gallagher, a professor of English at La Guardia Community College said, "It's a timed test that allows you to write only one draft." Dr. Gallagher believes, "In our courses, we stress redrafting, rewriting, peer critiquing. We don't think the test is all that valuable."

As of now, the case is pending in the New York court system. The school has offered summer programs to aid these students to pass the exam. The question that remains is, Why after four years of college, do they need a summer session on writing?

Banned Contractors Worked On CSI

By: Bill Franz

(This article was reprinted from the July 15th issue of The Staten Island Register. *The Banner* was granted permission to reprint this article in this issue.)

An extensive investigation by Newsday into City University of New York (CUNY) construction practices has revealed that, during the building of the College of Staten Island complex in Willowbrook which was completed in 1995, not only were there large cost overruns, but a number of contracts were awarded to builders who had been banned from work by other government agencies, had indictments filed against them or had convictions in their background.

Published in the Queens edition of the newspaper two weeks ago, the articles by articles by staff writer Graham Rayman were the result of a six month investigation which involved obtaining thousands of internal CUNY documents and conducting dozens of interviews.

In the case of CSI, *Newsday* found that the final estimated cost of building the Willowbrook campus, \$394 million, was 38.2 percent over the original estimate, a pattern which emerged throughout most of CUNY's recent building boom. On top of its high price there was there was the fact that CSI's ventilation system, which cost \$28 million itself, was too weak, resulting in a "sick building syndrome" due to mold growing in the air ducts and apparently causing illness among CSI faculty and students. Repairs will have cost another \$10 million.

"These facilities seem to

cost tax-payers two dollars for every dollar they would cost in the private sector," Jerome Berg, Staten Island's former representative on the CUNY board of trustees, told *Newsday*. "And they can be constructed more economically. With that, we can build more space."

The former chief executive officer of East Coast Lighting, Berg is a highly regarded expert on administration, construction and development.

There has been a ten-year construction frenzy taking place at CUNY involving 22 major projects. These projects, which are carried out jointly by CUNY and the State Dormitory Authority, were supposed to cost the taxpayers of New York a total of \$1 billion. But, according to *Newsday's* research, so far they are more than \$600 million over the original estimate.

According to berg, the CUNY board is asked to approve just pieces of a contract at any given time, making it impossible for them to get a grasp on the total costs. He's also quoted as saying that the Dormitory gives insufficient incentives to contractors to complete projects on time or within their budget. And, he said, the complications of the divided process between CUNY and the Authority create scenario in which projects often take as much as eight years to complete, forcing delays and added costs.

Another area that *Newsday* explored, particularly involving the College of Staten Island's Willowbrook campus, was the

awarding of contracts to companies that, if they were trying to do business with other agencies of government, might be disqualified.

One of these was a company called Hi-Tech Mechanical, a firm from Astoria, Queens, which received \$2.4 million for three contracts at CSI's Willowbrook campus during the period of 1991 through 1994.

Hi-Tech, which is now out of business, reports *Newsday*, was a spin off company of Arc Plumbing and Heating. Arc had listed famed mob figure John Gotti as one of its salesmen.

Hi-Tech, says the report, was founded by Anthony Gurino, an Arc executive, and another employee after Arc was barred from City contracts in 1989. The following year the inspector general of the School Construction Authority - the agency that builds the City's elementary and secondary schools - barred Hi-Tech from any contracts for school construction.

In June 1985, says *Newsday* Gurino had been indicted and was then convicted in federal court of conspiracy, obstruction of justice and money-laundering.

Claudia Hutton, a spokeswoman for the Dormitory Authority, said that Hi-Tech was awarded the CSI contract in November 1990 because it was the lowest qualified bidder for the job. She claimed that, at the time of the award, the Authority's background checks on contractors were more limited than they are now.

Perna Contracting

During the period of 1990 to 1992, four contracts worth a total of \$23.5 million at the College of Staten Island were awarded to Perna Contracting of Queens in spite of the fact that its chief executive had had recent legal difficulties. In November 1988 Anthony Perna had been convicted in federal court of labor racketeering for bribing union officials, said *Newsday*.

The firm itself had not been indicted, but it had been disqualified from School Construction Authority contracts in 1989, and the office of the City Comptroller had also barred the company from City contracts in 1991.

Michael Shapiro, Perna's Lawyer, told *Newsday* that Anthony Perna - who was fined and sentenced to five years' probation by the court - was indicted because of a refusal on his part to cooperate with federal authorities out of concern for his personal safety. Shapiro said that the Dormitory Authority was aware of the conviction when they awarded Perna the CSI contracts.

Kew Electric

A Staten Island firm called Kew Electric received \$4.6 million for work at the College of Staten Island, said *Newsday*, as well as \$7.6 million for contracts at the Baruch College library during the years 1991 through 1994.

Yet, from 1990 to 1993 the company was barred from work on

Continue on page 4

**INTERESTED IN
JOURNALISM?
COME AND CHECK
OUT THE BANNER!**

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

Come join us for two special evening celebrations of Hispanic Heritage month at

The College of Staten Island, Center for the Arts

**Thursday, September 25, 1997
8 p m**

A recognition of the contributions of Hispanic Educators

**Friday, September 26, 1997
8 p m**

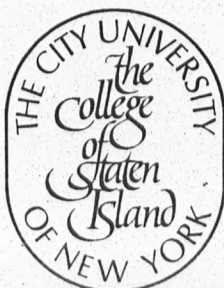
Travel through Latin America:
An Evening of Music and Dance

FREE ADMISSION FOR BOTH EVENTS

As space is limited, reserve your seats early by calling:
The Center for the Arts (718) 982-ARTS

Refreshments will be served each evening

Additional Sponsors:
Staten Island Borough President's Office
CSI Auxiliary Services
CSI Barnes and Noble
Con Edison
Luna Restaurant
CSI Office of Pluralism & Diversity
CSI Spanish Club
CSI Spanish Cultural Club



Continuation of Banned Contractors

School Construction Authority projects after the conviction of one official of the firm on labor law violations, the newspaper quoted a "law enforcement source" as saying. The source stated that Kew had failed to reveal one of its executives had pled guilty to a charge of falsifying business records.

Hutton told *Newsday* that Kew had been initially disqualified from the Baruch contract because of the executive's conviction, but that in May 1991 the company presented evidence to the Dormitory Authority "that the convicted former owner was no longer associated with the firm."

EMD Construction

A company from Woodside, Queens, called EMD Construction received \$8.3 million for work at The College of Staten Island, according to *Newsday*. The contract was awarded in December 1990.

Eleven months earlier, in January 1990, the School Construction Authority had refused to prequalify the same company to bid on school contracts. Furthermore, EMD Construction was accused of multiple safety and equipment violations of Environmental Protection Agency rules in 1991, according to the City Comptroller's office.

The company was denied a number of City Contracts in 1992, said *Newsday*, after the Comptroller's office accused it of having filed false statements on legal disclosure forms and of having double-billed the City on Previous contracts. In 1992 the City's Department of Parks & Recreation cancelled a contract with EMD.

Hutton of the Dormitory Authority

told the newspaper that EMD had been awarded the CSI contracts because it was the low bidder.

"Because of State law," she was quoted as saying, "the Dormitory Authority could not have used SCA's information (the School Construction Authority) alone as grounds to disqualify, even if aware of the refusal to prequalify."

Quality Roofing

Another firm called Quality Roofing was paid \$1.3 million for work at the College of Staten Island, according to *Newsday*, despite the fact that one of its executives, Roger Martin, pled guilty in 1992 to charges that he had paid a \$25,000 bribe to Joseph Lipari, the mayor Passaic, N.J.

One of the bottom line conclusions of the *Newsday* investigation is at the system of contracting in use by CUNY during this inadequate to prevent such abuses. The Dormitory Authority lacks the legal authority to check on firms before they submit bids for construction work, as opposed to the School Construction Authority to do that is part of its charter.

Furthermore, oversight of the firms working on CUNY projects has been less than diligent because of the small staff assigned to this work and by the failure to use the lists of questionable contractors developed by other government agencies.

Since the arrival of John Buono as executive director of the Dormitory Authority, according to *Newsday*, there have been some improvements, but much more needs to be done.



Editor - In - Chief

Eric Minton

Associate Editor

Alexandra Velez

Business Manager

Shawn Fisher

News Editor.....	Holly Lenahan
Sports Editor.....	Francis Stuchbury
Commentary Editor.....	Alexandra Velez
Arts Editor.....	Lou Bardel
Copy Editor.....	Tom Kolakowski
Layout Editor.....	Alexandra Velez

STAFF:

XIOMARA CABRERA
MELANIE GOLDSTEIN
STEVE HALL
TOM KRASNIQI

ROBERT LAURO
ROBIN PUDLIN
MARCO SAINTE
JOHN LOHSE

FACULTY ADVISOR: Professor Jessica Siegel

EPISTLES OF VERITAS

By: Charlo C. Almeda, Jr.

Topic: The sacrament of Baptism examined

Within the boundaries of Christianity, a person was baptized one way or another. Whether you're a Catholic, Baptist, or Lutheran, you are either sprinkled, immersed, or water poured over your head. Also, you were baptized whether you were an infant, child, or an adult. But, are all these types of baptism valid?

What is the significance of water baptism? How is it part of our daily walk with God?

The sacrament of baptism was first instituted by John, the cousin of Jesus. John was known for being the forerunner of Jesus Christ. Also, he was known for his baptisms concerning repentance. He baptized people if they wanted to repent. Thus, he was coined John the Baptist.

Jesus Christ reaffirmed the importance of baptism during his discussion with Nicodemus (John 3:3-5). He spoke to him about being born again of water and of spirit. Being born again of water does not mean going through the first (natural) birth or even the word of God as some people interpret. For the natural birth is carnal and does not pertain to the kingdom of God. In addition, the word of God being the water is incorrect because the Jews had the word of God (Torah) for over two thousand years. They are obviously not born again.

The correct interpretation is that being born of water refers to water baptism. In Acts 8:36, the word "water" is synonymous with baptism. Also, Jesus practiced baptizing people during his ministry (John 3:21-22; John 4:1-2).

The mode or type of baptism used was immersion or dipping. Baptism is from the Greek verb "baptize", which means fundamentally "to dip, plunge, immerse". It is clearly expressed that the proper mode of baptism is immersion, not sprinkling or pouring water over your head. Romans 6:3-4 describes baptism as a type of burial with Jesus Christ. It is clearly evident that baptism in the proper mode fulfills the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

Baptism must also be accompanied by an effectual faith (Acts 8:37; Galatians 3:16; Colossians 2:12; James 2:17). When faith is activated during baptism, the person's commitment and identification with Jesus Christ becomes fully realized as grace reigns through him/her (Romans 5:21; Galatians 3:27).

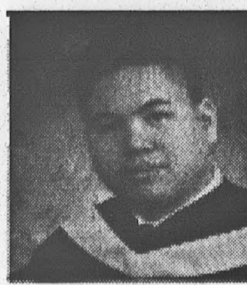
With the proper mode of baptism being immersion and the proper understanding that an effectual faith must be accompanied during bap-

tism, there must be a proper invocation to validate baptism. The proper invocation to validate it is invoking or saying the name "Jesus Christ" during the initiation. Matthew 28:19 describes Jesus giving a commandment for his disciples to baptize people in the "name" of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. The "name" is not Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. English grammar dictates that the word "name", in relation to the verse, is singular and that it describes to a generic term. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are titles that gives emphasis to the singular name. The name "Jesus Christ" is the proper name fulfilling the titles "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Peter, the Apostle, understood the commandment given by Jesus as Peter was delivering his sermon during the day of Pentecost. In Acts 2:38, Peter said, "Repent, and be baptized in the name of JESUS CHRIST.....". This correct interpretation was reiterated in Acts 8:16, Acts 10:48, and Acts 19:5. Also, the name of Jesus Christ is important in the salvation process (Acts 4:10-12).

With the Holy Scripture as the measuring rod of Truth (II Timothy 3:16-17), it is clearly evident that the correct way of being baptized is a person being immersed, accompanied by an effectual faith, in the name of Jesus Christ. One may question, what happens to those types of baptism a person has gone through? As Aquila, Priscilla, and John's disciples from Ephesus were expounded by the word of God more perfectly, you, the reader, are expounded more perfectly (Acts 18:26; Acts 19:3-4).

With the biblical analysis of the sacrament of baptism, it is shown that throughout the centuries baptism has been altered to satisfy the convenience of the person. One example would be Emperor Constantine of the Roman Empire. Though he was credited of establishing Christianity as the official religion of Rome, he was never a believer until the moment of his death. He requested that he be baptized through pouring water over his head because he was to ill to move. A man of the cloth would not dare to refuse the emperor of Rome. His refusal would be political and literal suicide. Thus, one would see the beginnings of politics between the ancient Catholic Church and the empire of Rome.

In conclusion, the sacrament of baptism is important to every believer in Christ and should strive to be rebaptized if he/she has not been baptized the correct way. It is only logical as an ambassador of Christ, for those who believe they are, to represent Jesus Christ the correct and proper way.



*Extra...Extra..
 Read all about it!*
 Join the 1996-1997 CSI's
 club of the year..
 Apostolic Christian
 Life Center!
 (aka. The Christian Club)
 Thursdays at
 1:30-3:20pm
 In room 2n-107
 Need Prayer? Email us at :CSI_ACLC@hotmail.com

\$9.95 /month
 (annual subscription for 28.8/33.6/56Kbs)
UNLIMITED INTERNET ACCESS
 SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
 FAST ALL DIGITAL MODEMS
 NO SETUP FEES
 UNLIMITED WWW, E-MAIL
 ACCESS TO OVER 28,000 NEWS-GROUPS
 ISDN CONNECTIONS AVAILABLE
 WEB HOSTING
 CALL JANET, INC
 718-494-4055 or visit
www.accesshub.net
 for details.
 MC/VISA/CHECK

Judy Chicago: Women in Art History

By: Holly Lenahan

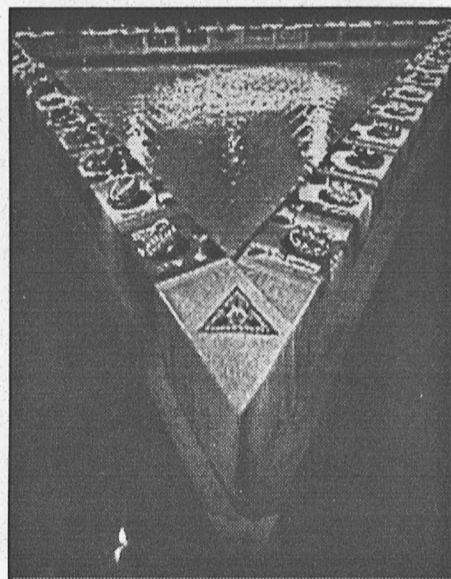
Hey, Judy Chicago is really cool. She is cool because she created art with the purpose of educating it's viewers on the role of women in history, and the fine arts. I think that's pretty cool.

I learned about Judy Chicago in Art 104, which I took this past semester with Prof. Wacks. In that class I learned about an interesting experience that Ms. Chicago had in an art class she was taking. She was wondering why she was only being taught about male artists. When she asked her art teacher why she was never taught about female artists he told her that it was because there were no good female artists throughout history. Ms. Chicago refused to accept this statement as being true. She did some research and found that there were many accomplished women throughout history who should be given credit for the things they have done.

Judy Chicago set out on a mission to give at least some of these women the credit they deserved. In 1979 she created a work of art called *The Dinner Party*. It is a triangle, 48 feet long on each side, with place settings for 39 historical women. The original concept behind *The Dinner Party* was a feminist version of the "Last Supper" which was attended by thirteen women who were the "honored guests." However, Chicago found that thirteen was too small a number to represent the many woman that her researchers found.

Some of the women with

place settings are Georgia O'Keeffe, the Egyptian pharaoh Hatchepsut, Virginia Woolf, Susan B. Anthony, and the Native American guide Sacajawea. Each woman has a place setting that was created to reflect significant facts about their lives. The plates were painted to symbolize these women and their experiences. The table runners were created with a com-



Judy Chicago's *The Dinner Party*

bination of different techniques including embroidery, crochet, beading, patchwork, and applique.

The names of 999 other accomplished woman are inscribed on a white tile floor that *The Dinner Party* rests on. This symbolizes how the accomplishments of these 999 woman worked as a foundation for the 39 "honored guests."

It took a lot of work, but the result was well worth it. It was pretty cool of Judy Chicago to do this.

Paul McCartney's "Flaming Pie"

By: Aaron Afflitto

The summer of '97 brought about a lot of new music, both for new artists and old ones. One older artist who had a great success is Paul McCartney with his new album entitled "Flaming Pie."

This album has a very unusual title. However, a lot of the music and lyrics are mainstream, offering nothing unusual and LSD induced like the "old days." McCartney explains how he got the title as, "John (Lennon) joked that the name Beatles came in a vision from a man on a flaming pie, coming unto us.... You are a Beatles with an A. I was riding with my miss us, thinking of lyrics, searching for a rhyme with 'sky'.... 'bye'... 'cry'... 'pie'. The story came back and I thought, 'Ooooo flaming pie!'"

On this album he brings in friends he's worked with in the past, especially from the days of the Beatles. Such people include Ringo Starr, George Martin (the Beatles Producer) and Jeff Lynne from the '70's band Electric Light Orchestra (who produced two unreleased John Lennon demo tapes for the Beatles Anthology 1 & 2, "Free as a Bird" and "Real Love"). Another "big name," appearing on the tracks entitled "Used to be Bad," "Young Boy" and "If You Wanna." The track "Used to be Bad" brings together two truly excellent musicians. It was recorded while Miller and McCartney were having a casual jam session and decided to put it on tape. "Used to Be Bad" is an up tempo Blues song combining "kick ass" Blues riffs by Miller and McCartney playing bass, drums and singing. It is performed as a duet by the two.

Miller is also featured on "Young Boy," here singing backup vocals and playing the guitar. Once again, a good Rock'n Roll song. It was also on the soundtrack for the movie "Father's Day," starring Billy Crystal and Robin Williams. Rocker/Producer Jeff Lynne holds two separate jobs on this album.... that of musician and Producer, adding that hard-hitting heavy sound on songs such as "The World Tonight", "Flaming Pie", "Really Love You", and "Beautiful Night".

Another interesting fact about this album is that is included various distinct styles of music, from ballads to R&B. Such ballads include "Calico Skies", "Heaven on a Sunday" (which features McCartney's 19 year old son James on acoustic guitar), "Little Willow", and "Beautiful Night". "Beautiful Night," which turns into a power ballad at the end, with a full orchestra conducted by David Snell is beautifully arranged by George Martin supported by Ringo lending lead vocals and drums.

Another style of music included is an R&B Wilson Pickettesque track entitled "Souvenir," that is a slow Rhythm and Blues type of song. "Flaming Pie" is a sort of a combination of a '50's Rock'n Roll rhythm with a Ragtime feel in the piano solo; with the bridge turning into more of a Hard Rock feel. Then with "Heaven on a Sunday" he gives us more of a slow Caribbean feel, similar to John Lennon's "Beautiful Boy (Darling Boy)."

If I had to grade this album like an exam, I would rate it an A+. You take five of the best Rock'n Roll musicians of all time and put them together in a studio together the product is going to be outstanding. It also breaks away from the current artist who have a #1 album, but all of the songs sound exactly the same. It's a relief to know that the EXPERIENCED musicians are still making great music, as well as not being under any type of contract. To be doing an album because they want to, and to just have fun. Paul McCartney says "I came off the back of the Beatles Anthology with an urge to do some new music. It reminded me of the Beatles' standards, that we reached the songs." He also says, "You've got to have a laugh, because it's just an album, and we had fun making it. Hopefully you'll hear it in the songs."

I recommend this album to anyone who enjoys music. This is not another album by an old time musician who has had his prime in the '60's and the '70's. Paul McCartney shows with this album he can still write great music without the song writing team he had with John Lennon in the Beatles days.

The College of Staten Island
and
Arden Heights Blvd. Jewish
Center
Present

The New American Chamber Orchestra
On Sunday September 14, at 5:00
At CSI's Center for the Arts,
Williamson Theatre.

Before Orpheus*

By: Louis Bardel

1 On the splendid beach of Capri, there are some beautiful objects that make sing-song. They are called Sirens, by the old sailors, for the sing-song can be heard miles from the beach, where the sailors sail past the, often enigmatic, isle of Capri.

2 One day, one ship, full of sailors, a ship that I was on, was sailing near the isle of Capri (in a strong vessel called the Argoe.) We were in the black; our ship was full of gold. The ship was a mostly young, spirited crew.

3 Now I had not warned them yet of the Sirens, but as a good sailor I knew that I should, for we were near earshot of the Sirens' dubiously lively, seductive song. The warning to those sailors, that I gave (to those who wanted to sail not bust, I know) was that the beautiful object's sing-song often lured sailors to their deaths, on the rocks that dot the shore of Capri, quite dangerously. I spoke as much out of concern for myself as out of concern for others.

"Few Sailors have made it to the so-called splendid beach, where objects known as the Sirens lie. The course is quite conniving. There is no need to risk our good fortunes for some fiasco that will probably be stained by blood."

4 (I did not mention, for fear of tempting, my fellow sailing mates, that Sailors known to actually make it to Capri, live in splendor, amidst flower beds; they are treated by doctors who constantly use balsamic busses to heal; they trip in grand public halls and perfumed bowers, where sorority and fraternity are merged together, exquisitely.) Those details, I thought, were far too enticing.

5 "There is no map because most who have tried to make it to the beach have died. Reaching the isle of Capri is certainly a complicated scheme."

I told this to my fellow sailors who, upon feeling the fine song of the Sirens, quickly and foolishly steered our ship toward the isle of Capri, straight towards the dangerous rocks.

"We might all die," I jeered. "And risk giving up all that we have worked for, all our gold. Gold is worth nothing on the isle of Capri! Our whole expedition will have been a waste of the five years past. What about our families at home! Our poor babies sleeping in their tiny beds!"

6 As time rapidly paced forward, as we got closer, to the seductive Siren's sing-song, the feeling of it's music sent an insurrection through my body; a feeling so pleasurable I stopped trying to steer my fellows clear of the dangers that lay ahead. "Full-speed forward," I ironically said, with violent agitation. "Do not stop!"

AAAAAAAAAAAA...the Sirens sing-song sounded out the whole air around us; not a space in my body did not feel the pleasure of the Siren's seductive sounds. AAAAAAAAAAAAA...no sense except the sound of the Sirens flamboyant song (what absolutely should have been a penetrating warning!) O Gold! O Family!

Desiré

By: Josephine Dénoument

Desiré Young approached Daniel Oldwood's apartment and knocked fiercely on the door. She stood impatiently outside as he peeped through the tiny hole in his door. Recognizing the pretty face of his first cousin, Desiré Young, he hesitated to open the door, resting his nervous hand on the metal knob. She knocked again. The sound sent a shiver through his body. "Daniel," she sweetly pleaded, "Open the door Daniel." With that he opened the door.

She stepped into his bright, airy apartment. With an occasional glance toward Daniel Oldwood she sauntered around his living room. Examining her surroundings she noticed some books. A worn edition of "Hamlet" lay atop a stained coffee table, next to a paperback version of "Lolita." In the center of the table lay a bowl of plump, red apples, as well as an unopened pack of Marlboro Mediums. "Have you been reading a lot lately," she asked with a slightly sarcastic tone.

Daniel Oldwood inhaled the sweet scent of Desiré Young's perfume. It smelled like roses. She smiled briefly when she noticed his longing gaze. Casually throwing herself on the couch she began to unbutton her summer dress. Daniel Oldwood felt his blood pumping through his body. Placing himself next to her, he ran his fingers through her jet black hair. With his lips inches away from hers he whispered, "Desiré, we can't do this."

Desiré Young placed her lips on his and slid her tongue gently into his mouth. His arms lay at his sides while her fingers untied his red robe. Then he felt her silky fingers glide smoothly across his chest and down to his crotch. "Desiré we can't do this."

A rush filled Daniel Oldwood's body as Desiré Young grasped his throbbing penis. She gently squeezed it. He softly moaned. Placing his lips first on her nipples, then on her stomach, he quickly worked his way toward her inner thighs. She removed her red panties. The feel of his tongue and lips on her flesh sent a pang of desire through her body. Her breathing quickened as she felt his tongue wag on her clitoris.

They fucked.

Too Much Baggage? "DROP" It On Us!

By: Allison Gigante

You may not be aware that there is a place on campus for students that's free, confidential, stocked with information, and staffed by students who have been trained to help you make your life happier, healthier and more productive.

Because the Peer DROP-In Center is part of the Wellness Office, under the direction of Carol Brower, M.A., we are dedicated to helping students maximize their potential both academically and personally, by integrating mental, spiritual, physical, and emotional aspects of health.

Because the DROP-In Center is staffed by fellow students, we are extremely aware of the stresses of college life and the difficulties of managing that stress with a home life, family, and job, not to mention, the concerns and worries we all must contend with.

Because the DROP-In Center is located inside the Health Services Office, Bldg. 1C-112, students may be reluctant to DROP-In. But you do not need an appointment, you do not need to check in with the health services staff, you do not have to give your name or your reason for DROPPING-In. Just follow the signs for the DROP-In Center which is down the hall to your right.

Because we have tried to create a relaxed and informal atmosphere, students

who need a place to talk, and a concerned ear to listen, can take the opportunity to unload, unwind, and discuss anything they want are always welcome to DROP-In. Students can also browse through information on topics from stress management to alcohol and drug use and abuse, to AIDS information, to available services and resources in the community, to events happening on campus, and the list goes on and on.

Samantha, who works as a Peer Educator, says this about the Drop-In Center. "There are so many services that the college offers. The Peer Drop-In Center can help students be more aware of these services. The Drop-In Center is also a friendly environment - the people there are willing to listen!"

Jeanette, another Peer Educator, says, "The Drop-In Center is very valuable to students because awareness is the first step to being well and prevention."

A student who has used the services of the Drop-In Center had this to say about the experience. "The Drop-In Center is very important. It has a lot of important information and the students who work there are very nice. They make it a very comfortable place to stop by."

So we're here for you. And remember, whatever you're carrying, Drop-It on us.

Wellness Column: Quit Smoking Now!

By: Anne Devaney

The Wellness Program extends a warm welcome back to students for the fall term. There are many exciting programs scheduled for this semester which cover a wide variety of topics, ranging from HIV/AIDS education to stress reduction techniques. One of the programs addresses the difficult task of quitting smoking. Joanne Hollan, an addictions specialist, will give an introductory seminar on quitting smoking. The program is being presented on Wednesday, Sept. 24, at 2:30 in the Campus Center, Bijou Room (211). It is a Personal Growth CLUE. Participants will then be offered the option to sign-up for follow-up support groups.

Many people find quitting smoking extremely difficult. This is due to the body's addiction to nicotine which is found in smoke. It occurs naturally in the tobacco leaf, the only plant known to contain it. Nicotine has a powerful effect on the brain and central nervous system. Within 7 seconds of inhalation, a significant portion of nicotine has traveled through the bloodstream directly to the brain. The nicotine affects the 'receptor' cells in the brain. This sensitivity to nicotine produces a 'hit' when reaching the brain. The impact is seen in the chemicals that regulate mood, alertness and learning. There is also seen an increase in heartbeat and breathing rate. As in other addictive drugs, nicotine may act as either a stimulant or sedative depending on the person's metabolism, time of day and amount of stress the person is under. In the morning, nicotine appears to act as a stimulant, not just to the brain but to the digestive tract as well. Later in the day, it seems to be more

of a sedative.

Nicotine's highly addictive nature is what keeps people smoking. In several studies, when people were given nicotine-free cigarettes, they almost always abandoned them. Nicotine is usually cleared from the body after a few days, however cravings for cigarettes can continue longer. This makes staying with the decision to quit hard. The highest rates of relapse are seen within the first two weeks. However relapse is often part of the long term quitting process. It should not be seen as a failure if the person learns from it and tries again - immediately.

The benefits to quitting smoking are great. Aside from the expense, the list of health concerns range from the well-known lung cancer and heart disease to more esthetic concerns such as teeth staining and facial wrinkles. There is also risks to unborn babies of low birth weight and premature delivery in woman who smoke during pregnancy.

Deciding to quit is a very personal choice. There are many methods to choose. There is hypnosis, nicotine patches, which slowly reduce the need for nicotine and 'cold turkey'. Support groups help in addition to these methods. Remember whichever method you choose — You Can Do It!

If you would like further information on this topic, the calendar of the programs offered this semester, or to speak to a trained peer educator on other issues or concerns, please stop in at the Peer Drop-In Center located in the Health Center at 1C-112. It's free, confidential and we're here to help.

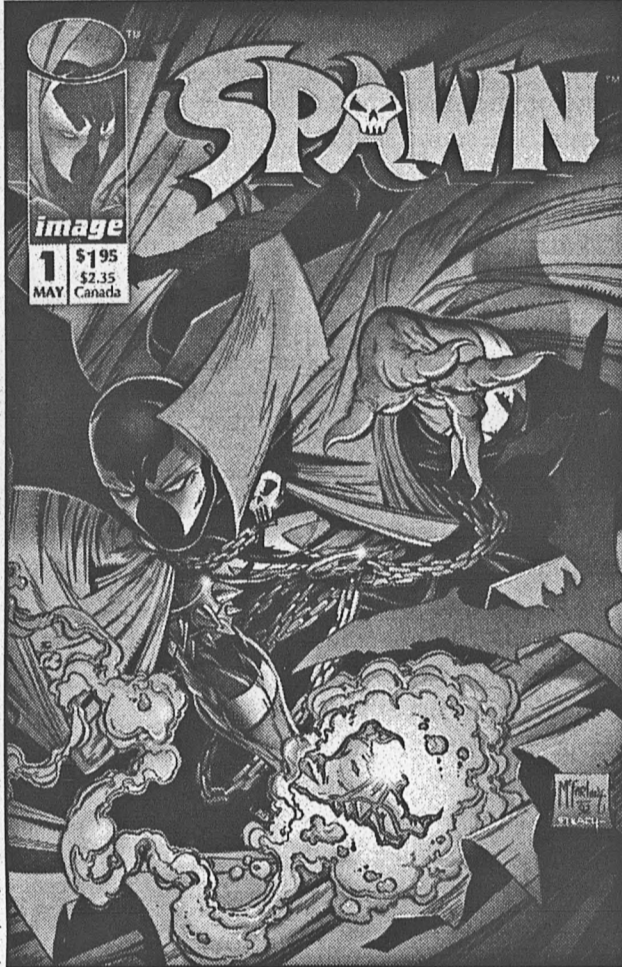
The Ink Spot

By: Shawn Fisher

In 1992 Al Simmons sold his soul to the devil, since that time his afterlife has been a phenomenal success. Of course, Mr. Simmons is only a fictional character, a comic book hero created by writer/artist Todd McFarlane, whose creation "Spawn" is now one of the industry's most popular books. In just a short period of time, "Spawn" has risen the ranks of comicdom to rival such giants as X-men, Spiderman and Batman in sales and recognition. During the early Nineties McFarlane, along with a collection of Marvel's top artists and writers, revolted from the comic book juggernaut that is Marvel, to form their own company called Image. A company that left control in the hands of a book's creator rather than to suits and shareholders. McFarlane was one of the first of the founders who's work saw print. Since that time "Spawn" has become the undeniable flagship of Image comics.

Spawn is the tragic tale of Al Simmons, a government assassin who is brutally murdered by his own people. Having been one of the best in the business he is recruited by Malebolgia (AKA Satan) to lead his army of Hell spawns against God's army in the apocalypse. In return Al Simmons gets to see his beloved wife one last time. Of course the Devil always makes deals in favor of himself, which is unfortunate for Al. Upon his return from hell Al discovers that five years has passed, his wife was remarried to his best friend and has had a child. Al was also burnt over his entire body beyond recognition therefor unrecognizable to his former wife. Even with Al's new body enhancements that allow him to morph into different forms he cannot revert back to his old body. Ironically Al can morph into a white man which doesn't help him considering he was black. After having a rather lousy opportunity to see his wife, its time for Spawn to fulfill his end of the agreement with Malebolgia; who wants Spawn to provide his army with proper soldiers by killing off all the psycho's and mass murderers in the world. Spawn who was essentially a good man and patriotic soldier is now torn as to what to do. His new powers allow him to stop heinous crimes from occurring, but only by contributing to a greater evil. Spawn now struggles to maintain his own agenda: the protection of the homeless in the ally he calls home as well as the safety of his beloved wife and her daughter without assisting in

Malebolgia's agenda. Malebolgia who wants Spawn to complete his mission has dispatched the demon Violator to help guide Spawn in the direction of hell. Meanwhile, on the other side, Spawn must ward off the assault of Angela the archangel sent from heaven to destroy the Hell Spawn. If only heaven and hell would just leave Spawn alone he would be a much happier man.



The combination of McFarlane's artwork and a well plotted script has made "Spawn" one of the most successful comics of the nineties. McFarlane's creation has grown, from just one successful series of books to two, as well as countless specials. McFarlane then created a highly popular line of toys based on Spawn. He moved on to video games and this past year has made his boldest move with the franchise. McFarlane has created an animated series based on the comic. Rather than dumb it down for a Saturday morning children's audience he went the opposite way. McFarlane created an adults only cartoon complete with sex and violence. The show was so radical that it could only be shown at midnight on the HBO cable channel. The show turned out to be one of HBO's most highly rated programs and increased interest in the book tenfold. Now McFarlane has set out to conquer the motion picture industry through live action feature film making. The movie has already had a successful opening and is expected to bring in anywhere between 75 and 100 million dollars domestically. Talk about a sequel is already spreading throughout the comic and film industry. Giants such as the X-men have taken decades to reach the same height of popularity the Spawn now enjoys; much of this is due to McFarlane's

commitment to his creation as well as a well thought out business strategy. Todd McFarlane without a doubt has successfully created and nurtured a booming franchise out of Spawn.

Beginning this semester, the Ink Spot will now feature definitions of comic book buzz words. These will be taken from the "Overstreet Guide to Comics" which is essentially the bible of the comic industry. **Golden Age (G.A):** The period beginning with "Action Comics" #1 (June 1938) and ending with World War II in 1945.



We've Got Your Favorite DC Comics And More!

****New Location****

Krypton Comics
604 Midland Ave.
Staten Island N.Y. 10306
(718) 667-7695

****Discount with Student ID****



TM DC Comics copyright 1994

NFL PREVIEW

By: Francis Stuchbury

AFC EAST

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Last year they went to the Super Bowl under Bill Parcells. This year if they go there they will go under new coach Pete Carroll. Drew Bledsoe is a good quarterback in this league. His main target is Terry Glenn who had a solid rookie campaign.(1,132 yards). Another favorite target of his is Ben Coates. Curtis Martin is one of the premier backs in this league.(1,152 yards and 14 touchdowns) Their defense is led by Willie McGinest who led the team in sacks. They have two solid defensive backs in Lawyer Milloy and Ty Law. Overall they had an average defense. I feel this team is the most talented team in their division and should win it. It will be interesting to see how much of a motivator Carroll is. If the team struggles everyone will think it is because Parcells is gone.

MIAMI DOLPHINS

Now that this is Jimmy Johnson's second year here there is increasingly more pressure to win. Dan Marino is one of the greatest quarterbacks in N.F.L history. The problem is that first rounder Yatil Green has torn his ACL and is going to be out for the season. This leaves Marino primarily with targets O.J. McDuffie and Fred Barnett. Brian Manning, a sixth round steal, might have an immediate impact this season. Karim Abdul-Jabbar became the first 1,000 yard rusher for the Dolphins since 1978, and will play much better this season running behind Pro-Bowl offensive lineman Richmond Webb. Their best player on defense is Zach Thomas, who led the team with 180 tackles; otherwise I am not impressed with their defense. I feel they will finish second and might make the playoffs.

NEW YORK JETS

Bill Parcells is now the coach taking over for the worst coach in the league, Rich Kotite. He is a great motivator and will make an immediate impact in turning this team from losers to winners. Neil O'Donnel was injured most of the season, and now that he is healthy he will try to show the fans he was worth all the money he got a years ago. Keyshawn Johnson had better concentrate on football this season and not write another stupid book blaming everyone for his disappointing rookie season. Jeff Graham is the #2 wide receiver on this team while Wayne Chrebet, who caught every ball thrown at him, recieved unnecessary criticism from Keyshawn in his book. Adrian Murrell is a good back but has difficulty holding on to the ball. Leon Johnson, a fourth round steal, will be a solid third down back and will also carry the ball. Dedric Ward will be the punt returnee this season. Their defense is led by right defensive end Hugh Douglas. If he stays healthy he should make the Pro Bowl this year. Their best linebacker is Mo Lewis. First rounder James Farrior will push to take Marvin Jones spot, but Jones has stepped up this preseason. Aaron Glenn is one of the best corners in this league and will make the Pro Bowl this season. Look at the interception return for a touchdown against the Eagles in preseason. I expect possibly a third place finish and 8 to 9 wins this season. Based on their preseason this team looks like they will be fun to watch. Don't be shocked if they make the playoffs, though it is unlikely. After a 41-3 thrashing against Seattle some people might think they can be a playoff team.

BUFFALO BILLS

Now that Jim Kelly is retired the Bills are trying to rebuild, but they still have players at the end of their prime. Todd Collins won the quarterback job over Billy Joe Hobert because he has greater poise. Andre Reed and Quinn Early will be Collins' main targets, but both are past the age of 30. Eric Moulds (last year's first rounder) will be part of the youth movement. Thurman Thomas has rushed for more than a 1,000 yards the past 8 seasons but he too is aging. That is why Buffalo drafted rookie Antowain Smith, a power back, who might push Thurman Thomas to the bench. Bruce Smith is still a great player on defense but this will be his last year in Buffalo, as he wants big bucks and next season he will get it some place else though he is near the end of his career. Chris Spielman broke a team record with 206 tackles. Bryce Paup is still one of the best

linebackers in the game. A young player to look out for is Marcellus Wiley, their second round pick. You don't really know what to expect from this team. I feel they will be an 8-8 or 9-7, team.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Jim Harbaugh is a good quarterback that does find ways to win games. His mobility is what gets him out of trouble. Marvin Harrison is an emerging wide-out that possesses great speed. Sean Dawkins is an average wide-out. Tight end Ken Dilger seems to be a clutch receiver and will get the ball in pressure situations. Marshall Faulk had a terrible season last year, (587 yards 7 touchdowns) but was also a little banged up. He did have 56 receptions last season. Their defense is not good at all, with exception being Tony Bennett and Quentin Coryatt. They lost Ray Buchanan to free agency. The often injured linebacker Trev Alberts retired. I feel this team will finish last in this division and win 6 games.

AFC CENTRAL

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

Mark Brunell will be out for the first 6 games of the regular season due to the preseason injury against the Giants. Rob Johnson is a more than capable backup. Look at the courage he showed coming back in the game against Baltimore with a severely sprained ankle and leading them to victory. The main targets will be Pro Bowler Kennan McCardell and Jimmy Smith, both thousand yard receivers last season. Until Brunell returns, running backs Natrone Means and James Stewart will be utilized more frequently. The defense is led by defensive ends Clyde Simmons, Tony Brackens and linebacker Kevin Hardy who combined for 20 of the teams 37 sacks. They had problems in their secondary, so they signed Deon Figures. This team will win the division despite Brunell absence.

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

This team keeps on losing players to free agency. Host to free agency are Chad Brown, Deon Figures, Andre Hastings, and Rod Woodson. Kordell Stewart is now the full time quarterback and should be able to get the job done. His accuracy, however, is questionable. Charles Johnson should step up and be their best receiver. The Steelers were able to sign Jerome Bettis who rushed for 1,431 yards last season. With the exception of Greg Lloyd they have no names on defense. Lloyd is coming back from knee surgery. Their season depends on their defense. If they present a strong defense they will make the playoffs.

TENNESSEE OILERS

This team finally got out of the hell hole in Houston. After being a backup for two seasons Steve McNair will be the starter this season. This guy has great ability and will show it this season. Chris Sanders is a speed demon and will be McNair's favorite target. Eddie George had a great rookie season and will continue that this year. They do have a solid defense, especially the secondary, consisting of Blaine Bishop and Daryll Lewis. Their first year in Nashville should be exciting for them. They will have something they did not have in Houston... fan support. I predict that Steve McNair will make far too many mistakes in his first year as a starter, which is why they won't make the playoffs.

CINCINNATI BENGALS

Another ex-Jet coach, Bruce Coslet, is turning this team around. Jeff Blaker is a good quarterback that likes to scramble. Carl Pickens has led the AFC in receptions the past two seasons. Darnay Scott is another speed receiver. Ki Jana Carter needs to have a good season and show people the ability he had before that knee injury. It is possible that Corey Dillon might split the job with him. On defense, Dan Wilkinson will have a good season this year. Pro Bowler Ashley Ambrose is the best cornerback they have. There are still some question marks with this team. I feel they will be 8-8 this year.

Continue on page 10

Continued from page 9

BALTIMORE RAVENS

Vinny Testaverde did have a career year last season(4,177 yards 33 touchdowns), but that's because the defense gave up so many points so he had to throw the football. Michael Jackson and Derrick Alexander had their best year at wide receivers also. Bam Morris is suspended for 4 games due to drug use. Look for second rounder Jay Graham to have an immediate impact and take Morris's job. Tony Siragusa was a good free agent signing. He will help groom Peter Boulware. I feel they will finish last in this division. Their defense has to get better.

AFC WEST**DENVER BRONCOS**

Last season they were a playoff disappointment. To change their image they have adopted hideous C.F.L looking jerseys. John Elway is one of the best ever, known for his amazing come from behind victories. Tight end Shannon Sharpe is Elway's main target (80rec. 1062, 10TD's). Ed McCaffrey is a possession wide receiver. Terrel Davis had a spectacular year(1,538 13TD's) and had another Pro Bowl year. Signing Neil Smith was a great move for the defense. Linebacker Bill Romanowski led the team with 128 tackles and Steve Atwater is one of the best safeties in the league. I feel they will definitely win the division and represent the AFC in the Superbowl. (they are on a mission this year after what happened last season.)

OAKLAND RAIDERS

Their big off season acquisition was the signing of Jeff George. People say he is a "head case", but he has a strong arm and a quick release. His main target will be Tim Brown. Free agent acquisition Desmond Howard is a great punt and kick returner, but lacks being a wide receiver. Napoleon Kaufman will be the starting running back primarily due to his explosive speed (he led the league last season with 5.8 yards per carry). The offensive line is weak so Jeff George had better have a quick release. Their defensive line is very strong with Chester McGlockton and rookie Darrell Russell. They have a good secondary with Terry McDaniel and Eric Turner. This seems to be a dominating defense and if Jeff George can finally get his act together this team will finish second and make the playoffs.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

This team spent big bucks on free agents during the off season and there is a lot of pressure to win and make the playoffs. I think that John Friesz is not a good quarterback. Luckily they signed Warren Moon as his backup. Despite being 40, Moon can still get the job done. Joey Galloway has break away speed and is a great punt returner. Chris Warren had a terrible year last season. (855yds. 5TD's) He has to be more productive this season. On the defense they spent a lot of money to sign free agents LB Chad Brown, DB's Willie Williams and Bennie Blades. Add them to DE Cortez Kennedy and rookie corner Shawn Springs and you have a solid defense. If the Seahawks do not make the playoffs this year Dennis Erickson's job might be in jeopardy.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

The Chiefs upgraded their entire offense during the off-season. They signed free agent Elvis Grbac as their quarterback. He is well familiar with the west coast offense. Now they finally have respectable wide receivers after signing Brett Perriman and Andre Rison. Greg will be starting back this season. Behind him is 37 year old Marcus Allen, who still plays well despite his age. They drafted tight end Tony Gonzalez who will be a star tight end in this league. Their leader on defense is Derrick Thomas who gives quarterbacks nightmares. Dale Carter is the AFC's best cornerback. Their defense otherwise has problems. I think they will be an 8-8 or 9-7 team.

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Kevin Gillbride is the new coach for this team. Stan Humphries is a good quarterback but is injury prone. That is why Jim Everett is his backup. Tiny Martin had big numbers last season(1171yds,14 T.D's). Free agent Eric Metcalf will be the number two receiver and will also return kicks. Their running game will be hideous this year, with running backs

Gary Brown, Erric Peagram and Aaron Craver. Their best player on defense without a doubt is linebacker Junior Seau. The rest of the defense is not that good. The Chargers will finish last in this division and will win 5 to 6 games.

NFC EAST**DALLAS COWBOYS**

Last year Troy Aikman had a terrible season(only 12 touchdown passes). Now with Michael Irvin back for a full season and the addition of deep threat Anthony Miller, Aikman will have a much better year. By drafting David LaFleur the Cowboys hope will have a replacement for Jay Novacek, Troy Aikman's favorite target. Emmitt Smith needs to stay healthy this season. If he does so, he will have another big year. On defense, the retirement of Charles Haley has hurt the team a lot. Due to drugs Leon Lett it due to miss the majority of the season. Their best defensive lineman is Tony Tolbert. In the secondary Deion Sanders would like to play baseball, but will play every game this year. He is the best corner in the league but he is playing injured. This team has the best secondary with Kevin Smith and Darren Woodson. I predict that they will win the division but will not be going to the Superbowl.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Ty Detmer won the quarterback competition over Rodney Pete mainly because he has a better understanding of the team's offense. Last year Irving Fryar had a career year(1,195 11 TD's). He is happy that Detmer is the quarterback. Chris T. Jones is another good wide receiver. Running back Ricky Watters had 1,850 total yards last season. He runs extremely well and catches the ball well also. Mike Mamula is the best defensive lineman the Eagles have. Signing free agent linebacker Darren Smith was a good addition. The Eagles have two good corners in Bobby Taylor and Troy Vincent. I feel this team will finish second and make the playoffs. Ray Rhodes is an up and coming coach in this league.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

The Redskins finally dumped Heath Shuler to New Orleans for a third round pick. Gus Ferotte, a good decision making quarterback, threw only 12 touchdown passes last season. More will be expected from him this year. Michael Westbrook was supposed to have a big season this year but after seeing him beat the crap out of running back Stephen Davis it is a question mark how he will play. This is also a terrible distraction to the team. The aging Henry Ellard and the youngster Leslie Shephers will be the starters until Westbrook gets his act together. Terry Allen had reconstructive surgery on both of his knees yet amazingly had another great year(1,353yds. 21 touchdowns). He will have another good year. The defense has some problems with DT Shawn Gilbert holding out for more money. Ken Harvey is their best linebacker. Darrell Green, at 36, is still one of the fastest DB's in the league. Free agent Chris Dishman is another good corner. I feel this team is not yet a playoff team. The Westbrook situation is a distraction and a big problem. Expect this team to struggle early.

ARIZONA CARDINALS

Kent Graham is an erratic quarterback. Don't be surprised if second round local boy Jake Plummer is the starter by midseason. Rob Moore was a 1,000 yard receiver but only caught 4 touchdown passes. Frank Sanders is an average receiver, and neither he nor Moore are "number one" receivers. Larry Centers is the best pass catching fullback in the league. He had 99 receptions last season. Leeland McElroy might have a good year. He is fast, but not an intense player. Eric Swann is the best defensive lineman in this league. Simeon Rice is also starting to emerge. Eric Hill was a Pro Bowl linebacker last season. With the exception to Aeneas Williams, the secondary is bad and will give up many big plays this season. With question marks at QB and RB this team will be lucky if they win 5 games. They will probably tie with the Giants for last place.

NEW YORK GIANTS

Jim Fassel was brought in as new head coach to try and resurrect Dave Brown's career. If you have been watching him in preseason, he seem lost out there. He needs confidence in order to play well. Ike Hillard might

Continue to page 11

Continued from page 10

very well be a "go to" receiver but it will take time for him to develop. Thomas Lewis was never the receiver the Giants thought he would be. Cris Calloway is an average receiver at best. Amani Toomer is explosive at returning punts and should be used more as a receiver this year. Rodney Hampton looked awful last season (827yds only 1 td). Right now he is injured and might lose his starting job to Tiki Barber. Second Rounder Tiki Barber will be the Giants third-down back and run the ball occasionally. Punter Brad Maynard has an explosive leg and was defensive MVP in the MAC conference last season. The Giants lack the big stud on defense they desperately need. Michael Strahan has to step up and have a good year. Cedric Jones certainly did not play like a top 5 pick should and needs to improve. Linebacker Jessie Armstead led the team in tackles last season. Defensive back Jason Sehorn is the best athlete the Giants have. Phillippi Sparks is another good corner. The Giants will have a good season if Dave Brown wakes up, Rodney Hampton plays better, Ike Hilliard has an immediate impact and someone on the defensive line emerges. Most of these things are unlikely, so I believe the Giants will win 5 to 6 games and tie Arizona for last place.

NFC CENTRAL

GREENBAY PACKERS

The Superbowl champs hope to have the same success they had last season. Brett Favre is the best quarterback in the league. Recently a candy bar was named after him "The Brett Favre Bar", a caramel and chocolate bar. Robert Brtko, coming back from a knee injury will be the main target. Favre loves to throw the ball all over the field so many wide receivers will get involved. Antonio Freeman, Derrick Mayes, Don Beebe, and tight end Mark Chmura will catch a lot of passes. Due to an injury, Edgar Bennett is out for the season, but Dorsey Levens is more than capable of getting the job done. Either Chris Darkins or Aaron Hayden will be the number two back. Still the leader on their defense is without a doubt is Reggie White. Gilbert Brown clogs the middle of the defensive line. Linebacker Seth Joyner was a good free agent acquisition. The defensive backs are pretty good with Doug Evans, Craig Newsome and LeRoy Butler. I feel this team will repeat as Superbowl Champs.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Brad Johnson did help get the Vikings into the playoffs, but is an average quarterback. That is why they signed Randall Cunningham. He did not play last season and might do so if Johnson begins to struggle. Cris Carter has gone to his fourth straight Pro Bowl. Jake Reed is a solid deep threat. Every year running back Robert Smith gets injured. If he stays healthy this season he will rush for over 1,000 yards. John Randle is their best defensive lineman and tackler. Ed McDaniell is an emerging linebacker and look for rookie Dwayne Rudd to have an immediate impact. The Vikings have an average secondary. This team does not have enough talent to win the division but will make the playoffs. Dennis Green won't take this team to the next level.

DETROIT LIONS

New coach Bobby Ross will give this team a winning attitude. Scott Mitchell is an up and down quarterback and needs to be more consistent. Wide-out Herman Moore had another great year. (106rec 1296yds, 9TD's) Johnnie Morton will take the place of the departed Brett Perriman. Kick returner Glyn Milburn will be the team's number three receiver. Barry Sanders is the only running back in N.F.L. history to rush for 1,000 yards in his first eight seasons. The Lions plan on using a fullback. It will either be Tommy Vardell or Cory Schlesinger, so look for Barry Sanders numbers to be better this season. Look for defensive lineman Luther Elliss to have an impact season. The rest of the defensive is below average but drafting cornerback Bryant Westbrook will help this secondary. This team might make the playoffs, but I feel they won't.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Trent Dilfer is still a below average quarterback though he is improving. Rookie wide receiver Ridel Anthony will immediately help this team. Errict Rheet and rookie Warwick Dunn will battle it out to see who will be the number one running back. Mike Alstott is the best blocking fullback in this league. Defensive lineman Warren Sapp is starting to

emerge. He injured Steve Young and knocked Jerry Rice out for the season in their first game this season. Hardy Nickerson is their best linebacker. The secondary is not good. This team might win seven games this season.

CHICAGO BEARS

It was a waste of time giving up a number one pick to Seattle for quarterback Rick Mirer considering that Erik Kramer has won the starting job. He is making a courageous comeback after a severe neck injury. Wide receiver Curtis Conway is injured and will be out six weeks. Look for Bobby Engram to have a good year. Last year Rashaan Salaam was banged up and had a bad season. He will improve this year. Alonzo Spellman is the team's best defensive lineman. Now that Bryan Cox is healthy, hopefully he will have a good year. The secondary is below average. This team seems to have a lot of problems but Dave Wannestadt is a good coach so this team will win six games.

NFC WEST

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Steve Young is a great quarterback but is old and injury prone. He must stay healthy this year. Despite being 34 years old Jerry Rice is still a terrific wide receiver. The other receivers are average. The 49ers are hoping that Garrison Hearst is the answer at running back. The defensive line is solid with Bryant Young and Dana Stubblefield. Linebacker Ken Norton led their team with 165 tackles. Signing linebacker Kevin Greene helps this defense a lot. Merton Hanks and Tim McDonald are good safeties. This team will win the division. Steve Mariucci is a new coach that will get this offense rolling. Now with Jerry Rice most likely out for the season they certainly won't win the division and might not make the playoffs.

CAROLINA PANTHERS

This team won't be sneaking up on anyone this year. Kerry Collins broke his jaw in preseason and will miss the first five games. Steve Beurlein will be the team's quarterback till then. Mushin Muhammed and Rae Carruth will be the team's starting wide receivers. Tim Biakabutuka is back from knee surgery, while Anthony Johnson will be the backup. Their defense is one of the best in the N.F.L. Renaldo Turnbull was a good pick-up. The holdout Kevin Greene was cut due to his signing. Lamar Lathon, Michael Barrow and Sam Mills give Carolina the best starting linebackers in the league. Tyroone Poole and Eric Davis are good cornerbacks. This team will win the division because San Francisco lost Jerry Rice for the season.

SAINT LOUIS RAMS

New head coach Dick Vermeil has been out of the game for a while, but is nonetheless a good coach. His coaching staff is prehistoric and includes Bud Carson, Jerry Rhone, Jim Hannifan, and Mike White. It will be interesting to see how the old coaches communicate with the young players. Quarterback Tony Banks fumbled the ball way too many times last season, but he was a rookie. I feel wide receiver Issac Bruce is the best young receiver in the game. Eddie Kennison is another good wide receiver and great punt returner. It is questionable how Lawrence Phillips will play this year, which is why Craig Heyward might see most of the action. After the great game Phillips had against the Saints he might surprise everyone. Kevin Carter is the team's best defensive lineman. Todd Lyght is the team's best corner. This team is very young and needs time to develop. This team might win six games.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

New coach Mike Ditka will get this team to play hard and get the most out of what he has. They got Heath Shuler from the Redskins, who is getting a second chance to prove himself. He is athletic and has mobility. Don't be shocked if Heisman trophy winner Danny Wuerffel is eventually the starter because Ditka likes him a lot. It looks like Daryl Hobbs and Randall Hill will be the starting wide receivers. Mario Bates and rookie Troy Davis will battle it out for starting running back. The defense is not that good. The only player worth mentioning is cornerback Eric Allen. This team will struggle and look for them and Atlanta to tie for last place.

Continue to page 12

THE HOPES OF SPRING

By: Robert Lauro

The hopes of spring through summers searing heat separate those whose hopes held true come fall.

When we left CSI last May, the 1997 baseball season was but a month old. No matter who your favorite team is, each spring holds the true fans' belief that this is the season their team will go to the playoffs... win their pennant... then go on to victory in the world series. In that first month of the season no mere facts, nor stats of seasons past, can convince a true fan that their team will not become this year's "World Champions"!

While we spent our summer at various endeavors, the long baseball season wore on. Summer weeds out those teams who jump out in front early but don't have the stamina to stay there. Teams with young "phenoms" who can throw the ball in the upper 90's winning their first 10 games suddenly find that their arm gets tired, lose some control or hitters have begun to figure them out.

By the July all-star break many teams have begun to show their true form. July seems to separate the real contenders from the also ran, teams that can't win on the road consistently find they have to play the next 15 games on the road.

When we left CSI in the spring this was the way the teams stood on May 25th. NATIONAL LEAGUE east: Atlanta Braves were in 1st, Florida Marlins 5 1/2 games back, followed by Montreal Expos 7 GB (games behind), New York Mets 8 GB with the Philadelphia Phillies already 15 1/2 games out.

Houston Astros led the Central Division, but only with a 25-23 record and only 9 games separated last place Cincinnati Reds from Houston. Pittsburgh Pirates were only 1 1/2 GB. In the WEST the San Francisco Giants led the division by only 2 1/2 games over the Colorado Rockies, 3 1/2 games over the Los Angeles Dodgers and 6 1/2 over the San Diego Padres.

The AMERICAN LEAGUE looked like this May 25th. East: Baltimore Orioles lead the New York Yankees by 6 1/2 games; The Toronto Blue Jays by 7 1/2 followed by the Detroit Tigers 11 1/2 games and the Boston Red Sox in last 13 GB. The Central Division had Cleveland Indians in first followed by Milwaukee Brewers by 1 1/2 games; Kansas City Royals and Chicago White Sox are both 3 GB and in last the Minnesota Twins are 6 GB. The west showed the Texas Rangers in first with the Anaheim Angels 1 GB; the Seattle Mariners 2 GB and the Oakland Athletics 9 GB.

Going into the last week of August the standings look like this with most teams having played 125 games of a 162 game schedule. I'll only post those teams less than 10 games behind at this point in the season. That is not to say that those teams more than 10 can't win. There have been more than enough examples of teams 13 games back making a successful run for the pennant.

The National League: east-Atlanta in 1st followed by the Florida Marlins 4 GB and the Mets 9 1/2 GB. In the

Central, the Astros lead Pittsburgh by 4 and the Cardinals by 8 1/2. The west has the Giants with a 2 game lead over the Dodgers.

The American League east has Baltimore still in 1st over the Yanks by 5 1/2 games; the central shows Cleveland 4 & 4 1/2 games over the White Sox and Milwaukee respectfully. In the west Seattle leads Anaheim by only 1 1/2 games. Only Texas failed to keep in the race between May and August, going from 1st to 3rd place in a 4 team division and playing one game under 500.

The standings being what they are I'll now go and make some predictions. Atlanta, Houston and Los Angeles win their divisions and the wild card will go to either Florida or the Giants. I think that the Dodgers made two pick ups in Eric Young and Otis Nixon that will enable them to fill the one item they were in need of all season, speed on the bases. In the end I'll vote with my heart and pick the Dodgers to go to the series. The American League I pick Baltimore, Cleveland and Anaheim to win their divisions. Anaheim seems like one of those teams of fate. I think they can catch and pass Seattle. The Yanks will go as the wild card. Baltimore will prove they are for real by winning the pennant. I'll give the readers more details before the playoffs begin along with who I think will win the series.

It's been a good season so far with the best yet to come.

NFL Preview
Conclusion

Continued from page 11

ATLANTA FALCONS

Ex-Giant coach Dan Reeves is now in charge. The run and shoot is gone. A conventional offense will be run. The problem is they have no good tight ends or fullbacks. Quarterback Chris Chandler is playing for his sixth team. The wide receivers are pretty good with Bert Emanuel, Terrance Mathis and Michael Haynes. Jamal Anderson is a good running back that very few people know about. With the exception to corner Ray Buchanan this defense is terrible. This team will finish tied for last with the Saints and one of these lucky teams will get Peyton Manning next year.

Interested in joining the sports writers at *The Banner*? Stop by at 1c-228 at the campus cafeteria.

Associate Degree Nursing Club

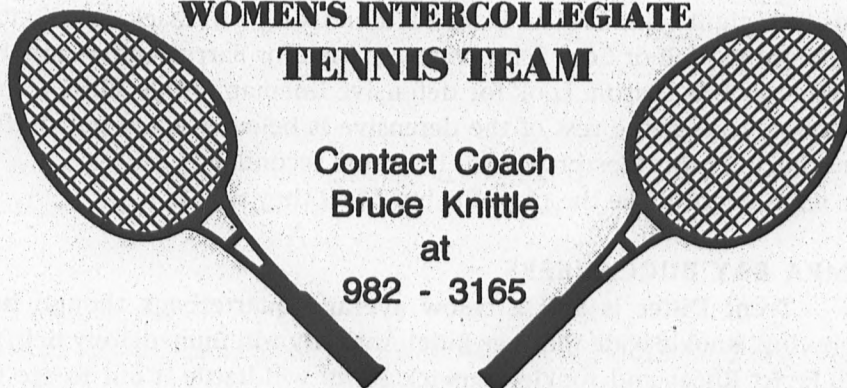
Invites you to enjoy our
1st meeting of the Fall semester

and welcome the nursing
class of 1999.

Thursday Sept. 25, 1997
from 1:30-3:00 pm,
Marcus Hall 5S-215.

WANTED

FULL TIME FEMALE STUDENTS
FOR
CSI's
WOMEN'S INTERCOLLEGIATE
TENNIS TEAM



Contact Coach
Bruce Knittle
at
982 - 3165