

THE BANNER

March 27, 2006

Children's Center Provides Low-Cost Care for Student Parents

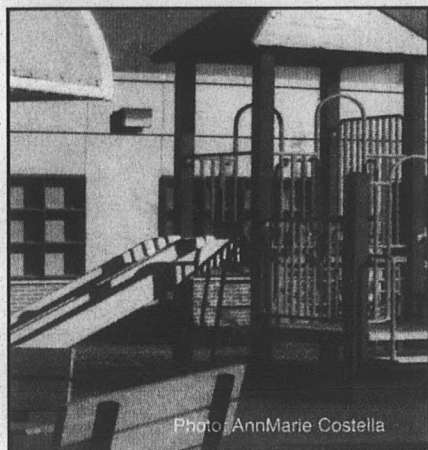


Photo: AnnMarie Costella

The Children's Center Playground allows children to engage in physical activity.

AnnMarie Costella

The Children's Center (Building 2R) provides convenient, quality, low-cost care and early childhood education programs for children of students currently attending CSI. Their qualified, professional staff nurtures each child as they learn to develop important communication and socialization skills. The program proves to be an invaluable resource for parents who struggle to raise a family while they continue their education.

The Children's Center began operating in the late 1970s at CSI's Sunnyside campus, but has been at its present location since 1995. They are licensed by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Bureau of Daycare and follow strict guidelines for maintaining the physical, safety, and health conditions of the site as well as high educational standards. "We've always had an excellent reputation in the community," said Director, Cynthia Murphy. "The Board of Education has used us as an exemplary universal pre-k site." Educational consultants from the Bureau of Daycare periodically visit the Children's Center to review the teachers' credentials and examine the classrooms.

Parents pay a child care fee of \$2.00 per hour, per child. The director and head teachers are certified in Early Childhood or Elementary education. All staff members are trained in First Aid and CPR. The Center is open six days a week (Mon-Sat). Children at the center are divided into four groups: Infant/Toddler (ages 6 to 24 months), Universal Pre-kindergarten (four years old by December 31 of the calendar year), Preschool (2-6 years old) and School Age (5-9 years old). They learn through play in a series of age appropriate activities. "The children are well cared for," said Murphy. "It's an excellent varied program."

The Children's Center allows parents

Continued on page 3

CSI Students and Professors Analyze Nature on Staten Island

Shona Nubyahn

Many have encountered Staten Island's wild animals. Lots of people are brave enough to get close to a huge winged, multi-legged, loud buzzing big-eyed insect.

But rarely does the average person catch it, take a bit off, and then let it go. Some may not notice the variety of wildlife here on



Photo: Shona Nubyahn

Dr Albert Burchstead researches turtles like this one.

Staten Island; some may not care. But to Dr. Albert Burchstead and other Biologists, it is all fascinating. Since the dawn of Darwinism, scientists have been greatly concerned with the origin of all species, their migration, and the genetic variation that results from living in this world run by humans.

With the changing face of the landscape and the shrinking of natural habitats, the sight of displaced creatures is common on Staten Island. Big corporations like Con Edison are helping scien-

tists figure out what should be done. Determining what species of what lives where, and how our modern day implements affect them, is a developing aspect of Biology, Bio-Chemistry, Urban planning and evolution in general.

Dr. Burchstead, or Dr. B. as he is also called, along with Dr. Chen and Dr. Burbrink, help students take a closer look at the little piece of turtle muscle and dragonfly wing tips they collected over-time at Eib's

Pond Park. Surveying DNA will allow for the categorization of certain wildlife populations living on the Island.

"The dragonfly project will help identify CSI as an important source of genomic information," said Dr. Burchstead. "My study will generate new uses of DNA analysis that are meaningful for population studies as well as obtaining phylogenetic information."

The dragonfly project adjoins other projects that use DNA to determine the

Continued on page 9

Publications Proposal Fails

Student Government Would Have Controlled All Budgets

David Maltz

Less than five years after a referendum separated the press from the government, the government tried to take over the press. But March 24th marked a resounding victory for the First Amendment at CSI.

Three weeks ago, student government senators thoughtlessly (and almost unanimously) approved a referendum that would have dissolved the funding body for all student publications, placing the purse strings firmly in their own hands. Yet the proposal died silently on March 24, after the 1,200 signatures required to put the proposal on the ballot were not submitted by the noon deadline.

SG Senator Shawn Fisher, who is also the business manager for the student publication Third Rail, submitted the proposal, asserting that CSI's administration wielded too much control over the publications board.

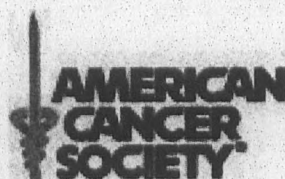
Continued on page 3

Colleges Against Cancer Comes to CSI

Jennifer Miller

Colleges Against Cancer sponsored a fund raiser at CSI on March 8. "Daffodil Days" pre-sales occurred in 1L and 1C, and on March 22 pick-ups and more sales will take place in 1C. The American Cancer Society uses daffodils, the flower of hope, to raise money to help fight cancer.

The money raised for the ACS helps people in many ways. The American Cancer Society, the largest source of nonprofit, nongovernmental cancer research funding in the United States, invests \$130 million every year. Thirty-eight Nobel Prize winning researchers have been funded by the ACS. They offer information about cancer, available 24 hours a day, on their



website, www.cancer.org, or by calling their toll-free number. The Society also fights for laws to increase federal research funding, promotes early detection of cancer, improves access to care, and supports cancer patients. The ACS provides services to cancer patients and their relatives, such as transportation to treatments, peer support group programs, and resources for practical assistance.

Men and women, young or old, as well as children, can be diagnosed with the disease. "It's very important for college students to donate money and time to charities," said CSI student Ashley Narwick. "Cancer affects a lot of people. Everyone knows someone who has been directly affected, if they have not been affected themselves. With the

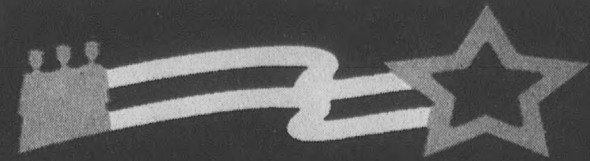
money devoted to research, we can help save and shape our future."

In Staten Island, an average of 1,131 males per year between 1998 and 2002 had malignant tumors while an average of 1,106 women per year had malignant tumors, according to the New York State Cancer Registry. The most common types for men included prostate and urinary bladder and for women, breast, ovarian, and corpus uterus cancers all occurred most frequently. Colon, colorectal, lung, non-Hodgkin lymphomas affected both genders and these four types made up 40 percent of all cancer cases in Staten Island.

New York City females had a total of 17,757 average annual cases, while males had a total of 16,815 average annual cases. Prostate cancer made up 29.7 percent of all cancer cases in NYC

Continued on page 5

ADP



The New York Times

The American Democracy Project

New Electronic Passport Tech Raises Concerns Over Personal Data Theft

Matt Safford

Whether you're one of the relatively few Americans thinking of traveling outside the country, a tin-foil-hat wearing conspiracy theorist, or simply a citizen concerned about identity theft, the imminent use of potentially insecure technology to electronically store personal data on new US passports should cause you to sit up and take notice.

As part of a plan hoped to increase efficiency and security at borders, the U.S. Government — along with several other governments around the world — have planned a massive overhaul of the passport system, which includes digitizing and storing personal data on the passports themselves, allowing for quick electronic reading.

Rolling out now in passports issued to a select group of diplomats, and reportedly to be included in all U.S. passports by this October, Radio Frequency Identification technology, or RFID, has in some form been around for decades, but has recently become much more popular. If you have E-ZPass, or an American Express Blue card, you've used RFID tags before.

Also used by large retailers like Wal-mart to track inventory, the tech-

nology essentially stores small amounts of data on a tiny, paper-thin "chip" which can be accessed wirelessly by an RFID reader from a few inches to several meters away, depending on the type of reader and tag.

If you haven't put two and two together yet, that means that someone could conceivably buy a wireless RFID reader from ebay or elsewhere, and steal the personal information right off your passport without even getting close to you. A few minutes in an airport could be enough to keep an identity theft busy for months, and unsuspecting victims busy for years.

The good news is that the data is at least encrypted, and the passport case deadens the signal enough so that it can only be read through direct contact. But if you ever want to take your new passport out of its case, you may want to make sure you're relatively alone.

Some might think that encryption would be enough to alleviate fears of data theft, but recently a Dutch televi-

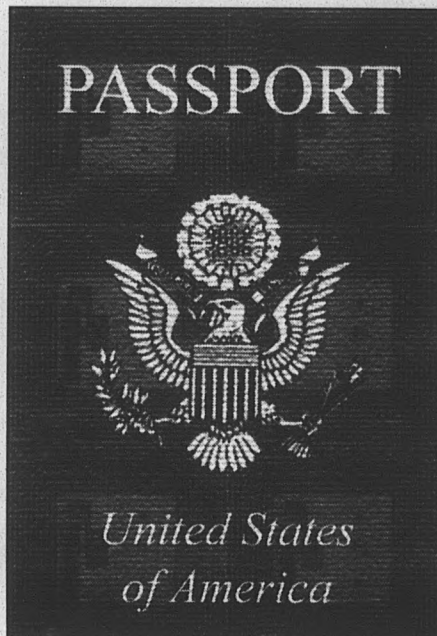
sion show, with the help of a private security firm, was able to intercept Dutch passport data (which uses a similar RFID system and the same encryption) as it was being sent to a passport reader. Once they had the data, they took it back to a PC and decrypted the it in less than two hours, giving them the person's picture, their fingerprint, and all the personal information a passport contains.

As if that weren't cause enough for alarm, researchers — again from the Netherlands — recently demonstrated that computer viruses could be transmitted via these new passports, and thus introduced into the database systems. As one reader of popular tech blog engadget.com wrote recently, "What if you got an 'I'm a terrorist' virus on your passport that alerted customs that you

were a terrorist? That would make for some interesting vacations."

For a technology with these potential issues, it's no wonder that the U.S. government has wavered over the past few years in their statements about whether they would use RFID in new passports or not. A couple of times they announced they had dropped the idea altogether, and at one point in 2005, they even announced that they would not even encrypt the data on passports at all. Clearly they've had some problems with the tech. Yet if all goes well in this test run, expect the RFID E-Passports to go into mass release by October, and the first reports of stolen data and cloned passports to pop up in the news media a few weeks later.

All hope for passport security isn't lost however. A company called DIFRWear has recently begun selling a wallet and passport case which they claim will block RFID tags within them from being successfully scanned. If for some reason you can't get your passport before October, picking up one of these might be a good idea, particularly if you already have an American Express Blue card which contains an RFID chip. At \$15, it's a cheap way to know that you're safe, which when it comes to potential identity theft, is a whole lot better than being sorry.



New RFID E-passports the U.S. Government plans to roll out in October may put your personal information at risk.

America's Endangered Economy: From Bad to Worse

Seamus Dolan

Does anything feel different to you about 2006? In the words of Bill Clinton, "it's the economy stupid," oh wait that is not so different. The Commerce Department reported a record \$804.9 billion trade deficit (imports over exports) totaled in 2005, which was 20.5% greater than 2004's impressive figure of \$668.1 billion. Pardon my French, but that is fucking incredible, that is equal to 6.4% of our total economic output. This snowball, or better yet vortex, can easily eclipse the trillion dollar mark during this year.

The huge impetus for this is, of course, an American appetite for cheaper imported products and cars from overseas. What's that saying Chevrolet has, oh yeah, "An American Revolution?" Imports on motor vehicle

parts were up 10 percent to 83 billion as Japanese and Korean companies continue to control the market and with GM and Ford fine pruning their production, more importation of motor vehicles and parts will persist.

Then there are always things like China and oil. The trade deficit with China came in at \$201.7 billion, up from \$162.0 billion in 2004 (cough) Wal-Mart, Nike, sweatshops (cough). All those imported cars do need gas to run on; hence the deficit on petroleum products was \$229.2 billion, up from \$163.4 billion in 2004. Remember when Bush said at the state of the union "America is addicted to oil," well right on key walker, prices for imported petroleum also rose about 36 percent from 2004, and yet we ardently try to drill in the country's largest wildlife refuge located in Alaska, weird.

The deficit also reflects the investments coming into America or the money America borrows from foreign nations. In 2004, America had a surplus of 30.4 billion on investment income, but that declined to 1.6 billion in 2005. With the interest rates high, the payments on these debts abroad are expensive and will only continue to be costly as the rates are expected to increase. Foreign nations now own more American capital than the reverse and what economists call a "negative relationship," I call goodbye America, hello Chinese investment banks.

The problem: when we are in the middle of a consumption orgasm and "can't rise to the occasion," we borrow to make up the difference from the lack of export surplus, and foreign nations will always invest in us to keep their factories

"banging" out orders on the American tab. So who is going to blow their load first? Barry Eichengreen of the University of California, Berkeley, says "the U.S. ultimately must choose between painful deficit-shrinking measures or selling foreigners more and more U.S. assets."

Compound all this with another report that retail sales were down 1.3 percent in February, the regression in 6 months, and the economy for the America of our generation is starting to look bleak. With this deficit mildly attracting congress, and the administration neglecting to address it as a problem, I wonder why the youth hasn't stumbled over this omen yet; America is not going to be a fun place to live in 20 years kiddies. Any thoughts about what to do?

STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

DAVID MALTZ

MANAGING EDITOR

MELLISSA SEECHARAN

ART EDITOR

ENRIQUE INOCENTE

ADP EDITOR

MATTHEW SAFFORD

STAFF

THOMAS BRADLEY
ANNMARIE COSTELLA
VANESSA LEIGH DEBELLO
ANNEMARIE DOOLING
KEVIN S.P. MAMAKAS
JENNIFER MILLER
SHONA NUBYAHN
ANDREW RAFFERTY
KHADIJAH RENTAS
ENRICO TURCHI
LAUREN TAYLOR

CONTRIBUTORS

SEAMUS DOLAN
JOE TACOPINO

FACULTY ADVISER

FREDERICK KAUFMAN

Publications Proposal Fails

-continued from page 1-

"No matter how well we get along with faculty advisers, they still answer to administrators," he said. "I felt the administration had too much control over publications."

But editors and writers for other student publications disagreed with Fisher. "I'd like to say they were foolish," said Khadijah Rentas, editor of Always A Woman. "They should have spent more time thinking beforehand. I hope they understand that as a governing body of CSI they don't have power beyond the U.S. Constitution. Who do they think they are?"

According to CSI Association Director, Marianne McLaughlin, the college would defend publications in the event a lawsuit is brought against them, because the Publications Board is currently majority faculty. A return to Student Government control would result in Student Government potentially being liable to defend lawsuits.

Fisher discounted that threat. "Publications existed under SG for decades and it wasn't a problem," he said. "I don't know if any suits were brought against SG, but SG is still running."

McLaughlin raised several other concerns, including the possibility that freedom of the press, which is guaranteed under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, could be violated. "There needs to be an arms length between a government and the allocating

body, so that funding can't be pulled for political reasons" she said. "There have been several instances in the past where SG tried to pull back money from Publications because of what's been printed."

CSI Director of Student Life, Carol Brower raised similar concerns. "I think having a legislative body control funding can be dangerous," she said.

Fisher brought the proposal to Student Government without raising his concerns at the previous Publications Board meeting in February. In addition, a copy of the proposal and agenda for the SG meeting were not placed in Publications' mailboxes until several days after SG approved the motion. An informal poll of publications found that members of 4 out of 6 publications were not previously informed. Some members of Publications, like Kevin Mamakas, a member of Serpentine Magazine, expressed their displeasure with the lack of advance notification at the March 16 SG meeting. Several SG Senators appeared shocked after Mamakas' outburst.

Fisher said that he did speak to representatives from several publications, but admitted that the notification could have been better. "There definitely was a bit of a communications breakdown," he said. "That's a problem with a commuter college."

SG Senator Arishna Ramphal, who also serves as the SG representative on the Publications Board, explained that SG had good intentions when voting to approve the referendum, "SG over the years has become the 'student thinkers

March 27, 2006

group," he said. "Their philosophy is to take over responsibilities that belong to the students and to limit the hierarchy of administration and faculty."

Ramphal agrees that the way SG handled their vote on the proposal could have been better. "The point of being a student rep is to take their point of view into consideration, which I think didn't happen," he said. "However, Mr. Fisher's ideas are valid and shouldn't be disposed of. His thoughts of putting more control in students hands is what SG stands for."

Brower also felt that the situation could have been handled differently. "The goal is to have students work together," Brower said. "If students feel they weren't told by other students, it doesn't foster the goal of students working together. It's helpful for people to have information available beforehand."

For the referendum to have been successful, a number of steps needed to occur. 10% of the student body needed to sign a petition for the referendum to be on the ballot for SG elections. That corresponds to 1,200 signatures for the 2005-2006 fiscal year. On Election Day, 1,200 students would have needed to cast ballots, and a majority have to ratify it. If it is ratified by 10% of the student body, or if less than 10% of eligible students vote, the proposal heads to President Springer and the CUNY Board of Trustees; both have the power to kill the proposal. Voter turnout in SG elections rarely approaches 5%; when the referendum to form the Publications Board was approved, only 2.8% of eligible voters cast ballots.

Children's Center

-continue from page 1-

to go forward with their education, so that they can get better jobs and provide for their families. The Center also gives children an important early educational experience in socialization. Many developmental delays can be caught and addressed early so the child can go on to kindergarten and elementary school having received help.

The Children's Center relies heavily on state and federal funding to survive and there has been no CUNY wide increase in 8 years. Worse still, Governor George Pataki has proposed in his new budget that state funding will be channeled differently than it has been in the past. There is great concern that the portion of funds allotted for CUNY/SUNY will be reduced. If the plan goes through, the Children's Center may be forced to reduce some of its programming.

Many different types of students utilize the Center. Some are single parents, others have multiple children, and a few are guardians. "There is no average parent here," indicated Murphy. "The age, race, and social status of the parents are as varied as the population of the campus itself."

Steven Mondella, a graduate student majoring in education and a married father of two, has been bringing his 4-year-old daughter Stephanie to the Center for the past three years. "She absolutely loves it here," he said. "I'm worried about what's going to happen

when she leaves pre-k and goes to kindergarten because she's going to miss this place a lot." Mondella feels the atmosphere at the center has had a positive influence on his daughter. "She comes home with little paintings everyday," he said. "She'll run up to me and say: 'Daddy look what I made' or 'I drew little red riding hood.'"

Crystal Alexander, 22, a single parent, says that her 15-month-old baby, Fanaya, cried when she first brought her to the Center, but has since adjusted to the environment and now enjoys playing with other children her age. "It's so convenient, because it's right on campus. I can just drop her off and run to class," she said. "The staff is so friendly and the classrooms are beautiful."

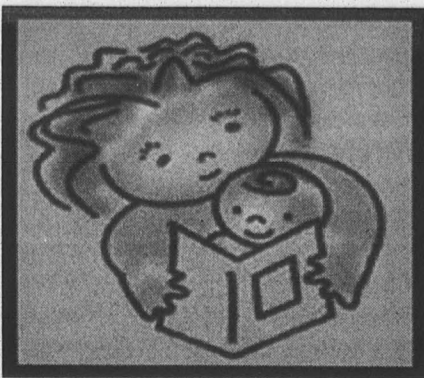
When parents enter the facility, they are immediately greeted by a large multi-colored welcome quilt. Jean Attanasio, a group leader for the after school program, created the tapestry with the help of her students. "The children really enjoyed the project because it made them feel like they were an important part of the Center," she explained. "Everyday when they arrived, they would point to the quilt and say 'I made that.'"

The Center has a large outdoor play area, which includes a jungle gym and sand box, but the children are not just restricted to the facility. They utilize the entire campus and even attend children's shows once a month at the Center for the Arts. "The children use the campus as their

community," said Murphy. "They observe the woods and the seasonal changes. The babies love to watch the fountains and the movement of the water going up and down. It is very enriching."

Vice President for Student Affairs, Carol Jackson, believes the Children's Center is an important asset to the college. "It provides an excellent educational program for the children of CSI's students. Under the solid direction of Cynthia Murphy, with wonderful teachers and administrative staff, the Children's Center can serve 200 students each week," she said. "The educational programming and safe environment make CSI student/parents feel comfortable leaving their children in good hands, allowing them to study hard and do well at CSI."

Director Murphy hopes that more student parents will use the facility and she invites them to take a tour of the site. "Very often you can go into the most beautiful facility and the staff may not be who you would want to leave your child with," she explained. "It is important for parents to spend time getting to know the staff and asking them questions." Murphy feels confident that parents will be more than satisfied with what the Children's Center has to offer. "We try to make it as much of a home-like atmosphere as possible," she said. "Child care and education is so much more than sitting on hard chairs at hard desks."



Vanessa Leigh DeBello's
Parenting Hood

Returning to Work

While pregnant, I contemplated whether or not I would return to work after giving birth and if so, how soon?

For months, I went back and forth with the idea of becoming a stay-at-home mom, while completing my final year of school. My husband was all for it. In fact, he encouraged it. He wanted me to be with the baby as much as possible. Probably because that meant he wouldn't be left alone with the baby while I was out, stuck with dirty diapers and bottles. Whatever the reason, I was glad for his support.

Though, I had several concerns. Being with my son all day sounded appealing but I also enjoyed going to work. Since I was a part-timer, I knew I wouldn't be away long. Having a job would allow me to get out of house several hours a week, socialize with other adults and maintain my sanity.

I didn't like the idea of having to

ask someone for money or spending my savings. I also knew a gap in employment wouldn't be viewed favorably by potential employers.

My intentions were to work up until the time I gave birth. However, at 35 weeks my midwife and I agreed that it was time to stop. The stress of work, school and pregnancy became too much. High blood pressure could cause complications during the final weeks and delivery, something we both wanted to avoid.

For five weeks, I was home and attended class. The extra time was useful. I enjoyed not having to drive, type manuscripts or be told what to do.

I was thinking this was something I could get use to.

By the time my son was born, classes were finished. It was just me and the baby. The first six weeks I was busy trying to keep up with feedings, changings, sleeping and finishing a paper from an incomplete. Being a new mom consumed all my time.

Even after six weeks, I was still unsure whether or not I was going to return to work the following week, since my maternity leave would be up. The ultimate factor in the decision making would

be finances. After my husband and I evaluated our financial situation, we decided that it would be impossible for me to stop working and still pay our bills.



More challenging than deciding whether or not to return to work is executing the plan.

After twelve weeks of being home, I returned to work. My first day back, I sat at my desk and looked around. My computer desk was still broken. Piles of unorganized manuscripts were stacked on the typewriter and floor and it was silent. Absolutely silent. I felt like an independent woman again.

When one of my supervisors came to see me, she asked how I was doing. "I love it," I said. "It's nice to have a break." I couldn't believe going to work was considered a break, but it was. Three days a week, I work at the Institute for Basic Research and although it is not a career, it makes me feel like I am doing something for myself.

I have days when I'd rather stay home with my son or take him to the park than be cooped up in a stuffy office. Sometimes I want to quit, to be home with him full-time but then I realize it is working that allows me to have more to give back, not just financially but emotionally.

Exchange Program Entices International Students to Attend CSI

Khadijah Rentas

In the only Minorities and the Media course offered by the college this semester, there sit only five obvious so-called racial minorities. Four black students - two men and two women - and one Asian woman, who stood out. Her jet black hair reached the mid-length of her back from where she sat attentive in the front row. Her outfit looked unlike any others in the room. Compared to the sweatpants, jeans, t-shirts and sweaters everyone else wore, she wore a royal purple velour jacket with "Yankees" scripted across the back in gold. She paired it with a cut off denim mini skirt and black tights that could not save her ankles from the fierce chilling wind outside. Her Japanese-accented English, distinctly stood apart from the Staten Island "fuhgeddaboutits," were riddled with the sometime emphasis on "ahh" and mistaken use of present tense when speaking of past events.

The accent proves her recent migration. Media Studies major and Dance minor Yuka Yamaguchi, 24, claims no relation to famed Olympic figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi, though she does claim a student visa as an international student. She joins the 407 other international students and scholars participating in CSI classes and activities all over campus. The majority of international students originate from Japan. Yamaguchi is one of 44. Korea contributes 28, Sri Lanka 20 and soon China's 10 will rise with the introduction of CSI's first exchange program which is likely to begin in Fall 2006.

While international students from Lebanon and India have studied at CSI,

and CSI students have studied art in Florence, Italy and evolution in the Galapagos, Ecuador, never has there existed a true exchange of one group leaving their country to take the place of another.

President Marlene Springer signed a faculty level agreement for the exchange program with the City University of Hong Kong after the completion of the first study abroad program to Hong Kong this winter. As a faculty level agreement, students from CSI and Hong Kong can only register for courses in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Statistically though, Computer and Information Sciences, Business, and Liberal Arts ranks as the three top studies pursued by international students. Students will be limited in class choice, but representatives from CSI's Center for International Service and City University of Hong Kong insist students will not be limited in experience.

Professor Joan Y. H. Leung, director of International Student Exchange of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at City University of Hong Kong, described Hong Kong as "Asia's World City; an energetic, connected, and free society." Free, despite Hong Kong's role as a Special Administrative Region of communist China since the Handover in 1997. A professor of Hong Kong government and public administration, she explained that the Handover did not have the effect some had feared. Instead of politics, she focused on why CSI students should attend City University for one semester.

"Hong Kong is an international city, it is cosmopolitan," she said. "Hong

Kong is the only city in China where they can learn about China and study in English."

City University of Hong Kong housed 171 exchange students from Asia, Australia, Europe and North America in the 2004-2005 academic year. CSI students would begin attending in Spring 2007. Professor Leung said they would pay CUNY tuition price, receive financial aid if eligible from TAP and Pell, and live in what she described as fun City University dorms for less than \$700 USD per term. "They have a party every week," she said. "Every day they gather in the common area."

CSI students would also hear the water fall over the rocks in the makeshift pond set around stone, marble and Chinese architecture in the midst of a park-like garden behind the university. They could eat freshly cooked breakfast, lunch or dinner, from dim sum to fried rice, at the school cafeteria and pay for it with their Octopus card, the Hong Kong version of the MetroCard. They could buy groceries at the supermarket Taste or a pair of jeans at Levi's in the shopping mall that also rents space to banks, a movie theatre and ice rink. Hong Kong has many commercial areas pushed into one giant space. Therefore, it is no surprise that the subway runs below the mall and that one cannot walk to school without walking through the mall first because the mall directly leads to the university entrance. CSI students will not miss the parade of Converse sneakers or permed and dyed hair of both the young men and women either, while walking the halls or the streets.

"I think it's even more beneficial for

our students to have international students here," said Joan Migliori, Exchange Coordinator. "It may give them some curiosity to maybe go overseas." Migliori will work as the Hong Kong students' advisor on campus. Currently, she also has plans to begin exchange programs in Nice and Paris, France, and Japan that may encourage CSI students to pursue education abroad.

The exchange program may entice more international students to attend CSI. Yamaguchi, began at CSI in August 2002 after receiving information about CSI at her college in Japan, the Kanza Institute of Foreign Language. "I had two choices: one is California University or CSI," she said. "But I had a dream since I was eight that I wanted to come to United States, especially New York."

Mariam Oti, 26, traveled from Kenya as did 12 other international students. She arrived at CSI in 2001 and expects to graduate in May 2007. She is studying to become a medical researcher. "A friend of mine sent me the form," she said. "I have a cousin that lives in Jersey and I chose CSI because it's closer to her."

Barbara Clark, associate director at the Center of International Service for five years, feels that besides the cultural exchange, students can acquire a political stance. "It's a well known fact that for most students that study in the U.S. it does affect their opinion of the U.S. in a positive way," she said. "I think that's needed given our current climate."

Letters To The Editor

From the Editor

What a crazy two weeks it's been. First, the referendum proposal to abolish the Publications Board that we first told you about last issue was killed because student signatures were not returned to the Office of Student Life by the deadline. We had been against this proposal from the beginning, so we are happy to see it die.

In other news, our beloved former Editor-in-Chief Jen Moss crop is moving to Florida in the beginning of April. We wish her the best of luck with whatever comes her way.

Happy Birthday to our Managing Editor, Mellissa Seecharan, who turned 23 on Wednesday. We enjoyed the delicious \$10 birthday cake from Waldbaums and its many layers (We don't have a birthday budget at The Banner, and we don't get stipends, so we have to make due with what little money we can gather together.)

After 4 long years at CSI, I got accepted to graduate school at Emerson College in Boston, MA after I graduate in June. This proves that you can move on from CSI and achieve greatness, if you want to.

-David Maltz

Colleges Against Cancer

-continue from page 1-

with breast cancer following with a total of 28.8 percent.

The cause hits home for some students. Ricky Sim, a student at CUNY Lehman, has both a mother and sister fighting cancer. "They both survived from their high risk operations, but now they are living in a period of enormous stress and worry, because cancer doesn't just go away after the operation," he said. "They need to continuously go through the painful chemotherapy, which caused them to lose hair, energy, appetite, and many other side effects." Sim also had another relative battle cancer. The side effects of the chemotherapy became unbearable and a few weeks after stopping, she lost her fight.

On March 31, CUNY will host a Relay For Life fund-raiser at the Athletics and Recreation Complex at Baruch College starting at 5 p.m. This overnight activity will raise funds for research and programs of the American Cancer Society. It will also celebrate survivorship and those who have overcome cancer can participate in the event.

Teams will keep one member walking or running around the track all night. This symbolizes that cancer never sleeps and remains an ongoing problem. "People always ask if they have to

Re: Computer Lounge for Athletes

I agree that CSI's athletes deserve a place close to their athletic environment, but the money spent on this project might be better served to increase the parking, or have parking attendants at each lot to direct students. I've witnessed fights over parking spots. Hopefully, these fights don't turn into a severe injury or death. Why not create a solution before it's too late?

- Enrico Turchi, Junior

Re: Health Center Offers Many Services to Student Community

I was aware of psychological counseling, but not so informed of the many issues the health center addressed. It is comforting to know that these facilities are available to students. It may even be more convenient than making a visit to our physician.

- Lauren Demetrio, Junior

It is very important for students to have a Health Center. It makes it a lot easier to get information and advice when it is easily accessible. Also, it is an added bonus that it is also free. It is very comforting and gives students an additional option. I think Jacalyn did an excellent job of reminding the students of what is available on campus.

- Lori Krycun, Senior

Re: Student's NYPIRG fight Tuition Hikes in Albany

It is great to see CSI students fight for what most of the school wants. Once the Albany executives see how far the student will go, it may help them choose what is best for us. Just seeing how under-funded CUNY schools are, makes this matter more interesting to me. Next time I'm sure the group will rise to a record number of students.

- Stasiu Tyburski

It seems that the more time you spend in school the higher the tuition goes. It is becoming more and more expensive to get

run on the track; if there is a winner," said CUNY student Christine Curella, who has a major role in the planning of the event. "There is no end until we find a cure. We haven't won yet."

A Luminaria ceremony will be held at midnight to honor those who have lost their battle with cancer. This 45 minute ceremony will include guest speakers and cancer survivors who will speak about their experiences. The gym lights will be dimmed to honor the solemn nature of the event. Head of the Luminaria Committee, Long Tran, said the ceremony will open up with a music testimonial about why people relay.

A goal of creating eighty teams, consisting of 5-15 members per team, has been set. Each team will attempt to raise \$1,000, so the entire event hopes to bring in \$80,000. "Various teams have done

a degree in NY. Students are facing a lot of trouble trying to come up with funds for school. It is even harder for out of state students. They already pay more than the average. These tuition hikes will have a negative impact on students. Some may be forced to take semesters off, or get a second job to be able to pay for their tuition and that could affect their grades.

- Raphaella Moueli

Re: CSI's Chef Jeff feeds SI on Campus and Off

It's nice that Jeff Bullard has his own restaurant, but who would go there? Think of the food at CSI there are not many places where the food is worse. The meals on display look unappetizing and taste bland. I eat there solely out of desperation when I have no time to eat off campus. I don't even try the adjoining restaurant because it's personal is extremely unfriendly to customers. The other day I carried my food to the outside patio and the waiters purposely locked me out so I couldn't enter the restaurant. The eating conditions at CSI are unpleasant.

- Lucie Lauria

I enjoyed reading Enrico Turchi's article about the skilled Chef Jeff Bullard chasing after his dream of expanding into the realm of restaurant business owner. It is important to recognize the professional accomplishment of CUNY staff and employees.

-Jacalyn Palmiotto, Senior

Why is this important enough to be on the front page? It is a boring article about a guy who has a restaurant on SI and works at CSI. Whoopedy Doo Da. It should have been buried in the middle of the paper and not the front page.

- Ronald Squarese

Re: Mixing Babies and Books

I strongly understand that making a decision between school and parenting is very tough. Last semester a close friend got pregnant and had to drop all her classes. Childbirth is

events from bake sales to poker tournaments to raffles," said Long Tran, Captain of Team Brightside. "My team decided to be original and sold origami and we're currently looking forward to creating a Halo tournament at the Hunter College campus."

The event has currently raised a total of \$24,104. Christine Curella invites all CSI students to participate and encourages them to spread the word and bring their family members, friends, and classmates to the event or ask them for donations. "It's a great way to unite a community," she said.

You can participate in Relay For Life in many different ways. As a Team Captain, you recruit walkers/runners for your team, or you could just join an existing team. Each member raises money before the

unpredictable although the doctor may give a due date. Some professors are very understanding but there are professors who just don't care regardless of the predicament. School and babies don't mix. Now I understand why my grandmother said the two b's don't mix, boys & books, it leads to babies.

- Nakibar Loney

Re: Casual Sex

I thank Ms. AnneMarie "... but for Christ's sake, use protection." Bravo Annemarie, I was beginning to wonder if you would get around to it. It's ok to have casual sex, but certainly, heed her warnings about diseases and pregnancy. There are too many people screwing around without condoms. With the AIDS virus epidemic getting worse, you have to be a complete asshole if you're riding 'bareback'.

- Debra Santulli - Barone, Senior

It conveyed many thoughts of how good it can be and that it's ok if you're single. You can independent and casual sex is not at all crazy, unless you don't use a condom. One point this article doesn't really go into is labeling. It still goes that the more girls a guy sleeps with, the better his reputation. If a girl sleeps with a certain number of guys she's labeled easy and slutty, even though casual sex isn't so much of a big deal anymore. Girls should be respected and our reputations shouldn't be decided by how many guys we sleeps with. Casual sex can be beautiful, but some of us should make sure that we're ready emotionally before doing it. There's no turning back.

- Karen Herrera

I do agree with the article on casual sex but there is still a stigma that surrounds casual sex. Even in our time of sexual freedom some have the idea or view that casual sex is taboo. I beg to differ. I, like the writer, think the stigma should be broken. With adults, sex is a wonderful thing if done responsibly.

- Emilio Medugno

event and helps their team to keep a member on the track all night long. Relay For Life also needs volunteers before, during, and after the event. Donors and sponsors contribute greatly to the cause. The main sponsors this year include Google, Shecky's, Metropolitan Food Service, and Deloitte. Google has pledged to raise \$10,000 for the event. Google and Deloitte also have created their own teams to participate.

"Every cancer patient and cancer survivor needs society to not only contribute to cancer research and medication, but they also need us to support them emotionally," Sim said. "Relay For Life is one way to let them understand we all will stand by their sides. The Relay would give them the hope that they need to go through all these challenges optimistically."

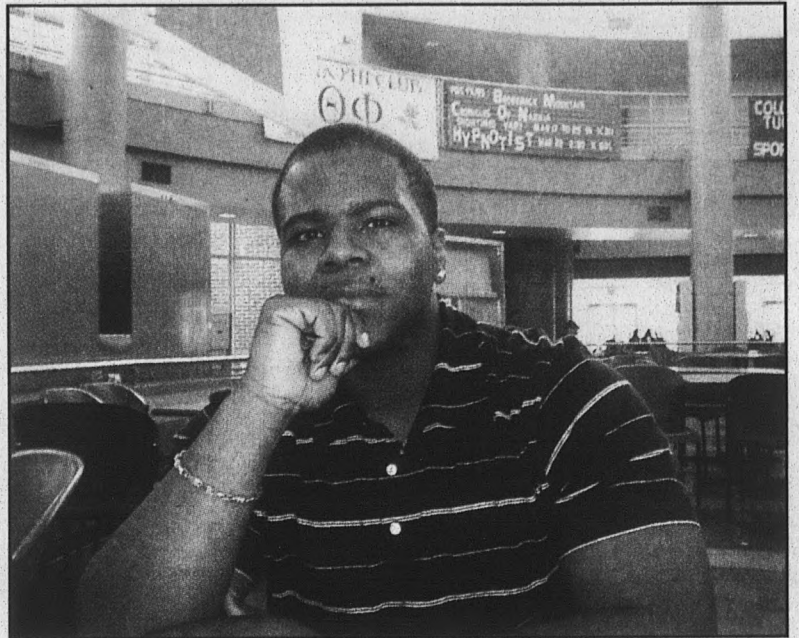
What We Would Change At CSI

We asked students and faculty for their opinions about what should be changed on campus. This is what they had to say . . .



Suada Cecurijanin

"Having more buses come here from the 93. At least one bus until classes are done."



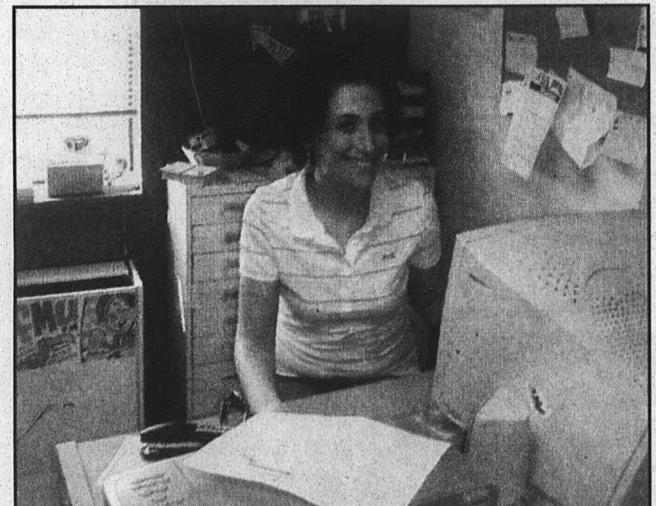
Benga Okunoye

"Change the segregated social group. I would enforce a workshop. A lot of people are not openly integrated."



Frank Mota

"More organization and groups. More united as a campus. More Internships."



Juliet Di Frenza

"I haven't been here long enough to know. It would be nice if we didn't have the same people attending all the events. I also like the idea of CLUE."



Earl Gatchalian

"There are not enough rape lights on campus. You can walk 100 feet and be in complete darkness."



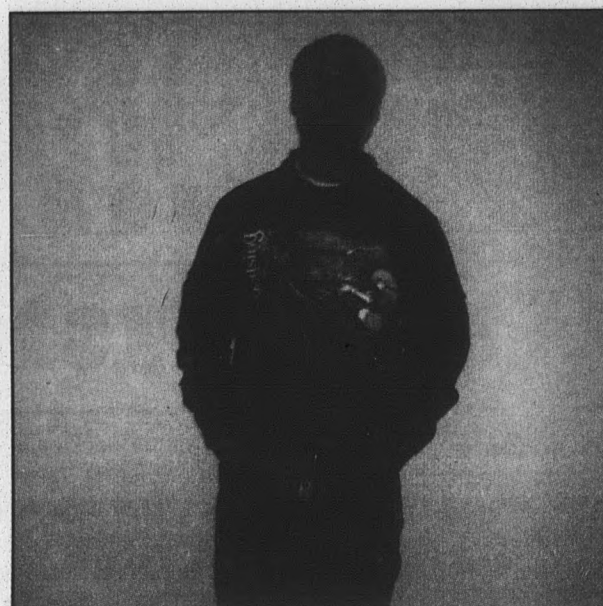
Ashley Hurwitz

"I don't know I haven't been here long enough. I hate CLUES."



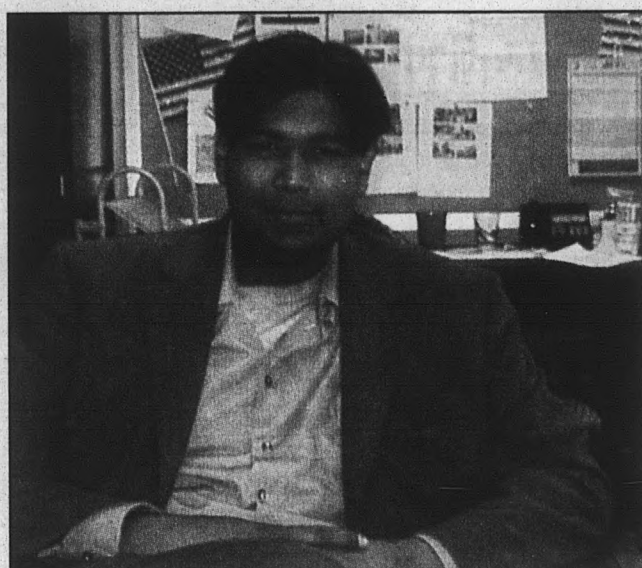
Mike Gualtieri

"The sheer apathy on this campus. I don't care what you care about, but care about something."



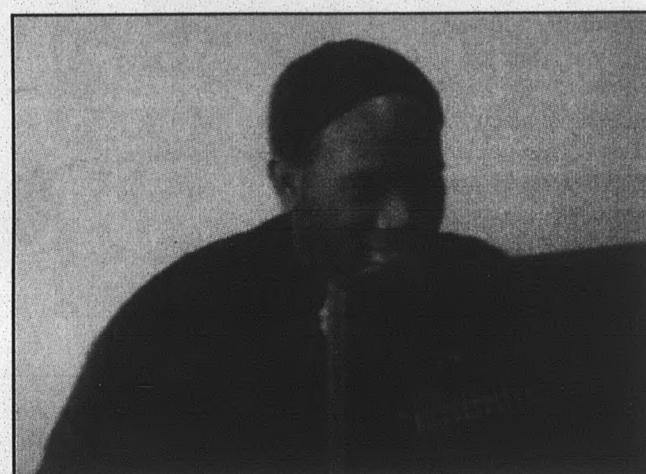
Ra'chaun Rogers

"I would build dorms. Open more fun activity clubs."



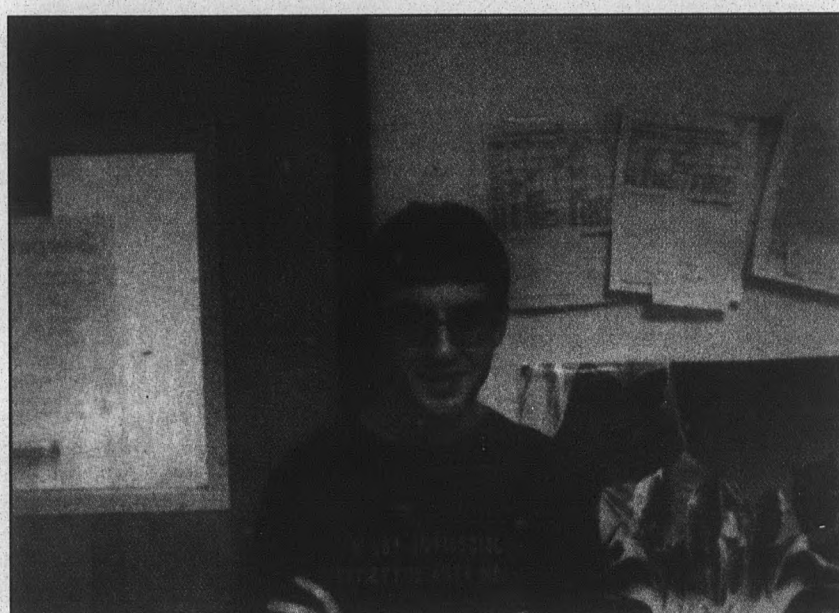
Arishna AJ Ramphal

"There should be more inclusion in the student body and the only way to do that by faculty and staff helping."

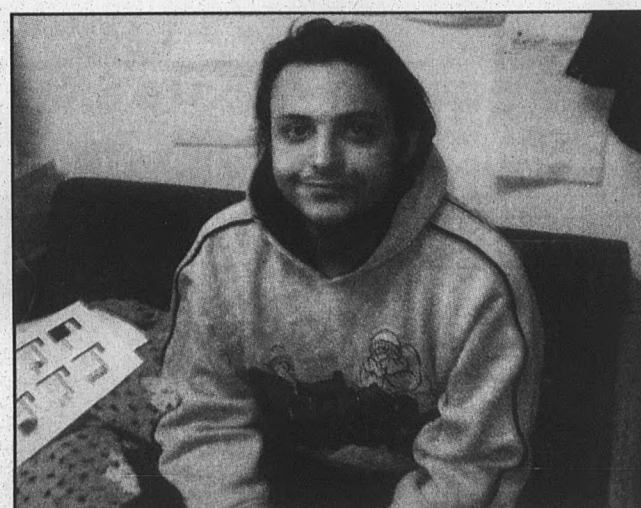


Dwight Dunkley

"Create more parking for students so they don't have to walk so far to class."

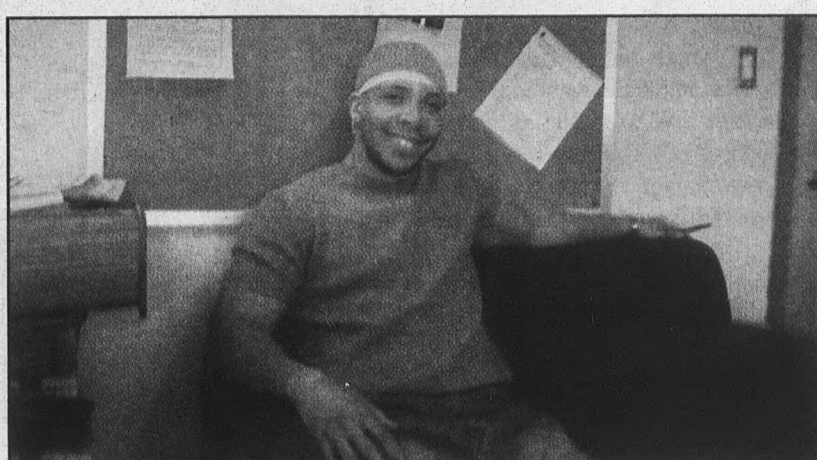


Andrew Fattorusso
Dorms.



Ilya Geller

"More professors, more classes, and less apathy. If it is possible, dormitories without the environmental repercussions."



Ronnie Glenn

"In the gym, we have to update machinery (work out system) at least one trained professional to assist students. They don't treat you like a customer. "

Photos: Kevin S.P. Mamakas

The Playstation 3 Cometh

Enrique Ignacio Inocente

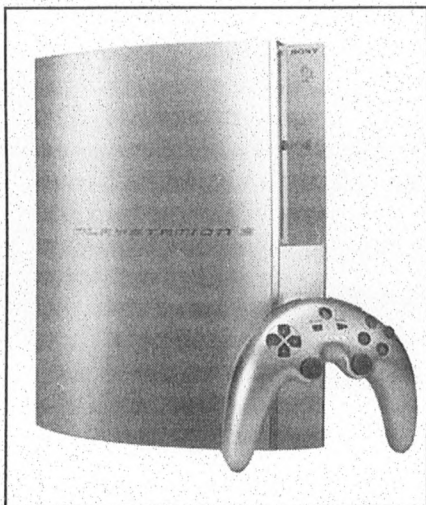
With the launch of Microsoft's Xbox 360 last November, the next generation of the videogame system wars began. The second contender in this war for the consumer dollar is Sony's Playstation 3. Information on the system and Sony's launch strategy had been shrouded in mystery until recently. This March at its PlayStation Business Briefing 2006 and later at the 2006 Game Developers Conference, Sony outlined its launch plan and online distribution strategy.

In an ambitious move, Sony plans to launch PS3 simultaneously in early November in all major territories (North America, Europe, Japan, and Australia). This is a change from past system launches in which Japan was first followed six months later by a North American and European release. After its November 2006 launch, production of the system will be running at 1 million units per month.

The PS3 will also be fully backwards-compatible with Playstation One and Playstation 2 games, and, unlike previous gaming systems, the PS3 will be region-free. Now importers will not have to illegally modify their systems to play foreign software. It is confirmed that

PlayStation 3 will be packaged with a detachable 60GB HDD (Hard Disk Drive) and that higher-capacity HDDs will be available as premium add-ons.

The format of the system has also changed. Unlike PS2, which uses DVD,

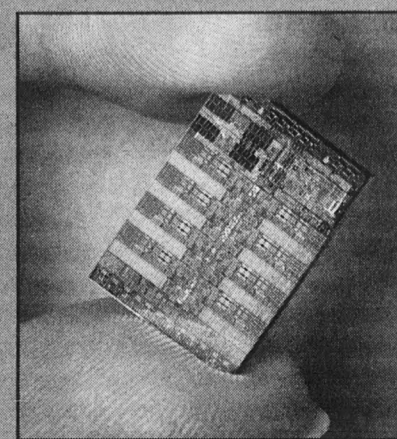


all the games for PS3 will ship on BD-ROM discs (Blu-ray). BD-ROM is Sony's new disk format. The company hopes it will replace DVDs as an industry standard, and is using the PS3 as a Trojan horse to get the format into as many homes as possible. The company expects initial BD-ROM production to reach 2.5 million in Japan and Europe and 5 million in the US.

Sony also hopes to tackle online gaming better this coming generation. PS2 was criticized by many for its lack of online gaming services and haphazard structure. The new service for PS3 will include video chat, voice chat, friends lists, stores to sell content online, micropayments, transactions, subscriptions, and so on. While playing, video chat windows will be able to overlay in-game so players can send email and requests from within the game. The infrastructure is handled by Sony, but third-party servers will be able to connect independently. It is said basic service will be free of charge, but what constitutes as "basic service" was not made entirely clear.

The price of PS3 has not yet been determined. Some industry analysts say that it could very well be as much as \$400 or more. Considering stand alone BD-ROM players run for a suggested retail price of \$800, it is a possibility that the PS3 could turn out to be the most expensive videogame console on the market. However, Sony has stated the price will be consumer friendly, and that you will get what you pay for. Bearing in mind how powerful the system is, and all the features it contains, it seems consumers might be paying a lot.

Playstation 3 is Powered by the Magic of the Cell processor

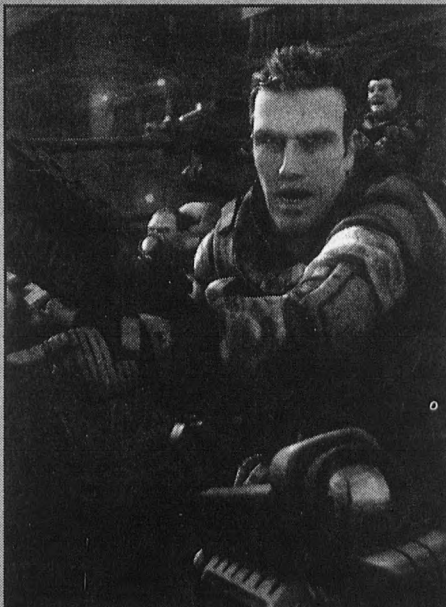


What is the Cell?

The Cell processor was co-designed by IBM, Toshiba and Sony. Configurations can differ, but here's what the PS3's Cell chip will be like:

- PowerPC-based Core @ 3.2GHz
- 7 SPEs @ 3.2GHz
- 512KB L2 Cache
- 7 x 256KB SRAM for SPEs

Basically, a single Cell processor is designed to act like multiple processors working together, or even independently. A Cell processor has a single PowerPC Architecture Unit (PAU) and multiple Synergistic Processing Elements (SPEs). A Cell's PAU dolls out instructions to its various SPEs, which can then independently work on tasks. So for instance, one SPU might be programmed to run a game's AI while another handles physics. Since each one acts independently, multiple calculations can be done simultaneously. In other words, it's very powerful. In fact, it's powerful enough to perform 218 GFLOPS.



Killzone. Concept footage of what games could look like on the Cell powered Playstation 3.

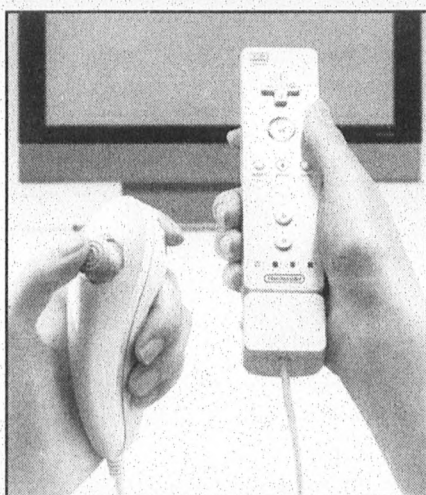
Nintendo's Next Console to Offer Games From Former Competitor

Matt Safford

Most of the next-gen console hype has surrounded the XBOX 360 and Sony's upcoming PS3. But don't count Nintendo out. Their next foray into the console wars, while still heavily in development, seems to be taking into account their strengths in game development, while pushing into new areas of controller design and retro-gaming.

Tentatively dubbed The Revolution, though rumors of a name change abound, the console's main selling points thus far have been an innovative motion-sensing 3d controller, and ongoing rumors that they system will allow gamers to download and play old games from earlier Nintendo systems with the new hardware.

The real shocker though, is the recent announcement, by Nintendo's President Satoru Iwata, that the new console will allow customers to play Sega Genesis games as well, at least in Japan. Considering Nintendo and Sega were the primary adversaries in the console wars of the 1980's and early 1990's,



The controller for Nintendo's next-gen console promises an interesting 3D gaming experience

the announcement is surprising.

Yet, Sega has been out of the console business for some time, having failed to maintain considerable market clout with its final two console systems: The Saturn and The Dreamcast. Since the latter's failure in 2001, Sega has relegated itself to game development. But with dismal titles like Shadow the Hedgehog, they've recently been stumbling on that front as well. Perhaps a

successful partnership with their old rival Nintendo could pump enough revenue into the company to turn things around.

It's doubtful however, that retro-gaming alone will be enough to keep Nintendo from slipping farther down the market ladder. Their GameCube, while a moderate success, has remained a distant third in competition with Sony and Microsoft. Yet while these systems skyrocket in price, if Nintendo can kept the price of their system down, while continuing to offer solid game development with its core characters (Mario, Donkey Kong, Zelda, etc.) along with fresh new features like innovative controls and retro-gaming, they have a strong chance for success.

There are millions of us who are always going to want to play the newest Mario and Zelda games, and even more who would love to relive some of the best games in the past. If Nintendo can offer this opportunity at less than half the price of systems from Microsoft and Sony, they'll have a decent chance of gaining on their competitors, or at the very least, surviving until the next round of the console wars.

Nature on SI

-continue from page 1-

evolutionary change in dragonfly groups on the island due to long-term land usage and habitat modification.

The well-being of the specimens are kept in mind. Collecting samples can be difficult for the students, but is harder for the animal. In past times, the specimens were killed and brought back to the lab for analysis, but compassion led to collecting pieces of the dragonfly's wing rather than destroying them altogether. It also helps to keep the individuals in their natural breeding pool. New procedures are being put to use in order to minimize injury to the dragonflies when their wings are being clipped.

Another of Burchstead's many projects will entail the examination of DNA taken from turtles at Eib's Pond in the summer of 2005. Skin samples from almost 100 live turtles were taken there, and from the Clifton/Fox Hills area. The students will grind the tissues and use new techniques to extract organic molecules. This study will determine the relationships between the individuals living in the same pond. This way it can be known whether turtles are migrating from neighboring ponds, or just being put there by turtle owners who get tired of their pets. This is important to the land, because it will show some of the details to which the turtle populations are established and preserved on Staten Island.

Dr. B's seriousness and passion for Biology, wrapped in eccentricity and kindness, draws students to him. "I had a couple projects available and they wanted to work with me," said Dr. Burchstead.

"It's very interesting," said Nick Galeno, a senior Biology student working on the dragonfly project. "It helps me to understand the DNA and how genetics work."

Burchstead works in Dr. Burbrink's labs, but access to labs and conflicting schedules have made this research a little more difficult. Some students can only spare one day a week, usually Fridays.

The research began in the summer of 2000 when Burchstead taught his field Biology course at Eib's Pond. Students placed radio transmitters on turtles and monitored them through the woods in the Greenbelt and Blue Heron Pond Park.

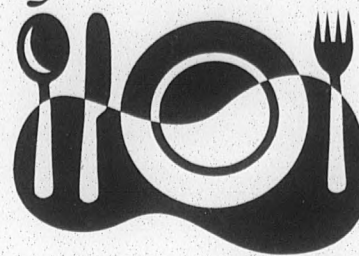
As for the turtle, it gets trapped. Students pull it out and find that... it's a dangerous snapper! It's tagged, a piece of the tail or the shell is clipped, put in Phenol, and the turtle is released.

Research activities have increased this year since the budget went from \$4,000 to \$24,000. Most of Burchstead's students agree that his courses are enjoyable. As for Burchstead, he just wants everyone to learn. "This allows them to make their mark in the scientific community by establishing their credentials as a member of an investigative team."

College of Staten Island

The Career and Scholarship Center cordially invites you to a special event:

The Art of the Business Meal



Wednesday, April 5th, 2006, 12:30 PM to 2 PM

and

Tuesday, April 25th, 2006, 6:30 PM to 8 PM

The Park Café - 1C

**Special Speaker: Ed Kaye - Senior Partner,
GSP International**

"What should I wear?" "What should I order?" "Which fork should I use?"
"What should I expect in a lunch/dinner interview?" "Who should pay?"
Find the answers to these questions and many others!

Register at the Career and Scholarship Center, 1A - 105

Present this raffle ticket for a chance to win gift certificates to an upscale retail store

Name:	_____
Phone Number:	_____
e-Mail Address:	_____
Major:	_____
Check one:	<input type="checkbox"/> Freshman <input type="checkbox"/> Sophomore <input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/> Senior
I would like to attend, check one:	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I: Wednesday, April 5th, 2006, 12:30 PM to 2PM
	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II: Tuesday, April 25th, 2006, 6:30 PM to 8 PM
	Business Attire required
\$5 Registration fee includes soup, salad, choice of three entrees, coffee, tea, and dessert	



Marlene Springer,
President

CLUE CERTIFIED

MAKE A STATEMENT IN THE CLASSROOM AND THE JOB MARKET.

GET ONE-ON-ONE ATTENTION AND EARN A
HIGHLY-REGARDED BACHELOR'S DEGREE
WHEN YOU GO TO DEVRY.

Earn a Bachelor's Degree fueled by the DEVRY ADVANTAGE. Our classes are small, so you won't get lost or left behind.

You can gain REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE through INTERACTIVE CLASSES.

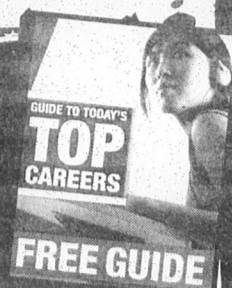
Plus, DeVry is ACCREDITED LIKE THE TOP STATE UNIVERSITIES, so your degree will be recognized by the people doing the hiring.

DeVry also offers SCHOLARSHIPS specifically for community college graduates and accepts TRANSFER CREDIT.*

So what are you waiting for?

GET WHAT YOU NEED TO SUCCEED. AT DEVRY.

Log on to
DEVRYMAKEITHAPPEN.COM
or call 1-800-753-1951
to get a FREE Career Guide



TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS IN QUEENS AND MIDTOWN:

3020 THOMSON AVE.
LONG ISLAND CITY, NY

120 W. 45TH ST., SUITE 200
NEW YORK, NY

DeVry



ON YOUR WAY. TODAY.

© 2006 DeVry University. Accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association (NCA), 30 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60622. ncahigherlearningcommission.org
* Prior earned credit will be evaluated for transfer as part of the admission process.
† DeVry University operates as DeVry Institute of Technology and Keller Graduate School of Management in New York.

Is Cat Power's New Album The Greatest?

Joe Tacopino

For nearly a decade Cat Power's Chann Marshall has been the most beloved of all indie rock songstresses. Her sensual vocals, rhythmic ballads and adolescent-like reluctance has fostered an almost obsessive attraction from nearly every bookish, 20 something pseudo-hipster.

Known just as much for her eccentric habits as for her musical prowess, Marshall has been known to shy away from the spotlight - both the literal and proverbial. There have been incidents where Marshall bolted from the stage during a performance possibly due to overbearing anxiety or drug problems or maybe bad tuning. The mystery of Chan Marshall opened a new chapter recently when her US tour was canceled due to "health reasons." Her record label, Matador, did not care to elaborate only requesting we

"respect her privacy."

Recorded in Memphis, Marshall recruited some blues and soul legends to perform on the new album, including Al Green's guitarist and co-writer Teenie Hodges. At some points the record has more of a country feel to it than low-fi indie rock vibe. It is probably the most polished of all the Cat Power albums to date; although I'm not sure which approach I like better. The raw quality of her earlier efforts gave an unfettered glimpse into her true talents. 2003's *You Are Free* featured Marshall's signature voice floating above the reverb of a simple guitar riff or a few choice chords on the piano. The simplicity was stunning.

This stripped down approach was also employed in 2000's *The Covers Record*. The appropriately titled cover album featured haunting and unique renditions of such classics as The

Rolling Stone's *Satisfaction* and *Sea of Love* -- the latter of which actually spawned a background score for a Met Life advertisement. The spot, featuring a sentimental scene of a young girl ice skating, did not launch Cat Power into super stardom, (as Volkswagen commercial had done for acoustic virtuoso Nick Drake a few years prior.) Instead, the Met Life ad got little play, leaving Marshall to wallow in obscurity.

The Greatest has its bright spots. *Lived in Bars*, a bluesy little number, conjures up images of late nights of drinking and youthful idealism. The tempo of the song picks up toward the end but the jazzy horn section leaves one wondering, when will the real Chan Marshall please stand up?

On the opening and title track Marshall backs up her own lead vocals, innocently crooning how she once "wanted to be the greatest." The song

is a sincere homage to her past aspirations, or so we are to believe. This seems like a clever rouse; a cute ploy on Marshall's part. We have become accustomed to sympathizing with Marshall, as if we have some stake in her plight as a musician. For all her irksome qualities she has that unobtainable appeal of the girl next door; the one who is just within our grasp while at the same time existing completely out of our league.

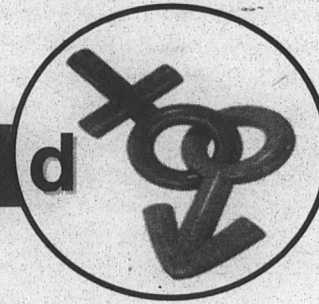
Marshall's reluctant declaration is more likely to evoke empathy than to arouse suspicions of pretense on her part. Did Marshall ever really aspire to be the greatest? Probably not, and she never will be. But this recent effort, admittedly, is pretty damn good.

Grade: **C+**

Anne Marie Dooling



Sex and the Island



Emotional Cheating

My last relationship was beyond tumultuous. Between work and school and my budding career and all, it was difficult to tell if either of us actually wanted to be in a relationship. As the months went by we saw each other less and less, and much less. I was lucky enough to score this fantastic internship at *Stuff Magazine*, and began consuming myself with work- sometimes from 7am till 7 at night. He too found other ways to keep his mind off the problems we were having. He began searching for other people, new groups of friends to attach himself to, new lifestyles. He created a new person for himself to be- someone not attached to all of the shortcomings he felt. And for some reason, we stayed together.

Even during this staying together, and not actually being together, I was really lonely. I was achieving all of these wonderful things- new jobs, new places to live, things I was really proud of, and I didn't have my best friend to share them with. In fact, because of the great rift in the relationship, he didn't see these events as achievements. He looked for every way he could to justify why I wasn't good enough for him. The jobs were materialistic, I made a joke out of everything, and my activities weren't athletic enough or centered around the right goals in life. I was no saint to him, either, but the more and more we fought, the more and more I needed someone to verify my life.

Since we had the same core group of friends, it was next to impossible to confide in any one of them. In fact,

most of the people I introduced him to began hanging out with him more, simply because he was out there, as I dealt with the problem with a budding DVD debt. So, I started calling up old friends, one-time acquaintances, and new classmates in an effort to create new friendships and just get out of the house and stop dictating my life on the failings of the relationship. The plan worked better than I had imagined. One classmate introduced me to a boy I knew years ago. We took to each other, again, right away. He was a great friend when I needed one. We did nothing but laugh and joke around. I didn't cry in days, and he thought everything I was doing sounded "amazing!" I developed an enormous crush. We spoke every day; it didn't feel right not to see him. Whenever something good happened, I rushed to the phone and let him know first. Our Friday night plans were set in stone, I never had to call to verify. And even though we were very affectionate and cozy- kisses on cheeks, holding hands, resting on each other- it never escalated towards sex. It was fine the way it was, never mind the fact that I was still someone's girlfriend, and it never occurred to me that I could be on the verge on hurting his feelings, too.

When I felt us become a little too comfortable, weeks later, I finally told him that I had someone. He never asked before, so I never lied, and didn't begin that conversation myself because I wanted just one person to take my mind off the problem. Saying he didn't take the news well would be a

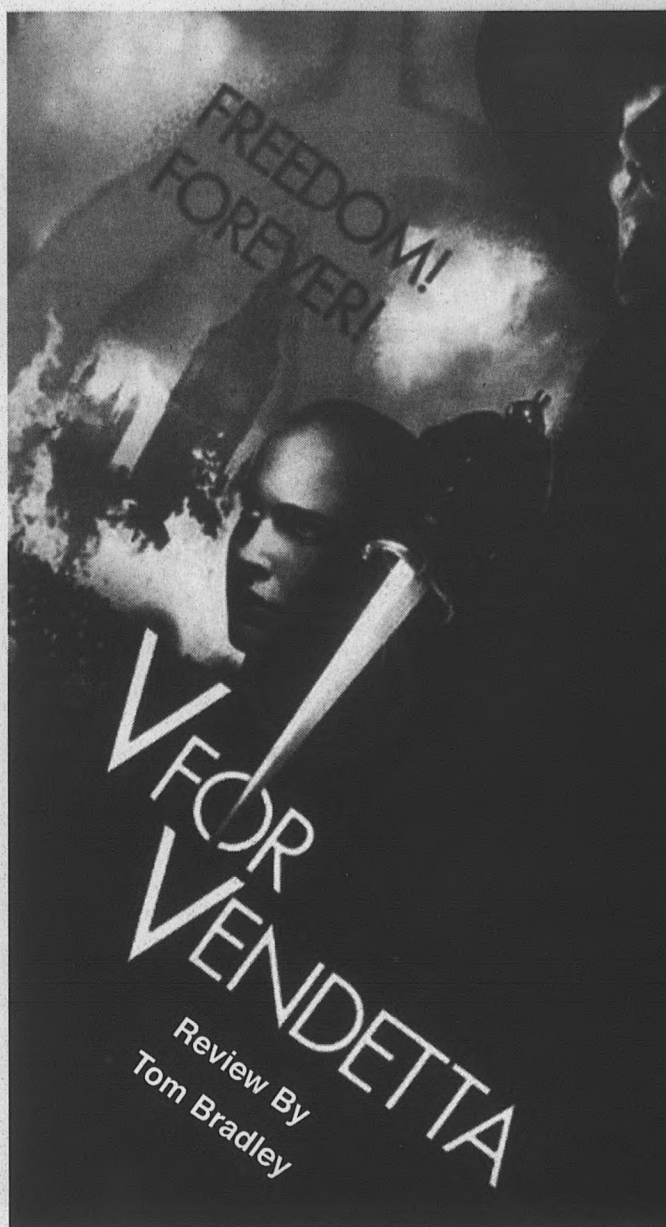
total understatement. After that evening, he didn't take my calls, answer my emails or texts, and I never saw him again. Then I realized, even though my lips never touched his- let alone any other (ahem) body parts, my heart belonged to this guy, while I was officially someone else's. I had emotionally cheated.

Which would you rather? Finding the person you love having sex with someone else, or walking in on that person sharing his or her hopes and dreams and secrets with some other person? The *Daily News*, in an article by the renowned Dr. Judy, describes Emotional Cheating as dealing out the three big A's. Giving someone your attachment, attention, and having an erotic attraction toward him or her. Touching isn't even necessary. When you replace those heart-fluttering thoughts of your significant other with the thoughts of someone new, you've already mentally checked out of the relationship. You've already shown that they are replaceable, and you've made the first step in replacing them.

What separates a committed relationship from just hooking up is that you've found someone you don't just like to have sex with. You can actually stand them long enough afterwards to have a conversation. You enjoy talking about your day, and get excited to share secrets. You might often find yourself daydreaming, or just planning moments with this person. They call it committed because you have committed yourself to one person. When those commitments seem less severe and

more like "I have to's" others around you may begin to look more fun, more glamorous, or just like less trouble. However, becoming more attached to them, than the one your with, is still cheating.

And don't be fooled, if you have to make a choice between this new person and the one you've been with, it won't be easy. The article in the *Daily News* highlights the idea that many people find emotional cheating worse than physical. If you've decided to end the new connection, come clean, and work on the substantial one, it may not turn out as you'd like it. The betrayal may be too much heavy weight on a fragile partnership. Once a heart has left the situation, it may not want back in. Through all the problems you're having in that relationship, any escape would seem like a more obvious choice, however, you're kidding yourself if you believe that there aren't arguments in every couple. Remember how much fun that problem-filled one was at the beginning? What makes you so sure this new one won't turn out the same way? However, if you're eye is straying, it very well might be for a good reason. Not every relationship works out. And if you're still plagued over the issue, it may be a good idea to be a party of one for a little while- just to remember who you are and what you want. At our age, a clean slate is the best medicine.



Review By
Tom Bradley

Lately going to the movies has become as much preparation for debate as entertainment. With films like George Clooney's *Good Night and Good Luck*, Ang Lee's *Brokeback Mountain*, and Steven Soderbergh's *Syriana* gracing the big screen, you're hard pressed to leave a theater in one piece. On March 17th *V for Vendetta* was released, garnering as many supporters as detractors in its short run.

A provocative action film set in London during the not so distant future, *Vendetta* follows the anti hero "V" as he seeks to unite the people of Britain against the controlling tyrannical government. "V" dons a Guy Fawkes mask, recalling the revolutionary Brit who sought to blow up Parliament in 1605, and speaks in a dated eloquence that is at once complicated, passionate, confusing, and earnest. Played in excellent fashion by Hugo Weaving, otherwise known as "Agent Smith" from *The Matrix* trilogy, "V" communicates so much emotion through his speech that Weaving's subtle masked gestures eventually convey more than some actors can in

their best close up.

"V's" revolutionary fanaticism is tempered, if only momentarily, by the disarmingly beautiful Evie. Given a certain irresistible nature by actress Natalie Portman, we find Evie's vulnerable exterior deceptively hiding a dark but intensely courageous spirit.



V (Hugo Weaving) prepares to kick fascist ass.

Having rescued her from some government thugs known as "finger-men", "V" slowly falls in love with the woman he eventually brings under his dramatic wing. Though Evie acts in compliance with the plan "V" has laid for the revolution, we are never completely convinced that Evie believes "V's" methods are justi-

fied.

Written by Alan Moore and published between 1982 and 1985, *V for Vendetta* was created in response to the censorship of the Thatcher regime in London at the time. The story wasn't adapted into a screen version until the mid 90's by *The Matrix* writers, Andy and Larry Wachowski. Originally a comic book series published by Warrior Comics, *Vendetta* has a loyal cult following that the movie is bound to double.

As it stands *V for Vendetta* is an action film. However, there is a great deal of dialogue and plot development between full screen explosions making this action flick a bit more cerebral, and finally a better movie. The movie doesn't try to solve the issue of terrorism or vilify those in office. What *V for Vendetta* does is question how we, not Americans but the general international public, think about violence as a means of problem solving. It is not enough that we should say violence is negative but that the causes for violence: ignorance, intolerance, and lack of empathy should be examined.

Boy George's Bad Karma: 80's Singer Busted on Drug Possession

AnnMarie Costella

Boy George, 44, the flamboyant gay icon and former lead singer of the Culture Club, was arrested for falsely reporting a crime and possession of cocaine. He faced up to 15 years in prison, if convicted of the drug charge. George managed to avoid jail time under a plea bargain deal.

On Friday October 7, George called the police at 3:15am to report a burglary. When they arrived at his luxury apartment in SoHo, he greeted them by saying: "What's up?" The police found no evidence of a break-in; however they did discover cocaine near George's computer and a gun holster. According to NYPD officer, Eric Crisafi, the singer was staggering around in a drug induced stupor. The police returned to the apartment later that evening with a search warrant and found 5 grams of cocaine in 13 small packets.

They arrested George and he was taken to the 5th precinct in Chinatown for questioning. He spent 20 hours in a jail cell. A Manhattan criminal court judge ordered George to return to court on December 19. He looked exhausted as he waited to hear the judge's decision and could barely manage to keep his eyes open. When he left the courthouse he asked passersby for a cigarette, then he sat down on a bench and cried.

George looked disheveled wear-

ing sweatpants and an ill-fitting black Misfits T-shirt that failed to cover his large belly. His head was shaved and covered in tattoos - a red flower and the Star of David. Long gone were his kabuki make-up wearing fashion trend-setter days. Many were surprised to see his messy



Boy George was arrested for possession of Cocaine. He claims the drugs weren't his.

appearance. One police officer indicated: "I just thought, THIS is the great Boy George? A Star? He was a complete mess." Another witness said "He looked like a tramp - and one who is desperately ill."

George's attorney Lou Freeman claims that his client is innocent. "He does not know where the drugs came from. He's a very social person. He has a lot of people in his apartment," Freeman indicated. "He called the police believing there was a break in. Why would he do that if he knew he had drugs in his apartment and could get arrested?"

On Thursday, March 9, Boy George was back in Manhattan Criminal court. He pleaded guilty to third-degree false reporting of an incident. Judge Anthony Ferrara sen-

tenced him to six months probation. In addition, George must enter rehab, pay a \$1,000 fine, and perform five days of community

service. He plans to attend the Clouds House rehabilitation facility in England. George would like to put on a concert to benefit Aids research in order to fulfill his community service requirement.

George has encountered many problems with drugs over the years. In 1986, his heroin addiction caused the break up of the Culture Club and that same year he was arrested for pot possession. He also battled an addiction to pain killers. In 1987, the singer was forced into rehab by a physician who told him that if he didn't stop using heroin he would be

dead within 3 months. He quit drugs and wrote about the experience in his autobiography entitled, "Take it Like a Man."

Boy George, Born George O'Dowd, enjoyed a successful musical career throughout the 1980's, scoring hits like "Karma Chameleon" and "Do You Really Want to Hurt Me?" He made a comeback in 1993 when his song "The Crying Game" for the soundtrack of the motion picture of the same name went to number #1 on the US charts. George moved to New York in 2003. His Broadway musical *Taboo*, was a flop, but he has enjoyed success as a club DJ spinning house music and as a record producer. In February, he launched his new clothing line called B-Rude, during Fashion Week in Britain.

Boy George plans to put the drug incident behind him and move on. He remains optimistic about his future and musical career. "I am relieved that this case has been disposed of, and would like to thank the judge, the district attorney, and my attorney, Lou Freeman, for the fair and speedy way it was dealt with," he said. "I love New York, and am looking forward to coming back and working in the states later this year."

SPORTS

March 27, 2006

Dolphins Defeat Mitchell College in Doubleheader

Khadijah Rentas

The Dolphins easily defeated the Mitchell College Pequots in Game 1 last Saturday 13-6, but struggled in Game 2 with a come from behind 13-12 win. The team improved its CUNY conference record to 2-0 and their overall record to 3-2.

Temperatures topped a blustery 38 degrees, with wind hurting the Dolphin's outfield defense. In the first inning, an error by second baseman Mohammad Hamad and two misses by right outfielder Paul Buonviaggio, helped Mitchell College score three runs and five hits off junior pitcher Jon Reyes.

The Dolphins seemed to make some movement at bat. Freshman Anthony Piccirillo singled and the Pequots walked sophomore Ray Valerio. All hopes to score were lost when the Pequots caught junior Mike Liconti with the double play.

In the second inning, Reyes made it easy for the Dolphin defense. He struck out the first three Pequots at bat. From there, the Dolphins collected themselves and pulled ahead of the Pequots. Both senior Matt Stefanski and freshman catcher Michael Madalone scored unearned runs because of errors by the short stop. Shouts from the dugout like, "way to rip that" to Buonviaggio after he made his first RBI pushed the team. Buonviaggio went on to score, as did junior Bob Glennerster after a walk on and second base steal.

"The whole team came together, like that's nothing," said Liconti who scored two runs in Game 1. "We never looked down and we were positive about the whole game."

The Pequots failed to score in the next two innings thanks to plays by second baseman Hamad, shortstop Glennerster and catcher Madalone. The Dolphins earned two runs in the third and scored four more in the fourth inning. Stefanski stole a base in each inning and stole the most bases in the game with two.

The Pequots thought they had momentum in the fifth. Down by six they managed three runs. They hit two doubles and Mike Liconti stepped to the mound as a relief pitcher for Reyes, who threw 55 strikes of 92 pitches. The Pequots hit two of Liconti's and scored one.

Although CSI scored only one run at the bottom of

the fifth by pinch runner Jorge Almarante, the Pequots could not capitalize. At the top of the sixth, Mitchell College made only one hit off senior pitcher Pat Smith. At bat, Guarneri and Glennerster scored their second and first runs of the game. The Pequots left the runs



CSI Men's Head Coach Bill Cali and Assistant Coach John Scrivani. "I think if the young pitchers come through for us, we should be there at the end," Cali said.

unchallenged in the seventh and fell to the Dolphins.

CSI has won the CUNY conference championship the last three years. Coach of 14 years, Bill Cali, believes his team can definitely take home the trophy again. "I think if the young pitchers come through for us," he said, "we should be there at the end."

However, he leaves room for possibilities when he sites Baruch as a good opponent. "Baruch has been improving over the last few years," he said. "So it's a crap shot."

Game 2 of the double header seemed like one of those crap shots when the Dolphins had to face a six run deficit in the fifth inning. Down 9-3 at the bottom of the fifth, the Pequots made a critical mistake when they walked senior Jamie Lee and allowed Buonviaggio and Stefanski to advance to second and third base. Stefanski scored after a sacrificed fly by pinch hitter

Valerio. A double by Almarante and triple by Glennerster equaled a run for Buonviaggio, Lee and Almarante.

The Pequots tried to match them but only scored two more runs. The Dolphins answered with three runs after the Pequot pitcher hit Madalone and walked Liconti. In the seventh the Pequots scored one run, but the Dolphins hustled and earned three runs, pulling ahead of the Pequots by one and winning.

Despite the rough winds the Dolphins faced at the top of Game 1, they turned both games around. Coach Cali recognized that the cold weather was not suitable for baseball and said the last two teams he played had recently returned from Florida and California. The team usually heads south for preseason practice but this year cutbacks kept them home. "Basically it costs x dollars and we didn't have it because of funding," Coach Cali said.

No matter to outfielder Anthony Piccirillo. He feels that despite the advantage the other teams may have, his team should always succeed in the field. He agrees with Coach Cali that the Dolphins have a strong offense and defense and believes the Dolphins can be champions again.

The Dolphins did make it to Maryland Feb 25 and 26, although they did not play like champions. Salisbury State University brutalized the Dolphins in two games, 14-1 and 12-1. However, they picked up the pieces and shut out Polytechnic University at home, 20-0, before winning again in last weekend's doubleheader. Buonviaggio, who transferred from Global Institute of Technology to CSI because he "wanted to represent Staten Island," said that the losses in Maryland only helped the team. He explained that the Salisbury defeat showed the team where they stood and how to approach the rest of the season.

Coming off three wins he has confidence in the team's ability. "We have a strong team, we can hit the ball and make runs," he said. He elaborated later. "We are confident because we know the other teams in the conference aren't as talented."

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

The men's baseball team faces Centenary College on March 29 at home at 3:00 p.m. They hit the road March 30 to take Mount St. Mary College at 4:30 p.m.

The men's tennis team serves SUNY Purchase at home on March 28 at 3:30 p.m. The team meets John Jay College on March 31 at 3:30 p.m.

The women's softball team go for a win in a doubleheader at home against Ramapo College at 3:30 p.m. They take on John Jay College in another doubleheader at home at 12 p.m.

Men's Baseball

March 29th against Centenary College at 3:00pm

April 1st & 2nd (DH) against Baruch College at Noon

April 9th against Lehman College at Noon

Women's Softball

March 30th (DH) against Ramapo College at 3:30pm

April 1st against John Jay College at Noon

April 1st against NYC College of Technology at 3:30pm

Men's Tennis

March 28th against SUNY Purchase at 3:30pm

April 2nd against Mount St. Mary College at 1pm

April 11th against York College 3:30pm