

CSI in the News

December 2009 & January 2010



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Arts

Staten Island's holiday show guide

By Staten Island Advance Entertainment Desk

December 03, 2009, 11:15AM



Courtesy of Jodi Garda/Kill-Her Entertainment

One of Santa's elves (George Jacobsen) faces certain danger from Candy Cane (Samantha Shatley) and Louie the Lip (John Griffin) in " 'Twas the Knife Before Christmas," a murder-mystery dinner theater show playing Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Great Kills.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- 'Tis the season for toys coming to life, rocking renditions of "The Dreidel Song" and seriously dangerous situations for Santa. Oh yes, anything can happen on Staten Island stages this December.

Here's a guide:

'JACOB MARLEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL,' 8 p.m. Dec. 4, 11 & 12, and 2 p.m. Dec. 6 & 13, Veterans Memorial Hall, Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden, 1000 Richmond Terr., Livingston. Tickets: \$15-20. 866-967-8167, sistny.org. The Staten Island Shakespearean Theatre rattles some chains this month when it presents "Jacob Marley's A Christmas Carol." The cast includes Jack Dabdoub, Charles McLaughlin, Rina Sklar and Joseph Smith.

'ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS,' 8 p.m. Dec. 4-5 & 11-12, CYO-MIV Community Center, 6451 Hylan Blvd., Pleasant Plains. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 718-317-2255, ext. 1. The CYO Players tell Christmas stories about magical toys, winter wonderlands and Santa Claus in the original production, "Once Upon a Christmas."

'TWAS THE KNIFE BEFORE XMAS,' 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5, Staten Island Council, Knights of Columbus, 22 Hillside Terr., Great Kills. Buffet dinner and show: \$45. 347-308-5044. Reservations required. No tickets at the door. It's holiday homicide time! Kill-Her Entertainment and City Lights Enterprises present this whodunit. A famous musical elf is killed and Santa could be next. The cast includes: John Griffin, Kimberly Cantoni, Nikki Lauren, George Jacobsen, Vinnie Mazella, Christopher Reinhart and Nate Ullrich.

'HERE IN MY HOUSE,' 8 p.m., Dec. 11 and 12; 7 p.m. Dec. 13; Little Shop Theatre, 864 Post Ave., West Brighton. Tickets: \$15. Reservations and information: 917-572-8709. The Theatre Brats of the Richmond Theatre Collection and their onstage "parents" toy around with their favorite Christmas and Hanukkah tunes. Toe-tapping promised.

PARISH PLAYERS CHRISTMAS, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 12, Holy Family R.C. Church, 366 Watchogue Rd., Westerleigh. Tickets: \$10. 718-761-6663, hfpp@gmail.com. The Holy Family Parish Players add their own brand of cheer to the season with "Christmas With Holy Family — Celebrate The Season."

DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 12, Staten Island Zoo, 614 Broadway, West Brighton, Admission: \$10-\$13. 718-442-3174, statenislandzoo.org. Storybook characters from the Victorian era pop up at the Staten Island Zoo for "A Dickens of a Christmas." Mingle with the time travelers, pose for photos with Santa, sing carols with a chorus and snack on roasted marshmallows. Plus, the Zoo adds an international flair to the event with foods, crafts and activities traditional for the holiday season in China, Ireland, Poland, Italy, Australia, Russia and Spain. The Zoo wraps Kwanzaa and Hanukkah events into the celebration, too. At 6:30 p.m., the Zoo lights its Christmas tree and reads the Dickens classic, "A Christmas Carol."



Advance file photo

Dickensian characters add a Victorian flavor to the Staten Island Zoo for its annual "Dickens of a Christmas" celebration, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 12.

'NUTCRACKER PLUS 2009,' 3 p.m. Dec. 13, upper level of the Campus Center of St. John's University, 300 Howard Ave., Grymes Hill. Suggested donation: \$10. Children younger than 12 see the show for free. 718-876-7945, richmondcountyorchestra.org. The Richmond County Orchestra and the New American Youth Ballet present "Nutcracker Plus 2009." The performance includes a tribute to Staten Island Little League whose 10-year-old team was one of the final two in the state. Santa swings by, too.

'THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS' IN CONCERT, 8 p.m. Dec. 11-12, 3 p.m. Dec. 13, Sea View Playwrights Children's Theatre, 460 Brielle Ave., Sea View. Tickets: \$10-\$12. This children's company adopts director Tim Burton's Gothic aesthetic giving musical voice to characters from his 1993 animated flick, "A Nightmare Before Christmas."

ENRICHMENT THROUGH THE ARTS, Enrichment through the Arts presents seasonal family fare at the [redacted] Center for the Arts, 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook. Tickets: \$7-\$8. 718-982-5678, enrichmentthroughthearts.com. Shows: 9:45 & & & & 11: 30 a.m. each day. Coming soon to the stage: "Holiday Tales" Dec. 14, 15 & & & & 16, and "Shoemaker and the Elves" Dec. 17. Enrichment through the Arts collaborates with Sundog Theatre to present "Christmas Carol" Dec. 21 & & & & 22.

S.I. BALLET'S NUTCRACKER, 8 p.m. Dec. 18, 3 & & & & 7 p.m. Dec. 19, 3 p.m. Dec. 20, Center for the Arts, [redacted] 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook. Tickets: \$37 balcony, \$47 orchestra. 718-980-0500, siballet.org. Clara, the little ballerina with the giant imagination, wakes up again in the Staten Island Ballet's 2009 version of "The Nutcracker."

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Did we miss your favorite holiday show? Leave a comment letting us know.

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AWE's guide to holiday events on Staten Island

By Staten Island Advance Entertainment Desk

December 03, 2009, 8:30AM



STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- It's once again time to get maxed out.

No, I'm not referring to credit card limits — but rather the onslaught of entertainment gifts this season delivers.

Facing record-setting double-digit unemployment, New Yorkers can surely use all of the good tidings they can get.

Feeling spiritual? Catch the nativity scene at Salem Evangelical Free Church or light a candle with the Kwanzaa Lady. Craving tradition? Belt out carols at the Staten Island Zoo. Need gifts with a personal touch? Hit up the Friends of Fire art sale. A sucker for mistletoe? Check out the diverse holiday parties at Martini Red, QSINY or Lorenzo's.

And this is just the beginning: Keep reading AWE in the coming weeks for more reasons not to let the economy turn you into a Scrooge. Did we missed something? Let me know at bailey@siadvance.com.

-- Rob Bailey, AWE editor

HOLIDAY SOUNDTRACKS

PEACE ON EARTH: DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL CONCERT, dinner 6 p.m., concert 8 p.m. Dec. 3, Hilton Garden Inn, 1100 South Ave., Bloomfield. Tickets: \$125 per person or buy a table for eight guests and sponsor the attendance of two nuns for \$1,280. Reservations: 718-477-2100, ext. 226. Get a heavenly pick-me-up when the Daughters of St. Paul, aka S.I.'s real-life "Sister Act," perform their 15th annual Christmas Concert. Proceeds from the event help replace an air-conditioning/heating system in the infirmary of the Daughters of St. Paul Motherhouse in Boston (pauline.org).

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gifts are for sale. Around 5 p.m., gather at the courthouse to meet Santa Claus and follow the Carolers' Parade to a tree-lighting ceremony.

TWINKLE TIME, 5 p.m. Dec. 6, Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden, 1000 Richmond Terr., Livingston. FREE. 718-448-2500, **snug-harbor.org**. Snug Harbor brightens the dark sky with its 12th annual tree lighting ceremony outside the Carl Grillo Glasshouse. The occasion, sponsored by Giuliani Partners and Northfield Bank Foundation, includes sing-alongs and refreshments in the carpenter's shop on the grounds of the cultural center.

HOLLY DAYS ON THE HILLSIDE, 1:30 p.m. Dec. 6, Mud Lane Society, 387 St. Paul's Ave., Stapleton. Cost: \$25 for adults; \$5 for children ages 5 to 15 years old. Register at the Cup, 377 Van Duzer St., Stapleton. 718-816-5848. Tour the historic, festively dressed homes along St. Paul's, Occident, Marion and Cebra avenues. Complimentary refreshments and seasonal activities at each stop. Partake in a reception at 41 Pearl St., 4-7 p.m., for an additional \$25.

TOMPKINSVILLE PARK HOLIDAY LIGHTING EVENT, 3:30-5 p.m. Dec. 8, in the plaza of Tompkinsville Park at the corner of Bay Street and Victory Boulevard. FREE. Multicultural music & festivities in the park building. Plus, a powering-on of special lights.

WREATH MAKING, 10 a.m. Dec. 10, Tappen Park at Canal and Bay streets, Stapleton. FREE. 917-974-6180. Make an eco-friendly wreath with all natural evergreens provided by the city Parks Department.

CSI'S KWANZAA CELEBRATION, 7 p.m. Dec. 11, [REDACTED] 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook. FREE. 718-982-2546, **charles.thomas@csi.cuny.edu**. For more than 30 years, the college has observed the Kwanzaa tradition under the leadership of professor Charles Thomas. Experience African culture, food, music, history, spoken word and dance.

CANDLELIGHT TOURS OF R-TOWN, 4:50-8:30 p.m. Dec. 12 & 19, 441 Clarke Ave., Historic Richmond Town, 441 Clarke Ave. Admission: \$22 adults, \$10 children. Prepaid reservations required. 718-351-1611, ext. 280, **historichrichmondtown.org**. Revisit what the season looked like before front lawns looked like carnival fun houses. Guides lead by candlelight as pre-20th century fireplaces burn brightly, the aroma of holiday sweets waft through the air and carolers sing. Drink up a cup of Wassail — hot-spiced punch — at a reception in the courthouse after the walkabout. A complete turkey dinner will be offered at the M. Bennett Cafe for \$20 at 5 p.m.

HOLIDAY NATURE CRAFTS, 1 p.m. Dec. 12, Greenbelt Nature Center, 700 Rockland Ave., Egbertville. Pre-payment and registration required. Fee: \$10-\$12. 718-351-3450, **sigreenbelt.org**. Pick up sticks, pine cones, leaves and other natural objects, then turn them into gifts. Resident artist Kathy Trimarco leads this family craft workshop.

COLONIAL CHRISTMAS, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 13, Conference House, 7455 Hylan Blvd., Tottenville. Suggested donation: \$3. 718-984-6046, **theconferencehouse.org**. Shop for fine crafts, potpourri, wooden children's toys, pottery. The house will be decorated in period style and filled with live music. The Conference House Auxiliary serves free hot apple cider and home-baked goods from 18th-century recipes. Upstairs, Father Christmas doles out a free gift to every child.

HARBOR LIGHTS, at dusk daily, beginning in mid-December through the end of January, Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden, 1000 Richmond Terr., Livingston. FREE. 718-448-2500, **snug-harbor.org**. Painter/mixed media artist Scott LoBaido, known for his paintings of American flags in unique settings across the United States, will create an abstract light installation. Note: This lawn piece won't include any enormous blow-up Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeers.

CHILDREN'S HANUKKAH PARTY, noon-3 p.m. Dec. 13, Temple Israel Reform Congregation, 315 Forest Ave., Silver Lake. Admission: \$8. 718-727-2231. RSVP to Dave Meltzer by Dec. 10 at **djmeltz@msn.com**. Kids will have fun with crafts, snacks, games, pizza, entertainment and prizes.

AWE's holiday event guide

By Staten Island Advance Entertainment Desk

December 10, 2009, 11:30AM



AWE file photo

The Staten Island Zoo's "Dicken of a Christmas" will take place 5:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 12.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- 'Tis the season for AWE's all-ages, non-denominational guide to December events on Staten Island.

HOLIDAY SOUNDTRACKS

A CHRISTMAS GIFT, 7:30 p.m. dinner; 9:30 p.m. show Dec. 11. Lorenzo's Cabaret at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1000 South Ave., Bloomfield. Admission: \$35 show charge, \$15 food/drink minimum. 718-477-2400, **LorenzosDining.com**. Ryan Kelly and Nick Williams, accompanied by Michael Ancona, perform holiday classics. Read more about this event in next week's AWE.

HANUKKAH CONCERT, 8 p.m. Dec. 12, Bernikow JCC at 1466 Manor Rd., Sea View. FREE tickets limited, reserve tickets by calling 800-216-6724. Reach the JCC at 718-475-5200, **sijcc.org**. Holiday gifts don't need to break the bank. Here's a free one from **Oorah's Torah Spot**: A concert featuring Jewish music makers Shlomo Haviv, Dovid Gabay and Eli Gerstner along with the soloists from the Yeshiva Boys Choir. Oorah's Torah Spot is a Lakewood, N.J.-based educational-outreach organization. Haviv is the recipient of the Miami Beach Carbonnel Award for Best Supper Club pop singer.

MONTY LOVE CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR, 8 p.m. Dec. 12, Dock Street, 691 Bay St., Stapleton. Admission: TBD. **dockstreet.com**. Locally loved punk band Monty Love reunites — briefly — for its eighth annual holiday bash that packs Dock Street to the gills with fans young and old, singing old chestnuts like "Draw It Up."

866-967-8167, **sistny.org**. The Staten Island Shakespearean Theatre rattles some chains this month when it presents "Jacob Marley's A Christmas Carol." The cast includes Jack Dabdoub, Charles McLaughlin, Rina Sklar and Joseph Smith.

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FAMILY FESTIVITIES

LIVE NATIVITY SCENE, 7-9 p.m. Dec. 11, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 12, Salem Evangelical Free Church, 634 Clove Rd., West Brighton. FREE. 718-442-7740, **salemchurchnyc.org**. This church goes traditional with a live nativity scene. Chickens, a llama, a donkey, a miniature horse, a sheep, a goat and rabbits join Mary, Joseph and Jesus on the church lawn. Inside, hot chocolate and cookies will be served. Both Saturdays, the animals pull double duty at a petting zoo. Face painting, stories and crafts make the party Saturdays, 2 to 4 p.m.

THE KWANZAA LADY, Janet G. Robinson is once again doing her educational thing. Better known as The Kwanzaa Lady, Robinson tells all about the holiday that celebrates the heritage of Africans and African-Americans. She explains the name Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili, matunda ya kwanzaa, which means first fruits of the harvest.

Robinson presents: Dec. 12 at 5:30 p.m. in Staten Island Zoo, 614 Broadway, West Brighton; Dec. 26 at 3 p.m. in the Cup, 388 Van Duzer St., Stapleton; Dec. 27 at 3 p.m. in the Central Family Life Center of First Central Baptist Church, 117 Wright St., Stapleton; Dec. 30 at 3 p.m. in Cromwell Center, Pier 6, Hannah Street, Tompkinsville; Dec. 31 at 9 p.m. in Shiloh A.M.E. Zion, West Brighton, and Jan. 1 at 3 p.m. in the Liberian Cultural Association Center, 361 Van Duzer St., Stapleton. Admission is free to each presentation.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM'S DIVERSE DECEMBER, Little people of all faiths can discover something about each other all this month at the Staten Island Children's Museum, 1000 Richmond Terr., Livingston. Admission: \$6 for people 1 year and older. 718-273-2060, **stateniskids.org**.

To coincide with the Jewish celebration of Hanukkah, budding chefs can make "gourmet latkes" during the Health Plus Kidz Cook workshops Dec. 11 at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. Children make Hanukkah menorahs at workshops starting at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Dec. 12 and 13.

The museum celebrates Christmas on Dec. 18 at the Health Plus Kidz Cook workshops where young egg-beaters will learn to make "stained glass cookies." Cooking begins at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. The museum wraps all children into the season with wrapping paper-making workshops Dec. 19 and 20 at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Christmas Storytelling with Walter Rutledge unfolds Dec. 20 at 2 p.m., courtesy of TD Foundation Family Passport.

The museum dedicates the last weekend of the month to Kwanzaa, the holiday honoring African-American heritage. Kids can design their own African mud cloths Dec. 26 and 27 at workshops at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. TD Foundation Family Passport presents Kwanzaa Storytelling with Walter Rutledge Dec. 27 at 2 p.m.

HOLIDAY NATURE CRAFTS, 1 p.m. Dec. 19, Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Ave., Annadale. FREE. 718-967-3542, **preserve2.org/blueheron**. Find nature's holiday haul at your door: Learn to use pine cones, evergreens and other natural materials and make your own holiday crafts and decorations.

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Staten Island Advance

Kwanzaa event tomorrow at CSI

Thursday, December 10, 2009

By KIAWANA RICH

ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- The [REDACTED] will once again celebrate African and African-American Pride with the 33rd annual Kwanzaa Celebration tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the school's Center for the Arts in Willowbrook.

Visitors can expect to be dazzled by stunning costumes, lively dancing, enthralling poetry as well as skits and other activities that are part of this annual free recognition of Kwanzaa, which pays tribute to the achievements and contributions of Africans and African-Americans. Kwanzaa runs Dec. 26-Jan. 1.

This year's theme is Ujoma, which translated from Swahili means, Unity; which is also one of the seven principles of Kwanzaa. Professor Charles Thomas, [REDACTED] Associate Professor of Performing and Creative Arts, is coordinator of the event.

The evening's special guests will be the Impact Repertory Theater (IMP), a youth choir that will bring a gospel-flavored seasoning to the event.

Dancing will be provided courtesy of [REDACTED] International Dance Students, headed by Thomas and the school's International Dance Club.

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Volunteer for Staten Island artists awards ceremony

By Staten Island Advance Entertainment Desk

December 12, 2009, 11:00AM

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Give the gift with no price tag this winter: Your time.

The **Council on the Arts and Humanities for Staten Island** is looking for help with its "Night of Staten Island Artists" awards ceremony, Jan 23.

The group is seeking volunteers to serve as ushers, greeters, stage hands, and green room assistants.

The festivities will include a pre-show art exhibit, live music, dance and mingling. The event will honor the many talented musicians, writers, dancers, filmmakers and visual artists who will receive 2010 COASHI Project Grants.

To volunteer, e-mail rcornali@statenislandarts.org or call 718-447-3329.

The event, at the [REDACTED], begins at 7 p.m.

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Patrick Oehler

Pianist Marcel Rominger performed at last year's "Night of Staten Island Artists," an awards ceremony honoring recipients of the COASHI Project Grants.

Polishing the 'Nutcracker' tradition

By Michael J. Fressola

December 13, 2009, 9:00AM



Courtesy of the Staten Island Ballet

"The Nutcracker" will run Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the [REDACTED]

Subtle changes burnish this year's Staten Island Ballet production of a seasonal classic

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Improvements are excusable, but making unnecessary changes in beloved seasonal fare is probably dangerous. Some traditions, like "The Nutcracker," are sacrosanct because they are sacred.

And yet change occurs, often for the better. At the Staten Island Ballet, where the borough's longest-running, homegrown "Nutcracker" is in rehearsal this week, regulars are liable to notice many little changes.

For example, company ballet master Andrea Wachholtz (she prefers master to mistress), who's danced in 20 years of "Nutcrackers," seven for the Staten Island Ballet, retired the Doll solo she usually dances. Last season's was her adieu, but she'll still dance the "Arabian" divertissement.

"And some day," she said last week, "I'll stop 'Arabian.'" Although it's hardly apparent, the Arden Heights resident is somewhat past 29, the average retirement age for professional dancers.

As all fans of "The Nutcracker" know, the full-evening ballet has two halves: A real-world section (usually a holiday party overrun with kids) followed by a fantastic moonlit journey to a magical realm, where a spectacular ballet pageant takes place.

'The Nutcracker'

Where



AWE file photo

Dancers rehearse a scene from a recent "Nutcracker."

Building 1P
2800 Victory Blvd.,
Willowbrook

When

Friday at 8 p.m.,
Saturday at 3 and 7 p.m.,
Sunday at 4 p.m.

How much

\$37 and \$47

More info

718-980-0500, www.siballet.org

"Arabian" is one of the colorful sections in which elaborately costumed dancers perform short but amazing folk/ethnic routines. Composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky inserted nationalist musical quotations or tributes into the score to give performers the opportunity to grandstand their versatility. Sometimes, it stops the show.

On stage, these divertissements may be identified as good things to eat and drink. The Spanish section translates into chocolate, Arabian is coffee, Chinese is tea, Russian is candy canes, etc.

The story is drawn from a dark 19th-century fairytale favorite "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King" by E.T.A. Hoffman. In nearly all versions, a little girl makes a short enchanted journey to a storybook kingdom full of terrific dancers.

Most ballet companies put a version on the boards every December — it's a moneymaker much of the time — but they rework the story as they see fit.

New York City Ballet's takes place in imperial Russia and is exotic, exactly as it was when choreographer George Balanchine first introduced it. The Joffrey Ballet Americanized its version. Staten Island Ballet's, choreographed by founding director Ellen Tharp, is set in New York City.

EVERYONE'S FIRST BALLET

It is the entry-point ballet for most fans — it's not unusual to see cranky 2-year-olds at a matinee — and the first ballet students get to dance.

It makes things tricky. Ms. Tharp casts students in the production, but inclusion isn't automatic. "Some aren't ready for it; others may be too old for the available roles," she said last week.

For the fourth year, Anna Liceica, an ex-American Ballet Theater soloist, and current ABT dancer Vitaly Krauchenko will again dance the roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier in a romantic and challenging moment that's one of the traditional high points of the second half of the evening.

The one thing that everyone involved would like to change? The music. The production is danced to a recording. Live music, an expensive luxury, is still out of reach. The company used to promote itself — and still does — by citing affordability and convenience. The top-price ticket is \$47, which won't buy even a bad seat at Lincoln Center. And it's easy to get to: No tolls and parking is free.

Lately, other types of recommendations have been surfacing, according to Ms. Wachholtz.

"The caliber has gotten higher and higher," she said. "In the fall, we're getting dancers from big companies who call and say, 'Can I come out and dance a "Nutcracker" with you? We hear you're beautiful.'"

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COAHSI, Cookies, and Christmas...

By Racquel Cornali

December 16, 2009, 4:50PM

Last night I managed to make Chocolate Crinkle Cookies -- which I have to say are so ridiculously delicious. Not sure how to explain a crinkle, but from what I'm eating, they're chocolate cookies with silky powdered sugar on top. I got the recipe from one of the millions of food blogs out there...and am now blogging about how great they are. The blog comes full circle.

I love cookies -- and the holiday season. Cookies are like the MVP of holiday baking -- they make special "Christmas Cookie" car air fresheners (which I hate to admit, I bought) and you're bombarded with recipes for "The Most Delicious Christmas Cookies Ever!". But anyway, there's a reason I'm rambling about cookie delicious-ness, it's because our lovable Grants Director, **Ginger Shulick** is going to be a judge at the **Garibaldi-Meucci Museum's Christmas Cookie Contest**. I remember Ginger telling me she was going to be a judge, her excitement was more than apparent. I thought to myself, *man I wish I could judge a cookie contest, maybe one day...*

So, for the real information, **The Christmas Cookie Contest** will at 1pm in conjunction with Leo Leonini's presentation of "Italian Holiday Customs and Traditions for Christmas," on Sunday, December 20th. Try to stop by -- you'll learn interesting facts and you can watch on as our expert cookie judge does her thing. Since you'll be in the '05 Rosebank area, you won't be too far from the **Alice Austen House**. And yea, you guessed it, they'll have cookies there too. Saturday and Sunday from 11am-6pm, the Alice Austen House is having their Holiday Fair & Bake Sale. They seem to have some really cool vendors with interesting stuff, just in case you need some cool last minute gifts. Get your picture taken with Victorian Santa, and then buy some delicious baked goods from local vendors.

This Friday, if you have kids in tow and have free time not consumed by wrapping, cooking, decorating, etc, you might want to visit the **Staten Island Children's Museum**, where your young chef can make -- Holiday Cookies -- Stained Glass Cookies, to be exact. Bake with them at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30pm.

There are also a bunch of non-food events happening this week as well. **Historic Richmondtown** is having a Candlelight Tour of the grounds, where you can make your way through the different houses while enjoying live music, hands-on demonstrations and more. RSVP to Historic Richmondtown to get a spot. **The Everything Goes Book Cafe** is having a weekend of music from "Rockin Christmas" shows to flute music. **The St. George Theatre** is having their "Christmas Show" for the 6th year now -- the last days are this weekend.

One last thing -- **COAHSI Grantee Mikhael Antone** will be showing her film "To a Man", this Tuesday, December 22 at 7:30pm at the [redacted] for the Arts (Bldg. 1P). "To a Man" is an exploration into the male experience of suburban Staten Island. Seven young men from the South Shore discuss their lives and issues such as race, gender, religion, stereotypes and the American dream. Visit **mikhaelantone.com** for more information.

Enjoy your weekend, your art, and your cookies. I know I will.

SINY Film Fest returns June 2-6; Wu-Tang Clan's RZA lends cred as celeb chairman

By Jodi Lee Reifer

January 07, 2010, 4:47PM

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Robert Diggs was just a boy when he caught his first king-fu movies, "Black Samurai" in '77 and "Fury of the Dragon" in '79, at the St. George Theater.

Years later, the teen who became the hip-hop legend known as **RZA**, would pass the shuttered movie palace on his way to Curtis High School.

"I would walk and dream of movies in my head," says the founder of the Staten Island rap collective Wu-Tang Clan. "I used to always get inspiration from this place. It started on Staten Island."

Come June, RZA, who is preparing to direct his first feature, will likely be one of the filmmakers screening a project at the fifth annual **SINY Film Festival** — in the very theater that lit his creative fuse.

The film fest returns to the borough June 2-6 with screenings at both the revived St. George Theater and the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] organizers announced yesterday in the theater. RZA, who was on hand, will serve as the celebrity chairman.

Submissions will be accepted through Feb. 8 through **withoutabox.com**. Local filmmakers, in particular, are encouraged to submit work.

"It boosts the attendance numbers and it boosts the community's investment in the event," said Jeannine Marotta, director of development and events at the **Staten Island Economic Development Corp.**, organizer of the film fest.

The showcase welcomes films from the around the country and the world. Movies from as far afield as Iowa, Texas, Japan and the United Kingdom were part of the 2009 line-up.

While the event debuted in 2006 at multiple venues including the theater and the college, the event unspooled solely at [REDACTED] last year. Organizers decided to screen some of the flicks at the St. George to accomodate off-Islanders who reach the borough by Staten Island Ferry. At 35 Hyatt St., the venue is a short walk from the ferry terminal.

About 50 percent of the film festival audience lives on the borough's North Shore, while the other 50 percent is made up of South Shore and Mid-Island residents as well as Island visitors, said organizers.

The to-be-determined opening night film will screen June 2 at the St. George, with screenings following June 3 and 4 at the theater. [REDACTED] will host flicks June 4 and 5, with a closing night ceremony in the Vanderbilt, South Beach, June 6.

Passes for all screenings are \$45. All-Day Passes are \$15. Individual tickets are \$10. Tickets will be available in April on www.TicketWeb.com. Free tickets will be available to unemployed individuals, veterans and nonprofit organizations.



AWE/Jan Somma-Hammel

RZA will serve as celebrity chairman of the SINY Film Festival, returning June 2-6. The showcase is seeking entries at withoutabox.com through Feb. 8.

The SINY Film Fest was conceived by the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation (SIEDC).

Sponsors include: The Richmond County Savings Foundation, presenting and founding sponsor; Northfield Bank, closing night awards ceremony and reception sponsor and co-venue sponsor; Councilman James Oddo (R-Mid-Island), co-venue sponsor; the Staten Island Advance, closing night awards ceremony and reception sponsor; the Council on the Arts and Humanities for Staten Island, awards sponsor; NRG Energy, awards sponsor; Richmond County Bank, awards sponsor; the Jewish Community Center of Staten Island, celebrity party sponsor; National Grid, festival van sponsor; Harrah's Resort; FerryAds; Modell's Sporting Goods and Master Kim of Dragon Kim Karate. Joseph Rende, vice president of National Grid, is the event chairman. Michael Motelson of Dome Property Management, is the event ambassador

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Staten Island Advance

Extra Tang to this year's film fest

Founder of seminal Island rap collective 'The Wu' eyeing annual showcase

Friday, January 08, 2010

By JODI LEE REIFER

ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Robert Diggs was just a boy when he caught his first kung-fu movies, "Black Samurai" in 1977 and "Fury of the Dragon" in 1979, at the St. George Theatre.

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Staten Island filmmakers wanted!

By Jodi Lee Reifer

January 14, 2010, 10:18AM

The fifth annual SINY Film festival is now accepting submissions

STATEN ISLAND -- So, you think you can shoot a low-budget indie film with as much breakout potential as "Precious" or "The Hurt Locker"?

Prove it -- the **SINY Film Festival** is now accepting submissions for the 2010 edition, unspooling June 2-6.

But act fast: The deadline is Feb. 8. Submit shorts and features via WithoutABox.com. The festival accepts entries in Digital Betacam (Digibeta) and Beta SP formats. Directors who shoot on 35mm film must bring their own screening equipment if accepted into the festival.

Local filmmakers are especially encouraged to submit work.

"It boosts the attendance numbers and it boosts the community's investment in the event," says Jeannine Marotta, director of development and events at the Staten Island Economic Development Corp., organizer of the film fest.

The fifth annual indie showcase returns with screenings at both the St. George Theater and the [redacted]. The Wu-Tang Clan's RZA, who is preparing to direct his first feature, will serve as the celebrity chairman of the event.

"It's art and culture that brings us most together," he says. "I hope a lot of young people come. I'm going to do my best to help the support organization..and maybe inspire the next big name, the next big director, right here from Staten Island."

The SINY welcomes films from the around the country and the world. Movies from as far afield as Iowa, Texas, Japan and the United Kingdom were part of the 2009 line-up.

While the event debuted in 2006 at multiple venues including the theater and the college, the event unfolded solely at the college last year. Organizers decided to screen some of the flicks at the St. George to accommodate off-Islanders who reach the borough by Staten Island Ferry. At 35 Hyatt St., the venue is a short walk from the ferry terminal.

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Faculty & Staff



Michelle Zimmerman, left, takes on about seven different official roles in Sioux County, Neb.

By Matt Young for USA TODAY

County consolidation gains steam across USA

By [Haya El Nasser](#), USA TODAY

Nebraska's [Sioux County](#), deep in the heart of cattle country, is a 2,000-square-mile expanse on the [Wyoming](#) border where the population has dwindled to fewer than two people per square mile.

When Michelle Zimmerman goes to work in the Sioux County Courthouse in Harrison, she comes in officially as the assessor. When other county business needs to be handled, she becomes the county clerk. And the district court clerk. And the election commissioner, the register of deeds, the budget authority and the zoning administrator.

Two things she's not: "I'm not the janitor, and I don't mow the lawn," Zimmerman says.

So when she hears about a renewed push to consolidate counties in the less populated parts of this [Great Plains](#) state to trim government, the woman who juggles at least seven county jobs wonders how much more consolidating the county can do. "Local control is very important," Zimmerman says. "I would hope there would be a big fight. I don't see how it would save money. ... If it's not broke, don't fix it."

The consolidation buzz heated up last month when the Platte Institute for Economic Research released a policy study that states, "Having 93 counties in Nebraska does not make sense."

The institute, a free-market think tank that promotes limited government, concludes that consolidating some county-level services into 20 of 85 county seats outside the more populated Omaha and Lincoln metropolitan areas makes geographic sense.

John McCollister, the institute's executive director, concedes that the chances of consolidation aren't strong. "It's not only control, but it's identity," he says. "It's like taking somebody's post office away."

Trying to rein in costs

Municipal consolidation is an age-old movement that's resurfacing during the recession as states, counties and cities wrestle with declining revenue and anti-government sentiment escalates. Mergers traditionally face opposition in communities eager to protect their fiefdoms and independence.

To date, much of the push has been in dense urban areas subdivided into many governments that provide similar services. The result: Different entities handle trash pickup or provide police protection from one side of the street to the next.

In New Jersey's Sussex County, voters in Wantage Township last month rejected a proposed merger with Sussex Borough even though it was expected to save voters money. Also in New Jersey, 1-square-mile Medford Lakes turned down the opportunity to save money and share police with the township that surrounds it.

But in western New York, four towns voted this year by referendum to reduce the number of seats on town councils from five to three. Other communities downsized voluntarily.

"A lot of counties are realizing that regional is the way to go," says Jacqueline Byers, director of research and outreach at the National Association of Counties.

Steady population declines

Almost two-thirds of the counties in Nebraska and in other Great Plains states have lost people since 1950, the Census Bureau says. Sixty-nine of the 376 counties in the region lost more than half their population and most counties have fewer than 10,000 people. In Nebraska alone, 11 of the state's 93 counties have fewer than 1,000 people and 36 have fewer than 5,000.

The Platte Institute commissioned an analysis by geography professors at the University of Nebraska-Kearney to determine how many government centers would be needed to provide county services within 60 miles of most Nebraska residents.

Researchers excluded the eight counties in the more urban eastern portion of the state and focused on the remaining 85. They concluded that 20 "consolidated county centers" could serve residents. If they became new county seats, the number of county offices would be cut 77%. The Platte Institute now will explore potential cost savings from consolidation, McCollister says.

"It's not real clear what efficiency savings would be in those places that barely have services to begin with," says Rutgers University professor Frank Popper.

He and his wife Deborah Popper, who teaches geography at the City University of New York's [REDACTED] [REDACTED] predicted more than 20 years ago that Plains population losses would lead government to take over large expanses of the region and return them to their natural state by creating a "Buffalo Commons" — a national park where bison would roam.

In Cherry County, Nebraska's largest, stretching over 5,961 square miles — three times the size of Delaware — some residents have to drive 150 miles one way to the county seat of Valentine to renew their vehicle licenses every year.

"I don't see this county consolidating with anybody," says rancher Jerry Adamson, a county commissioner. "One size doesn't fit all."



Staten Island Advance

McMahon might back bill benefiting gay partners

Legislation would grant same rights and benefits to all married couples, including same-sex ones

Tuesday, December 01, 2009

By JUDY L. RANDALL

ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Rep. Michael McMahon yesterday said he's thinking of signing on to a bill that would rescind the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which declares marriage must be between a man and a woman. He said he'll make up his mind by year's end.

The repeal, called the Respect for Marriage Act (RMA), would grant the same rights and benefits under federal law to all married couples, including same-sex couples.

Under DOMA, which passed in 1996, legally married same-sex couples cannot file joint tax returns; take unpaid leave to care for a sick or injured spouse; receive spousal benefits under Social Security or health and pension benefits if they are federal civilian employees.

McMahon said he thought it likely DOMA would be repealed by the House, but couldn't predict what might happen in the Senate.

McMahon (D-Staten Island/Brooklyn) said he is disposed to support RMA, introduced by Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-Manhattan), and said he had discussed it with Nadler two weeks ago.

McMahon made his comments during a meeting with members of Staten Island's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community in his New Dorp office. He told them he was also positively disposed to three other pieces of legislation they favor, but wants to review the fine print before signing on.

IRS REGULATIONS

One bill would bring equity on a host of IRS tax code regulations for same-sex couples. Another, sponsored by Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-Manhattan), would amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to permit same-spouses and domestic partners to take a leave from work to care for an ill spouse or partner. And the other would not limit federal court jurisdictions over current DOMA provisions that might be challenged.

Members of the LGBT group who met with McMahon hailed from Staten Island Stonewall, Staten Island Pride Parade and Rainbow Families. They were: Jim Smith of St. George; Katie Cumiskey of West Brighton; Wayne Steinman of Midland Beach; Jeremiah Jurkiewicz of Stapleton and Rosemary Palladino and Marianne Brennick, both of Grasmere.

Ms. Cumiskey, a psychology professor at the [REDACTED] and a small business owner, told McMahon that while the issues of the day -- health care, the economy and the war on terror -- make the headlines, inequities faced by same-sex couples on bread-and-butter issues involving health and finances are just as crucial.

The group also thanked the congressman for his legislative support of the Matthew Sheppard Act amending hate crimes legislation; the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and efforts to repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell,"

as well as increasing funding to localities to prosecute hate crimes; increasing benefits to domestic partners of federal employees and ending discrimination in immigration laws as they pertain to domestic partners.

"It always helps to put my neighbors' and friends' faces with issues," McMahon said of the meeting.

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December 2, 2009

LETTERS

The Mayor, the Teachers and the Tests

To the Editor:

Re "[Mayor to Link Teacher Tenure to Test Scores](#)" (front page, Nov. 26):

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's plan to include test scores in the teacher tenure decision is ill conceived. The teacher's effectiveness is only one component of what goes into a student's test score. Teachers cannot select their students, but most do their best with whomever they are given to work with.

The mayor's plan will result in teachers' doing whatever they can to avoid teaching high-risk students, like those with poor attendance, poor reading and math scores, and poor work habits, attitudes or discipline. The incentive to influence scores in unprofessional ways will only increase, as will a lack of collegiality among teachers.

The mayor's analogy with the medical profession is far off the mark, as doctors do not have to avoid treating especially sick patients to keep their practices.

Teachers have significant educational requirements and have to pass a number of tests before they can even enter the profession, so the fact that 93 percent achieve tenure is in no way out of whack with other professions.

As a school supervisor for 22 years and a teacher for more than 40 in New York City, I can attest to the fact that there are numerous ways to identify incompetent teachers besides students' test scores.

Howard Brenner

Woodmere, N.Y., Nov. 26, 2009

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To the Editor:

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg is playing a dangerous game with his advocacy of layoffs for teachers based on merit.

This is opening a Pandora's box, as it will allow for many principals to get rid of people because of favoritism and differences in pedagogical methodology. Unfortunately, in some cases, religious and racial prejudice will begin to show its ugly head once more.

Teachers are rated satisfactory or unsatisfactory each school year. If everyone in a given department received satisfactory ratings, what objective way is left for a principal in removing a teacher? If we are to eliminate the

bad ways as mentioned above, we should only have to depend on a seniority system. This is basically the only fair way.

Of course, in reality, no teacher should be laid off. We have plenty of dead wood sitting at Tweed, as well as in the mayor's office.

Ed Greenspan
Brooklyn, Nov. 29, 2009

The writer is a retired New York City teacher.

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To the Editor:

Measuring the effectiveness of novice teachers has always been a challenging task for principals. Does the new teacher have “it” — the ability to engage learners in the job of learning? Does he or she have the fundamental personal power to manage a class of antsy, frequently disadvantaged children from many backgrounds?

Can he create a series of lessons that form a meaningful and appropriate rendering of the curriculum for this group of students? These criteria serve as the basis for granting or denying tenure.

As a young teacher many years ago, I taught in a school with a homogeneous grouping. When I taught the highest-performing class, my average reading score jumped about two years; when I taught the most challenging class, it moved about nine months.

The effort was the same, but the results were very different. Should I have been granted or denied tenure?

An old adage said that “good tests test good instruction,” and that was the case in New York at one time; unfortunately, that is no longer true. Good test scores now reflect both socioeconomic status (perhaps they always have) and hour upon hour of test preparation.

If tenure is linked to test scores, why would idealistic young people want to teach in those schools where it is most difficult to significantly raise scores, and where that becomes the criteria for tenure?

Eileen Greenspun
Staten Island, Nov. 27, 2009

The writer, a retired principal, staff developer and teacher in the New York City schools, supervises student teachers for the [REDACTED]

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To the Editor:

Judging teachers on the success of their students is similar to judging a lawyer on the number of convictions or acquittals. It first depends on what the lawyer is given to work with.

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg uses the analogy of heart surgeons and patient survival rates. Doctors perform routine bypass or valve replacements, but much of the patient's success is dependent on age, health, lifestyle and hospital resources. These outside factors affect the patient's chance of survival.

There are many internal and external factors that influence each student's learning that are beyond the teacher's control. Factors related to economics, language, home environment, motivation, attitude and aptitude help inspire or discourage learning. It is not as simple as a test score.

Eliot Weiss

Brooklyn, Nov. 26, 2009

The writer teaches calculus at Edward R. Murrow High School.

•

To the Editor:

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg says he wants staff members who were put on the absentee teacher reserve list to be fired if they don't find jobs within one year. In theory, this sounds reasonable. But when you look into the facts, it is clear that this is a heartless way to save money and destroy lives.

Most of the staff members whose schools were closed by the Department of Education through no fault of their own have since been hired into full-time positions in schools. They have full programs, teach five classes a day, or if they are secretaries, work full time doing payroll or staffing the dean's office. But their principals have chosen not to have them appointed, so as to save money.

Therefore, officially they show up as on the reserve list and under the mayor's plan will lose their jobs — jobs they have been doing satisfactorily since their schools closed. Has he no heart, or is he completely unaware of what is actually happening at his agency?

Elizabeth A. Knajdl

Bayside, Queens, Nov.

26, 2009

The writer is a former New York City teacher and union representative.

Courant.com

LEGENDARY WATER STREET

At Home In A Legend's Home: James Merrill's 107 Water St.

By BILL NAGLER

Special to The Courant

December 4, 2009

"Oh, very well then. Let us broach the matter

Of the new wallpaper in Stonington."

— *Mirabell: Books of Number*

So begins James Merrill in "Mirabell," part of his celebrated epic poem "The Changing Light at Sandover." In Merrill's Stonington Borough apartment, which has been preserved much as it was before his death in 1995, perhaps nothing is more evocative than the wallpaper he had made for the living room.

Soaring among clouds and oriental fans are white, winged forms, "bat-angels" symbolizing rebirth and eternity. The pattern invokes the supernatural world of the poem, the spirit world Merrill and his partner, David Jackson, sought to commune with during years of Ouija board experiments.

The wallpaper is just one example of how the apartment's interior continues to evoke the work and life of one of the great American poets of the last half-century. From the mid-1950s until his death four decades later, Merrill lived part of every year with Jackson in the apartment, which occupies the upper two floors of the turreted, Victorian building he purchased at 107 Water St. It was here that Merrill wrought much of his intensely autobiographical work, winning almost every major literary honor, including the Pulitzer Prize and multiple National Book awards.

For more than a decade, Merrill, his apartment and his tastes have inspired other poets and writers, who vie twice a year for the chance to spend four to six months in residence here. The program is run by a committee of the Stonington Village Improvement Association, which inherited the house from Merrill, complete with his furnishings, much of his art and thousands of his books.

"I kind of felt immediately at home here," says the current writer in residence, Cate Marvin, an award-winning poet and associate professor in creative writing at the [redacted] who moved in with her baby this fall. Marvin found Merrill's eclectic tastes mirrored her own. "There's stuff that's from all different times, all different cultures. They're put in dialogue with each other," Marvin said of

Merrill's apartment. "I think it's like a magical place."

"It's a miniature world that Merrill created quite deliberately," says Langdon Hammer, a Yale University English professor working on the authorized Merrill biography, "and one that both reflects his writing and that fed into his writing, and that is true in the sense that talismans and objects from the poetry appear in the house ... and it's also true that the same sensibility at work in the poems is at work in the house."

With something from Merrill on display in every nook and cranny, "I've been put in conversation with Merrill and his poetry," says Marvin, 40, who will give a reading of her own poems Sunday at 5 p.m. at the Stonington Free Library.

Marvin has been described by Publishers Weekly as "a postmodern Plath." Her poetry "bristles with lyricism and with the intellectual and emotional contradictions that face women of this time," writes poet Rodney Jones.

Despite the influence of Merrill's apartment, Marvin expects to maintain her independence as she works on longer poems during her stay. One of the themes of her poetry — and her academic work — is the need for women writers to break free from male-dominated literary tradition. In "Lines for a Mentor," part of her second book of poetry, "Fragment of the Head of a Queen," a student fights to distance herself from her male teacher:

...He said, *Never strike a typewriter,*
for they are delicate instruments. I am crouched
beneath the threat of toppling bookshelves.
Of all the change that rattles in my head, the pennies
Are his: not worth much, yet not entirely worthless.

Baby-Proofing

Having a baby also in residence represents a change, and a challenge, to the residency program. "It's a big departure for us," says Lynn Callahan, co-chairwoman of the committee that runs the Merrill House. She has helped "baby-proof" the apartment, removing some of the more fragile furnishings.

Lucia, who is nearly a year old, is just learning to crawl and explore Merrill's apartment. Marvin compares carrying a child to term to a poet bringing forth a poem, but then rejects the analogy: "You have to kind of pull the poem into the world," wrestling it into shape, she says. By contrast, a baby "is its own self."

On the upper floor of the apartment, overlooking Stonington Village and the harbor, Marvin has created her own space for writing, at a long wooden table stacked with books of poetry. Nearby is a quilt on the floor surrounded by Lucia's toys.

Paintings, portraits, art objects and books: Merrill's surroundings are something every writer in residence deals with individually. Piotr Gwiazda, a poet and associate professor of English at the

University of Maryland Baltimore County, called his residency last fall "an extraordinary experience."

"I never stopped marveling at the privilege of living, for a whole season, in the place that reflects so much of Merrill's inner life, his books, records, furniture, everyday objects," said Gwiazda, who has written a study of Merrill and the poet Auden.

Shimmering Light

Few places in the apartment are more evocative of that life than the dining room, with its luminous orange walls. It was here at the white table, under an exotic, domed ceiling, that Merrill and Jackson for more than 20 years conducted the Ouija board séances that inspired Merrill's epic poem.

Other poetic influences loom in the room as well. A golden statue of a goddess invokes ancient Greece, and next to it stands a display of tchotchkes and artifacts, topped by a gilded, fantastical bird.

Gold is a theme throughout the apartment, as it is throughout Merrill's work: The poet was acclaimed as a master craftsman whose alchemy turned ordinary words into glittering phrases.

The living room is dominated by a giant, free-standing mirror with an ornate, golden frame, which reflects the light shimmering through a window crowded with richly colored bottles. Upstairs in the large, loft-like space are a gilded bird cage and another elaborate mirror, not far from Merrill's Steinway grand piano.

The shimmering effect is heightened by the pervasive sunlight, one of the apartment's most remarkable features, says Hammer, the Yale professor, who himself was in residence there last spring.

"In the course of the day, from sunrise over Rhode Island to the sun setting over Stonington Harbor, the light plays in the different rooms, gets refracted through Merrill's prisms and crystals, through colored glass panes reflected in the many mirrors of the house," he says. "The light fills the place, animates the place."

Amid the resplendent glow, one is constantly aware that Merrill's life is celebrated here. There are numerous portraits of the poet, what appear to be family pictures and, on every cabinet and wall, art and other mementos from his worldwide travels. A large oil painting portraying six friends from Stonington, including Merrill, commands the upstairs and reminds one of the importance of the town in his work. Merrill, says Hammer, finds "himself as a poet not immediately, really, only in the late '50s, when he begins writing about where he lives." The local poems, published as the collection "Water Street," "were absolutely essential to the autobiographical turn his poetry took," Hammer says.

The lesson of locale was not lost on Gwiazda, last fall's writer in residence.

"Living on Water Street reminded me how many of Merrill's poems are about domestic life, and about the relationship between people and the places they inhabit. Those are frequently interior spaces like rooms, apartments, houses," he says. "I think Merrill's mid-career poem 'A Tenancy' wonderfully captures what the apartment has come to represent in the past decade, a place where writers and scholars fulfill the terms of their residency, or 'tenancy,' and where they become, at once, guests and hosts."

The poem, which concludes Merrill's "Water Street" collection, ends with his pledge of 107 Water St.

hospitality:

If I am host at last

It is of little more than my own past.

May others be at home in it.

- James Merrill's apartment at 107 Water St., Stonington Borough, will be open to the public on four afternoons next year: Feb. 13-14, from 2 to 4 p.m.; and two days in August. For more information on Merrill House activities, go to www.jamesmerrillhouse.org.

- Cate Marvin will give a reading of her poems Sunday at 5 p.m. at the Stonington Free Library, 20 High St., Stonington.

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Councilwoman-elect to take oath in public ceremony

Event for Rose, Island's first black elected official, will be Jan. 9 at the St. George Theatre

By TOM WROBLESKI
ADVANCE POLITICAL EDITOR

North Shore City Councilwoman-elect Debi Rose will publicly take the oath of office as Staten Island's first black elected official on Jan. 9.

The 1 p.m. event will be held at the historic St. George Theatre and is open to the public.

"We've invited everybody and their mother," said Ms. Rose, a Democrat. "We want to share this moment with everyone."

Ms. Rose defeated incumbent Kenneth Mitchell in the September Democratic primary and again in the general election, when Mitchell ran on the Conservative line.

REPORTED FIRST ON SILVE.COM
YESTERDAY, 2:59 P.M.

She will officially be sworn in to the Council prior to the Island ceremony, and formally takes office Jan. 1.

Council members will be sworn in en masse during the Council's opening session during the first week of January.

Ms. Rose said she'll take over Mitchell's Council office on Stuyvesant Place in St. George, which has also been home to Democratic Council predecessors Jerome (Jay) O'Donovan and Michael McMahon.

The space is appealing, Ms. Rose said, because it is city-owned and needn't be paid for out of her Council budget.

It also contains files on ongoing constituent cases and other matters, which Ms. Rose said will allow her to hit the ground running.

"We want to make sure there is no drop-off in constituent services," she said.

Because parking is at a premium in the St. George municipal neighborhood during the day, Ms. Rose said that her office also will have nighttime hours, "when the meters aren't demanding to be fed."

Ms. Rose added she would look to open a "storefront" constituent service office at another location outside St. George sometime in the future.

"We want people to be able to reach out and touch us on a street level," said Ms. Rose. "We want to be accessible and make sure people can get to us."

She said the transition with Mitchell has been a smooth one.

"We have met with the councilman, and we plan to meet with him again," she said.

Tom Wroblewski may be reached at wroblewski@siadvance.com. Read his polit.bureau blog at <http://www.silive.com/newslogs/politics/>.



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/SAN SOMMA-HAMMILL

Debi Rose defeated incumbent Kenneth Mitchell in the September Democratic primary on the North Shore and again in the general election, when Mitchell ran on the Conservative line.



NEW VICE PRESIDENT AT CSI: At a reception at the Staten Island Zoo, West Brighton, are from left: Joseph N. Gumbs, Thomasina Williams, Dr. Jerald Jones-Woolfolk, Mark Irving, Betty Bellamy and Larry Body. Dr. Jones-Woolfolk, the College of Staten Island's new vice president of Student Affairs, is the college's first senior ranking African-American administrator.



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POLITICS

12/17/2009 11:17 PM

McMahon Proposes Patching MTA Budget With Federal Stimulus Money

By: Joe Malvasio



After the Metropolitan Transportation Authority passed its so-called "doomsday budget," Brooklyn-Staten Island Congressman Michael McMahon said federal stimulus money could help the agency avoid some of the proposed cuts. NY1's Joe Malvasio filed the following report.

For many commuters, Wednesday's MTA budget vote was cause for alarm, with the promises of less service, no student free rides and longer wait times systemwide.

Brooklyn-Staten Island Congressman Michael McMahon said he knows how to plug the massive hole in the MTA's budget, with using federal stimulus dollars from Washington, D.C.

"There is an opportunity to use a small portion of this money, 10 percent, language that we put in there, for this very purpose," said McMahon.

That 10 percent would come from the \$1.2 billion destined to reach the coffers of the MTA after the House of Representatives passed a jobs bill on Wednesday, that political insiders say will easily be passed in the U.S. Senate.

McMahon said the money could almost immediately fix the agency's budget woes by paying for operating expenses.

"If it was really concerned about eliminating the service cuts that are proposed, if it was really concerned about providing service to our students going to school everyday, the MTA would use this money and cancel those cuts," said McMahon.

MTA officials maintained any plan that includes siphoning cash from capital funds would be dead on arrival.

The agency released a statement Thursday that read in part, "The funding package passed by New York State legislators earlier this year provided only partial funding for our upcoming capital plan, which makes the use of stimulus funds that much more essential to maintain the integrity of our system."

For transit experts, the real issue is how to change the funding formula for the MTA.

"The problem is when you look at these financial systems, these transit systems around the country, there's been a number of different plugs and patches, repairs, and after awhile your patching a patch," said Jonathan Peters of the [REDACTED] "And it really becomes a problem of long-term sustainability."

The MTA says the public will have its chance to weigh in at public hearings in the new year.



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE FILE PHOTO

"We are more than happy to cooperate [with the investigation]," adviser Allen Cappelli said of North Shore City Councilwoman-elect Debi Rose, above. At issue is whether Working Families Party candidates paid full value for campaign consulting services.

D.A. probing City Council victory

Donovan looking into whether Working Families Party broke campaign laws in helping Rose win

By TOM WROBLESKI
ADVANCE POLITICAL EDITOR

Staten Island District Attorney Daniel Donovan is looking into whether the Working Families Party (WFP) broke campaign laws in helping Democrat Debi Rose win the North Shore City Council seat this year.

As part of his preliminary review, Donovan will look at the controversial relationship between the WFP and its for-profit consulting arm,

Data and Field Services (DFS).

Donovan's office declined to comment on his review, saying it's against office policy to comment on the existence of pending investigations.

"They're looking through the entire situation, compiling information," said a law enforcement source.

On a separate track, WFP campaign records for 2009 were subpoenaed by the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District this week.

Ms. Rose was among a number WFP-backed candidates, including Public Advocate-elect Bill de Blasio and several Council candidates, who received informational subpoenas as part of the U.S. Attorney's probe.

Rose adviser Allen Cap-

PELLI, an attorney, said that Ms. Rose herself was "not a target" of the U.S. Attorney.

"We are more than happy to cooperate," Cappelli said.

At issue is whether WFP candidates paid full value for campaign consulting services, including get-out-the-vote efforts.

Critics charge that giving WFP candidates consulting services at below-market rates gave them an unfair advantage over competitors and allowed city contribution and spending limits to possibly be circumvented.

Randy Mastro, a former deputy mayor under Republican Rudolph Giuliani, has sued Ms. Rose on behalf of several Island residents, claiming that she did not pay market rates for DFS services.

The Rose camp maintains

that city Campaign Finance Board records prove that no wrongdoing occurred.

The case is set to go forward next month.

The law enforcement source said Donovan's review was sparked by the Mastro lawsuit and by the media attention being generated by the WFP/DFS controversy.

Meanwhile, WFP chairman Dan Cantor said the party "welcomed" the U.S. Attorney's inquiry. The party had already hired the elite Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom law firm to review its practices, with the internal probe headed up by Judith Kaye, former chief judge of the state Court of Appeals.

Tom Wroblewski is the Advance political editor. Read his polit.bureau blog at <http://blog.silive.com/politics>.

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Staten Island Advance

BREAKING NEWS ALL DAY ON silvl.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2009

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Island Rose in bloom

Fledgling councilwoman
takes oath of office
and prepares to hit
the ground running

By PETER N. SPENCER
ADVANCE CITY HALL BUREAU

It may have appeared her long and difficult march toward Staten Island history culminated on Election night, but Debi Rose knows all too well that her work has just begun.

And the first step for the borough's first African-American elected official was to make it official — by taking the oath of office yesterday.

In a brief, informal ceremony in the City Council Chamber at City Hall, surrounded by members of her family, close friends and some of the volunteers who helped get her elected, Ms. Rose was sworn in as the North Shore's next Council member by City Clerk Michael McSweeney.

"I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Council Member for the 49th District, Borough of Staten Island, in the City of New York, according to the



ROSE

SEE ROSE, PAGE A 5

ROSE FROM PAGE A 1

Rose blooms, taking oath of office

best of my ability," Ms. Rose recited, her right hand raised, a broad smile on her face and her eyes brimming with tears.

Ms. Rose has planned a public swearing-in at the St. George Theatre on Saturday, with Gov. David Paterson administering the oath. But the private ritual with the city clerk — mandatory for every candidate elected in the city, whether incumbent or novice — seemed to drive home the reality of her achievement.

"Someone said that Debi Rose will win City Council seat when hell freezes over. Well, it hasn't been this cold in a very long time!" she quipped, referring to the sub-freezing temperatures in the city yesterday.

Afterward, an emotional Ms. Rose thanked her supporters, and tried to put the moment in perspective. She spoke about the sacrifices her ancestors and her family made to give her this opportunity, specifically recalling how her grandfather used to walk across the Brooklyn Bridge every day to take classes and work.

"I know he would be really proud of me this day," Ms. Rose said. "I am overwhelmed. I am just overwhelmed that my dream has come to fruition."

Not too overwhelmed for the task at hand, she insisted. Ms. Rose has spent the last two months in preparation, meeting with city agencies, her Island Council colleagues and with Speaker Christine Quinn to discuss projects she would like to see move forward. Topping that list: The North Shore Railroad, funding for the Island's two hospitals and an additional high school on the North Shore to alleviate the crowds in the hallways and classrooms.

She was particularly interested in a Council bill that would require employers in the city to give paid sick



Democrat Debi Rose is sworn in as the North Shore's City Council member by City Clerk Michael McSweeney. "I am just overwhelmed that my dream has come to fruition," Ms. Rose said.

days. The bill will likely be up for a vote in coming months. Many Council members, including the Island's two Republicans, are concerned the requirements would hurt too many small businesses struggling to make ends meet.

"I absolutely think that working people need paid sick leave, and I am working to find a solution so these small businesses don't bear the brunt," Ms. Rose said.

The physical transition for Ms. Rose should be relatively easy, as she plans to take over the district office of incumbent Kenneth Mitchell on Stuyvesant Place in St.

George. The sixth-floor office also was used by Mitchell's predecessors Jerome (Jay) O'Donovan and Michael McMahon.

Heading that office will be Ms. Rose's chief of staff, Christine Johnson, a former president of the board of the Council on the Arts and Humanities for Staten Island and longtime activist on the North Shore. Ms. Johnson, a New Brighton resident, also was a member of the Democratic County Committee and the Women's Political Network.

Ms. Rose admits there will be high expectations and tremendous pressure for her to

succeed right away.

"I am ready. I feel very ready to meet the challenges, and I have a lot of help because there are so many people who want to see me succeed," she said.

However, there is one thing she has already accomplished, along with the voters who put her in office, she added.

"All of those stereotypes that people have about Staten Islanders — we've dispelled them," she said. "We've shown that we are a part of the 21st century."

Peter N. Spencer covers city government for the Advance. He may be reached at spencer@siadvance.com.



Go vegetarian and help save our endangered planet

By Letters to the Editor/Staten Island Adva...

December 31, 2009, 12:23PM

By RICHARD H. SCHWARTZ,
MEIERS CORNERS

Shifting our imperiled planet to a sustainable path depends, I believe, on acting upon the seven points below:

The world is rapidly approaching an unprecedented catastrophe from global warming and other environmental threats.

The threats are now, not 50 or 100 years from now, or even 5 years from now.

Everything possible must be done to avoid the impending catastrophe. Saving the global environment must become "a central organizing principle" for society today.

An essential step in avoiding an unprecedented climate-catastrophe is a major societal shift to plant-based diets.

There are many additional reasons for a shift away from animal-based diets, related to health, reduced abuses of animals, more efficient use of resources, reduced hunger and reduced deforestation and species extinction, soil erosion, desertification, water pollution and other environmental problems.

In view of the many negative effects involved, animal-based diets are madness and sheer insanity today, destroying human health and our precious planet.

Everything possible must be done to increase awareness of the above points and to move governments, corporations and individuals to take actions to effectively respond to global warming and other environmental threats.

So: Go veg. Be green. Help save the planet!

[The writer is professor emeritus of the [REDACTED] and president of the Jewish Vegetarians of North America and the Society of Ethical and Religious Vegetarians.]

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A positive take on the year gone by

Many people struggled economically, but everyday folk also managed to achieve a lot and make a mark doing it

Thursday, December 31, 2009

SHERRINA NAVANI

Staten Island Advance

Today, on the last day of 2009, take some time to rewind and reminisce about the 364 previous days. There were some positives, even though many Staten Islanders had to cope with hard economic times, and Wall Street faced one of the worse crashes in recent history.

Here's a look back at some of the most positive headlines of the year.

In January President Barack Obama took office and our nation, for the first time, had an African American as its commander in chief. The moment was historic and monumental: Our president stood as living proof that the "American Dream" is achievable. From humble beginnings, Obama rose through difficult times himself, to emerge as the world's most powerful man.

February brought a new low in gas prices, especially to Staten Island. The Hess station at 2488 New Dorp Lane advertised a \$2.03 per gallon cash price. However low, this gas price was still above the national average which was \$1.89 for unleaded regular. (This does, admittedly, seem exorbitant when you compare it to prices 40 or 50 years ago, when gas went for about 40 cents a gallon.)

In March Monsignor Farrell High School in Oakwood transformed its gym into a super large dance hall. Nearly 1,000 teens gathered to party and raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The 26-year tradition was co-sponsored by Farrell and St. Joseph Hill Academy.

The landmarked Conference House, located in Tottenville, brought on two new board members, two new staff members and a new caretaker in April. The five newcomers included James Pistilli, Jack Suter, Kirsten Teasdale, the Conference House's first museum educator; Susan Fowler, office administrator, and Deborah Woodbridge, the Conference House's new caretaker.

At a time when many cultural institutions are cutting costs at every corner, the Conference House, named for the failed peace conference that took place there in 1776 in an attempt to avoid the Revolutionary War, looks to further its mission.

Along with flowers, the month of May usually brings anxiety about upcoming Regents exams to many Staten Island teens. However, Time Warner Cable soothed some nerves by including a new Regents Review channel to its lineup. Hosted by local teachers and presented in a fast-paced, interactive television format, channel 199 helped students learn the basics for everything from math and English, to Earth Science.

Among many other celebrations in June, local celebrities, including state Sen. Diane Savino; Anthony Ferreri, president of Staten Island University Hospital; Tomas Morales, president of the [REDACTED] Robert Cutrona Sr., Project One Services president; Terry Tarangelo, Signature Bank associate group director and vice president, and the Advance's assistant managing editor Marjorie Hack, tied on their dancing shoes and performed the cha-cha, the swing and other fancy footwork to help raise funds for a famous photographer's home, the Alice Austen House museum in Rosebank.

In July, youngsters enjoyed a fishing and costume contest in Willowbrook Park. The Fourth of July tradition -- sponsored by the Zimmer Fish and Game Protective Association -- saw little boys turned out in Huck Finn-style overalls and girls dressed up as Becky Thatcher from the Mark Twain class, "Huckleberry Finn."

The South Shore All Stars Little League ball club hit the big time in August, reaching the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Penn. The team was toasted all over town. It played in memory of hero FDNY Firefighter Michael Cammarata, who died at the World Trade Center during the 9/11 attacks. Cammarata played for the South Shore team that made it to the World Series in 1991.

September saw a return to school, and for one Staten Island resident, a call to deliver a baby in the back of a car. Police Officer Theodore Plevritis, 28, "played doctor" to a 31-year-old mother, deep in labor and ready to deliver. Plevritis and his partner, Justin Naimoli, delivered a 7-pound, 12-ounce baby girl in the back of a livery cab, in downtown Manhattan. Mommy, baby, and officers are all doing fine.

In October, Tottenville resident Susan Chapman, was invited to Washington by President Obama, where she shared her story of the bad mortgage she received from a sub-prime lender. With her home in jeopardy, Chapman helped promote the administration's financial regulatory reforms, including one that calls for creating a Consumer Financial Protection Agency.

For one night in November, New Dorp High School became pageant-central, transforming its stage to host the 44th Annual Miss Staten Island event. Jennifer Scacco, 20, of Prince's Bay, won the crown, as well as a \$14,000 scholarship. Scacco will represent Staten Island in the upcoming Miss New York Pageant, set for 2010.

This month saw the rise of one of Staten Island's Bravest, Salvatore Cassano, to New York City's 32nd Fire Commissioner. The devoted fire official is a Huguenot resident and claims that his "job" and "family" have been connected for the last 40 years.

There are plenty of other good news stories to be told in 2010. May the positive only grow and grow!

Shore Family Fun appears weekly in the Shore sections of the Advance. Sherrina Navani can be reached by e-mailing shores@siadvance.com.

Council speaker stresses job creation

Christine Quinn re-elected to post; members take oath of office

By PETER N. SPENCER
ADVANCE CITY HALL BUREAU

Christine Quinn vowed to make job creation a top priority, expand affordable housing and listen to the needs of small businesses in her second term as the speaker of the City Council.

Ms. Quinn offered some broad strokes on her agenda after being re-elected to the leadership position at the City Council charter meeting yesterday, promising not to let any challenges "cripple our progress or stifle our creativity."

"We'll continue to work together in a way that puts results ahead of political posturing — that uses diversity as a resource, values collaboration, and makes sure that every voice is heard," she said during the Council's first official gathering of a new term.

The latest version of the legislative body has 12 new members, including Staten Island's first African-American elected official, Debi Rose (D-North Shore). Though most had already done so in private ceremonies, all 51 members stood and recited the oath of office when the meeting convened.

Mid-Island Republican James Oddo was also re-elected as Minority Leader.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WILLIAM ALATRISIE

North Shore Democrat Debi Rose was one of the 51 City Council members who were sworn in.

Oddo, who has held that position for nine years, now heads a delegation of five Republican Council members, including Vincent Ignizio from the South Shore. Oddo pledged to "continue to seek common ground" with his Democrat colleagues, but also stressed that his delegation will hold firm to their principles.

"Undoubtedly, there will be issues upon which we disagree — that's democracy, that's debate, that's healthy," Oddo said.

Some insiders have predicted the influx of freshmen, coupled with a mayor that appears to have lost some of his political swagger after eking out a third-term win, would create a more divided City Council. But the speaker faced little opposition in her re-election bid; she was confirmed 47-1, with three members absent.

The one lone — and loud

— voice of dissent was Brooklyn Democrat Charles Barron, who voted for himself as speaker. In a strident, 10-minute speech, he argued that since minorities now compromise the majority of Council members, the speaker should be a person of color.

"Never in the history of the city has there been a person of color as speaker. Never has a person of color headed up the two powerful committees in this Council — the land use committee and the finance committee," Barron said. "It's about us having our turn."

A group of Barron's supporters in attendance heckled some of the African-American Council members as they cast their votes for Ms. Quinn — shouting "Uncle Tom" or "sellout."

Ms. Rose said that while she agreed with Barron's sentiment that "minority com-

munities need to have real power and a real voice," she did not agree with his methods.

"It was the way in which it was approached that absolutely ensured it would fail," Ms. Rose said. "Next time around it should be a real conversation that is on the table, and something that becomes more viable."

During the meeting, the Council also named Oddo to the Rules, Privileges and Elections Committee, which is tasked with selecting chairs and members Council committees. Several insiders have speculated Ms. Rose will be slated to replace Barron as the chair of the Higher Education Committee — a position he was not likely to keep despite yesterday's outburst.

Ignizio expects a contentious four years for the Council, which now has more voices on both the left and right sides of the political spheres.

"There are people of like minds, there are people who will disagree with you. The best way of doing this is to continue the flow of conversation with all parties," Ignizio said. "At the end of the day, majority rule will rule, but nobody can say they were disenfranchised, their voice was not welcomed and they were left out of the process."

Peter N. Spencer covers city government for the Advance. He may be reached at spencer@siadvance.com.

Debi Rose sworn in as councilwoman, becomes first African-American elected to S.I. political office

By [Rich Schapiro](#) and [Kerry Wills](#)
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITERS

Saturday, January 9th 2010, 4:00 AM



Somma-Hammel/SI AdvanceDebi Rose is sworn in as Staten Island councilwoman on Saturday, but her road to City Hall wasn't a smooth one.

[Staten Island](#)'s pioneering new councilwoman was just a young girl in the

'60s when her political aspirations were born.

[Debi Rose](#) watched in awe as her mother met with fellow members of the [National Council of Negro Women](#) to plan events.

"I got to see women working and doing things for the community," said Rose, 57. "I couldn't wait to do my part."

Now, she has her chance. Rose will be sworn in Saturday as the first African-American elected to political office on Staten Island.

"I have often wondered if I was ever going to see this day," said [Ed Josey](#), president of Staten Island's [NAACP](#) chapter.

In an overwhelmingly white borough, Rose's road to City Hall wasn't smooth. She had two agonizing City Council defeats - losing by 170 votes in 2001 and 300 last year.

Undaunted, she threw her hat in again. "I just really felt like I could win it," she said.

And she did, defeating her February special election foe, [Ken Mitchell](#), in November.

"Some folks probably told her, 'Your opportunity might have come and gone,'" said Councilman James Oddo (R-Staten Island). "She was not ready to hear that. She fought and she won in a tough race."

Rose has been fighting for her community since she was a teen. She was the youngest Staten Island president of the National Council of Negro Women, joined Community Board 1 in her 20s, and ran an anti-dropout program at the [College of Staten Island](#).

"It's a big social achievement," constituent [Michael Finley](#), 24, said of her barrier-busting victory. "Sometimes that overshadows things, but the bottom line is she is really good for the community."

Rose campaign official cites 'dysfunction'

Treasurer for lawmaker's primary race admits signing affidavit without knowing all its contents

By TOM WROBLESKI
ADVANCE POLITICAL EDITOR

The treasurer for Democratic City Councilwoman Debi Rose's North Shore primary effort said that campaign "dysfunction" led him to sign an affidavit about campaign matters even though he hadn't prepared the document himself and wasn't aware of all its contents.

The treasurer, Mariners Harbor resident David Thomas, was the first witness as the trial regarding the Rose campaign's relationship with the Working Families Party (WFP) and its Data and Field Services (DFS) consulting arm began in the home-port annex of state Supreme Court.

A lawsuit launched by attorney Randy Mastro on behalf of a group of GOP-connected Staten Islanders contends that campaign contribution and spending limits were skirted because DFS billed Ms. Rose's campaign less than fair market value for its services.

The courtroom was packed early, with Ms. Rose in attendance for a time and joined by more than 40 supporters.

On the stand, Thomas told Mastro he was unaware that Bryan Collinworth, a WFP spokesman, was working on the campaign. Mastro then presented a copy of an affidavit signed by Thomas that mentioned Collinworth's involvement.



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/IAN SOMMA-HAMMILL

City Councilwoman Debi Rose (D-North Shore) attended yesterday's proceedings at the home-port annex of state Supreme Court.

The affidavit had been sent in response to a query from the city Campaign Finance Board.

Under questioning from Justice Anthony Giacobbe, Thomas said that the affidavit was e-mailed to him, and that he signed it at the request of "campaign management." He said that there was "a lot of dysfunction" in the campaign, and that paperwork often "got to me on the final day."

Ms. Rose declined to comment.

Referring to e-mails and other documents, Mastro contended that a handful of WFP operatives were working on behalf of Ms. Rose's campaign for three months before they were officially contracted to do so.

Mastro alleged that DFS paid some of the operatives more for their services than the firm billed Ms. Rose's campaign, meaning that the campaign got a discount.

Mastro also said that DFS billed the campaign \$375 for access to a "sophisticated" list of likely voters when the list was actually worth "tens of thousands of dollars." The campaign, Mastro contended, never even paid the bill.

Speaking outside of court, DFS attorney Lawrence Mandelker said that his evidence will prove that Ms. Rose actually paid on the "high end" of fair market value to DFS, and that the firm did no uncompensated work for the campaign.

Tom Wroblewski is the Advance political editor. Read his polit.bureau blog at <http://blog.silive.com/politics>.



North Shore Councilwoman Debi Rose named head of Council panel on senior centers

By Peter N. Spencer

January 22, 2010, 7:56AM



Advance file photo/Hilton Flores

North Shore City Councilwoman Debi Rose will head the City Council's subcommittee on senior centers.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- North Shore Democrat Debi Rose was named chairwoman of a subcommittee on senior centers, and will sit on committees for education, transportation and health, as the City Council shuffled key leadership positions for the next term during a meeting yesterday.

Staten Island's newest legislator was among nine freshman members who were awarded chairs on the Council's 37 committees, which include five subcommittees and one special committee.

The moves were made despite renewed calls by a good-government group for the Council to reduce the number of its committees and get rid of the stipends — referred to as "lulus" — that accrue to their chairs. This year, the Council members will split \$477,500 in lulus for committee chairmanships and leadership positions, ranging from \$28,500 for Speaker Christine Quinn to \$4,000 for subcommittee chairs.

Ms. Rose is entitled to \$4,000, on top of her \$112,500 Council salary for her chairmanship of Senior Centers, a subcommittee of the Committee on Aging. James Oddo (R-Mid-Island/Brooklyn) gets an additional \$18,000 as the Council minority leader, while Vincent Ignizio (R-South Shore) will no longer get the \$5,000 stipend he received last year because he no longer is the Minority Whip.

Ms. Rose said she has not decided whether she will keep the extra money. At least one Council member, Daniel Garodnick (D-Manhattan), who chairs the Committee on Technology, has refused his \$10,000 lulu.

STATEN ISLAND COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENTS:

Debi Rose (D-North Shore):

Aging (chair of the subcommittee on senior centers)
Education
Health
Higher Education
Transportation

James Oddo (R-Mid-Island/Brooklyn):

Finance
Housing & Buildings
Rules, Privileges & Elections
Standards & Ethics

Vincent Ignizio (R-South Shore):

Education
Finance
Land Use
Standards & Ethics
Transportation
Zoning & Franchises

Reformers claim lulus go to almost every member to help ensure loyalty to the speaker, who decides who gets them and how much, and creates unnecessary committees.

But, while acknowledging that some of the money is wasted on committee heads who do little work, Oddo said the extra salary is warranted for those who work a lot more than others.

"I spent extra time in City Hall doing jobs other Council members don't do. I'm up here on meetings with the Speaker, budget meetings all the time. Other Council members don't do that," Oddo said.

One way to deflect criticism on lulus would be to halve the number of committees, according to Dick Dadey, executive director of the Citizens Union.

"You actually make the committees real committees, with real authority and power and focus. Because right committees are created not so much to provide oversight but to give the Speaker the ability to award a lulu," Dadey said.

Citizens Union also recommends making the Council a full time job with no outside income — positions that all three Island Council members support.

"I don't know how anyone does this job as a part-timer. This district deserves and needs a full time Council member," said Ms. Rose, who will resign from her position as the executive director of the Liberty Partnership Program at the [REDACTED] at the end of the month.

Neither Ignizio nor Oddo holds a job outside the Council.

For Ms. Rose, the Council committee positions will keep her on the front lines of issues that are important to her constituents.



Advance file photo/Jan
Somma-Hammel

Republican Minority Leader and Councilman
James Oddo

"Anytime they try to make cuts to senior centers, they'll have to come through me first," she said.

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Staten Island Advance

BREAKING NEWS ALL DAY ON SILVE.COM

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DID 'HELP' TILT RACE TOWARD MS. ROSE?

Legal action maintains that aid from the Working Families Party tipped primary in her favor

By TOM WROBLESKI
ADVANCE POLITICAL EDITOR

City Councilwoman Debi Rose's campaign stands accused of getting cut-rate campaign services, including get-out-the-vote (GOTV) efforts, during her upset win in last September's Democratic primary, the race that effectively put her in office.



ROSE

But if true, did that give Ms. Rose enough of an advantage to tilt the primary away from then-incumbent Councilman Kenneth Mitchell?

Mitchell declined to comment, but someone familiar with his campaign said there's no doubt that the get-out-the-vote help boosted Ms. Rose, the first African-American elected official in Staten Island history.

"Absolutely," he said. "It gave them resources that they would not have nor-



MITCHELL

SEE CAMPAIGN, PAGE A 10

CAMPAIGN FROM PAGE A 1

Did 'help' tilt race toward Ms. Rose?

mally had."

A lawsuit filed by Randy Mastro, a former deputy mayor under Rudolph Giuliani, alleges that Data & Field Services (DFS), an in-house arm of the Working Families Party (WFP), which endorsed Ms. Rose, charged the campaign below-market rates for consulting and tactical work. The contention is Ms. Rose's campaign was allegedly able to get a break on things like GOTV efforts and campaign mailings because the WFP controls DFS, the firm that did the work.

Mastro claims that this arrangement allowed the WFP to circumvent rules governing how much political parties can contribute to their candidates. Attorneys for DFS and Ms. Rose's campaign have said that Ms. Rose paid market rate for all the firm's services.

The person familiar with the Mitchell campaign said the Mitchell campaign was at a disadvantage because Mitchell's consultant, the Parkside Group, had to contract with outside vendors to have similar campaign work done.

"Working Families was printing her lit," he said. "The Mitchell campaign had to go outside and pay market rate."

In a primary race, where turnout tends to be lower, any extra get-out-the-vote help could be a game-changer. If the campaign was not billed properly, this person said, then whatever discount Ms. Rose got should have been recorded as an in-kind contribution, a designation given to unbilled services provided to a campaign.

"It should have been counted against her spending cap," he said.

Mastro, however, wouldn't say that allegedly getting services at a reduced rate turned the primary in Ms. Rose's favor.

"We'll never know for sure whether the election result would have been different," Mastro said.

Aside from the campaign that Ms. Rose ran, Mitchell's loss in the primary was attributed to a host of factors, including complacency on the part of Democratic supporters who didn't come out to vote for him because they assumed he would win.

Observers also pointed out that Republicans and Conservatives who voted for Mitchell in an earlier Council special election were not eligible to cast ballots for him in the primary, which was restricted to Democratic Party members.

They also said that some special election supporters of the Rev. Dr. Tony Baker, who is also African-American, broke for Ms. Rose in the primary.

But Parkside strategist Evan Stavisky, who worked on Mitchell's campaign, contended that Mitchell lost because it was the third time that Ms. Rose had run for the Council seat and her base voters were highly motivated to come out for her.

"Did anything else happen?" Stavisky said. "Personally, I doubt it. In Debi Rose's case, I just think third time was the charm."

Allen Cappelli, a Rose adviser, agreed.

"She ran a campaign on issues that people responded to, like roads, education and economic development," he said. "She had a broad coalition of community-based supporters that banded together behind her."

But the lawsuit has had its embarrassing moments for Ms. Rose. Her campaign treasurer on the stand called her Council campaign "dysfunctional," and he acknowledged that he signed a sworn affidavit about campaign activities even though he wasn't familiar with the contents. Cappelli declined to comment.

The trial will resume before state Supreme Court Justice Anthony Giacobbe on Feb. 27.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010 STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

CELEBRATION OF LIFE OF REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE PHOTOS/HILTON FLORES

Rep. Michael McMahon, above right, yesterday held a birthday tribute to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at Brighton Heights Reformed Church in St. George. Councilwoman Debi Rose, above third from right, was keynote speaker. Honored were Geraldine Parker, left; Arthur Maurice Wilson; Tiffani Barnes, standing in for Anthony and Sam Barnes; Teddy Atlas; Duane C. Felton, and the Rev. James Seawood. At right is Aurelia Curtis, another honoree during the event called "A Time to Care."



Staten Island Advance

CONNECTING FROM HOME

Many fathers, especially stay-at-home dads, feeling isolated blog as a way to socialize with the outside world

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

By **ANDREA BOYARSKY**

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Caring for a sick baby, dirty diapers and breast-feeding. Sound like topics mothers are talking about? Think again.

On the blog, "Don't Drop the Baby on Her Head" (www.dontdropthebabyonherhead.com), Bruce Goldstein chronicles the adventures of Daddy and "the Bean," as he calls his 18-month-old daughter, Rowan.

Like a number of fathers who have been laid off recently, the former Bay Terrace resident, who now lives in Manhattan, turned to the Internet to connect with others and share stories of stay-at-home dad-dom.

Trapped in the apartment with a baby, Goldstein says blogging is a convenient way to reach out to others in a similar position.

"It's like joining a support group in a way," he said.

Digital strategist Jessica Smith called 2010 the "Year of the Daddy Blogger" on her own blog, JessicaKnows.com.

The Sacramento, Calif., resident predicts this will be the case mainly because the weakened economy -- which has forced more men out of work than women -- has led to less traditional family set-ups with more fathers like Goldstein staying home and caring for children.

While being unemployed and isolated at home may be one reason fathers are flocking to the blogosphere, not all who blog are stay-at-home dads nor do they write solely about fatherhood. Daddy blogs focus on technology, cars, food, books and among other interests, and many also attract female readers.

Like the mommy bloggers that came before them, dads also are gaining popularity with manufacturers. Sony recently teamed up with several daddy bloggers, loaning them gadgets in exchange for posting reviews.

"Marketers don't want people who have lukewarm interests in their products," Ms. Smith, a vice president with communications firm Fleishman-Hillard, said. "They want true evangelists, and dads are very vocal about what they love."

A CHANGE OF PLANS

Goldstein's journey to the blogosphere started three months after his daughter was born. The idea was for his wife to return to work and Rowan to go to day care. But plans changed when Goldstein lost his job and decided to become a stay-at-home dad.

While caring for Rowan, Goldstein, author of "Puppy Chow Is Better Than Prozac" (Da Capo Press), wrote journal entries about his experiences and later used them for his blog, which he started in November. Eventually, he plans on turning the entries into a book.

The first post explains the blog's name, when Goldstein accidentally dropped Rowan on her head after tripping over his dog while doing laundry. Other entries discuss caring for a sick baby, changing a diaper in public, bath time, baby modeling and breast-feeding.

"Being a blogger is like joining a club. You want to hear what other people are going through and that you're not the only one," Goldstein commented. What "it comes down to, it's nice to know there's another guy changing diapers."

Dr. Kathleen Cumiskey, chair of the psychology department at the [REDACTED] agreed blogging is often done for social reasons. Home can be an isolating place, she said, and one reason both men and women blog is to communicate with others in similar situations.

Bloggers also may experience what is known as "online disinhibition effect," she said. At home, sitting in front of a computer screen, they are able to say things and express feelings they may not discuss in person.

The Internet is "a place where they feel comfortable, their guard is down," said Dr. Cumiskey, who studies how technology affects people's perceptions of social reality. "Online you can create your own social environment in a way," she said, adding, "They may be less influenced by society's expectations."

INDIRECT ENTRY When Bronx resident Eric Payne started his blog two years ago, it wasn't a parenting blog. Instead it was a place where he could complain about his work commute. But one day, he wrote about coming into work feeling "dead tired" because his daughter was sleeping in his bed and beating him up during the night.

While he received few comments to previous posts, this one gained a lot more interest. People related to his story and someone suggested he write mainly about his family life. Payne decided to try it out and his readership grew.

On his blog "Makes Me Wanna Holler" (www.makesmewannaholler.com), the father of two offers anecdotal stories, including posts about the birth of his daughter, the worst sex talk ever with his teen son and food allergies. His goal, he noted, is to give people something they can relate to, not necessarily advice.

Payne noted about 65 percent of his readers are women, ages 35 to 44, and some are single moms. His blog, he believes, makes them hopeful for their own relationships and gives them insight into a man's thoughts.

"I think women want to hear from men; I think they're really curious to hear a guy be so open because many guys aren't," he said.

One of Payne's favorite posts was written for the blog "Black and Married with Kids," to which he is a contributor. In "My Wife Is NOT My Friend (on Facebook)," he discusses issues he and his wife had when "friends" on the social networking site and how eventually he "unfriended" her.

The post got about 4,000 hits in several hours. Payne says the entry "exposed something people weren't talking about" -- the complications that can come up between spouses on Facebook. As Payne's blog grew to include more than 400 posts, he started to see writing as a therapy of sorts.

Through his blog, he has been able to sort out his family issues and likens it to a journal, except he's sharing it with the world.

"Sometimes my blog is my sounding board. I can bounce ideas off of people or get an idea of what they are thinking," he said, adding, "Sometimes a commentor will steer me in the right direction or knock some sense into me."

Andrea Boyarsky is a features reporter for the Advance. She may be reached at boyarsky@siadvance.com.

DISSENT

Moral Icon

William Kornblum and Leonard Quart - January 26, 2010

MORGAN FREEMAN was asked many years ago by Nelson Mandela to create a film based on *No Easy Walk To Freedom*, his 1994 autobiography. It never got made, but Freeman got his chance with *Invictus*, a big-budget Hollywood film, where he indeed plays one who is the “master of his fate.” Director Clint Eastwood uses sports, in this case rugby, to dramatize Mandela’s courageous political leadership. Rugby was the sport of the white Afrikaner minority (soccer was the game of black South Africans), and their nearly all-white team the “Springboks” was a symbol of apartheid. Based on the John Carlin book, *Playing the Enemy*, the film captures the story of the 1995 Rugby World Cup held in South Africa not long after Mandela became president.

In the film’s opening sequence, Mandela has just been released from the prison on Robyn Island, and through a series of powerful black-and-white scenes, Freeman convincingly captures Mandela assuming the presidency amid African euphoria and white fear. But Mandela was still aware of the many difficulties that he now faced. Upon seeing a headline of an Afrikaner newspaper that read: “He Can Win An Election, But Can He Govern?”, he admitted, “It’s a legitimate question.”

As Mandela took office, most of the white staff members tendered their resignations and were preparing to leave. But Mandela surprised everyone with his grace, generosity, and profound understanding of the racial climate of his fractured society. He rejected the advice of his party and advisers and provided the rugby team with his wholehearted commitment in its quest to win the World Cup.

It was a shrewd political move; Mandela knew that he needed white support in order to run the country and economy effectively and achieve some semblance of cultural reconciliation. Unlike some of his compatriots, Mandela had transcended the desire to punish his former jailers. But despite the complicated nature of his ascension, the film eschews genuine political analysis and only mentions in passing that the new regime faces severe problems, which included one of the highest violent crime rates in the world, unemployment, poverty, a “brain drain,” an HIV/AIDS pandemic, and a struggle to achieve monetary and fiscal discipline.

What the film does focus on is the rugby tournament. As is Eastwood's wont, he never grants much psychological nuance or inner life to his major characters, and the minor characters—the political advisers, bodyguards, housekeepers—are equally one-dimensional figures. *Invictus* implies that the noble Mandela like more ordinary men is beset with personal difficulties—his separation and divorce from controversial politician, Winnie Mandela, was a particularly painful episode in his life—but it's the iconic figure, not the complex human one, that Eastwood and Freeman have decided to project.

The film's only significant white character is the Springbok captain, a sympathetic, opaque Francois Pienaar (Matt Damon) who is more a medium to demonstrate the powerful moral effect of Mandela on others than a developed character. In fact, the whole film is a medium for this message. It has little normal conversation and is built around the very direct, inspirational, and morally uplifting quality of Mandela's way of speaking.

Invictus is geared to manipulate and move. The underdog Springbok's World Cup victory against New Zealand's vaunted All Blacks is supposed to be viewed as a parallel for Mandela's improbable triumph in unifying South Africa. The lengthy final scene of the rugby players sweating, bleeding, and banging into each other is extremely well-handled, but the swelling soundtrack and the syrupy shots of interracial bonding over the Springbok victory are saccharine, even embarrassing. Just as the film manufactures from Mandela's story a breathless tale of a politically transcendent leader who has suddenly made all of South Africa's turmoil and poverty disappear, it draws similarly specious conclusions about what was a genuinely great sports victory.

Nelson Mandela deserves a better film than *Invictus*—a film that honors the man not through hagiography but through an honest portrayal of the difficulties he was forced to overcome. But let's hope this is only the beginning of films that depict Africa's political leaders with the same respect accorded to George Washington or Simon Bolivar. After a diet of films about Idi Amin, Rwanda, and other African horrors, this film is certainly welcome even if a work of art needs much more than being on the side of the angels.

William Kornblum, a member of the *Dissent* Editorial Board, is a professor in the Doctoral Sociology Program, The Graduate Center, CUNY. **Leonard Quart** is professor emeritus of Cinema Studies at the [redacted] and the CUNY Graduate Center, Contributing Editor of *Cineaste*, and co-author *American Film and Society Since 1945* (Praeger).

Nelson Mandela, *Invictus*, William Kornblum, Leonard Quart,



January 31, 2010

Transportation report suggests new toll roads, raising N.J. gas tax

By LARRY HIGGS
TRANSPORTATION WRITER

Interstates 78, 80, 195, 287 and 295 are likely targets to become toll roads, transportation experts predict in response to a report submitted to Gov. Chris Christie that suggests that the state explore placing tolls on certain highways.

The report, released on Jan. 22, also suggests having voters decide whether to raise the state's gasoline tax, after all revenue that is supposed to be dedicated to the state's Transportation Trust Fund has been returned to that purpose.

The report, which notes that the Transportation Trust Fund will run out of money in 2011 to pay for any highway, bridge or mass transit projects in fiscal year 2012, made six general recommendations about how to raise revenue but did not go into details.

Revenue from the state's gas tax will raise enough money just to cover the estimated \$895 million debt payment in July 2011, the report said.

It recommends exploring "limited tolling of select interstate highways to pay for improvements to those highways," but didn't identify highways to be considered.

Transportation experts said the most likely candidates for tolling would be east-west interstates I-78, I-80 and I-195, along with other high-volume highways such as I-287 and I-295. Doing that requires federal approval, which would require state officials to demonstrate why toll money is needed to fix that specific highway.

"You'd want a road with high volume that's steadily growing and that has few tolling (entrance or exit) points," said Jonathan D. Peters, associate professor of finance at the [redacted] who studies toll road finance. "All are high volume, I-78, I-80, I-295 and 287 pop out, most of those would test well."

Transportation Commissioner-designate James Simpson said he wouldn't comment on the recommendations until after he has been confirmed by the Legislature. Christie administration spokesman Michael Drewniak said many of the recommendations may never become reality.

"Many of the recommendations must be rejected outright. Others we'll use to inform our policy, and some will be adopted," he said. "We are fully aware of the Transportation Trust Fund situation, and you will hear things from the administration in the next few weeks."

Assembly Republican Leader Alex DeCroce, R-Morris, who's served on the transportation committee, said he opposes increasing the gas tax and putting tolls on interstate highways.

"We should look at existing revenues coming in and try and put together a funding program, enough to keep the road maintained and begin new projects, like maintaining bridges and replacing other

bridges and continue maintenance on NJ Transit," DeCroce said.

He opposes interstate highway tolls because they would discourage businesses from locating and staying in the state and would hurt small start-up businesses.

"Once you start it, that's just another fee and tax the state doesn't need. I'd hold off on that one," DeCroce said. "We should give the new governor the opportunity to work on straightening out the hole in the (state) budget and to talk to his new commissioner of transportation, NJ Transit executive director and treasurer."

Christie opposed increasing the gas tax or raising tolls on the state's existing toll roads, DeCroce said.

Winning federal approval to make an interstate a toll road isn't easy, as was the case with Pennsylvania's unsuccessful application to place tolls on I-80, which was rejected in September 2008. Pennsylvania officials have reapplied.

"It can't be that you just want to raise revenue," Peters said.

The federal government won't allow toll money from an interstate to be diverted to other roads or to mass transit, which is what scuttled the Pennsylvania I-80 application, Peters said.

"The feds turned it back to them when they wanted to do it to (also) subsidize mass transit in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh," Peters said. "The federal government made a significant investment (in the interstates), and they want to protect that investment."

Selling toll and gas-tax increases to drivers would be hard, especially in the current recession, experts said.

"We polled 1,000 motorists in November, and 64 percent of those polled said they don't see increasing the gas tax," said Tracy Noble, MidAtlantic AAA spokeswoman. "It hits motorists in pocket; they'll tell you no."

Putting tolls on interstate highways also got a thumbs down from AAA.

"We do not support adding tolls to roads that are nontolled," Noble said.

Revenue for the trust fund to pay debt and fund projects will have to come from several sources, and there won't be one "silver bullet," said Zoe Baldwin, New Jersey advocate for the Tri-State Transportation Campaign, a group that works to reduce the dependency on cars.

Drivers are paying now for bad roads, she said, citing a June 2009 report that analyzed the nation's worst highways.

A New Jersey motorist spends an average of \$596 annually in extra vehicle operating costs because of bad roads, the highest in the nation and nearly double the national average of \$335, she said.

Baldwin cited projections that a gas-tax increase of 25 cents a gallon would cost the average household about \$230 a year. A 10-cents-a-gallon increase would cost the same household about \$93 per year, she said.

Peters said that it's also cheaper to collect gas-tax revenues than tolls.

"Even with cashless tolls, the cost of collection runs in the 14 to 20 percent of revenues collected," he said. "A fuel tax runs 1 to 2 percent for the cost of operations."

Both Peters and Baldwin said revenue solutions also must be equitable for all residents and regions.

"We need to make sure that, whatever solutions are enacted, they spread the burden across all of the transportation users and make sure they all benefit from Transportation Trust Fund projects," Baldwin said.

The report also recommends collecting the gas tax at the refinery, which will net a 10 percent increase in collections through efficiencies and cutting losses. Peters said it's not only more efficient, but that it also reduces the chance for fraud.

Peters also suggested indexing the gas tax to account for inflation and increased fuel economy of certain vehicles.

Another recommendation suggests merging the South Jersey Transportation Authority, which runs the Atlantic City Expressway, with the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, which runs that road and the Garden State Parkway. It also proposed the turnpike authority, the state Department of Transportation and NJ Transit share certain functions for economies of scale.

It also proposed the use of "enhanced" toll collection methods against drivers who use E-ZPass lanes to cheat on tolls.

Drewniak called the transition reports a chance to have people inside and out of the government sit down with the agencies, look at the issues and brainstorm possible solutions.

"They are useful in the ideas and assessments," he said. "They'll be used in the budget process and reform of state government and agencies like NJ Transit and the authorities."

Public trust will be a big issue, both Baldwin and Peters said, given that in the past, money that was supposed to go to the Transportation Trust Fund money has been diverted for other purposes.

"They have to make sure every dollar of revenue raised is dedicated to the Transportation Trust Fund. The state has had a large problem with raiding the fund," Baldwin said. "The public is uneasy with paying a higher tax for transportation and finding it doesn't go to transportation."

The looming funding crisis opens the door for Christie to have an "honest dialogue" with the public.

"Showing the public what they get for their money will be an integral part of this," Baldwin said.

ON THE WEB: Christie Administration Transportation subcommittee report:

<http://www.state.nj.us/governor/news/reports/Transportation.pdf>

Tripnet 2009 report on NJ road conditions and costs:

<http://www.tripnet.org/NewJerseyReportJune2009.pdf>

Sports

men cruise past City Tech, 76-48

By Jim Waggoner

December 02, 2009, 12:39AM



Staten Island Advance file
photo

CSI guard Dale Taranto, right, had seven points, six assists and four steals in Tuesday night's 76-48 win at City Tech.

The [redacted] barely broke a sweat in routing City Tech, 76-48, in a CUNY Conference basketball opener Tuesday night in downtown Brooklyn.

The Dolphins jumped out to a 13-2 lead in the first eight minutes, expanded it to 29-13 at halftime, and used a 47-point second half to cruise past the winless Yellow Jackets.

[redacted] didn't let up after intermission, using a 17-4 run to build a 46-17 lead with 16 minutes remaining in the game.

"We played some defense," said [redacted] coach Tony Petosa. "We have some depth and some size, and these kids seem willing to learn."

The Dolphins, 1-0 in CUNY play and 2-2 overall, held City Tech (0-1, 0-5) to five first-half baskets and 32.3 percent shooting for the game. Gabriel Davis scored most of his game-high 21 points after

the outcome had been decided.

Dale Taranto jump-started the second-half outburst with a three-point shot, and Jordan Young followed with a conventional three-point play. Christian Montervino nailed another long three-pointer and the rout was on at 38-15.

Mike Ledbetter, a 6-foot-7 junior center, worked inside for 17 points and seven rebounds, while Montervino (15 points) and Young (13 points) hit double figures in a balanced offense. The Dolphins made 30 of 59 shots, a crisp 50.8 percent clip, and picked up the tempo with numerous second-half transition layups.

"Ledbetter's a big guy inside, he's tough to handle when he's on," said Petosa. "We haven't had a player like him the past couple years."

Senior guard Ryan Hennessey and Taranto combined for 13 assists and [redacted] was well on its way to an impressive CUNY debut.

"One game doesn't tell us a lot," said Petosa, "but it's safe to say we're an improved team."

The Dolphins finished 6-20 last season.

They could be in the process of erasing those memories.

NOTES: [redacted] hosts defending CUNY champion Brooklyn College (0-1, 2-3) Thursday night at 7:30 at the Sports and Recreation Center. The Bridges, ranked No. 10 in an NCAA Division III preseason poll, dropped their CUNY opener to visiting York, 68-67 ... In other CUNY openers, Hunter topped visiting John Jay, 98-87; Lehman took a 67-46 home win over City College; and host Baruch outlasted Medgar Evers, 91-82.

(76)

Montervino 6-14 0-0 15, Taranto 2-4 2-3 7, Hennessey 4-6 0-0 9, Young 5-9 3-13 13, Pan 1-2 0-0 2, Jenkins 1-1 0-1 2, Frank 1-4 0-1 2, Mondello 0-0 0-0 0, Rogers 1-3 2-2 5, Maccarone 0-1 0-0 0, Person 2-4 0-0 4, Ledbetter 7-11 3-9 17.

Totals: 30-59 10-18 76.

CITY TECH (48)

Gooding 2-7 0-0 4, Robinson 1-3 0-3 2, Davis 8-15 5-8 21, Charles 4-15 1-1 9, Reyes 0-4 0-0 0, Anderson 0-1 0-0 0, Graham 0-0 0-0 0, Townsend 0-3 0-0 0, Jimoh 3-3 0-0 6, Wright 0-1 0-1 0, Callender 0-2 0-0 0, Fuller 2-8 2-4 6, Ekwuenu 0-0 0-0 0.

Totals: 20-62 8-17 48.

Halftime: 29-13, [REDACTED]

Three-point goals: [REDACTED] 6-16 (Montervino 3-9, Taranto 1-1, Hennessey 1-3, Young 0-1, Frank 0-1, Rogers 1-1); City Tech 0-6 (Gooding 0-3, Davis 0-1, Charles 0-2). Rebounds: [REDACTED] 38 (Ledbetter 7); City Tech 39 (Robinson 8). Assists: [REDACTED] 19 (Hennessey 7, Taranto 6); City Tech 7 (Townsend 2). Turnovers: [REDACTED] 19, City Tech 23. Total fouls: [REDACTED] 22, City Tech 17. Fouled out: Taranto.

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CSI women win opener

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

For openers, it was an impressive showing.

The College of Staten Island launched its CUNY Conference women's basketball season last night with a 73-30 rout of City Tech in downtown Brooklyn.

The Dolphins (1-0 CUNY, 2-3 overall) raced to a 38-9 halftime lead and emptied the bench in the second half against the winless Yellow Jackets (0-1, 0-4).

"I thought we looked fairly sharp early," said CSI coach Marguerite Moran, "and we were able to play a lot of our younger kids."

Allie Shanahan paced the attack with 18 points and six rebounds, while Denise McLaughlin added 16 points and Katelyn Hepworth 13 points and 10 rebounds.

The Dolphins shot 51.7 percent from the floor, while the Yellow Jackets connected on only 15.8 of their shots.

NOTES: CSI hosts Brooklyn in its home opener tomorrow night at 5:30 ... Senior guard Kristen Panariello had eight points and nine assists.

CSI (72)

Hepworth 6-7 2-2 13, Panariello 4-11 0-1 8, Shanahan 8-12 0-0 18, Zajonc 2-7 1-2 5, McLaughlin 6-8 2-2 16, Quattrocchi 1-2 0-0 2, Tierno 3-9 0-0 6, Antoine 0-2 4-2, Johnson 0-0 2-4 2.

Totals: 30-58 8-15 72.

CITY TECH (30)

Miller 0-7 2-8 2, Duzler 1-6 1-2 3, Simon 2-13 1-3 5, Thomas 3-11 1-2 8, Battle 1-9 2-5 4, Sarayi 0-0 0-0 0, Casey 2-11 4-6 8, Onorio 0-0 0-0 0.

Totals: 9-57 11-26 30.

Halftime: 38-9, CSI.

Three-point goals: CSI 4-14 (Panariello 0-5, Shanahan 2-4, McLaughlin 2-3, Quattrocchi 0-1, Tierno 0-1); City Tech 1-4 (Miller 0-1, Thomas 1-3). Rebounds: CSI 41 (Hepworth 18); City Tech 47 (Simon 9, Battle 9). Assists: CSI 23 (Panariello 9, Johnson 5); City Tech 4 (Duzler 2). Turnovers: CSI 29, City Tech 40. Total fouls: CSI 20, City Tech 19. Fouled out: none.

Nisbett getting a feel for winning at Brooklyn College

By Daniel O'Leary

December 03, 2009, 1:45PM



Damion Reid

D.C. Nisbett, 3, is averaging 15.6 points per game over the first three games of the season.

D.C. Nisbett is contributing to a championship team again.

In his senior year at Petrides, despite leading Staten Island in scoring, his Panthers didn't win a game. And, after playing sparingly two years at Division II Nyack College (including a redshirt freshman season), he decided it was time to come home. And he wanted to play for a winner.

So Nisbett decided on Brooklyn College, which recruited him as a high school senior, and last season it couldn't have worked out better as he averaged 12.8 points per game and helped the Bridges to a CUNY title.

"When I came to Brooklyn, everybody on the team welcomed me with open arms," said Nisbett. "Since I walked through the door, I felt like I belonged and that I fit what they needed. And last year was great. I haven't been on a championship team probably since CYO."

This season, Brooklyn was rated 10th in the country in some Division III preseason rankings and Nisbett, scoring a team-high 15.6 points per game over his first three games -- including 19 points in 18 minutes in the season opener -- is a big reason why.

"It definitely feels good to get that kind of respect, but it's humbling. You try not to get too excited because you still have to go out and play," said Nisbett, a senior guard. "When you win, you expect to be noticed, but not to that extent. Now I guess we have a target on our backs."

Nisbett said playing so close to home has given him "that high school feel" again, getting to play in front of his parents and grandparents. And tonight, he couldn't possibly be playing any closer to home, when Brooklyn visits the [REDACTED] for a 7:30 tip.

"It's going to be interesting. I know a lot of people going to the [REDACTED] game, some family and some old high school friends. Oh, yeah, I will definitely have a bit of a cheering section," Nisbett laughed. "It's going to be my last opportunity playing college ball in that gym or any gym on Staten Island, so I definitely want to make a memorable one. Hopefully get a win."

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Brooklyn College spoils [REDACTED] home opener

By Jim Waggoner

December 04, 2009, 12:21AM



Staten Island
Advance/Derek Alvez

CSI center Mike Ledbetter, who led the Dolphins with 25 points, looks to shoot over Brooklyn College defender Richard Jean-Baptiste.

Brooklyn College changed its mascot name earlier this week, throwing out the Bridges and christening the newly-annointed Bulldogs.

Unfortunately for the [REDACTED] the men's basketball team from across the Verazzano-Narrows Bridge remained pretty much the same. ¶

The Bulldogs strutted their defending CUNY Conference championship stuff Thursday night, spoiling [REDACTED] home opener with a 90-60 rout that had little suspense after the opening minutes at the Sports and Recreation Center.

"We were manhandled," said 20th-year [REDACTED] coach Tony Petosa after his team dropped to 1-1 conference play and 2-3 overall. "They're good ... they're very talented ... they have a little bit of everything.

"But I was really a little shocked tonight. I thought we'd play them much closer. We have to play better."

Senior forward Richard Jean-Baptiste led a balanced attack with 21 points, six assists and three steals, but the reigning CUNY MVP had plenty of help. Junior forward Iouri Matsakov added 17 points and

11 rebounds as Brooklyn ran the Dolphins out of their own gym.

The Bulldogs took a 30-14 lead in the first 13 minutes, and coasted after leading 47-28 at halftime. They sank 35 of 66 shots for a 53 percent clip, and outrebounded [REDACTED] by a dominating 48-32 margin.

Time after time, the visitors turned either a turnover or quick shot into a fastbreak opportunity at the other end of the court.

"We can't play at their tempo," said Petosa. "We're not athletic enough or quick enough. We're not built that way."

Brooklyn continued to maintain its frantic pace in the second half and when senior guard D.C. Nisbett, a Petrides HS product, drained a three-point bomb for his only basket of the night, the Bulldogs were cruising with a 66-41 lead.

"They created our turnovers because they came out and got us," said Petosa of the Dolphins' 22 miscues and 18 Brooklyn steals. "Their guards were more physical than our guards and we couldn't take care of the basketball."

[REDACTED] sophomore Jordan Young tallied 11 points and eight rebounds, but it was a quiet night for last year's CUNY Rookie of the Year.

Junior center Mike Ledbetter led the attack with 25 points, hitting 12 of 17 shots, but no other Dolphin reached double figures on a night when they made only 22 baskets, shot 37.9 percent from the floor, and missed 14 of 27 free throws.

Brooklyn might have also had some added incentive after losing three of its first five games, including a 68-67 CUNY home opener to York.

The Bulldogs had been ranked No. 10 in a NCAA Division III preseason poll.

"I think they're better than they were last year," said Petosa, "and they won the conference last year.

"We have a lot of work to do."

NOTES: Brooklyn has won the last five games of a series that [REDACTED] stills leads 27-11 ... The Dolphins travel to Mount St. Vincent on Monday night before hosting Drew University on Wednesday.

BROOKLYN (90)

Jean-Baptiste 9-14 1-2 21, Matsakov 7-8 1-1 17, John 6-10 1-2 13, Nisbett 1-4 0-0 3, Guerin 4-7 1-2 9, Hemingway 1-5 4-4 6, Martinez 0-2 0-0 0, Velasquez 0-1 0-0 0, Shea 0-1 4-6 4, Purisic 1-3 0-0 2, Grant 2-3 0-1 4, Russell 1-2 0-0 2, Thornton 2-5 3-4 7, Cudjoe 1-1 0-0 2.

Totals: 35-66 15-22 90.

[REDACTED] (60)

Montervino 3-11 1-2 9, Young 3-7 5-8 11, Pan 0-0 1-2 1, Taranto 1-6 1-2 3, Hennessey 1-9 3-7 5, Ledbetter 12-17 1-4 25, Bisnauth 0-1 0-0 0, Jenkins 0-0 0-0 0, Frank 2-3 0-0 5, Mondello 0-0 0-0 0, Rogers 0-2 0-0 0, Maccarone 0-0 1-2 1, Person 0-2 0-0 0.

Totals: 22-58 13-27 60.

Halftime: 47-28, Brooklyn.

Three-point goals: BC 5-14 (Jean-Baptiste 2-4, Matsakov 2-2, Nisbett 1-4, Hemingway 0-1, Martinez 0-1, Russell 0-1); [REDACTED] 3-12 (Montervino 2-4, Taranto 0-2, Hennessey 0-4, Bisnauth 0-1, Frank 1-1). Rebounds: BC 48 (Matsakov 11, Purisic 7); [REDACTED] 32 (Young 8). Assists: BC 14 (Jean-Baptiste 6); CSI 15 (Hennessey 6). Turnovers: BC 19, [REDACTED] 22. Total fouls: BC 23, [REDACTED] 24. Fouled out: Hennessey.

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STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

SPORTS

B

FRIDAY
DECEMBER 4, 2009

CSI gets the same old treatment

Brooklyn College unveils new mascot, but stays unchanged in routing Dolphins, 90-60

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Brooklyn College changed its mascot name earlier this week, throwing out the Bridges and christening the newly anointed Bulldogs.

Unfortunately for the College of Staten Island, the men's basketball team from across the Verazzano-Narrows Bridge remained pretty much the same.

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"We were manhandled," said 20th-year CSI coach Tony Petosa after his team dropped to 1-1 conference play and 2-3 overall. "They're good ... they're very talented ... they have a little bit of everything."

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STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/DEREK ALVEZ

College of Staten Island sophomore Jordan Young tallied 11 points and eight rebounds.

"We have to play better."

Senior forward Richard Jean-Baptiste led a balanced attack with 21 points, six assists and three steals, but the reigning CUNY MVP had plenty of help. Junior forward Iouri Matsakov added 17 points and 11 rebounds as Brooklyn ran the Dolphins out of their own gym.

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SEE CSI, PAGE B 3



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/DEREK ALVEZ

Brooklyn College's D.C. Nisbett sets up a play against CSI defender Dale Taranto.

CSI FROM PAGE B 1

CSI gets the same old treatment

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"We have a lot of work to do."

NOTES: Brooklyn has won the last five games of a series that CSI stills leads 27-11. ... The Dolphins travel to Mount St. Vincent on Monday night before hosting Drew University on Wednesday.

BROOKLYN (W)

Jean-Baptiste 9-14 3-2 21, Matukov 7-8 1-1 11, John 6-10 1-2 13, Nisbett 1-4 0-0 3, Gorman 4-7 1-2 9, Hemmingsway 1-5 4-4 6, Martinez 0-2 0-0 0, Velazquez 0-1 0-0 0, Shea 0-1 4-4 4, Purton 1-3 0-0 1, Grant 2-3 0-1 4, Russell 1-2 0-0 2, Thornton 2-0 0-0 7, Cofone 1-1 0-0 1.

Totals: 35-66 25-32 60.

CSI (W)

Martinez 3-11 1-2 9, Young 3-7 5-8 11, Pan 0-0 0-2 1, Taranto 1-4 0-2 3, Hemmingsway 1-0 2-7 1, Ledbetter 12-17 1-4 25, Bismuth 0-1 0-0 0, Jenkins 0-0 0-0 0, Frank 2-2 0-0 1, Mondello 0-0 0-0 0, Rogers 0-2 0-0 0, MacCarone 0-0 1-2 1, Person 0-2 0-0 0.

Totals: 22-58 13-27 60.

Halftime: 47-26, Brooklyn.

Three-point goals: BC 5-14 (Jean-Baptiste 2-4, Matukov 2-2, Nisbett 1-4, Hemmingsway 0-1, Martinez 0-1, Russell 0-1); CSI 2-12 (Martinez 2-4, Taranto 0-1, Hemmingsway 0-4, Bismuth 0-1, Frank 1-1). Rebounds: BC 48 (Matukov 11, Person 7); CSI 32 (Young 10, Nisbett 8; BC 14 (Jean-Baptiste 6); CSI 15 (Hemmingsway 4). Turnovers: BC 15, CSI 22. Total fouls: BC 23, CSI 24. Fouled out: Hemmingsway.

Brooklyn College brings down CSI, 76-64

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Brooklyn College women's basketball coach Alex Lang took over the program eight years ago, inheriting a winless 0-26 team.

Little by little, he's seen improvement, but not on the scoreboard against the College of Staten Island.

Brooklyn finally broke through last night at the Sports and Recreation Center, scoring a 76-64 CUNY Conference victory of historic proportions for both Lang and the visitors.

CSI brought a 30-1 all-time series lead into the home opener. The Dolphins' lone loss came in 1983.

"We have a very talented team right now," said Lang. "But CSI traditionally is strong and they're not done this year. They'll be strong by the end of the season."

"We caught them when they don't have a true point guard and I think we exploited that."

While the Dolphins (1-1 CUNY, 2-4 overall) are missing injured senior point guard Mallory Ameneiros, they're also battling a serious case of youthful inexperience.

CSI had 35 turnovers and shot poorly, missing 10 of 16 free throws while sinking only 4 of 18 three-point shots.

"If we don't take care of the ball and make our free throws ... we realize we can be in for a long night," said CSI coach Marguerite Moran.

"And it was a long night."

Brooklyn used an 11-1 run midway through the second half to turn a 49-49 deadlock into a 60-50 lead with seven minutes left. Junior guards Amber Gordon (19 points) and Ariel Smith (14 points, seven assists) helped control the tempo; while seniors Priscilla Ramirez (18 points, nine assists, five steals) and Frances Lyons (16 points, 14 rebounds) contributed to the onslaught.

Smith nailed a three-pointer from the left baseline to make it 63-52, and she followed with a steal and solo layup. Ramirez turned a CSI turnover into a driving three-point play, and the 68-54 deficit ended any comeback hopes in the final four minutes.

Allie Shanahan topped the Dolphins with 17 points and nine rebounds, while fresh-

man Katelyn Hepworth (14 points, 12 rebounds) and Danielle McLaughlin (11 points) hit double figures.

But, as Moran said, it was a long night for CSI.

And a memorable one for Brooklyn College.

"I'm glad we finally got one," said Lang with a smile.

BROOKLYN (76)

Ramirez 6-17 4-5 18, Lyons 4-9 8-9 16, Washington 2-3 0-0 4, Gordon 8-12 2-2 19, Smith 5-16 3-3 14, Allen 2-4 0-0 5, O'Callahan 0-4 0-0 0, Laurenceau 0-2 0-0 0.

Totals: 27-67 17-19 76.

CSI (64)

Hepworth 7-10 0-2 14, Shanahan 7-13 2-6 17, McLaughlin 4-13 0-0 11, Panariello 3-16 3-3 9, Tierno 2-4 0-2 4, Zajonc 1-3 0-0 2, Antoine 1-1 0-0 2, Johnson 2-3 1-3 5.

Totals: 27-63 6-16 64.

Halftime: 35-32, CSI.

Three-point goals: BC 5-15 (Ramirez 2-4, Gordon 1-3, Smith 1-5, Allen 1-2, O'Callahan 0-1); CSI 4-18 (Shanahan 1-4, McLaughlin 3-9, Panariello 0-5). Rebounds: BC 37 (Lyons 14, Smith 11); CSI 44 (Hepworth 12, Shanahan 9). Assists: BC 19 (Ramirez 9, Smith 7); CSI 14 (Panariello 8). Turnovers: BC 25, CSI 35. Total fouls: BC 14, CSI 17. Fouled out: none.

Dolphins go south in second half of 79-69 loss to Mount Saint Vincent

By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

December 07, 2009, 11:46PM



Staten Island Advance file photo

CSI senior guard Ryan Hennessey scored a team-high 23 points, including six 3-point shots, in Monday night's loss at Mount Saint Vincent.

A 16-point halftime lead wasn't enough for the [redacted] to withstand the shooting performance of Mount Saint Vincent senior guard Nick DiMaggio in the Bronx Monday night.

DiMaggio scorched the nets for 35 points as the host Dolphins ran past the visiting Dolphins, 79-69, in a non-conference game pitting the CUNY Conference against the Skyline Conference.

DiMaggio sank 10 of 15 shots from the floor, including 7 of 10 from 3-point range, as Mount Saint Vincent stormed to victory with a 50-24 second-half barrage.

The first half belonged to [redacted] which rode the long-range sharpshooting of senior guards Ryan Hennessey (14 points) and Christian Montervino (13 points) to a commanding 45-29 halftime edge.

DiMaggio's long 3-pointer gave the hosts the lead for good at 70-67 with a little more than two minutes remaining. The Dolphins (4-1) nursed the lead from the free-throw line.

The Croton, N.Y., resident did his damage in 31 minutes of playing time. He went to the line 10 times, making eight shots.

Hennessey finished with 23 points and Montervino 20, but [redacted] couldn't find offense in other areas. The visitors made only seven second-half shots, shooting 30.4 percent, as the once-healthy lead evaporated.

NOTES: [redacted] dropped to 2-4 with the loss, with Drew University (also 2-4) and 6-foot-11 Dylan Bulger (Staten Island Academy) due to arrive in Willowbrook for Wednesday night's non-conference game ... Mount Saint Vincent freshman guard Sean Caputo (Petrides) went scoreless in 27 minutes, but had a huge night — eight points, six rebounds and five assists — during Saturday's 64-63 upset of host New York University ... Sean Miller and Pat Panetta combined for 23 points and 13 rebounds in last night's win.

(69)

Montervino 7-12 4-5 20, Young 3-4 2-2 8, Ledbetter 4-13 2-6 10, Taranto 1-3 0-0 2, Hennessey 6-14 5-7 23, Jenkins 1-2 0-0 3, Frank 0-0 0-0 0, Person 0-1 0-0 0, Pan 0-2 3-4 3.

Totals: 22-51 16-24 69.

MOUNT SAINT VINCENT (79)

Panetta 3-4 5-8 11, Miller 5-6 2-2 12, Caputo 0-2 0-0 0, Cunningham 1-4 7-8 9, DiMaggio 10-15 8-10 35, Ecock 3-7 0-0 7, Walker 0-0 0-2 0, Oliver 0-0 0-0 0, Halton 1-6 1-2 3, Naldjieff 1-4 0-0 2, Van Tina 0-0 0-0 0, Bochkov 0-2 0-0 0, Downey 0-0 0-0 0.

Totals: 24-50 23-32 79.

Halftime: 45-29, [REDACTED]

Three-point goals: [REDACTED] 9-20 (Montervino 2-5, Taranto 0-1, Hennessey 6-12, Jenkins 1-2); MSV 8-19 (Caputo 0-2, Cunningham 0-1, DiMaggio 7-10, Ecock 1-3, Halton 0-2, Bochkov 0-1). Rebounds: [REDACTED] 38 (Ledbetter 8, Hennessey 7); MSV 26 (Panetta 7, Miller 6). Assists: [REDACTED] 17 (Young 6); MSV 14 (Panetta 5). Turnovers: [REDACTED] 18, MSV 10. Total fouls: [REDACTED] 22, MSV 22. Fouled out: Young. Technical foul: Montervino.

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men finish strong against Drew, 81-66

By Jim Waggoner

December 09, 2009, 11:54PM



Staten Island Advance file
photo by Derek Alvez

■ sophomore Jordan Young scored a game-high 24 points as the Dolphins ran past Drew, 81-66, Wednesday night.

This time, the Dolphins finished the job.

All five ■ starters scored in double figures and the team responded from the toughest loss of the season with a 81-66 victory over Drew University Wednesday night at the Sports and Recreation Center.

"We came into the game excited, we knew we could play with this team," said ■ forward Jordan Young, who led the way with 24 points, eight rebounds and five assists. "It's still early and there's a whole season ahead of us."

Young said the Dolphins quickly shook off the affects of Monday night's collapse at Mount Saint Vincent, when a 45-29 halftime lead melted away during a 79-69 setback.

"No sense dwelling on it," said last winter's CUNY Conference Rookie of the Year. "We came to practice determined to work harder and get better."

■ didn't mess around with its 37-32 halftime edge, using a 14-2 run in the first five minutes of the second half to take a 51-34 lead. The Dolphins directed the ball inside to 6-foot-7 Michael Ledbetter and Young for a series of layups while blocking shots and forcing turnovers at the defensive end.

The Rangers, who dropped to 2-5 overall, never got closer than a dozen points over the final 15 minutes of action.

"We made shots and there's no question we played much better," said ■ coach Tony Petosa. "We have better players than last year and we have kids who have great potential."

"It's just one game but we it's something we can build on."

The Dolphins improved to 3-4 overall by sharing the ball (26 assists) and winning the rebounding battle (53-47). They shot 48.6 percent from the floor while holding Drew to 32.9 percent.

Ryan Hennessey (15 points), Christian Montervino (14 points) and Dale Taranto (13 points) controlled the backcourt, combining for 16 assists. Ledbetter added 10 points and 10 rebounds while freshmen Everard Bisnauth and Herschel Jenkins provided quality minutes off the bench.

It was the quick second-half start that provided the spark, however.

"We talked about what happened the other night (at Mount Saint Vincent)," said Young of the halftime discussion. "We came out with a much better attitude the first five minutes. We came after them hard."

NOTES: Terrell Brown and Mike Mayes paced Drew with 15 points apiece and Brown grabbed 14 rebounds ... Drew freshman center Dylan Bulger (Staten Island Academy) sat out with a right foot injury. Bulger, who averaged 8.8 points and 5.3 rebounds in four games, said he could miss anywhere between 6-12 weeks.

DREW (66)

Brown 6-20 3-9 15, Mayes 5-15 5-14 15, Ganter 2-6 0-0 5, Joyce 3-10 1-1 9, Levenson 1-5 0-0 2, Edwards 0-0 0-0 0, Dorsey 0-0 2-2 2, Ganzfried 0-0 0-0 0, Solano 0-0 0-0 0, DeNapoli 0-3 0-0 0, Mullaney 0-1 0-0 0, Wrice 2-5 1-1 5, Horvath 5-6 0-0 13, Onen 0-2 0-1 0.

Totals: 24-73 12-28 66.

(81)

Montervino 6-15 0-0 14, Taranto 6-9 0-0 13, Hennessey 6-14 0-0 15, Ledbetter 4-6 2-5 10, Young 11-18 2-4 24, Bisnauth 2-4 0-0 4, Jenkins 0-2 0-0 0, Person 0-4 0-0 0, Pan 0-0 1-2 1.

Totals: 35-72 5-11 81.

Halftime: 37-32,

Three-point goals: Drew 6-18 (Brown 0-1, Ganter 1-2, Joyce 2-7, DeNapoli 0-2, Mullaney 0-1, Wrice 0-1, Horvath 3-4), -19 (Montervino 2-7, Taranto 1-1, Hennessey 3-10, Jenkins 0-1). Rebounds: Drew 47 (Brown 14); 53 (Montervino 13, Ledbetter 10, Young 8). Assists: Drew 10; 26 (Montervino 7). Turnovers: Drew 10, 13. Total fouls: Drew 12, 18. Fouled out: none.

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Doubleheader on tap for [REDACTED] men's and women's hoops teams

By Jim Waggoner

December 09, 2009, 12:54PM

Tonight's basketball doubleheader at the [REDACTED] offers a chance for the host Dolphins to get back on the winning track.

The Dolphin men and women host Drew, with the women's game at 5:30 and the men at 7:30

The evening has been promoted as "Night of Champions," when [REDACTED] championship teams in men's tennis, women's basketball, softball and swimming will be honored.

Both [REDACTED] basketball teams are 2-4 overall and 1-1 in the CUNY Conference South division.

[REDACTED] women will be facing a 6-0 Drew squad. The Dolphins are coming off a 76-64 CUNY loss to Brooklyn, which snapped a 29-game losing streak against CSI dating back to 1983.

Drew's men are also 2-4, with 6-foot-11 freshman center Dylan Bulger (Staten Island Academy) currently on the sidelines with a foot injury. Bulger averaged 8.8 points and 5.3 rebounds during the Rangers' first four games, and is expected back for the team's conference season.

[REDACTED] men have lost two straight. The Dolphins built a 16-point halftime lead at Mount Saint Vincent Monday night, but dropped a 79-69 decision.



Derek Alvez/Staten Island Advance

Michael Ledbetter, right, and the [REDACTED] will be facing off against Drew tonight at 7:30 p.m.



Staten Island sports bulletin board: Winter baseball workouts

By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

December 09, 2009, 11:58AM

Winter baseball workout

The Richmond County Baseball Club is holding a seven-week winter workout for complete player development (defense, offense, pitching) at the [REDACTED] for players in youth division (ages 9-12) and high school (ages 13-17). The youth division sessions are Saturdays starting Jan. 9 through Feb. 27. HS division sessions are Sundays from Jan. 10 to Feb. 28. Instructors are college coaches, professional scouts and former minor league players. Call 917-379-6475 or 917-299-9211 or visit the club's Web site at **www.rcbclub.com** to register.

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CSI MEN

Dolphins bounce back in 81-66 win over Drew

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

This time, the Dolphins finished the job.

All five College of Staten Island starters scored in double figures and the team responded from the toughest loss of the season with a 81-66 victory over Drew last night at the Sports and Recreation Center.

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"It's just one game but we it's something we can build on."

The Dolphins improved to 3-4 overall by sharing the ball (26 assists) and winning the rebounding battle (53-47). They shot 48.6 percent from the floor while holding Drew to 32.9 percent.

Ryan Hennessey (15 points), Christian Montevino (14 points) and Dale Taranto (13 points) combined for 16 assists. Ledbetter added 10 points and 10 rebounds while freshmen Everard Bisnauth and Herschel Jenkins provided quality minutes off the bench.

It was the quick second-half start that provided the spark, however.

"We talked about what happened the other night (at Mount Saint Vincent)," said Young of the halftime discussion. "We came out with a much better attitude the first five minutes. We came after them hard."

NOTES: Terrell Brown and Mike Mayes paced Drew with 15 points apiece and Brown grabbed 14 rebounds — Drew freshman center Dylan Bulger (Staten Island Academy) sat out with a right foot injury. Bulger, who averaged 8.8 points and 5.3 rebounds in four games, said he could miss anywhere between 6-12 weeks.

DREW (14)
Brown 9-20 3-9 15, Mayes 5-15 5-14 15, Genter 2-6 0-0 5, Joyce 3-10 1-1 8, Livensan 1-5 0-0 2, Edwards 0-0 0-0 0, Dorsey 0-0 2-2 2, Gantford 0-0 0-0 0, So-lano 0-0 0-0 0, DeNapoli 0-3 0-0 0, Mullaney 0-1 0-0 0, Wilce 2-0 1-1 5, Horvath 5-6 0-0 11, Omen 0-2 0-0 0.
Totals: 24-73 12-28 66.

CSI (17)
Montevino 6-15 0-0 14, Taranto 6-9 0-0 13, Hennessey 6-14 0-0 15, Ledbetter 4-6 2-0 10, Young 11-18 2-4 24, Bisnauth 2-4 0-0 4, Jenkins 0-2 0-0 0, Person 0-0 0-0 0, Pan 0-0 1-1 1.
Totals: 35-72 5-11 81.
Halftime: 17-32, CSI.

Three-point goals: Drew 6-18 (Brown 0-1, Genter 1-2, Joyce 2-7, DeNapoli 0-2, Mullaney 0-1, Wilce 0-1, Horvath 3-4), CSI 6-29 (Montevino 2-7, Taranto 0-1, Hennessey 3-10, Jenkins 0-1). Rebounds: Drew 47 (Brown 14), CSI 51 (Montevino 11, Ledbetter 10, Young 8). Assists: Drew 18; CSI 26 (Montevino 7). Turnovers: Drew 18, CSI 13. Total fouls: Drew 31, CSI 18. Fouled out: none.

CSI WOMEN

Drew holds off CSI

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

top of the circle.

The Rangers led 56-50 with 14 ticks left.

"Sometimes the breaks go the other way," said Moran. "We played pretty well defensively."

CSI shot poorly, making 19 of 70 shots for a chilly 27.1 percent. They also missed half of their 14 free throws.

McLaughlin was the lone Dolphin in double figures with 12 points.

Jessica DeVecchio paced Drew with 17 points and Danielle Barber added 16.

NOTES: Freshman forward Katelyn Hepworth led CSI with nine rebounds, while Drew's Eden Blazovic grabbed 10 ... Freshman guard Olivia Tierno had eight points and four steals ... Drew blocked seven shots to CSI's one ... The Dolphins host Rutgers-Camden at noon Saturday.

DREW (17)
Blazovic 3-4 1-2 5, Luby 1-8 0-0 2, Barber 6-13 2-4 16, DeVecchio 6-18 2-2 17, Reid 4-5 0-0 8, Matos 0-0 0-0 0, Ault 0-1 0-0 0, Logan 0-2 0-0 0, Omen 0-0 0-0 0, Kramer 4-0 2-5, Smith 0-1 0-0 0.
Totals: 23-62 5-11 57.

CSI (16)
Hepworth 3-10 1-4 7, Panariello 3-14 0-0 8, Shanahan 1-16 0-0 3, Tierno 4-9 0-0 8, McLaughlin 5-11 1-1 12, Quattrucci 0-0 0-0 0, Zajonc 2-3 2-7 7, Marley 0-0 0-0 0, Antoline 0-0 0-0 0, Johnson 2-4 1-2 5.
Totals: 19-70 7-14 50.
Halftime: 23-26, Drew.

Three-point goals: Drew 6-25 (Luby 0-7, Barber 2-4, DeVecchio 2-2, Reid 0-1, Kramer 0-2); CSI 5-17 (Panariello 2-7, Shanahan 1-4, Tierno 0-1, McLaughlin 2-4, Zajonc 1-2). Rebounds: Drew 52 (Blazovic 10); CSI 45 (Hepworth 9). Assists: Drew 17 (Barber 7); CSI 18 (Panariello 3, McLaughlin 2). Turnovers: Drew 25, CSI 21. Total fouls: Drew 14, CSI 15. Fouled out: none.

Minogue update: City still getting it wrong

By Jack Minogue

December 12, 2009, 8:05AM



Staten Island Advance file
photo by Hilton Flores

Bob Steele, right, chats with [redacted]
[redacted] baseball coach Mike Mauro,
one of his many former high-school players.

Not again!

More than likely that was the reaction of my boss, Sports Editor Carmine Angioli, when he began editing this column, but he shouldn't blame me.

It's not my fault that as the end of 2009 approaches, there's a lot of unfinished city business on Staten Island.

We're all too aware of city agencies' modus operandi when someone brings up a problem or questions why something hasn't been done: A platitude and a wish the controversy goes away.

Law and Order Criminal Intent tying up the West Brighton section of Forest Avenue during the Christmas shopping season?

"We'll look into it."

A parent bringing up a problem when Schools Chancellor Joel Klein recently visited Staten Island?

"We're working on it."

Folks on the South Shore have been living with all sorts of platitudes concerning construction of Fairview Park which, next summer, will mark its sixth what-should-have-been anniversary.

Until now, responsibility for the delay of construction of the park lay with the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) which, somehow, had no problem with the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for the Bricktown Mall, but did for the remaining property which, at that time, was to include land for senior citizens housing, a school and Fairview itself — with three ball fields, two soccer fields, and tennis and basketball courts.

Now though ...

According to EDC spokesperson Janel Patterson, with the draft of the four-season study completed, a decision must be reached on how the entire property will be used.

When that happens, the EDC can proceed with the EIS and the ULURP.

Right now, then, the ball is in Staten Island's court. Or, it will be Monday when Borough President James Molinaro meets with Borough Parks Commissioner Thomas Paulo and other Parks personnel.

Frankly, I don't know what there is to discuss ... what issues have to be put to rest.

The original agreement was part of a compromise brokered in 2002 by Mayor Michael Bloomberg which resulted in the downsizing of Bloomingdale Park. It called for 10 acres for senior citizens housing, 16 acres for a possible school, 12 acres for athletic/recreational facilities and 10 acres for passive recreation.

It's possible the meeting may result in some tweaking, but an agreement must come out of the meeting.

The ball is in Staten Island's court — finally.

STILL MORE HURDLES

Even if the Borough President were to announce a decision Monday, according to Ms. Patterson, the EIS and ULURP would take at least seven months.

Then, there's another problem.

Molinaro set aside \$6.8 million for the park, but obviously the price tag has gone up: We pay quite a bit more for a gallon of milk today than six years ago, don't we?

Where will the additional capital funds come from?

Since the EDC's mistakes led to the delay and since EDC is a city agency, City Hall should be responsible for the additional cost.

Stay tuned, because I'm not about to go away until the recreational facilities-deprived South Shore has this down payment on its needs.

A MAN OF STEELE

The firing seven years ago of Bob Steele, the face of McKee/S.I. Tech athletics for more than four decades, will never seem like ancient history to the many in this community who want justice for a man who continually went above and beyond for the school's student-athletes.

People, not paper, was always Bob's trademark. Which helps explain the payroll error which gave then-McKee principal Linda Waite an excuse for firing him.

Bob had all but given up hope of getting his day in Department of Education court when, in July, he received a call from a United Federation of Teachers representative.

"I'm meeting with her," Bob told this writer at the time, and then afterward: "She told me she thought I had a good case and that she would get back to me."

Bob's still waiting for the call.

Bob deserves better ... much better, and so does the South Shore when it comes to city parks and outdoor recreational/athletic facilities.

Given the way city government operates, it's likely my boss will be grimacing again six months from now. But these are two times I'd be very happy to be wrong.



Staten Island youth sports roundup for December 13, 2009

By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

December 14, 2009, 9:14AM

YOUTH SOCCER

Staten Island United Crew capped its Cosmopolitan Junior Soccer League boys' under-17 season with a 2-1 win over Greek American Kosmos at the [REDACTED]. Nick Mignosi (winner in second half) and Joe Drickel scored goals.

Staten Island Alliance finished its girls' under-12 season with a 3-2 victory over the Greek American Kosmos at Flushing Meadow Park in Queens. Alexa Cardella, Kayla Ilund and Amela Drekovic each tallied a goal.

Cosmopolitan Junior

Boys

Under-17

SIU Crew 2, Greek American Kosmos 1

Girls

Under-12

SI Alliance 3, Greek American Kosmos 2

YOUTH ICE HOCKEY

White Stars win

BAYONNE — Ryan Joule had three goals and Sean McCarthy added a tally as the White Stars downed the Red Stars 4-3 in a Force Youth Ice Hockey House League Mites/Squirts game. Michael Andre had two goals while Jake Barrera netted one for the Red Stars.

Anthony Tirro and Steven Doyle notched the goals for the New York Titans in their 2-2 Long Island Amateur Hockey League Pee Wee C tie with the L.I. Ice Caps at the S.I. Skating Pavilion in Charleston. Chris Mazza had two assists.

RYE, N.Y. — New York Titans posted a 5-5 Mites B tie with the Rye Mariners as Chris Attardi and Joe Minio each scored two goals and Thomas Beach added one.

Force Youth House League

Mite/Squirt

White Stars 4, Red Stars 3

LIAHL

Pee Wee C

L.I. Ice Caps 2, N.Y. Titans 2

Mites B

NY Titans 5, Rye Mariners 5

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December 14, 2009

HNT College Corner: Casares receives honors again

Compiled by JACK GENUNG

Binghamton women's soccer captain and senior midfielder Amanda Casares (Rahway) has been named to the NSCAA All-Northeast Region team after leading the Bearcats to a record-breaking season. It's the second straight year Casares has received regional accolades.

From her central midfield position, Casares led the Bearcats to the America East title game and tournament runner-up honors after falling to Boston University.

Casares had two goals and one assist and provided critical leadership for a young team that sent out four freshmen and seven underclassmen in its starting lineup. She also earned first team all-conference honors as one of the best four midfielders in the America East this fall. Casares graduates as a three-time all-conference selection and two-time all-region choice.

"I'm very proud for Mandi," coach Sarah McClellan said. "It is a well-deserved honor. She was an impact player and really poured it on this year. She's had a fantastic career as a Bearcat."

Tournament MVP

Fairleigh Dickinson senior Erica Perez (Carteret) was named the Northeast Conference Bowler of the Week after her performance at the Jeannette Lee Tournament in Richmond, Va., where she was named tournament MVP.

She posted a team-high 20.44 frame average at the Invitational, where Fairleigh Dickinson captured its first tournament title since last year's inaugural NEC Championship. Perez compiled the highest traditional game average (207.17) of any individual competitor at the tournament.

Gridiron honors

Rowan offensive tackle Ken Siano (Woodbridge) was named to the D3football.com All-East Region third team.

Siano started all 10 games on the Profs' offense line. He anchored a unit that ranked first in the conference in scoring (38.9) and rushing (239.5).

Rowan was second in sacks against (8) and total offense (408.7).

In the NCAA, Siano also received NJAC All-Conference first team honors.

On the court

Senior guard Jermaine Clark (Perth Amboy) averaged 22.0 points per game for Saint Rose College in a recent four-game win streak.

Clark leads the Northeast-10 in minutes (37.5 mpg) and is averaging 15.6 ppg and 3.9 rebounds per game through the team's first eight games.

Senior Tim Lucas (Old Bridge) had 15 points and eight rebounds as William Paterson won its sixth straight game, 76-41 over Hunter College.

Four straight free throws by senior John Byrne (East Brunswick) helped Montclair State stop a late run by the [REDACTED] in a 78-70 victory.

Byrne finished with 10 points.

Freshman Rebecca Michael (Somerset) had 14 points and five rebounds as the Ramapo women defeated N.Y. Tech 63-23.

Junior Tiffany Patrick (Piscataway) had 10 points and a game-high 12 rebounds as Kean University defeated DeSales 71-59.

Freshman Candace Vigo (New Brunswick Health Science Tech) had her best game for The College of New Jersey, with 17 points and 13 rebounds in a 70-47 victory over Arcadia University.

In the pool

Kayleigh Shangle (Highland Park) was named the female Lion of the Week for The College of New Jersey after the freshman helped set meet records at the Franklin & Marshall Invitational in the 200-yard free relay (138.30) and the 400-yard free relay (3:35.30).

She also won the 50-yard free in 24.53, contributed to the second-place finish in the 200-yard relay (150.62), placed second in the 100-yard breast (1:07.83), and placed third in the 100-yard free (54.08). TCNJ won the invitational racking up 653.5 points.

Sophomore Kevin Sheridan (East Brunswick) helped Rowan in a dual-meet win over the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Sheridan finished third in the 100 (49.73) and 200 (1:50.65) freestyles and swam on the 400-yard freestyle relay team, which finished second (3:15.51).

Track standouts

Senior Priscilla Senyah (Sayreville) started the 2009-10 indoor track season in impressive fashion, winning the 60-meter hurdles in a school-record time of 8.94 seconds for The College of New Jersey women's team in the New Year's Invitational at Princeton University.

The time met an NCAA provisional cut.

Senyah wasn't done with her big meet as she placed fourth in the 60-meter dash with a swift time of 7.86 seconds.

Freshman Mary Chismar (Middlesex) had a top-10 finish in the shot put as she placed eighth in her collegiate debut with a distance of 11.10 meters.

In the men's competition, sophomore Jelani Davis (J.F. Kennedy, Iselin) placed fifth in the high jump, clearing 1.90 meters.

Monmouth University senior Brittany Gibbs (Old Bridge) led the triple jump field with a leap of 38-9, setting an indoor school record, at the New Year's Invitational.

Monmouth junior Julio Rodriguez (Bound Brook) finished third in the high jump (1.95 meters).

Freshman Sandra Jean-Romain (Old Bridge) made the finals for women's shot put.

Katherine Rudy (Bound Brook) and Nicole Salge (Spotswood) were members of the 4x800 relay team for Richard Stockton's women's indoor track & field team that ran to a second-place finish (10:31.82) at the Collegiate Track Conference Relay Carinval at Yale University.



Staten Island sports bulletin board: Class for soccer refs, winter baseball workout info and Jr. Knicks registration at Broadway Y

By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

December 19, 2009, 9:20AM

Junior Knicks at YMCA

The Broadway YMCA is now accepting registration applications for its Junior Knicks program. Games will be played on Saturdays and evaluations will take place on Saturday, Jan. 23. The program will run for 10 weeks. Space is limited so please register early. Stop in at the Broadway YMCA, 651 Broadway, 718-981-4933 and pick up a registration form. For questions please contact Joyce Strype at jstrype@ymcanyc.org.

Winter Baseball workouts

The Richmond County Baseball Club is holding a seven-week winter workout for complete player development (defense, offense, pitching) at the [REDACTED] for players in youth division (ages 9-12) and high school (ages 13-17). The youth division sessions are Saturdays starting Jan. 9 through Feb. 27. HS division sessions are Sundays from Jan. 10 to Feb. 28. Instructors are college coaches, professional scouts and former minor league players. Call 917-379-6475 or 917-299-9211 or visit the club's Web site at www.rcbclub.com to register.

Soccer referee class

The Staten Island Soccer Referees Association is holding a class in January for new officials. Contact Eric Solli at ericsolli@yahoo.com.

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Tournament of Heroes: [REDACTED] honors three former players and their families

By [Jack Minoque](#)

December 26, 2009, 8:48AM



Staten Island Advance file photo by Hilton Flores The first Tournament of Heroes, in January of 2002, brought back the families of the three former [REDACTED] players lost on September 11. Scott Davidson, Terrance Aiken and Tom Hannafin were honored by [REDACTED] coach Tony Petosa, far right.

For [REDACTED] men's basketball coach Tony Petosa, the Tournament of Heroes has become almost as much about families as the three former players it commemorates: Firefighters Scott Davidson and Tom Hannafin and Terrance Aiken, a computer consultant who had begun working in Tower One only a week before the terrorist attack of Sept. 11, 2001.

"It's hard to explain," Petosa said this week as he prepared for the eighth annual tourney which will take place Tuesday and Wednesday at the Willowbrook school's Sports and Recreation Center.

"The tourney is a positive for me," Petosa explained, "a way of celebrating their lives and of keeping them out there for their families for what they did and more importantly, for who they were.

"But it's not a melancholy night," Petosa insisted.

Maybe a little bit said Amy Waters, Davidson's widow who, for the first time, will miss the tourney.

"Our son, Peter, plays for Tottenville and he'll be in Orlando (Fla.) with the team, so I'm going to take our daughter, Casey, to Puerto Rico," Waters said.

"It's been great to see so many of the people Scott and I went to college with, played ball with at the tourney," the former [REDACTED] women's basketball player said. "A really good group.

"But I do get sad when I remember us playing at [REDACTED] and Christmas is hard to begin with.

"It's been especially tough for our son who was little when it happened," Waters said. "It's still raw, and it's not going to get any better.

"But Tony's done a nice job with a tough night."

"It's a great tribute to the players," said Rene Hannafin-Marino who will be driving to Staten Island from Florida and hopes to arrive in time to be part of Tuesday's ceremony.

"I was with Tom since we were 16 and was with him the whole time at [REDACTED].

"We were on Staten Island this past summer, and Tony was very accommodating. He showed us the three jerseys that had been retired, and the kids — Kayla is 14 and Tom is 11 — got a big kick out of that.

"It's still very hard — Thomas was 3 and Kayla was 5 — but we try to bring Tom into our conversations," Rene said, "and we have pictures and videos." And, if their drive from Florida goes well, Tuesday night's ceremony.

"It's great that [REDACTED] honors the three," said Pete Hannafin, the youngest of three surviving brothers.

"Tom and I were just three years apart, so we grew up together. Emotionally, I feel my brother when I go to the tourney.

"The most important thing, though, is the tourney keeps their names and their memories alive."

Neither the folks at [REDACTED] nor this reporter were able to find a way to contact the Aiken family ... In Tuesday's opener, Randolph plays Colby-Sawyer at 5:30. [REDACTED] faces Piedmont in the second game ... Island Sports Hall of Famer Matty White, a basketball icon as a player and coach, who spent many years as Petosa's assistant, has been experiencing some health problems, but it appears likely he will be there Tuesday when Aiken, Davidson and Hannafin are honored.

Staten Island sports in 2009: Month-by-month year in review

By Daniel O'Leary

December 27, 2009, 9:12AM



AP

Missouri guard Zaire Taylor, a Curtis product, had a lot to smile about during 2009, including game winning shots against Kansas and Texas, as well as a trip to the NCAA men's basketball tournament Elite Eight, which included an upset of Memphis.

Here's a month-by-month look at the year at some of the stories that didn't crack our top 10 in 2009:

JANUARY

16 -- The PSAL announces that it will move the girls' soccer season to the fall after a lawsuit was brought by the New York Civil Liberties Union on behalf of three of the league's players near 2,000 players. With a crowded schedule in the fall, featuring both boys' and girls' soccer, the PSAL had 168 total forfeits around the city.

FEBRUARY

9 -- Former Curtis star and Missouri guard Zaire Taylor's buzzer-beater upends defending national champion Kansas, 62-60. This came just four days after Taylor made a conventional 3-point play to beat No. 16 Texas.

10 -- Petrides wrestling pins down its second straight PSAL city title with a 56-18 walk over of James Madison.

16 -- Monsignor Farrell's wrestling team concludes perhaps the most successful season in program history with a win at the Catholic State Tournament.

22 -- Behind Tournament MVP O.D. Anosike's 16 points and 20 rebounds, St. Peter's wins its third straight SIHSL Basketball Tournament. It was Anosike's second straight MVP.

22 -- Monsignor Farrell wins its 10th Catholic league hockey title, and its first since 2002, with a 2-1 victory over Stepinac as Stephen Imbasciani and Joe Gambardella scored and goalie Ian McBride stopped 25 shots. The Lions lost 5-1 to Canisius in the state title game.

28 -- Joey Mundweiler scores a career-high 39 points on an NEC record and NCAA season-best 11 three-pointers as Wagner beat Monmouth 91-60 to clinch a conference tourney berth.



Advance file photo

Farrell's Connor Hanafree led the Lions wrestling team to a landmark year, including their first New York State title in 21 years.

MARCH

1 -- Jesse Carlin places third at the USA National Indoor Championship women's 800 meters in Boston. The St. Joseph by-the-Sea and Penn product, competing in only her second professional race and her first national championship, overcame what was called a "shaky start" to take the bronze in 2 minutes, 5.98 seconds.

3 -- The Wagner men's lacrosse team snaps a 48-game losing streak with a 12-7 victory over Presbyterian.

15 -- After winning their 14th Staten Island CHSAA title, St. Peter's girls' wrapped up the CHSAA Archdiocesan basketball championship with a 62-49 win over nationally-ranked St. Michael's Academy, but the Eagles would lose the rematch in the Catholic State finals.

19 -- The NCAA men's basketball tournament begins, featuring three Staten Island natives, Utah's Lawrence Borha (MSIT), Missouri's Taylor (Curtis) and Siena's Ryan Rossiter (Farrell). Taylor's Tigers were the last team standing of the three, as he helped Mizzou to the NCAA Elite Eight.



Advance file photo

CSI's Pavel Buyanov successfully defended his Division III National Championship in 2009.

20 -- [redacted] swimmer Pavel Buyanov repeats as NCAA Division III national champ in the 100 breaststroke in record-setting fashion (54.27) in the NCAA Championships in Minneapolis. A day later, the sophomore and Siberia native took third in the 200 breaststroke.

22 -- Curtis wins the PSAL 'A' boys basketball title with a 56-43 victory over Westinghouse. The Warriors would later fall to Long Island Lutheran 67-42 in the state tournament semis.

25 -- O.D. Anosike of St. Peter's is named the boys' Jaques Award winner.

27 -- Victoria Macaulay of Curtis wins the girls' Jaques Award.

APRIL

19 -- Wagner women's water polo clinched a share of the MAAC title and Kelsey Rodgers is NEC Defensive Player of the Year.

22 -- After coaching the girls' varsity basketball team for 12 seasons at her alma mater, Curtis, Dot Guerriero steps down. Her career included a PSAL A city championship in 2008 and a trip to the PSAL AA finals at Madison Square Garden in 2003.

28 -- Wagner softball standout Andrea Lazzari belts her school-record 34th career home run against Fordham and breaks the single-season hit record the next day. Later in the year, she would win her second straight NEC MVP award and be named to the Academic All-America First Team.

MAY

3 -- The [REDACTED] softball team defeats Hunter twice 6-5 and 4-2 to claim their fourth CUNY Conference title in the past six seasons. Michelle Ferraiuolo tossed a complete game in the first contest and Danielle Ponsiglione recovered from a broken nose to get the win in game two. They finished 20-12 and won a berth in the NCAA Tournament, but lost in the first round.

20 -- After a season in which they set a school record for wins with 31 and won the NEC regular season for the first time, Wagner baseball is honored by the conference as Matt Watson is named NEC Pitcher of the Year and Joe Litterio is tabbed NEC Coach of the Year.



Hilton Flores/ Staten Island Advance

Laura Leone was mobbed by her teammates after hitting this home run in Sea's CHSAA title win over Moore in May.

23 -- St. Joseph by-the-Sea softball wins the CHSAA Archdiocesan title for a second straight season 9-2 over Moore on the strength of Laura Leone's home run. Sea would beat Molloy for the city title before falling to St. John the Baptist in the state title game.

JUNE

13 -- Tottenville comes back from a 2-0 deficit to beat James Madison 4-2 for its record sixth straight PSAL city softball championship.

16 -- Tony Rafaniello, the Island's all-time winningest basketball coach, leaves New Dorp for Moore Catholic after racking up a 467-335 record over his 34-year career, 28 at New Dorp.

18 -- Tottenville pitcher Alyssa Corvino named Smith Cup winner, as the Island's best softball player. The award went to a Pirate for a fifth straight time.

JULY

1 -- In the aftermath of state budget cuts, the Empire State Games, scheduled for the Hudson Valley region, are canceled. ESG is scheduled to make a comeback in the summer of 2010 in Rochester.

8 -- Wagner's Jessica Hart competes in the inaugural Canadian Essais Mondiaux ROME 2009 World championships in her native Montreal. She was 18th of 55 swimmers in the 200 butterfly and 7th (of 40) in the 50 butterfly.

AUGUST

17 -- South Shore National wins Mid-Atlantic Regional becoming first South Shore team since 1991 and first Staten Island team since 2006 to earn a spot at the Little League World Series.

26 -- South Shore National eliminated from Little League World Series.

SEPTEMBER

6 -- Wagner College alum Kyle Morrison, drafted by the Washington Nationals in the 32nd round, beats the Staten Island Yankees in the NYPL regular season finale while pitching for the Vermont Lake Monsters.

10 -- It is publicly announced that the Curtis HS pool will be closed for renovation, temporarily displacing Island PSAL teams from the the 73-year old facility.

OCTOBER

18 -- St. Peter's product Andrew Wisniewski and his team, Maccabi Tel Aviv, play at Madison Square Garden in an exhibition game against the New York Knicks. The Knicks win 106-91.

NOVEMBER

18-- St. Peter's alum Candice Bellocchio breaks Hofstra women's basketball's school record for assists in a game with 14.

25 -- Kyle McAlarney signs with the Fort Wayne Mad Ants of the NBDL after a summer that included a Los Angeles Clippers tryout and a short stint with Ironi Nahariya of the Israeli Super League. In the spring, he completed his Notre Dame career with 1,352 points -- ranking No. 23 on the school's all-time scoring list -- and 298 3-point baskets, ranking third in school history. His 43.4 percentage from long-range ranks second.

DECEMBER

1 -- New Dorp girls' bowling repeats as PSAL city champions and Susan Wagner's boys team won its first bowling title since 1994.

12 -- St. Peter's grad John Dowd throws a key block as Navy quarterback Ricky Dobbs scores the clinching touchdown in the Midshipmen's 17-3 win over Army.

21 -- Two-time Jaques Award winner Megan Mahoney plays her first game for the Wagner College women's basketball team after transferring from Fordham. Mahoney scores 10 points but the Seahawks fall, 55-50 to St. Peter's College.

-- *Compiled by Daniel O'Leary and Jim Waggoner*

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Former Wagner College hurler Kyle Morrison and the Vermont Lake Monsters beat the Staten Island Yankees in the regular season finale.



Staten Island sports bulletin board: Baseball camps and registration info

By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

December 28, 2009, 11:11AM

Baseball

The St. Teresa's Intramural Baseball and Softball Leagues will hold registration on Jan. 6 from 7:30-9 p.m. and Jan. 9 from 10 a.m.-noon at Conran Hall (at the corner of Slosson Ave. and Victory Blvd). The cost is \$125 for one child, \$185 for two children and \$225 for three children. Call Bob at 646-285-8752.

Baseball camp

The Improve Your Skills Winter Hitting Camp, which is under the direction of NJIT assistant baseball coach Ed Ward, will hold winter hitting camps at the Lefty's Sports Academy in Clifton, N.J., for youth and high school boys grades K-12. The youth group will have its hitting camp on Jan. 24 and 31 and the high school group on Jan. 10 and 17. The camp will consist of nine 30-minute stations along with 30 minutes for lunch. Instruction will be given by the NJIT coaching staff along with New Jersey high school coaches. Every camper will receive a t-shirt and information about hitting. Call Coach Ward at 908-347-6485.

Winter baseball workouts

The Richmond County Baseball Club is holding a seven-week winter workout for complete player development (defense, offense, pitching) at the [REDACTED] for players in youth division (ages 9-12) and high school (ages 13-17). The youth division sessions are Saturdays starting Jan. 9 through Feb. 27. HS division sessions are Sundays from Jan. 10 to Feb. 28. Instructors are college coaches, professional scouts and former minor league players. Call 917-379-6475 or 917-299-9211 or visit the club's Web site at **www.rcbclub.com** to register.

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Last modified Tuesday, December 29, 2009 9:16 AM EST

Lions set to play in NYC

Staff report

The Piedmont College men's basketball team will spend the final few days of 2009 in New York City.

The Lions, who are off to a 4-4 start this season, will kick off the second half of the season by competing in the eighth Annual 9/11 Tournament of Heroes, hosted by the College of Staten Island.

The Lions open the tournament tonight against the [REDACTED] at 7:30.



PC Sports Information Head coach Lee Glenn, above, and the Lions are off to a 4-4 start this season.

With a win, PC would advance to the finals to take on either Randolph College or Colby-Sawyer College on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. The consolation game will be played Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

The annual memorial tournament is played in honor of three former [REDACTED] basketball players that lost their lives in the 9-11 World Trade Center tragedy at Ground Zero in 2001.

Piedmont fans unable to make the trip to New York can keep up with the team thanks to a daily blog by senior player Will Martin. Photo galleries from all of the tournament's events will also be posted periodically.

Fans will also be able to follow the game through live stats provided by [REDACTED] or through an online Webcast of the tournament at [REDACTED] campus radio station WSIA 88.9 FM and through [REDACTED] SportsNet.

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Wednesday, December 30, 2009

Virginia State beaten again

STAFF REPORTS

Published: December 30, 2009

PENSACOLA - Virginia State's Brandon Plummer scored 14 points, but the Trojans fell to Alabama Huntsville 73-51 in the first game of the University of West Florida Christmas Classic.

Alabama Huntsville was 11-27 from beyond the 3-point arc.

Jacobe Simpson led VSU with seven rebounds.

ALABAMA HUNTSVILLE (8-4)

Yost 12, Hanback 10, C. Jones 10, Smith 8, Magette 8, E. Jones 7, Johnston 6, Boskovic 5, Baldwin 5, Campbell 2. Totals 25 12-16 73.

VIRGINIA STATE (1-8)

Plummer 14, Mines 7, Harris 7, Charity 5, Simpson 5, Washington 4, Bynum 4, Springfield-Cobb 3, Macklin 2, Cuffee 0, Lipscomb 0. Totals 20 9-15 51.

3-point goals: AH - Johnston 2, Hanback 2, Smith 2, Magette, E. Jones, Baldwin. Yost, Boskovic. VSU - Mines 2.

Halftime: Alabama Huntsville 34-18

**Niagara 80,
Norfolk State 69**

EL PASO, Texas - Bilal Benn came off the bench to score 17 points to lead five Niagara players in double figures as the Purple Eagles topped Norfolk State in the third-place game of the Sun Bowl Invitational.

Kashief Edwards and Rob Garrison added 16 points each for Niagara (9-5). Tyrone Lewis had 12 points and a team-high seven rebounds, and Anthony Nelson had 11 points. Lewis and Garrison had four steals each and Nelson had three.

Michael Deloach scored 26 points to lead Norfolk State (1-10). Rob Hampton added 18 points and Christian Morris had 15 points and nine rebounds. Kyle O'Quinn grabbed a game-high 12 rebounds for the Spartans.

Norfolk State committed 26 turnovers that Niagara converted into 32 points.

Other games

RANDOLPH-MACON 82, MA COLL. OF LIBERAL ARTS 52: Randolph-Macon (9-0) defeated the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (4-6) in the R-MC Coaches Classic and advanced to take on Williams (9-0), which defeated Elmira (1-8) 85-64.

Calvin Croskey led the Yellow Jackets with 17 points. Eric Pugh added 16.

RANDOLPH 67, COLBY-SAWYER 66 (OT): Guard Pete Hamilton hit a three-pointer with under 10 seconds remaining as Randolph defeated Colby Sawyer in the first round of the Tournament of Heroes.

Randolph held its opponent to 38.8 percent shooting from the floor while shooting 56.8 percent.

TRINE 70, SHENANDOAH 68: Trine (6-4) led by as many as 17 points in the second half and withstood a Shenandoah (3-8) run to secure a victory. Trailing 59-43 with 12:03 remaining, Shenandoah went on a 25-10 run to bring itself within one point with 24 seconds left.

ITHACA 96, ROANOKE 88: Kendrick Chittock and Parrish Walker both scored 18 points, but Ithaca defeated visiting Roanoke.



Staten Island sports bulletin board: Soccer tryouts and baseball camps

By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

December 30, 2009, 9:44AM

Soccer tryouts

The Silver Lake Soccer Club is holding tryouts for boys ages 10-12. Train two days a week with New York Red Bulls' John Wolyniec. Travel free for the spring season. Call 917-299-6122.

Conditioning program

Next Level Performance is accepting registration for its three-month conditioning program for boys and girls age 13 and up. The program teaches basics to advanced level classes in functional exercise to improve athletic conditioning. Techniques include plyometrics; kettleball training; olympic weightlifting; medicine ball and dumb bell training; powerlifting; gymnastics; rowing; running and boxing in interval training otherwise known as HIIT. To schedule an appointment, please call 917-922-8513 or visit **www.nextlevelnow.com**.

Athelite baseball camp

Athelite Player Development will hold a baseball camp Saturdays and Sundays for five weeks beginning Jan. 24. Open to boys ages 7 through 12 and 13 through 18. Visit atheliteplayerdevelopment.com or call Chris Reyes at 917-755-2747.

Winter baseball workouts

The Richmond County Baseball Club is holding a seven-week winter workout for complete player development (defense, offense, pitching) at the [REDACTED] for players in youth division (ages 9-12) and high school (ages 13-17). The youth division sessions are Saturdays starting Jan. 9 through Feb. 27. HS division sessions are Sundays from Jan. 10 to Feb. 28. Instructors are college coaches, professional scouts and former minor league players. Call 917-379-6475 or 917-299-9211 or visit the club's Web site at www.rcbclub.com to register.

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SPORTS

B

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 30, 2009

TOURNAMENT OF HEROES

PIEDMONT PULLS AWAY FROM CSI

Georgia squad takes advantage of Dolphins' free-throw woes for 90-84 victory

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

The College of Staten Island has perfected the role of gracious host at its Tournament of Heroes.

The Dolphins dropped to 4-11 all-time in their own holiday tourney with last night's 90-84 down-to-the-wire loss to Piedmont College at the Sports and Recreation Center.

CSI has never won the event, now in its eighth season and played in memory of three former CSI players who perished in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. The Dolphins have twice reached the finals, losing in 2003 and 2004.

Exciting basketball was on the menu last night as Randolph used junior guard Pete Hamilton's 3-pointer with under 10 seconds remaining in overtime to edge Colby-Sawyer, 67-66, in the tourney opener.

Piedmont then rallied from a 44-35 halftime deficit with a 55-point second half in the second game, pulling away from a 78-78 tie in the final three minutes.

CSI (3-6) will face Colby-Sawyer (5-3) in today's 5:30 p.m. consolation game, while Piedmont (5-4) plays Randolph (7-2) for the title at 7:30 p.m.

"We have not fulfilled our end of the deal," said CSI coach Tony Petosa of the

DOLPHINS FROM PAGE B 1

Piedmont pulls away from CSI

tourney history. "We've always looked to get the best teams we possibly can, and all three this year play very fundamentally-sound basketball."

"But that's no excuse. We haven't been up to the task and that's on us."

It wasn't hard to find the culprit for the hometown team in the event that has evolved into somewhat of a Homecoming Day for former CSI basketball players.

The Dolphins took 33 free throws and made only 16.

"Look no further," said assistant coach Vinny Messina. "Not many teams could survive those numbers."

Piedmont went up for good when Samuel Coppage penetrated and made two free throws to give the Lions an 80-78 lead. Seconds earlier, Michael Rubio buried a 3-pointer to bring the visitors even at 78.

Rubio sank four free throws in the final 7.2 seconds to seal the game for the Lions.

Jordan Young (24 points, 11 rebounds, six assists and five steals) and Michael Ledbetter (22 points, 13 rebounds) dominated inside for CSI, which held a 46-36 rebounding edge.

Senior guard Christian Montervino added 17 points and nine rebounds, but Piedmont countered with a balanced attack and 52 percent shooting in the second half. Rubio led the way with 19 points and five steals, while J.C. Herebia made 8 of 10

shots for 18 points.

"(Piedmont) found another level (in the second half) that we might not have," admitted Petosa. "It's happened to us several times."

"I saw a lot of good things tonight and I have hope we're going to get better as the season goes on."

It didn't help the Dolphins when senior guard Ryan Hennessey was forced to the sidelines for the final five minutes with severe leg cramps. He sported ice packs and a noticeable limp afterward.

NOTES: Ledbetter was whistled for his fourth foul with seven minutes remaining, a minute after guard Dale Taranto was slapped with a costly technical foul. Former longtime CSI assistant coach Matty White was in attendance along with sons Kenny and Matt. Geography lesson: Piedmont is from Demorest, Ga., Randolph from Lynchburg, Va., and Colby-Sawyer from New London, N.H.

PIEDMONT (M)

Rubio 4-7 9-12 25, Ricks 3-11 7-9 11, Gardner 1-2 2-2 5, Chapman 4-7 6-7 35, Herebia 8-18 3-4 38, Coppage 3-4 2-2 4, Haymore 2-8 2-2 7, Lamp 0-0 0-0 0, Arnold 1-4 0-1 3, Shan 0-1 0-2 1, Chapman 2-2 2-2 7.

Total: 25-57 33-40 96.

CSI (M)

Montervino 7-17 9-17 37, Taranto 1-4 2-4 4, Hennessey 2-12 2-8 8, Ledbetter 10-16 3-12 32, Young 8-11 8-12 24, Blomquist 0-1 0-0 0, Comperato 0-0 0-0 0, Jenkins 2-1 2-1 7, Puse 1-1 0-0 2.

Total: 31-47 19-32 84.

Halfcourt: 44-25, CSI.

Three-point goals: Piedmont 7-18 (Rubio 2-4, Ricks 0-3, Gardner 2-2, Chapman 1-1, Coppage 0-1, Haymore 1-3, Arnold 1-0, Chapman 1-1); CSI 6-15 (Montervino 3-7, Taranto 0-1, Hennessey 2-4, Jenkins 1-1). Rebounds: Piedmont 36 (Gardner 7); CSI 46 (Ledbetter 13, Young 11, Montervino 10, Acosta-Piedmont 13). Fouls: CSI 16 (Young 6). Turnovers: Piedmont 21, CSI 24. Total fouls: Piedmont 30, CSI 38. Fouled out: Montervino, Technical foul: Taranto.

SEE DOLPHINS, PAGE B 5



Gymnastics meet at [REDACTED] will support a great cause

By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

December 31, 2009, 5:50PM

The American Gymnastics Academy is hosting a premier event for some of the best young gymnasts from Staten Island, all over the Northeast and beyond at the [REDACTED] Saturday.

The "2010 Classic for the Cure" run by **Jason Bauer** and AGA will be in Willowbrook both Saturday and Sunday, with a large contingent of Island talent competing on the first day of the event.

Standing room only crowds are expected to fill the gymnasium and the proceeds will go to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation (komen.org). The AGA also sponsors a "Stick It to Breast Cancer" initiative that "empowers gymnasts to directly raise funds for the cause," according to their Web site, ClassicForTheCure.com.

This is the second Classic, but first on Staten Island. Last year's was held at the Edison, N.J., Hilton and raised \$10,000 for the Komen Foundation. This year's meet is expected to be even larger and more competitive.

On Saturday, the Level 5 gymnasts will kick off the meet at 8:30 a.m. Level 6 and 7 will begin roughly at 11:30 a.m. Level 7s and 8s will go around 2 p.m. and 9s and 10s, featuring some of the best gymnasts from the area, will start around 5 p.m.

The Level 10 division is a "Level 10/Open" which means that it does include "elites" or members of national and international teams.

In all, there are approximately 20 teams and 500 girls competing in the event.

The younger gymnasts, Level 4 competitors and "JOGA," what would be compared to a recreational-level, will compete on Sunday.

MSIT ALUMNI HOOPSTERS BEAT NEW DORP

It's was a rivalry game that even a powerful force like Mother Nature could only put off for seven days.

After being postponed by snow for a week, the McKee/Staten Island Tech-New Dorp rivalry game, organized by MSIT's **Jay Fragher**, commenced on Saturday.

Fragher's boys beat the former Centrals at Fastbreak Basketball Center 86-82.

Now, Fragher, ever humble, had one thing to say:

"We won like I said we would," he boasted.

Fragher led the MSIT alumni with 21 points while **Roddy Richardson** and **Timmy Hynes** had 14 apiece. **Dana Davis** added 11 and **Joe Fantasia** chipped in 10.

For New Dorp, **Jamiyl Johnson** scored a game-high 42 points (some cherry-picking may have been involved at Fastbeak's NBA-sized court, Fragher alleges) and **Mansoor DeJesus** added 12. **Alvin Richards** scored 11 for New Dorp.

"It was a good game, very close throughout," said Fragher. "We want to get some more challenges. Next up is Curtis!"

--- *Daniel O'Leary*

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December 31, 2009

Local Calendar

Monday, Jan. 4

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL ECAC

Holiday Tournament

King's vs  2 p.m.

Find this article at: http://www.timesleader.com/sports/extras/Local_Calendar_12-31-2009.html



De Meno takes home third-place finish at Robin Cone Memoiral Classic

By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

January 04, 2010, 11:45AM



Anthony DePrimo/Staten Island Advance

Danielle Scribani performs her floor exercise during the 2010 Robin Cone Memorial Classic benefiting cancer research at the [REDACTED]

The 2010 Robin Cone Memorial Classic to benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation commenced this weekend at the College of Staten Island with local, national and international gymnasts in competition.

Brittanie De Meno, of American Gymnastics Academy, led a contingent of Island natives with a third place finish in the all-around (34.25) Level 10/Open division, which included international and elite competitors. De Meno was also named the first-ever Robin Cone Memorial Scholarship winner.

The AGA Level 9 team took home first place edging Wilmoor 104.1 to 103.3, with the help of Lauren De Meno's second place finish in bars (7.7) and seventh place finish in the all around (32.15).

AGA's Level 6 team finished fourth in the competition and was led by Olivia Marinaro and Gina Costagliola.

Athletic Edge's Level 7 team took seventh place behind Madison Sconzo, Juliana Perno and Kayla Fred while AGA's Level 7 squad was sixth Alyssa Squatrito and Sara Anderson. Also, Nicole Candrilli of AGA won the

JOGA-1 bars (8.9).

Chellsie Memmel, a world champ in 2005 and silver medalist at the 2008 Summer Olympics, was in attendance and handed out the medals during the meet.

2010 Classic for the Cure

Island Results

Level 5, Sr. B

Jacqueline Cope (Athletic Edge) 16th, Vault (7.550); 14th, Bars (7.6); 15th, Beam (7.35); 14th, Floor (7.35); 15th, AA (29.95)

Clare Lawrence (Athletic Edge) 13th, Vault (7.85); 16th, Bars (6.5) 16th, Beam (7.2); 16th, Floor (6.35); 16th, AA (27.9)

Level 6, Jr.

Anna Flaherty (Athletic Edge) 15th, Vault (8.1); 18th, Bars (6.1); 16th, Beam (7.85); 18th, Floor (6.6); 18th, AA (29.65); Bella Mana (Athletic Edge) 17th, Vault (8.0); 16th, Bars (6.75); 12th, Beam (8.45); 11th, Floor (7.85); 16th, AA (31.05)

Level 6, Sr.

Olivia Marinaro (AGA) 15th, Vault (8.2); 11th, Bars (7.7) 14th, Beam (7.675); 6th, Floor (8.3); 12th, AA (31.875); Gina Costagliola (AGA) 16th, Vault (7.8); 15th, Bars (7.0); 13th, Beam (8.1); Floor (Scratched)

Level 7, Jr.

Madison Sconzo (Athletic Edge) 16th, Vault (8.6); 16th, Bars (5.0); 14th, Beam (8.1); 17th, Floor (7.6); 15th, AA (29.3); Juliana Perno (Athletic Edge) 18th, Vault (8.2); 15th, Bars (5.45); 18th, Beam (7.3); 15th, Floor (8.25); 16th, AA (29.2)

Level 7, Sr.

Alyssa Squatrito (AGA) 8th, Vault (9.05); 15th, Bars (7.85); 15th, Beam (8.1); 9th, Floor (8.75); 12th, AA (33.75); Sara Andresen (AGA) 7th, Vault (9.1); 16th, Bars (7.75); 15th, Beam (8.1); 14th, Floor (8.0); 15th, AA (32.95); Kayla Fred (Athletic Edge) 18th, Vault (8.5); Bars (Scratched); 11th, Beam (8.525); 14th, Floor (8.0)

Level 8, Sr.

Danielle Scribani (AGA) 7th, Vault (8.25); 8th, Bars (6.25); 8th, Beam (8.2); 8th, Floor (7.85); 9th, AA (30.55)

Level 9, Jr.

Lauren De Meno (AGA) 9th, Vault (8.05); 2nd, Bars (7.7); 5th, Beam (8.65); 12th, Floor (7.75); 7th, AA (32.15)

Level 10, Sr.

Brittanie De Meno (AGA) 3rd, Vault (9.1); 3rd, Bars (8.125); 4th, Beam (8.125) 3rd, Floor (8.825); 3rd, AA (34.25)

JOGA-1

Nicole Candrilli (Devlin) Vault (Scratched); 1st, Bars (8.9); 5th, Beam (7.6); 5th, Floor (8.9)

JOGA-5, Jr.

Shaye Capasso (AGA) 8th, Vault (7.45); 11th, Bars (4.85); 11th, Beam (7.45); 11th, AA (24.45).

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CSI's Young honored by CUNY

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

College of Staten Island sophomore forward Jordan Young yesterday was named the CUNY Conference's Co-Player of the Week.

Young had 24 points, 11 rebounds, six assists and five steals in a 90-84 loss to Piedmont (Ga.), then had 27 points and 11 rebounds in a 90-79 win over Colby-Sawyer (N.H.).

Young was named to the all-tourney team at CSI's eighth annual Tournament of Heroes.

For the season, the Wall, N.J., product is averaging 15.4 points and 7.4 rebounds per game, both team highs.

CSI travels to Lehman tomorrow night (5 p.m.) in CUNY Conference action.

Dolphins fall to King's College

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — The College of Staten Island women's basketball team suffered from a very poor shooting performance, dropping a 62-49, non-conference decision to King's College (Pa.) yesterday in the consolation game of the ECAC Holiday Classic.

The Monarchs opened with a 16-2 run over the initial seven minutes and the (3-7) Dolphins could not shoot themselves out of a 27.6 percent field-goal attempt slump.

CSI, which fell 90-48 to Colby in the first tourney game on Sunday, finally snapped out of its doldrums

with a 14-6 spurt — Denise Zajonc, Danielle McLaughlin and Allie Shanahan scoring — that narrowed the deficit to 25-20 with three minutes left in the half. But the Island quintet managed just one point the rest of the way in a 31-23 intermission count.

After trading early second-half baskets, Elizabeth Demko got a Monarch rally started with a running layup and over the next six minutes King's extended to its biggest lead, 50-33, with seven minutes to go.

The Dolphins shot just 26.1 percent for the game and an anemic 18.8 percent (3-16) from three-point range.

Shanahan's 17 points and 9 rebounds led CSI. Paige Carlin finished with a game-high

20 points for King's, while Demko pitched in with 11 markers.

Coach Marguerite Moran's squad returns to action tomorrow when it travels to defending champ Lehman College for a CUNY Conference contest at 7:15 p.m.

KING'S (32)

Carlin 9-17 8-9 26, Lynett 1-1 0-0 2, Muscatelli 1-7 2-7 4, Atchison 1-5 0-1 2, Malloy 3-9 0-1 7, Dick 0-4 0-0 5, Galt 1-2 2-2 4, Magan 0-2 0-0 0, Seglia 1-2 0-0 1, Higgins 2-5 4-4 9, Demko 5-5 3-2 11.

Totals: 31-60 17-31 62.

CSI (49)

Shanahan 7-15 3-2 17, Tierce 1-12 0-4 2, Johnson 0-3 3-4 3, Hupworth 2-5 1-2 5, Panariello 3-11 0-1 6, Zajonc 2-9 3-4 7, McLaughlin 3-8 1-2 9, Antoine 0-4 0-4 0.

Totals: 38-69 10-21 49.

Halftime: 30-23, King's. Three-point goals: King's 3-18 (Carlin 0-2, Muscatelli 0-2, Atchison 0-1, Malloy 1-4, Dick 0-2, Magan 0-1, Seglia 1-1); CSI (Shanahan 1-2, Tierce 0-1, Johnson 0-1, Panariello 0-5, Zajonc 0-2, McLaughlin 2-5). Rebounds: King's 33 (Carlin 10); CSI 44 (Shanahan 10). Fouls: King's 28; CSI 11. Assists: King's 15; CSI 14. Turnovers: King's 25; CSI 18. Blocks: King's 6; CSI 5. Steals: King's 10; CSI 14 (Panariello 4); 8: 0.

■ Petosa goes for win No. 300 against Lehman

By Jim Waggoner

January 06, 2010, 11:24AM



Staten Island
Advance file photo
by Hilton Flores

■ coach
Tony Petosa can pick up his
300th win at the Willowbrook
school tonight if the Dolphins
can overcome Lehman. CSI is
40-11 all-time against the
Bronx school.

Tony Petosa guns for his 300th career victory while the ■ women's team seeks some stability as the CUNY Conference basketball season kicks into gear tonight with a doubleheader at Lehman.

■ men's team opens the action at 5 in the Bronx, with veteran coach Petosa sitting at win No. 299 and eyeing a major career milestone.

The women's game follows at 7:15.

Now in his 20th season at the helm, Petosa takes a 299-227 career record into the contest pitting the Dolphins (1-1 CUNY, 4-6 overall) against the Lightning (1-1, 4-8).

■ owns a 40-11 all-time lead in the series, including a 22-4 mark during Petosa's tenure. Lehman snapped an eight-game losing streak with last season's 71-57 victory in Willowbrook.

The Dolphin women, meanwhile, hope to get back on the winning track after a tough two-game trip to Florida. ■ (1-1, 3-7) shot poorly in dropping a pair at the ECAC Holiday Classic over the weekend before facing Lehman (2-0, 4-8).

■ holds a 24-12 lead in the series, taking two of three last season. The Dolphins dropped a 58-51 decision to the Lightning in the semifinals of the the CUNY Tournament, but got even with a season-ending 75-71 win in the finals of the ECAC Metro Tournament.

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SPORTS

B

THURSDAY
JANUARY 7, 2010CSI'S PETOSA
RINGS UP
300TH WIN

Ledbetter's buzzer-beater sinks Lehman, to give 20th-year coach a milestone victory

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

College of Staten Island men's basketball coach Tony Petosa joined the 300-win club last night in the Bronx.

Michael Ledbetter's rebound layup at the buzzer powered the Dolphins to a 66-64 victory over Lehman, a play that had Petosa's players running off the court in wild celebration.

Once in the locker room, they doused the 46-year-old Petosa with water and made a loud ruckus over their biggest win of the young CUNY Conference season.



PETOSA

"We wanted this one bad for Coach Petosa," said Ledbetter, the 6-foot-7 junior center who grabbed Manny Frank's errant 17-foot jump shot and powered his way to the winning basket. "We felt bad we didn't get it done at the Tournament of Heroes last week."

This victory had many historic implications.

Petosa becomes the 59th coach in NCAA Division III history to record 300 wins, according to a school official. The 20th-year head coach has a career record of 300-227 at his alma mater.

'I JUST DO IT'

"Someone asked me tonight why I keep going," said Petosa, who is also the school's career rebound leader and for quite awhile its top career scorer. "I don't think about it. I just do it. When I walk into the gym, it's the highlight of my day."

Petosa said he was moved by his team's response to last night's triumph.

"I think the kids were pretty excited for me and I'm touched by that," he said. "This is a great group of kids. To win the game the way they did was absolutely fantastic."

SEE CSI, PAGE B 3

CSI FROM PAGE B 1

CSI coach records 300th win

Petosa, a Monsignor Farrell High School product, said earlier in the week that he has been frustrated by the program's sagging fortunes in recent seasons. He said that mindset prevented him from focusing on the achievement.

Petosa's first victory came in the second game of his rookie season in 1989-90. The Dolphins defeated Brock University of Canada, 90-82, one night after suffering a 88-30 drubbing at the hands of Nazareth.

"In my mind, I would have liked this night to have been over a long time ago," he said.

The Dolphins led 36-24 late in the first half, and 40-29 early in the second half after Christian Montervino's fastbreak layup.

But the Lightning (1-2 CUNY, 4-9 overall) kept battling back, and took their first lead since early in the game, 60-59, when Jonathan DeJesus' layup capped a 7-0 run with a little under three minutes remaining.

Montervino hit a 3-point shot from the top and Jordan Young (16 points, 9 rebounds) turned a Ryan Hennessey pass into a layup for a 64-62 Dolphin lead.

CSI benefited from Alain Dela Cruz's two missed free throws with the score tied at 64 and 13.3 seconds remaining.

The Dolphins found Frank unguarded a step behind the free-throw line and his shot

somehow found Ledbetter under the basket.

"It was a pass," Frank, a New Dorp HS product, insisted with a smile.

CSI improved to 2-1 in conference play and 5-6 overall, with York coming to the Sports and Recreation Center on Saturday afternoon.

"It's incredible to be a part of tonight's history," said CSI assistant coach Vinny Messina. "It couldn't have happened to a better guy than Tony Petosa. Nobody works harder or has more passion for his program and his kids."

"Three hundred wins ... that's a whole lot of wins," added Messina.

NOTES: Montervino led a balanced CSI attack with 18 points, followed by Young (16), Hennessey (15) and Ledbetter (14) ... Xavier Garvin paced Lehman with 19 points, followed by Jonathan DeJesus (14 points, 13 rebounds) and Perry Daniel with 15 points.

CSI (16)

Montervino 10-14 5-1 18, Young 7-12 2-2 16, Ledbetter 5-7 4-8 16, Taranto 2-2 0-0 2, Hennessey 5-11 3-3 15, Compagno 0-0 0-0 0, Jenkins 0-2 2-2 1, Frank 0-1 0-0 0, Pen 0-1 0-0 0.
Totals: 26-51 8-28 66.

LEHMAN (14)

DeJesus 4-12 4-8 14, Ruggiero 1-12 3-3 4, Garvin 2-13 5-8 15, Dela Cruz 1-4 0-1 2, Daniel 4-5 7-11 15, Pen 0-0 0-0 0, Nangle 1-4 0-0 2, Obedina 1-3 1-2 3.
Totals: 21-41 20-33 64.

OFFICIALS

Three-point guard: CSI 6-17 (Montervino 3-4, Taranto 0-1, Hennessey 4-11, Jenkins 0-1, Pen 0-0, Ledbetter 1-9) (Lehman 0-1, Ruggiero 0-1, Dela Cruz 0-4, Nangle 0-1). Rebounds: CSI 38 (Young 11, Lehman 11) (Lehman 17). Assists: CSI 13 (Hennessey 4), Lehman 4 (Dela Cruz 2, Perry 2). Turnovers: CSI 23, Lehman 15. Total fouls: CSI 24, Lehman 18. Fouled out: Taranto, Jenkins.

THURSDAY JANUARY 7, 2010
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Dolphins top Lehman, 48-47

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Allie Shanahan saved her best for last.

The College of Staten Island junior shook off a poor shooting night and made two free throws with 1.5 seconds remaining to lift the Dolphins to a 48-47 victory over Lehman in the Bronx.

Lehman's Tiana Rosa had given the hosts a 47-46 lead on a three-point play with 14 seconds left.

CSI (2-1 CUNY, 4-7 overall) turned the ball over and Lehman (2-1, 4-9) went back to the free-throw line. Paula Robinson missed, however, and the Dolphins pushed the ball upcourt, with the 5-foot-11 Shanahan drawing a foul.

The St. John Villa product sank both ends of the one-and-one.

Senior guard Danielle McLaughlin scored a team-high 16 points for the Dolphins, while freshman Katelyn Hepworth grabbed 12 rebounds.

Statistically, it was a night to forget for CSI.

The Dolphins shot just 28.3 percent from the floor, including 5 for 24 from 3-point range, and were out-rebounded 59-37. They survived with tough defense, hounding the Lightning to a 28.4 percent shooting night.

Rosa topped Lehman with 15 points and 17 rebounds, while Melissa St. Louis added 15 rebounds.

CSI hosts York Saturday at the Sports and Recreation Center.

CSI (48)

Hepworth 2-5 1-2 5, Panariello 2-10 4-6 8, Shanahan 3-15 2-7 9, Zajonc 1-4 1-2 3, Tierno 2-4 0-2 4, McLaughlin 6-16 0-0 16, Johnson 1-6 1-2 3.
Totals: 17-60 9-36 48.

LEHMAN (47)

Rosa 6-14 3-4 15, Robinson 4-10 0-1 9, Ash 3-11 0-0 7, Febus 2-5 0-0 4, Kirby 1-9 0-0 2, Byrd 0-1 0-0 0, Rodriguez 0-0 0-0 0, St. Louis 1-10 2-4 4, McDaniel 0-0 0-0 0, Hunt 2-7 2-4 6.
Totals: 19-67 7-13 47.

Halftime: 24-20, Lehman.

Three-point goals: CSI 5-24 (Panariello 0-2, Shanahan 1-7, Zajonc 0-1, Tierno 0-1, McLaughlin 4-11, Johnson 0-2); Lehman 2-14 (Robinson 1-1, Ash 1-7, Febus 0-1, Kirby 0-4, St. Louis 0-1). Rebounds: CSI 37 (Hepworth 12); Lehman 59 (Rosa 17, St. Louis 15). Assists: CSI 11 (Hepworth 3); Lehman 10 (Ash 3). Turnovers: CSI 20, Lehman 26. Total fouls: CSI 14, Lehman 18. Fouled out: none.

Men, women back in action

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Coming off a pair of thrilling last-second road victories, the College of Staten Island's basketball teams return to action tomorrow afternoon in a home double-header against York.

The Dolphin women (2-1 CUNY, 4-7 overall) host the Lady Cardinals

(1-1, 6-6) in the 1 p.m. opener, followed by the Dolphin men (2-1, 5-6) against the Cardinals (2-0, 8-5) at 3:30 p.m.

CSI slipped out of Lehman's gymnasium on Wednesday night with two razor-thin wins: The men used Michael Ledbetter's rebound layup at the buzzer for a 66-64 triumph, while the women needed Allie

Shanahan's two free throws with 1.5 seconds remaining for a 48-47 victory.

CSI's men hold a 51-19 all-time series lead over York, although the Cardinals have won the past three meetings.

CSI's women own a 47-6 series edge, including a hefty 23-2 home record against the Lady Cardinals.

CSI/McCown edges Petrides

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Christopher Frank and Quamaine Tomlin scored 20 points apiece and CSI/McCown overcame a poor night at the foul line, holding on for a hard-fought 69-64 win over Petrides last night at the winners' New Springville gym.

CSI/McCown jumped out to a 32-22 halftime lead behind the scoring of Franks and the inside play of Tomlin, but a 16 of 35 performance from the line let the Panthers stay close to the end.

"We have to do a better job at the foul line," said CSI/McCown coach Ray Palma, whose club improved to 6-7 overall. "We have a very young team, we start two sophomores and two freshmen so I expect some mistakes.

"We made some tonight, but we were able to bounce back," he continued. "My freshmen backcourt of Brandon O'Keefe and Joseph Ojo (12 points each) played well and I was very pleased with our defense, especially in the second half."

"Tyler Summers (a Petrides freshman) scored 28 points, but we made him earn everyone of them," he added. "He's a very good player, he made some very tough shots."

PETRIDES (64)

A. Ahmed 0 1-2 1, E. Bryant 7 1-4 17, P. Buckheit 4 2-2 10, W. Holley 1 0-0 3, D. Machuca 1 0-2 2, E. Rosario 1 1-2 3, T. Summers 9 7-8 28.

Totals: 23 12-20 64.

CSI/MCCOWN (69)

A. Archer 0 1-2 1, C. Frank 8 3-10 20, S. Jarmon 0 0-0 0, B. O'Keefe 5 2-4 12, J. Ojo 3 6-8 12, Q. Tomlin 8 4-10 20, T. Turner 1 0-1 2, M. Yates 1 0-0 2.

Totals: 26 16-35 69.

Petrides (1-12)	15	7	13	29-64
CSI/McCown (6-7)	15	17	14	23-69

Three-point goals: W. Holley 1, T. Summers 3, E. Bryant 2; C. Frank 1.



York pummels Dolphins for 75-52 CUNY triumph

By Jim Waggoner

January 09, 2010, 8:53PM

The home bench looked like a makeshift emergency room.

Players limped off the court, headed to the trainer's table at the end of the bench, and waited for the final buzzer to sound.

York's big, physical basketball team pushed the [redacted] around Saturday afternoon in a 75-52 thumping at the Sports and Recreation Center.

"That's a very difficult matchup for us," said [redacted] coach Tony Petosa in what should rank as the biggest understatement of the young CUNY Conference basketball season.

The Cardinals (3-0 CUNY, 9-5 overall) kept [redacted]s two outstanding big men — Jordan Young and Michael Ledbetter — from being factors. They combined for 11 points on 3-of-16 shooting.

In fact, none of the Dolphins reached double figures.

York, meanwhile, had little problem scoring.

Elijah Evelyn, a 6-foot-4 senior, nailed 8 of 10 shots for 19 points, while premier 6-6 CUNY center Marcel Esonwune dominated with 10 points and 17 rebounds.

Reserve point guard Nicholas Hamilton-Lopez couldn't miss from the outside, sinking 5 of 7 3-pointers on the way to a 19-point effort.

Young topped [redacted] with 13 rebounds.

Other than that, there wasn't much good news for the Dolphins (2-2, 5-7).

NOTES: [redacted] travels to FDU-Florham Monday night at 7 ... The Dolphins return home Wednesday to start a four-game home stand against Medgar Evers.

YORK (75)

Thorton 0-3 4-4 4, Exum 3-4 0-0 7, Wilkinson 1-2 0-0 2, Evelyn 8-10 2-5 19, Esonwune 3-8 4-10 10, Fuller 0-3 1-2 1, Hamilton-Lopez 7-11 0-0 19, Gregoire 0-0 0-0 0, Bennentt 2-3 0-0 4, Simon 2-2 0-0 6, Norville 0-0 1-1 1, Moyjeke 1-1 0-0 2.

Totals: 27-47 12-22 75.

[redacted] (52)

Montervino 3-7 0-1 8, Taranto 3-8 0-0 8, Hennessey 2-12 2-2 8, Ledbetter 0-3 4-6 4, Young 3-13 1-2 7, Bisnauth 0-0 2-2 2, Robinson 0-1 0-1 0, Comperato 1-1 0-0 2, Jenkins 2-2 0-0 5, Frank 2-5 2-2 6, Mondello 0-1 0-0 0, Maccarone 0-0 0-0 0, Pan 1-3 0-0 2.

Totals: 17-56 11-16 52.

Halftime: 36-21, York.

Three-point goals: York 9-16 (Thorton 0-1, Exum 1-2, Evelyn 1-2, Fuller 0-1, Hamilton-Lopez 5-7, Bennentt 0-1, Simon 2-2); [REDACTED] 7-20 (Montervino 2-4, Taranto 2-5, Hennessey 2-9, Jenkins 1-1). Rebounds: York 33 (Esonwune 17); [REDACTED] 33 (Ledbetter 13). Assists: York 29 (Exum 8); [REDACTED] 13 (Young 4). Turnovers: York 17, [REDACTED] 23. Total fouls: York 17, [REDACTED] 20. Fouled out: Ledbetter.

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Hennessey's 30 lifts Dolphins

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

MADISON, N.J. — College of Staten Island senior guard Ryan Hennessey teamed with senior forward Christian Montervino for a memorable offensive performance in last night's 71-68 victory over winless FDU-Florham.

Hennessey scored 30 points, hitting 9-of-17 from 3-point range, while Montervino added 21 points, sinking 4-of-8 from long range.

It turned out that the Dolphins (6-7) needed all of those 51 points, including a sizzling 13-of-25 from downtown between the two veterans, both of whom are closing in on the 1,000-point career mark.

The visitors managed to squander most of their 70-63 lead in the

final 1:37, with FDU-Florham's Andrew Bianco-sino hoisting a potential tying three-pointer at the buzzer.

The shot rimmed out.

The Devils dropped to 0-12 on the season.

CSI sophomore Jordan Young added 15 points to the winning attack.

George Twill paced FDU-Florham with 20 points, followed by Bianco-sino's 19.

Sophomore guard Bobby Faiges was fouled with four seconds remaining and the Devils trailing 71-67. He sank the first shot, then missed the second intentionally and grabbed his own rebound, before passing out to Bianco-sino.

NOTES: The Dol-

phins return to CUNY Conference action tomorrow night at home against Medgar Evers ... CSI junior center Michael Ledbetter sat out the first half because he missed some practice time earlier in the week ... York edged Baruch 89-85 in a battle of CUNY contenders.

CSI (71)

Montervino 8-14 1-1 21, Young 6-11 3-4 15, Pan 0-0 1-2 1, Taranto 1-3 0-2 2, Hennessey 10-21 1-2 38, Bianco-sino 9-1 0-0 0, Comperato 0-0 0-0 0, Jenkins 0-3 0-0 0, Frank 0-0 0-0 0, Maccarone 0-0 0-0 0, Person 0-0 0-0 0, Ledbetter 01-4 0-0 2.

Totals: 26-57 6-11 71.

FDU-FLORHAM (68)

Bianco-sino 6-9 4-4 19, Twill 7-13 4-5 20, Fetake 2-5 5-6 9, Williamson 2-13 0-0 4, Missale 0-5 0-0 0, Johnson 0-1 0-0 0, Faiges 3-5 3-5 9, Rosario 1-2 0-0 1, Ciprut 0-0 0-0 0, Hall 1-2 5-4.

Totals: 22-56 18-25 68.

Halftime: 27-34, FDU-Florham.

Three-point goals: CSI 13-27 (Montervino 4-8, Ryan Hennessey 9-17, Jenkins 0-2); FDU-Florham 6-15 (Bianco-sino 3-4, Twill 2-4, Williamson 0-3, Missale 0-2, Faiges 0-1, Rosario 1-1). Rebounds: CSI 35 (Taranto 10; FDU-Florham 41) (Fetake 9). Assists: CSI 14 (Taranto 5); FDU-Florham 12 (Missale 3). Turnovers: CSI 16, FDU-Florham 16. Total fouls: CSI 20, FDU-Florham 15. Fouled out: none.

NYU rolls to win

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

NYU used a 15-0 run late in the first half to break open a comfortable lead and coasted to a 79-49 non-conference women's victory over the College of Staten Island last night at the Sports and Recreation Center.

The Violets improved to 8-4 while the Dolphins dropped to 5-8.

CSI freshman Katelyn Hepworth had a team-high 12 points and a game-high 13 rebounds. Danielle McLaughlin added 11 points and Allie Shanahan 10.

NYU led 43-21 at half-time.

Makenzie Hirz topped the Violets with 14 points and Cara Bonito added 10.

NYU (79)

Foshag 3-6 1-2 9, Bertino 3-5 0-0 7, Hum-Traverso 0-3 0-0 0, Carmen 3-4 0-0 0, Kilmurray 1-3 4-4 7, Arnold 2-3 0-0 4, Ely 0-2 0-0 0, Bonito 3-5 2-2 10, Hirz 5-11 4-5 14, Starts 0-3 0-0 0, Kimball 2-7 5-5 9, Franke 1-2 2-2 4, Blake 2-1 2-2 7.

Totals: 25-57 79.

CSI (49)

Hepworth 3-9 6-8 12, Panariello 3-14 0-1 7, Shanahan 4-9 2-2 10, Tierne 1-9 1-4 3, McLaughlin 4-9 0-0 11, Quattrocchi 0-0 0-0 0, Zajonc 1-9 4-9 6.

Totals: 16-58 13-24 49.

Halftime: 43-21, NYU.

Three-point goals: NYU 9-21 (Foshag 3-5, Bertino 1-2, Hum-Traverso 0-2, Carmen 2-2, Kilmurray 1-1, Arnold 0-1, Ely 0-1, Bonito 2-3, Starts 0-1, Kimball 0-1, Franke 0-1, Blake 1-1); CSI 4-19 (Hepworth 0-1, Panariello 1-7, Shanahan 0-2, Tierne 0-2, McLaughlin 3-5, Zajonc 0-2). Rebounds: NYU 44 (Franke 8); CSI 38 (Hepworth 13). Assists: NYU 17 (Starts 5); CSI 11 (McLaughlin 4). Turnovers: NYU 23, CSI 23. Total fouls: NYU 20, CSI 15. Fouled out: none. Technical foul: Tierne.

Medgar Evers belts CSI, 94-81

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Medgar Evers brought a new look, and a new coach, to the Sports and Recreation Center last night and got very good results.

The young Cougars ran the College of Staten Island out of its own gym, 94-81, with an impressive second-half showing under first-year head coach Chris Pursoo.

"There's no reason we shouldn't be competitive," said Pursoo, who played under current Davidson coach Bob McKillop at Long Island Lutheran and Lou Carnesecca at St. John's. "These

kids need discipline and direction and we're trying to provide it."

Medgar Evers is 2-3 in CUNY Conference play and 8-8 overall, a marked improvement from recent seasons. CSI dropped to 2-3 and 6-8 after being on the wrong end of a 57-39 second-half barrage.

CSI leads the series with an all-time record of 50-15 and still has a homecourt edge of 24-7.

But the Cougars shot 57.6 percent from the floor, shared the basketball and made key defensive adjustments on the way to an impressive road victory.

"Anytime you win on the road in conference play it's big," said Pursoo. "Winning at CSI should give us some confidence moving forward."

Senior guards Ronald Holloway (25 points) and Kallai Sharpe (20) led the way. Twin brothers Jovan Deare (17) and Jarrel Deare (12) combined for 29 points.

Holloway nailed 10 of 11 shots from the floor, while Sharpe sank 9 of 17.

Holloway's 3-point shot gave the visitors a 72-66 lead with seven minutes remaining, and his 3-pointer from the baseline made it 77-70. Holloway's follow tip-in and short jumper extended the lead with three minutes left.

All five CSI starters scored in double figures, and all eyes were on senior guard Ryan Hennessey in the closing minutes. He had 16 points and is at 996 for his college career.

CSI WOMEN

Ameneiros back for CSI rout

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Mallory Ameneiros made her return to the court and the College of Staten Island welcomed the senior point guard back last night with a 95-49 rout of Medgar Evers.

Ameneiros, who reinjured her surgically repaired left knee in the season opener, played 18 minutes with six points, three assists and three steals.

"She's a tough kid," said CSI assistant coach Tim Shanahan. "If there's anyone who can play (with a second ACL injury) it's Mallory. She makes everyone else on the court better."

The Dolphins (4-1 CUNY, 6-8 overall) raced to a 52-21 halftime lead and coasted past the Cougars (1-4, 5-9).

Danielle McLaughlin scored 22 points and Kristen Panariello added 21 points and eight assists, combining for 8-for-15 accuracy from 3-point range.

Olivia Tierno had 13 points and Allie Shanahan added 10.

Shakimba Pierre paced Medgar Evers with 22 points. Tiffany Thomson had 16 points and 14 rebounds.

NOTES: CSI hosts City College at 1 p.m. Saturday ... The Dolphins own a 30-3 all-time series lead over Medgar Evers.

MEDGAR EVERS (W)

Bianco-Benedict 0-1 0-0 0, Biscette 1-3 0-0 2, Pierre 9-18 3-4 22, Thompson 8-20 0-3 16, McClellan 1-4 1-7 3, Rayne 0-0 0-0 0, Goggin 0-0 0-0 0, Bee 0-3 2-7 7, McIntyre 0-0 0-0 0, Scott-Samuel 1-4 1-7 3, Jack 0-0 1-3 1.

Totals: 70-53 8-16 49.

CSI (W)

Hepworth 2-4 4-6 8, Panariello 8-13 5-6 21, Shanahan 4-10 3-3 16, Tierno 5-8 3-4 13, McLaughlin 7-16 4-4 22, Quattracchi 1-7 1-2 4, Ameneiros 1-4 4-6 6, Zajonc 0-4 2-2 2, Marley 0-0 0-0 0, Antione 0-0 0-0 0, Johnson 4-5 1-2 9.

Totals: 30-68 26-37 95.

Halftime: 53-21, CSI.

Three-point shots: Medgar Evers 1-4 (Pierre 1-3, McClellan 0-1, Bee 0-1, Scott-Samuel 0-1); CSI 9-21 (Hepworth 0-1, Panariello 4-4, Shanahan 0-1, McLaughlin 4-8, Quattracchi 1-2, Ameneiros 0-2). Rebounds: Medgar Evers 47 (Thompson 14, Pierre 32); CSI 35 (Hepworth 7). Assists: Medgar Evers 4 (Bianco-Benedict 2); CSI 22 (Panariello 8). Turnovers: Medgar Evers 35, CSI 8. Total fouls: Medgar Evers 21, CSI 25. Fouled out: Hepworth, Shanahan.

NOTES: Hennessey goes for 1,000 at home Saturday afternoon (3:30) against City College ... Soph center Jordan Young led the Dolphins with 18 points, while Christian Montervino and Michael Ledbetter had 15 apiece. Soph point guard Dale Taranto had a nice line: 10 points, seven rebounds, five assists and three steals.

MEDGAR EVERS (W)

Sharpe 9-17 1-2 26, Ja. Deare 3-4 5-7 12, Bismarath 2-7 3-4 7, Johnson 1-2 1-2 3, Ja. Deare 4-11 9-14 17, Holloway 10-12 3-4 25, Wick 1-1 0-0 2, Abdul-Karim 0-0 0-0 0, Jones 4-4 0-2 8.

Totals: 34-59 22-35 94.

CSI (W)

Montervino 7-13 0-0 25, Taranto 4-12 2-2 18, Hennessey 6-12 0-0 16, Ledbetter 3-10 1-5 15, Young 7-13 4-4 18, Jenkins 0-0 0-0 0, Frank 1-2 0-0 2, Person 1-1 0-0 2, Pan 1-1 1-2 3.

Totals: 34-64 9-23 81.

Halftime: 43-37, CSI.

Three-point shots: Medgar Evers 4-11 (Sharpe 1-3, Ja. Deare 1-1, Bismarath 0-5, Holloway 2-2); CSI 5-17 (Montervino 1-3, Taranto 0-4, Hennessey 4-10). Rebounds: Medgar Evers 26 (Ja. Deare 8); CSI 36 (Taranto 7). Assists: Medgar Evers 25 (Bismarath 7); CSI 17 (Taranto 5). Turnovers: Medgar Evers 12, CSI 23. Total fouls: Medgar Evers 16, CSI 26. Fouled out: Young. Technical fouls: Ja. Deare, Holloway, Young, Pan.



Fit, athletic swimmers needed to be lifeguards

Thursday, January 14, 2010

By DIANE C. LORE

ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

STATEN ISLAND, NY -- NORTH SHORE -- The calendar says January, but the city Parks Department is looking ahead to summer.

It's looking to hire lifeguards, at \$13.50 an hour, to staff city pools and beaches. Applicants must be at least 16 years old and able to pass the lifeguard qualifying test offered this month and next.

But Staten Island applicants may have to travel to one of 10 pool sites in Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan and the Bronx, to take the test. There is no test scheduled for Staten Island as yet, according to a Parks Department spokeswoman, because the pool at Curtis High School, where the test has been administered in past years, is under renovation.

"We are currently looking for a site in Staten Island. Our usual site, the pool at Curtis High School, is under renovation. We hope to use the new site in Staten Island not only for testing but also for lifeguard training," said Meghan Lalor.

Under consideration is the pool at the [REDACTED] where the Curtis swim team has been training while its pool gets an overhaul. If an Island test site is added, it would be posted on the Parks Department Web site, www.yc.gov/parks. Applicants can also call 311 for updated information.

Applicants who pass the test must also undergo a 16-week training session to be certified by the city before being hired and placed.

Here is the current schedule of lifeguard test sites this month:

Brooklyn: Bushwick High School, 400 Irving Ave., Wednesday, 7 to 9 p.m.; Fort Hamilton High School, 8301 Shore Rd., Monday 8 to 10 a.m., and Jan. 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. ; James Madison High School, 3787 Bedford Ave., Saturday, 7 to 8:45 a.m.; New Utrecht High School, 1601 80th St., Tuesday 4 to 6 p.m.

Manhattan: Chelsea Recreation Center, 420 West 25th St., tonight and Jan. 21, 6 to 8 p.m.

Queens: Far Rockaway High School, 8-21 Bay 25th St., Jan. 26, 27 and Feb. 2, 6 to 8 p.m.; Grover Cleveland High School, 21-27 Himrod St., tomorrow, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Richmond Hill High School, 89-30 114th St., Jan. 23 and 30, 7 to 8:45 a.m.

Bronx: St. Mary's Recreation Center, E. 145th St. and St. Ann's Avenue, Jan. 28, 6 to 8 p.m.; Dewitt Clinton High School, 100 West Mosholu Parkway South, Jan. 22, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Hennessey closing in on 1,000 point plateau at [REDACTED]

By Staten Island Advance Sports Desk

January 15, 2010, 12:11PM



Staten Island Advance file
photo by Hilton Flores

Ryan Hennessey is four points away from
scoring 1,000 in his career at the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] senior guard Ryan Hennessey aims for a personal milestone in his pursuit to join the 1,000-point club tomorrow afternoon when the Dolphins entertain City College.

The St. Joseph by-the-Sea product takes 996 career points into the 3:30 p.m. CUNY Conference game between [REDACTED] (2-3, 6-8 overall) and CCNY (2-3, 6-8).

Hennessey would become the 25th player in [REDACTED] history to reach the 1,000-point plateau.

Senior guard/forward Christian Montervino should join him in the near future. The Ewing, N.J., resident needs 59 more points to reach 1,000.

[REDACTED] women (4-1, 6-8) open tomorrow's doubleheader with a 1 p.m. game against CCNY (2-3, 4-10) at the Sports and Recreation Center.

Senior guard Kristen Panariello also continues her pursuit of the 1,000-point mark. The St. Joseph by-the-Sea product takes 947

career points into tomorrow's contest.

Taranto leads [redacted] men past visiting Kean, 72-64

By Jim Waggoner

January 18, 2010, 8:09PM



Staten Island Advance file photo

[redacted] sophomore point guard Dale Taranto, right, helped guide the Dolphins past visiting Kean 72-64 on Monday afternoon.

Matters appeared grim for the [redacted] in the late stages of Monday's 72-64 victory over Kean University at the Sports and Recreation Center.

The team's two big men, Jordan Young and Michael Ledbetter, were both saddled with four fouls, and the fast-closing Cougars had trimmed a 17-point deficit to 55-54 with eight minutes remaining.

Young and Ledbetter would both eventually foul out, taking a combined total of six shots, and Kean's inside duo of Jonathan Jones and Akinwande Oshodi were having their own way in the paint.

"If you told me we could win this game without our two big guys," said [redacted] assistant coach Vinny Messina, "I would have laughed in your face."

It took a gutsy effort from 6-foot-2 sophomore point guard Dale Taranto and help from senior backcourt mates Christian Montervino and Ryan Hennessey for the Dolphins to subdue the New Jersey Athletic Conference opponent.

And reserves Liwei Pan, Herschel Jenkins, Everard Bisnauth and Dan Comperato all pitched in with quality minutes, although freshman Comperato can be guaranteed a lecture at Tuesday's practice for taking a 12-foot jumper with [redacted] clinging to a 68-64 lead and 20 second remaining.

The shot swished through the net.

It was that kind of afternoon for the Dolphins, who improved to 8-8 overall, the first time since early in the season to touch the .500 mark. They were manhandled on the backboards, 39-24, allowed the Cougars 19 offensive rebounds, and nearly threw the game away with 24 turnovers.

Enter Taranto.

The St. Peter's High School product, who had to be coaxed to a tryout *after* he had enrolled last year, finished with 18 points, eight steals and six assists. He sank 8-of-10 shots from the floor.

Montervino contributed 19 points, seven rebounds and four steals, and Hennessey added 12 points, giving the three guards a total of 49 points.

"We hit a lot of shots early," said Messina of a 23-9 lead that expanded to 33-16 midway through the first half. "Then we made several big defensive stops late in the game."

Taranto was in the middle of most of them.

"We lose this game without Taranto on the floor," said Messina.

Kean dropped to 5-11 overall, two days after its biggest win of the season — a 78-66 road triumph at NJAC power Ramapo.

The 6-5 Jones was unstoppable around the basket, scoring 21 points and grabbing 12 rebounds, but played only 21 minutes. Oshodi added 14 points, making 6-of-7 shots.

The Cougars were careless, however, with 27 turnovers, and made only 12-of-25 free throw attempts while misfiring on all seven 3-point shots.

NOTES: (3-3) hosts John Jay (1-4) Wednesday night in a CUNY Conference game at 8. The women's game begins at 5:30 ... After that, the Dolphins embark on a tough four-game road trip (Hunter, Stevens Tech, Medgar Evers and York) ... Comperato's late basket was only the second of the Monsignor Farrell product's freshman season.

KEAN (64)

Shaughnessy 0-4 1-2 1, Darpino 1-7 2-3 4, Lewis 2-5 1-3 5, Oshodi 6-7 2-5 14, Lytle 2-5 0-1 4, Tolliver 0-3 0-0 0, Hughes 2-6 0-1 4, Ribeiro 2-3 0-0 4, Gutierrez 1-1 2-2 4, Pierre 1-2 1-4 3, Jones 9-14 3-4 21.

Totals: 26-57 12-25 64.

(72)

Montervino 5-11 6-9 19, Taranto 8-10 1-2 18, Hennessey 4-9 2-2 12, Ledbetter 0-1 0-2 0, Young 3-5 7-10 13, Bisnauth 1-2 0-0 2, Comperato 1-1 0-0 2, Jenkins 0-0 2-2 2, Person 0-0 0-0 0, Pan 2-2 0-0 4.

Totals: 24-41 18-27 72.

Halftime: 39-31, ()

Three-point goals: Kean 0-7 (Darpino 0-1, Tolliver 0-2, Hughes 0-2, Pierre 0-1, Jones 0-1); () 6-14 (Montervino 3-6, Taranto 1-3, Hennessey 2-5). Rebounds: Kean 39 (Jones 12); () 24 (Montervino 7). Assists: Kean 7 (Shaughnessy 2); () 11 (Taranto 6). Turnovers: Kean 27, () 24. Total fouls: Kean 24, () 23. Fouled out: Ledbetter, Young.

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SPORTS

GRITTY
DOLPHINS
FIND A WAY

CSI shakes off foul woes
and a second-half run by
Kean to post a satisfying
72-64 win

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Matters appeared grim for the College of Staten Island in the late stages of yesterday's 72-64 victory over Kean University at the Sports and Recreation Center.

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"We hit a lot of shots

SEE DOLPHINS, PAGE B 4

DOLPHINS FROM PAGE B 1

CSI finds a way against Kean

early," said Messina of a 23-9 lead that expanded to 33-16 midway through the first half. "Then we made several big defensive stops late in the game."

Taranto was in the middle of most of them.

"We lose this game without Taranto on the floor," said Messina.

Kean dropped to 5-11 overall, two days after its biggest win of the season — a 78-66 road triumph at NJAC power Ramapo.

The 6-5 Jones was unstoppable around the basket, scoring 21 points and grabbing 12 rebounds, but played only 21 minutes. Oshodi added 14 points, making 6-of-

7 shots.

The Cougars were careless, however, with 27 turnovers, and made only 12-of-25 free throw attempts while misfiring on all seven 3-point shots.

NOTES: CSI (3-3) hosts John Jay (1-4) tomorrow night in a CUNY Conference game at 8. The women's game begins at 5:30 ... After that, the Dolphins embark on a tough four-game road trip (Hunter, Stevens Tech, Medgar Evers and York) ... Comperato's late basket was only the second of the Monsignor Farrell product's freshman season.

KEAN (64)

Shaughnessy 9-4 2-2 1, Dargins 1-7 2-3 4, Lewis 2-5 1-3 5, Oshodi 6-7 2-5 14, Lytle 2-5 0-1 4, Tolliver 9-1 0-0 8, Hughes 2-4 0-1 4, Ribeiro 2-3 0-0 4, Gutierrez 1-1 2-2 4, Pierre 1-2 1-4 3, Jones 9-14 3-4 21.

Totals: 26-57 12-25 94.

CSI (72)

Montervino 5-11 6-9 15, Taranto 8-10 1-2 18, Hennessey 4-9 2-7 12, Ledbetter 0-1 0-2 0, Young 3-5 2-10 13, Bisnauth 1-2 0-0 2, Comperato 1-1 0-0 2, Jenkins 0-0 2-2 2, Person 0-0 0-0 0, Pan 2-2 0-0 4.

Totals: 24-41 18-27 72.

Halftime: 29-31, CSI.

Three-point goals: Kean 0-7 (Dargins 0-1, Tolliver 0-2, Hughes 0-2, Pierre 0-1, Jones 0-1); CSI 4-14 (Montervino 3-4, Taranto 1-1, Hennessey 2-5). Rebounds: Kean 29 (Jones 12); CSI 24 (Montervino 7). Assists: Kean 7 (Shaughnessy 2); CSI 11 (Taranto 6). Turnovers: Kean 27, CSI 21. Total fouls: Kean 24, CSI 21. Fouled out: Ledbetter, Young.

CORRECTION

Rich Rollins caught a pair of touchdown passes in Lacey's Tavern's 14-0 Staten Island Touch Tackle League win Sunday. His name was reported to the Advance incorrectly.



2 Sea Gulls named to D3baseball.com All-America team

Posted: Jan 19, 2010 03:06 PM EST

MINNEAPOLIS - As the Salisbury University baseball team prepares for another season on the diamond, two of its members can celebrate their first preseason accolades as they were named to the D3baseball.com 2010 Preseason All-America team.

Senior first baseman Mike Celenza (Gaithersburg, Md.) and junior outfielder Andrew Miller (Schwenksville, Pa.) were both first-team selections. Celenza's 12 home runs last year was the third-highest total of all first-team selections; in 2009, he led the team in seven categories, including hits (75) and on-base percentage (.576). Miller, who slammed nine out of the park last season, boasted a .406 batting average in 2009. He also led the team in numerous categories, including runs scored (67) and doubles (13). The two led the Sea Gulls to an impressive 38-8 record and the program's ninth Capital Athletic Conference championship.

In addition to the first-team selections, junior infielder/pitcher Kyle Judson (Gaithersburg, Md.) was given honorable mention accolades. He started in 13 games last season and was second on the team in strikeouts (71).

The Sea Gulls will begin their season on the road, on Feb. 14, at the Apprentice School. The game is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. Salisbury's first home contest, a double-header against the [redacted], will be on Feb. 20. The game is set for noon.



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SPORTS

B

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 20, 2010SIHSL TOURNEY
HEADED BACK
TO FARRELL

Funding issues prevent annual tournament from being played at CSI gym

By TOM DOWD
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

After three seasons at the College of Staten Island's Sports and Recreation Center, the Staten Island High School League boys' basketball tournament is returning to its original home at Mon-Signor Farrell.

SIHSL president Tony Rafaniello, the head coach at Moore Catholic HS, confirmed the move Monday.

"We don't have the funding," said Rafaniello. "We haven't received the money that was allocated to us by the City Council (for the 2009 tournament) and without that money, which is \$13,000, we're not able to provide a venue that is rather expensive."

In previous years, said Rafaniello, the SIHSL has received the city money approximately a month after the conclusion of the tournament.

The money was delivered to the league through United Activities Unlimited and shared between the 11 participating schools, with a portion saved to provide the down payment for the following year's tournament.

"It's a pretty complicated system that sometimes it's hard to follow," said Rafaniello. "There's a great deal of paperwork that's involved. The City Council gives the money to UAU and then they give us the money."

Because of a rule change in the way the city pays out City Council discretionary funding, the SIHSL has not gotten a check to cover the cost of the 2009 tournament. That is a change from previous years, when UAU would reimburse SIHSL relatively quickly — in 2008, they received the \$13,000 on March 28, about a month after the tournament was completed, according to Alice Hartie, fiscal officer for UAU.

"We used to be able to give them the funds before the contract was registered, but now we can't do that," Hartie said.

The policy change was likely a result of a slush fund scandal, in which investigators discovered Council members had been diverting taxpayer dollars to non-existent non-profits or to ones with their relatives or staffers on the payroll. The scandal resulted in the conviction of a Brooklyn Councilman and two Bronx Council staffers last year.

Hartie expects the De-

SEE SIHSL PAGE B 3

partment of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) will register the contract soon.

"I anticipate (the check) coming any day. Just be patient," she added.

UAU acts as a funding conduit for about 60 different Island organizations — ranging from community centers to learning institutions to summer recreation programs — that do not have federal 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. The funding comes from the City Council through various city agencies, then to UAU, which issues checks to reimburse the cost of the various programs.

The tournament was played for its first 11 seasons at Farrell and then three at Petrides HS. For the 2006-07 season, the tournament moved to CSI after then-City

SIHSL FROM PAGE B 1

Hoop tourney back to Farrell

Councilman Michael McMahon pledged \$13,000 in city funding to cover the full cost of the tournament, including rental of the CSI Sports and Recreation Center for three dates.

McMahon continued the annual allocation until his election to Congress in 2008, pledging the funds for the 2009 tournament before leaving the City Council. But with those funds yet to be received, the league was unable to provide a down payment to CSI to secure the gym for this year's tournament, scheduled to run from Friday, Feb. 5 through Saturday, Feb. 13.

"CSI was unwilling to make any kind of concessions," said Rafaniello. "They wanted a certain amount of money up front and we weren't able to provide it."

"I have complete confidence that we will get (the money)," Rafaniello added. "Unfortunately it's not going to be in a timely fashion."

McMahon's successor, Ken Mitchell, pledged funds for the 2009-10 tournament in November, following his election defeat to current Council member Debi Rose. Rafaniello said he expects that money will eventually be provided to the SIHSL as well.

"I don't know if there's anybody to blame for this," said Rafaniello. "I just think it's unfortunate."

For the past three years, McMahon and Mitchell expanded the sponsorship to include the Staten Island Indoor Track and Field Championships. The 2010 event was held Sunday at the Armory Track and Field Center in Manhattan.

Staten Island High School Track and Field Association president Jim Hughes, also the coach at Moore Catholic, said he was told in November by UAU that the \$9,000 allocated by McMahon for the 2009 track championships was ready to be distributed, though he has yet to submit the paperwork to obtain it.

"2009 I know is waiting for us," said Hughes. "That was a delay. I got a letter from the UAU saying it was ready and I have to send them the bills we accumulated."

For the SIHSL, time ran out. Rafaniello felt the league needed to secure a facility for the 2010 tournament and could not wait any longer. Farrell, which last hosted the tournament in 2003, was among several sites considered.

"When I saw that it was getting close, CSI sent us a contract," said Rafaniello. "I notified the coaches and gave them my suggestions and recommendation and we decided to proceed."

"The decision probably became formal once we were able to secure a site. Once you get close to the tournament, dates do become a problem. You want to find a facility where you don't have to change the dates and Farrell was able to accommodate us."

"We have to proceed because if we waited any longer we could be looking at a huge mess. The bottom line is the tournament will be run as well as it ever has been. Farrell is a very nice venue."

(Advance reporter Peter Spencer contributed to this story)

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STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

SPORTS

B

THURSDAY,
JANUARY 21, 2010SURGING CSI
ROLLS TO 3RD
STRAIGHT WINDolphin men smash John
Jay, 88-72, and look ahead
to demanding road swingBy JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCENow comes the hard part
for the College of Staten Is-
land.No sooner had the Dol-
phins won their season-high
third straight game, blasting
John Jay 88-72 last night at
the Sports and Recreation
Center, than the focus shifted
ahead to a brutal four-game
road swing."We're definitely showing
signs of progress," said CSI
coach Tony Petosa, "but
we'll need to keep getting
better if we want to be suc-
cessful.""It'll be interesting to see
how far we've come as a
team."The Dolphins improved to
4-3 in the CUNY Conference
and 9-8 overall, pretty good
numbers for a team that had
been struggling at 3-6 not
long ago.Winning six of eight
games would be a good tonic
for any basketball team, but
CSI's confidence level seems
to be growing day by day.Senior swingman Chris-
tian Monteverino topped a
balanced attack with 18
points, hitting 5 of 7 from 3-
point range. The Ewing, N.J.,
product might have had a
shot at the 1,000-point career
scoring mark but ended the
night with leg cramps mid-
way through the second half
just 12 points shy.That milestone will have
to wait until at least tomor-
row night, when the Dol-
phins visit improving Hunter
(3-3, 7-10). After that, they
play at always-tough Stevens
Tech and then at Medgar
Evers and York, two CUNY
schools with road victories at
CSI.Last night's affair was over
early.The Dolphins turned a 7-0
lead into a 30-16 bulge and
coasted after shooting 56.3
percent for a 48-26 halftime
lead.Sophomore point guard
Dale Taranto had another su-
perb line — 14 points, nine
assists and eight rebounds —
as he continues to establish
himself as a CUNY force.Jordan Young (14 points,
eight rebounds) and Michael
Ledbetter (10 points, nine re-
bounds) were more than
solid inside the paint.John Jay showed plenty of
fight for a team that fell to 1-6
and 1-16, with a thin roster af-
fected by injury and suspen-
sions.But the outmanned Blood-
hounds didn't have much of a
chance against an emerging
CSI squad that cleared the
bench in the second half and
had 13 players score.The Dolphins shot 53.2
percent from the floor, sank
6-of-11 from beyond the arc
and 16 of 21 from the line, and
boasted a 41-29 rebounding
advantage.More importantly, they
held John Jay to 43.1 percent
shooting with a tight man-to-
man defense, and distributed
the ball with 24 assists.

Now comes the hard part.

"We won't have to wait
long to see how good we
are," said a cautious Petosa.
"The schedule is as tough as
it gets."

DOLPHINS FROM PAGE B 1

CSI rolls to third straight win

NOTES: Iraq veteran
Chris Jaeger had 20 points, 11
rebounds and six assists for
John Jay, while Darryl Den-
nis and Tottenville HS prod-
uct Joseph Padell added 13
points apiece ... Faculty and
Staff Appreciation Night had
the following honorees:Louis Blois, mathematics;
Kellie Carnevale, athletics;
Jane Coffee, mathematics;
Robert Corin, biology; Donna
Gerstle, environmental sci-
ence; Dina Grant, academic
advisement; Irving Robbins,
engineering, science and
physics; and Donna Scimeca,
CORE Program ... CSI fresh-
man reserve Sean Mondello
(Tottenville HS) scored his
first basket of the season —
Baruch (5-1) leads the North-
ern Division and York leads
the Southern Division (7-0)
in CUNY standings.

JOHN JAY (72)

Olson 2-6 9-5 6, Dennis 5-11 1-7 11, Padell 6-12 3-4
13, Jaeger 5-19 18-14 20, Longest 4-4 4-4 11, Doran 1-
3 4-7, Clarke 3-1 1-2 1.

Totals: 22-51 24-41 72.

CSI (98)

Monteverino 6-10 1-2 18, Taranto 5-9 4-6 14, Mon-
terey 2-5 7-7 8, Ledbetter 4-4 2-2 15, Young 5-12 4-4
14, Blawie 2-1 1-0 5, Robinson 0-0 2-2 2, Cooper 1-2
0-4 2, Jenkins 3-2 0-1 2, Frank 0-2 0-4 0, Mondello
1-2 0-4 2, Masciarelli 1-2 0-4 2, Person 2-4 0-4 6, Post
1-3 0-2 2.

Totals: 33-62 14-21 98.

Halftime: 48-26, CSI.

Three-point goals: John Jay 4-12 (Olson 0-2, Dennis
2-5, Padell 2-4); CSI 6-11 (Monteverino 5-7, Monterey
1-2, Jenkins 0-1, Frank 0-1). Rebounds: John Jay 29
(Jaeger 11); CSI 41 (Ledbetter 9, Taranto 8, Young 8).
Assists: John Jay 11 (Jaeger 6); CSI 24 (Taranto 9).
Turnovers: John Jay 15, CSI 17. Total fouls: John Jay
16, CSI 28. Fouled out: none.

Dolphins breeze past John Jay, 84-57

By JIM WAGGONER
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

You want to talk about bad luck?

How does losing your top scorer to injury on the opening tip-off sound?

It happened to the College of Staten Island last night, when 5-foot-11 junior forward Allie Shanahan won the tap and landed awkwardly. The Dolphins went on to a 84-57 rout of winless John Jay, but the damage had been done.

Preliminary X-rays indicated a likely "fracture on the ankle bone," said CSI assistant coach Tim Shanahan, the player's father. "We'll have an MRI on Thursday and get a better idea of what we're looking at."

What the Dolphins could be looking at, minus Shanahan's 14.5 points and 6.5 rebounds per game, is a season on the brink, at least in terms of building momentum for a

possible CUNY Conference championship.

"It was almost unbelievable," said head coach Marguerite Moran. "The ball goes up for the tip, our eyes are following the ball, and the next thing we know we hear Allie screaming in pain on the floor."

With the recent return of sparkplug senior point guard Mallory Ameneiros, who suffered a serious knee injury in the season opener, the Dolphins were starting to show signs of maturity.

"We felt the pieces were finally coming together a little bit better," said Moran.

For the record, Shanahan's appearance lasted three seconds before Ameneiros was rushed off the bench to replace her teammate.

The Dolphins have their fingers crossed that her sudden departure won't be permanent.

NOTES: CSI freshman

Katelyn Hepworth had 19 points, 14 rebounds and four steals, but wasn't the leading scorer. That honor went to freshman Olivia Tierno, who tallied 21 points ... Senior guard Kristen Panariello had 13 points and needs 19 more to reach 1,000 for her career ... The Dolphins (5-1, 8-8) visit Hunter tomorrow at 5 p.m. ... John Jay junior Jessica Lirio led all scorers with 28 points and added 10 rebounds for the Bloodhounds (0-7, 0-16).

JOHN JAY (57)

Grice 6-21 8-0 12, Beddoe 8-4 2-3 2, Carson 0-5 2-4 2, Lirio 12-20 4-7 26, Smith 8-4 2-2 2, Rodriguez 0-4 1-2 1, Prince 3-13 1-2 10.

Totals: 21-71 12-20 57.

CSI (84)

Hepworth 9-13 1-2 19, Panariello 3-10 6-6 13, Shanahan 0-0 0-0 0, Tierno 6-10 9-12 21, McLaughlin 4-13 8-0 18, Quattrocchi 0-1 0-0 0, Ameneiros 3-5 2-2 10, Zajonc 2-11 1-2 5, Johnson 3-6 0-0 6.

Totals: 30-69 19-24 84.

Halftime: 44-21, CSI.

Three-point goals: John Jay 3-13 (Grice 0-2, Beddoe 0-3, Lirio 0-1, Rodriguez 0-1, Prince 3-6); CSI 5-16 (Panariello 1-4, McLaughlin 2-6, Quattrocchi 0-1, Ameneiros 2-4, Zajonc 0-1). Rebounds: John Jay 50 (Carson 12, Lirio 10); CSI 43 (Hepworth 16). Assists: John Jay 4; CSI 22 (Ameneiros 6). Turnovers: John Jay 29, CSI 15. Total fouls: John Jay 18, CSI 22. Fouled out: Grice. Technical fouls: Grice, McLaughlin.



Men's Basketball Rolls to 75-64 Conference Win Over Alfred; Smith Notches Sixth Double-Double of Season

1/22/2010

Contact: [Rob Kulish](#)

Files associated with this release:

[Box Score vs. Alfred - January 22, 2010](#)

HOBOKEN, N.J. (January 22, 2010) – Sophomore forward [Simon Smith](#) had a strong evening, notching his second double-double in as many games (21 points, 11 rebounds) to lead the Stevens Institute of Technology men's basketball team to a 75-64 conference victory over Alfred University. The Ducks used a 24-3 run over 8:48 in the first half to build a 20-point lead it would never relinquish. Senior forward [Ian Masone](#) and sophomore guard [Mike Cutri](#) each scored in double figures for Stevens (12-4 overall, 6-3 Empire 8).

The Ducks jumped on top 6-0 after 2:10 of game time but Alfred was able to come back and take a 12-8 lead with 14:33 to play in the first thanks to four long three-pointers.

After several scores for each team, the Ducks regained the lead and went on a game-changing run. The Ducks scored 24 of the game's next 27 points to take a 37-19 lead with 3:20 to play in the first. Sophomore guard [Eric Kessler](#) drained two threes as Smith, senior [Matt Higgins](#), and Masone all had three buckets in the spurt to give the Ducks a big cushion that would never really be threatened.

Stevens scored 26 of their first 39 points in the paint and converted 11 Alfred turnovers into 17 points. Stevens went 17-of-38 from the floor and out-rebounded the Saxons 20-16 in the first. Senior guard [George Greco](#) had six assists himself as the Ducks recorded 13 helpers on 17 made baskets.

The Ducks continued their strong play early in the second half, with Greco getting the lead back to 19 (46-27) 2:16 in. That 19-point advantage would be the largest Stevens' second-half lead would grow as the Saxons did not quit and were able to slowly chip away.

Alfred (6-8 overall, 0-6 Empire 8) scored nine straight over 2:29 to make it a 46-36 game with 15:15 remaining. The two teams traded buckets before the Saxons made a pair of threes to cut the Duck lead to seven, but Masone was able to convert a layup after a nice look from Kessler, and freshman [Max Schwartz](#) tracked down a failed lob attempt and recorded a put-back to make it 57-46 Stevens with 8:28 left in the game.

Alfred got the lead to seven at the 6:05 mark and again at the 5:36 mark, but it could not get the stops or buckets it needed to make it any closer. After cutting it to seven for the final time, Smith was able to make a move inside, got fouled, scored the basket, and tacked on the free-throw to put the Ducks back up 10.

Stevens pushed the lead to 14 (68-54) after a pair of Cutri free throws with 3:56 remaining to put the game away. Alfred was able to get the lead under 10 twice in the final 3:30 but Stevens went 5-of-6 from the line and recorded at least one point on five of its last six possessions to seal the win.

The double-double was the sixth of the season for Smith. In addition to his 21 points and 11 rebounds, he tallied a block and a steal. Cutri finished with 14 points and was 6-for-6 from the foul line. He also dished out three assists and notched a pair of steals. Greco finished with seven points, seven assists, and two steals, and Masone was solid with 12 points, five boards, and two assists. Higgins totaled seven points and eight boards, and Kessler had a solid all-around game off the bench scoring eight points, doling out four helpers, and grabbing two rebounds.

The Ducks finished 30-for-66 (45.5 percent) from the floor and 12-of-18 (66.7 percent) from the line. They assisted on 19-of-30 baskets and only turned the ball over 10 times. Stevens ended the contest with a 41-30 rebounding advantage (19 came on the offensive end).

Alfred was led with senior forward **Ron Smith (Lyons, N.Y.)** who had 19 points and three assists. Junior guard **Mike Stopera (Scotia, N.Y.)** and junior guard **Gary Kwiecien (Perry, N.Y.)** each finished in double figures.

Stevens will return to action with a non-conference contest on Monday evening against the [REDACTED]. Tip-off is slated for 7 p.m. from the Canavan Arena in Hoboken, N.J. The game is scheduled to be webcast live at www.PennAtlantic.com/main.php.



Men's Basketball Cruises to 75-58 Win Over [REDACTED] Smith Scores Career-High 23 Points

HOBOKEN, N.J. (January 25, 2010)

– Sophomore forward Simon Smith scored a career-high 23 points to lead the Stevens Institute of Technology men's basketball team to a 75-58 win over the [REDACTED] on Monday night at the Canavan Arena in Hoboken, N.J. The Ducks were able to open up a 13-point lead at the half and cruised home for the win. Seniors George Greco and Matt Higgins each scored 10 points for the Ducks who improve to 13-4 on the season.

Like last year, when the Ducks went up 14-0 against the Dolphins, Stevens started strong, taking an early 7-0 edge thanks to five quick points from sophomore guard Mike Cutri and a jumper from senior forward Ian Masone.

[REDACTED] battled back to make it a two-point game (11-9) with 14:47 to play in the first half, but could never get over the hump as the Ducks began to extend their lead. They outscored [REDACTED] 8-3 over the next 4:45 to push the lead to seven, and after the Dolphins trimmed it to five, Stevens went on a 13-2 run over the next 6:20 of game time to open up a 16-point advantage (32-16) with a little less than three minutes remaining in the half. The Dolphins scored three of the final four points before intermission, and the Ducks went into the break with a 33-20 lead.

Smith continued his strong play over the last three games with 13 first-half points, going 5-for-5 from the floor and 3-for-3 at the line. Cutri ended the half with nine points and Greco scored six points and also handed out three assists.

Stevens shot 57.1 percent in the opening 20 minutes and connected on 4-of-6 from long range.

Smith and Higgins gave the Ducks their largest lead (17) with back-to-back layups to open the second and from then on, [REDACTED] was unable to get closer than 15 points until there were less than two minutes to play.

Greco and Smith hooked up for a fast-break layup keyed by a Greco steal to give Stevens at 46-24 lead with 14:53 to go and 4:22 later sophomore guard Eric Kessler connected on his second three-pointer of the game to push the Duck advantage to 26, their largest of the game.

From then on, every time the Dolphins made it a 15- or 14-point game, Stevens would get a score or a stop to cruise to the win.

Smith was 9-of-10 from the floor and converted all five of his three-throw attempts. He pulled down five rebounds and dished out three assists in his 28 minutes of action. Greco ended with 10 points, six assists, and four steals, and Higgins netted 10 points, pulled down three rebounds, and recorded two thefts. Masone totaled four points and a game-high 10 rebounds, to go along with two blocks and a steal, and Kessler tallied eight points and three rebounds.

Stevens assisted on 19 of its 25 made baskets, ended the game shooting 48.1 percent (25-of-52) from the field, and 45.5 percent (5-of-11) from long range. They hit 20-of-31 from the line and were outrebounded 38-37.

[REDACTED] was led by 16 points and nine rebounds from sophomore forward **Jordan Young (Wall, N.J.)**. Senior forward **Christian Montervino (Ewing, N.J.)** and sophomore guard **Dale Taranto (Staten Island, N.Y.)** each scored nine points for the Dolphins (10-9), who came into the game on a four-game winning streak. [REDACTED] shot 35.6 percent from the field and 26.7 percent from long range.

Stevens will return to action on Friday and Saturday with a pair of big

conference road games. The Ducks will visit St. John Fisher College at 8 p.m. on Friday and Nazareth College at 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Kean Men Fall at Staten Island

By: Kean Athletics

Posted: 1/26/10

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. (1/19/10) - Junior forward Jonathan Jones (Linden, N.J.) recorded his third straight double-double, however the Kean University men's basketball team fell to host [REDACTED] 72-64, in non-conference action on Monday afternoon.

Jones finished with a game-high 21 points for the Cougars (5-10), who were unable to overcome a double-digit first-half deficit to the Dolphins (8-8). Senior forward Christian Montervino (Ewing, N.J.) led four Dolphins in double-digits with 19 points, as [REDACTED] connected on nearly 60 percent of their shots from the floor (24-of-41, 58.5 percent) for the game. With the game tied at 5-5 just 3:06 into the game, the Dolphins capped an 18-4 run with 12 unanswered points to take a 23-9 lead with 12:39 remaining in the opening half.

The Cougars halted the run with six straight points to pull back within eight points, however a 10-1 [REDACTED] spurt extended the lead to 17 points at 33-16 with 8:25 to go. A 15-6 Kean run closed the half to pull the Cougars to within single digits at 39-31 at the break.

In the second half, the Dolphins pushed the lead back out to 14 points with 16:46 left in the game, before Jones scored the first six points of a 19-8 run and senior Dean Hughes (Pemberton Twp., N.J.) capped it to pull the Cougars to within one point at 55-54 with just over eight minutes remaining.

After [REDACTED] pushed the lead back out to 65-58 on a pair of free throws by sophomore forward Jordan Young (Wall, N.J.), Jones capped a 6-1 spurt with a dunk to cut the deficit to 66-64 with just under one minute remaining.

The Dolphins scored on their next possession to push the advantage back out to four points and the Cougars were unable to score the rest of the way.

Jones hit 9-of-14 shots from the floor and grabbed a game-high 12 rebounds, while Oshodi connected on 6-of-7 shots from the field en-route to 14 points.

Montervino added a team-high seven rebounds, while sophomore Dale Taranto (Staten Island, N.Y.) was 8-of-10 from the floor and scored 18 points.

Basketball star gets first coaching triumph

By Jamie Lee

January 28, 2010, 3:30PM



Staten Island Advance/Jamie Lee

Nicole Stefanski, a Port Richmond resident and a mainstay on the borough's girls' and womens' basketball scene, is in her first season as head coach of the [redacted] High School/McCown girls' varsity basketball team in New Springville.

NEW SPRINGVILLE — If you were to ask her parents, they would tell you that when Nicole Stefanski was a toddler she not only ran before she could walk – she ran the fast break.

"I've always loved basketball... for as long as I can remember," said the 23-year-old Port Richmond resident. "I honestly would do anything to be able to play. I can't look at a basketball without touching it, shooting it, dribbling it."

Her resume on the hardwood is second to none. The former point guard has played an integral role on teams that won championships at youth, high school and collegiate levels.

But late last week, Ms. Stefanski placed a new feather in her cap.

When the [redacted] High School/McCown Expeditionary Learning School ([redacted]) girls' Varsity basketball team scored a 48-44 PSAL victory over visiting Port Richmond High School last Thursday in New Springville, it served as Ms. Stefanski's first-ever head coaching triumph.

"I can't even put into words how great it felt to get that win," she said. "Not even for myself, but for the girls. They work so hard in practice all the time, and they really deserved it. They earned it."

The road to victory No. 1 wasn't easy for Stefanski's troops, who dropped their first 10 PSAL games of the season – some by as many as 50 points. But overcoming adversity is nothing new to Ms. Stefanski.

Growing up with three older brothers helped instill a toughness in her. It translated to the basketball court, and despite her diminutive stature, she led the break for her St. Rita's CYO teams and PAL Diamonds' AAU

travel squads, the latter of which made numerous trips to national championship tourneys.

As early as the sixth grade, coaches could see something special in her.

In a March 1998 item in the Advance entitled "General Stefanski leads her troops," her then-coach Chris Gott called her a "floor general" and went on to say of her unselfish play during a game that it "was really a team win, and it was Nicole that brought us all together."

Those qualities followed the 5-foot-6 guard to St. Peter's Girls High School, where she served as a key cog for a team that captured four Island CHSAA titles and three Archdiocesan crowns during her tenure.

And it wasn't statistics that garnered her Advance All Star honors in 2004, but rather the fact that she "epitomized the duties of a point guard and then some," according to her program biography.

Playing through pain was a constant for Ms. Stefanski, but physical obstacles began to mount once she arrived on the campus of Teikyo Post University in Waterbury, Conn.

Diagnosed with compartment syndrome – the compression of nerves and blood vessels, leading to muscle and nerve damage – in her legs, the speedster no longer had that burst which separated her from the rest of the pack.

Ms. Stefanski returned home shortly into her first semester and enrolled at the College of Staten Island in Willowbrook, signing up for the school's education program.

Coaxed out of early retirement, she agreed to join the Dolphins' women's basketball team. Despite spending as much time in the training room as she did on the court, she helped the team to the CUNYAC title and an NCAA Division III Tournament berth.

Unfortunately a torn ACL, a fractured ankle and a compound fracture in her pinkie derailed her next two seasons and she was unable to follow up on the rookie campaign that saw her lead the Dolphins in assists and steals.

"After those injuries, I just couldn't do it anymore," she admitted. "I just concentrated on school until I graduated in December 2008."

She was immediately hired as an advisory teacher and paraprofessional at CSI HS and signed on last year as then-head coach Clare Guerriero-Mitchell's assistant for the girls' Varsity team.

When Mrs. Guerriero-Mitchell left her position this past fall, Principal Aimee Horowitz offered the job to Ms. Stefanski in October, who jumped at the chance.

"I was so nervous and excited at the same time," she said. "I wasn't expecting it at all, but it was an opportunity I've always wanted."

The rocky start and early-season frustrations aside, Ms. Stefanski has fallen in love with being on the sidelines.

"I have found something to love about each and every one of my girls," she said, beaming. "Each player has their own special talent, and even though they may not be the best at it, they try as hard as I could ask for."

That doesn't mean that she doesn't get the itch to jump on the court herself sometimes.

"There are times that I just want to run out on the court and bring the ball up the court," she said with a laugh. "But something that I've learned is that I have to be (hands-on) with them in practice, so I work with them on the court and actually show them what they need to do and where they need to be."

Because of all that hard work, the victory over Port Richmond was that much more satisfying. Well, that and the fact that there's a bit of family allegiance to the Raiders.

More than a dozen Stefanskis have attended Port Richmond over the years, including Ms. Stefanski's grandparents, father, uncle, five aunts and all three brothers.

"I guess it was meant to be, in a way," she laughed.

Jamie Lee is a reporter for the Staten Island Advance. He covers the West and South Shores and may be reached at jamielee@siadvance.com.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

NJCU held to 9 points at half

Friday, January 29, 2010

William Paterson University demonstrated why it ranks No. 1 nationally in scoring defense in Division III as the Pioneers limited New Jersey City University to nine first-half points and defeated the Gothic Knights, 58-39, in a New Jersey Athletic Conference game in Jersey City.

WPU won its 7th consecutive game to improve to 19-1 overall and a perfect 8-0 in the NJAC. NJCU dropped to 9-9 and 3-5 in the league.

The nine first half points are the least known modern scoring total for NJCU in one half based on box score archives available. Meanwhile, WPU's defense held the Knights below 40 points for just the third time since January 1954.

Eric Moore had 26 points and Joseph Ellis 15 points for William Paterson.


Isaiah Johnson led NJCU with 10 points and eight rebounds. Senior guard Josh Lopez, NJCU's leading scorer at 13.4 points per game, was held scoreless for only the second time since becoming a starter at the beginning of last season, and attempted only two shots in the loss.

Stevens 75, Staten Island 58

HOBOKEN Sophomore forward Simon Smith scored a career-high 23 points to lead Stevens over the College of Staten Island at the Canavan Arena.

Seniors George Greco and Matt Higgins each scored 10 points for the Ducks, who improved to 13-4 on the season.

Stevens started strong, taking an early 7-0 edge thanks to five quick points from sophomore guard Mike Cutri and a jumper from senior forward Ian Masone.

 (10-9) was led by 16 points and nine rebounds from sophomore forward Jordan Young.

WOMEN

Brooklyn 79, Stevens 68

BROOKLYN -Despite Jillian Barrett's team-high 24 points, the Stevens Institute of Technology women's basketball team dropped an overtime loss to Brooklyn College on Tuesday night.

The Ducks are now 10-7 on the year, while the Bulldogs improved to 10-8.

Dawn Garcia added 16 points, with six rebounds, three steals and three assists for Stevens and Brittany Fuller notched her third-straight double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds. Paige Armstrong chipped in with 12 boards.

Priscilla Ramirez and Amber Gordon led the way for Brooklyn with 19 and 18 points, respectively, while Ariel Smith finished with 17 points and 11 rebounds.

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Stories

rising in the ranks of higher education

By Barton Horowitz

December 02, 2009, 3:30PM



Photo courtesy of the College of Staten Island

Dr. Tomás D. Morales, right, president of the [redacted], chats with students on the school's campus in Willowbrook.

ALL SHORES -- When Frank Sinatra performed "My Kind of Town" back in the '60s, the Sammy Cahn and Jimmy Van Heusen song boasted about such Chicago icons as the Wrigley Building and the Union Stock Yard.

If a similar song were to be composed today about Staten Island, it would most certainly include such local treasures as the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, the Staten Island Yankees and the [redacted], which has made remarkable strides since the appointment of its third president in June 2007.

Upon his installation to the college's top administrative position, Dr. Tomás D. Morales hit the ground running, rocketing the Willowbrook-based school to new heights of accomplishment.

"I'm working to build a greater sense of community on the campus," said Morales, whose achievements should give all Staten Islanders a reason to boast.

Since assuming his role as [redacted] president, Morales has led the college to milestones in academic and student affairs, athletics, finance, faculty, campus technology systems, transportation, community involvement, alumni affairs, government relations, philanthropy, and more.

The college leader exhibits unbridled enthusiasm for his work — and displays an uncanny talent for setting — and obtaining — the loftiest of goals for [redacted].

"We're just beginning. This is just the tip of the iceberg," Morales said. "The potential here is extraordinary; the potential is to be one of the leading senior colleges of the City University of New York (CUNY)."

Recent accomplishments at [redacted] are extraordinary. In 2009, the college experienced a 23 percent increase in

its number of awards from state and federal funding agencies, amounting to a total of \$11,415,590 for the year.

In addition, the school secured the largest scholarship endowment in the history of the [redacted] Foundation, receiving a \$200,000 nursing-student scholarship from the Brooklyn Home for Aged Men. Also this year, the foundation allocated more than \$120,000 for scholarships to [redacted] students, and raised \$75,000 for the college's Staten Island Breast Cancer Research Initiative.

"I don't do it all myself," Morales said. "I've put together a really good leadership team, and we're just trying to move the institution forward."

Keeping the institution on track, and prioritizing all that needs to be done, requires strong communication between himself and the many others who fill key roles at the college, he said.

"I do a lot of listening. I listen to the faculty; I listen to the students; I listen to my staff," Morales said. "The hallmark of a [redacted] education is the opportunity for undergraduate students to experience real world hands-on research, using sophisticated equipment side-by-side with leading scientists and authorities in their fields. That's a niche — that's what we are known for."

All the while, the college's commitment to its CUNY masters and doctoral programs also continues to flourish, with nearly 30 [redacted] students receiving CUNY doctorate degrees in 2009.

Morales highly values the contributions of others at the college, and he reminds everyone of this by annually recognizing all staff members for their years of service.

"Everybody plays a very important role in moving the institution and making [redacted] the best it can be," he said. "It's all about the students; we want them to have an extraordinary collegiate experience. This is accomplished by our faculty and staff."

Among the extensive list of accomplishments reached under Morales' leadership are such milestones as the initiation of a shuttle-bus run between the Staten Island Ferry and the [redacted] campus; a broadening of the college's Virtual Classroom partnerships to include the Posts and Telecommunications Institute of Technology in Vietnam; the appointment this year of 43 new faculty members, and a grant from the National Science Foundation in support of the City University system's high-performance computational and visualization center, which is based at [redacted]. The super-computer is designed to serve faculty throughout the City University system and be a vehicle for economic development throughout the region.

In 2008, the National Science Foundation awarded [redacted] nearly \$1 million in funding under its "Science & Technology Expansion via Applied Mathematics (STEAM)" program. During the first year of the grant, it had supported over 50 students with scholarships for study and research. Also last year, the Career Academy of the Career and Scholarship Center was fully established, assisting [redacted] students to identify their strengths and weaknesses, decide on a major, create a résumé, consider internships and — by senior year — prepare for a job search.

As [redacted] grows in recognition both on and off the Island, so does its attraction as a coveted destination for higher learning. This is reflected in the college's enrollment, which hit a record high in 2009. Graduate enrollment, for example, increased at the college for the first time in seven years; and the Macaulay (CUNY) Honors College program at [redacted] has doubled its enrollment into the class of 2013.

"These are students with very high grade-point averages, very high SAT scores, who have other options; but they've decided to come here, to the [redacted]" Morales said of the Macaulay enrollees. The same is true for The Verrazano School, CSI's very own four-year honors program.

A total of 138 [redacted] scholarships, totaling \$213,000, were allocated to 95 students for the 2008-2009 academic year. Included among these are students in [redacted]'s highly successful valedictorian and salutatorian program, which offers "a full scholarship to every single Staten Island high school graduate who graduates one or two in his or her class," Morales said.

And let's not forget about athletics. To mention just some of the [redacted] sports highlights of 2009: The women's volleyball team made its first trip in program history to the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) post-season tournament; the women's soccer team won its fifth-straight CUNY Athletic Conference (AC) championship; the Women's basketball team netted its first-ever ECAC Metro championship; the men's

swimming team won its third National Collegiate Athletic Association national championship; the women's softball team won the CUNY AC championship for the fourth time in six years, and the men's tennis team won the CUNY AC regular season championship for the first time in a decade.

"Whether inside or outside of the classroom, at home or abroad, the [redacted] experience speaks to the heart of its students," Morales said. And from this columnist's perspective, it also speaks to the heart of all Islanders. To borrow a phrase from songwriters Cahn and Van Heusen: "This is my kind of town" — and [redacted] is very much a part of it.

Barton Horowitz is the Advance senior business writer/columnist. He may be reached by e-mail at horowitz@siadvance.com.

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Six key Staten Island intersections targeted for improvement

December 4, 11:03 AM • [Staten Island Independent Examiner](#) • John Signoriello



Evening rush hour traffic--real and reflected--near the ferry terminal (Photo: Ann Meehan)

Deputy Borough President Ed Burke discussed traffic congestion on Staten Island last week at a meeting of the Transportation Committee of Community Board #1.

"Staten Island has 5% of the population of New York City, but we have 17% of the registered vehicles," Mr. Burke said. "Our streets were not designed to handle this amount of traffic."

The Deputy Borough President focused his presentation on six pending intersection improvements, but he commented on a wider range of traffic-related issues as well, notably:

"Getting the North Shore railroad activated is priority number one--but it will take six years."

The Deputy Borough President said waivers granted over the years by community boards to developers are a key problem relating to traffic congestion.

A waiver removes the obligation on the part of developers to respect mapped street widths. They prevent street widenings and intersection improvements.

"Waivers are strangling Staten Island roads," the Deputy Borough President said. "Waivers give up roadway."

Mr.Burke said improving intersections is a key to lessening traffic congestion.

"Improve intersections and you improve traffic flow," the Deputy Borough President said. " A left-turn lane at an intersection is as good as a new road we won't get."

Mr.Burke extolled new smart light technology, citing the traffic flow improvement that resulted from installing a smart traffic light at the entrance of the [REDACTED] on Victory Blvd.

Details relating to the six specific intersection improvements follow:



Traffic at Victory Blvd. and Clove Road--heavy day and night (Photo: Ann Meehan)

Victory Boulevard and Clove Road

On the south side, a new right-turn lane is already taking shape.

On the north side, the developer has agreed to adopt the full mapped width of the road.

DOT and DDC have initiated a capital project.

The project will include signal timing changes and street redesign, in addition to pavement markings, streetscape improvements, bus prioritization treatments, pedestrian and bicycle enhancements, and changes to curbside parking regulations.

The Borough President's Office envisions a pedestrian and motorist-friendly streetscape--with decorative paving, trees, and other plantings--utilizing the full mapped width of Victory Boulevard.

A Capital Project Initiation has been issued.

Mapping and surveying of the area is underway

\$3 million has been allocated for this project.

Manor Road and Victory Boulevard

Portions of the intersection will be widened in order to create new turning lanes from Manor Road onto Victory Boulevard.

Manor Road is 50 feet wide at this intersection and Victory Boulevard is 65 feet.

These streets are mapped to 70 feet and 100 feet respectively.

A Capital Project Initiation is in the planning stages.

Mapping and surveying work will begin soon.

Page Avenue and Amboy Road

Page Avenue is currently not built to its full mapped width and lacks space for turning lanes, which results in traffic congestion from Amboy Road along the shopping corridor and back toward the West Shore Expressway.

The Borough President's Office insisted upon a Builder's Pavement Plan for this area, which will allow the street to be built to its full mapped width.

Borough President Molinaro is asking the developer to create a dedicated right-turn lane to provide immediate traffic relief.

A combined DOT/DDC capital road and sewer project is scheduled in 2014.

The City is currently investigating roadway conditions and potential improvements



The intersection at South Avenue and Forest Avenue (Photo: Ann Meehan)

South Avenue and Forest Avenue

A major congestion point and conduit for truck traffic, this intersection is slated for improvements to aid vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

The work will include sidewalk improvements related to the bus stop approximately 1,400 feet south of the intersection.

A left-turn lane will be created on South Avenue to Forest Avenue eastbound.

A Capital Project Initiation has been issued and mapping and surveying of the area is in progress.

\$500,000 has been allocated for this project.

Bradley Avenue and Willowbrook Road

The Borough President's Office and DDC conducted a site visit recently

This intersection is seriously misaligned and Bradley Avenue is narrow with only one lane in each direction.

As vehicles attempt a left-hand turn, traffic backs up down Bradley.

A bus stop adds to the congestion.

Bradley Avenue is actually mapped at 80 feet, while Holden and Willowbrook are mapped at 70 feet each--all three are currently only 30 feet wide.

This improvement project will entail a possible widening along Bradley Avenue to permit the safe, efficient passage of traffic.

DOT and DDC plan to investigate potential improvements.

Huguenot Avenue and Amboy Road

Working with Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish--with funding from Councilman Ignizio (\$500,000) and Assemblyman Tobacco (\$14,000)--DOT is exploring the possibility of widening this intersection.

Dedicated left, straight, and turning lanes could be added to Amboy Road southbound.

For more information:

The Borough President's office maintains an informative, well-illustrated website.

[Click here to link to that site](#)

John Signoriello can be contacted by email at siexaminer@yahoo.com

Federal data shows on-campus burglaries most common crime at Staten Island colleges

By Frank Donnelly

December 05, 2009, 12:21PM



Staten Island Advance/Jan Somma-Hammel

Peace officer Eleanor Robertson used this Pathway vehicle to get around [redacted] campus.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Crimes of opportunity, such as property thefts, are the most commonly reported crimes among the 18,000 students who attend Staten Island's three colleges, according to federal data and interviews with school administrators.

There were 15 reported on-campus burglaries, including five in residence halls at Wagner College, Grymes Hill, in 2008, the most recent year for which data was available. The [redacted] in Willowbrook had 11 reported burglaries last year, while St. John's University, also in Grymes Hill, had three, a drop from six in 2007.

School spokesmen and security heads were quick to say their schools are safe and point out that burglaries typically entail thefts of laptops, textbooks, clothing and other personal from unlocked offices or dorm rooms as opposed to break-ins.

"It's not the traditional burglary," said Tom Lawrence, vice president of public safety for St. John's University and a retired deputy chief from the city Police Department. "We don't have broken windows and doors."

Students, for the most part, say schools are safe.

"I haven't had a problem," said Willowbrook resident Jacquelyn Cannizzo, a junior at [redacted]. "I feel secure."

The federal Clery Act requires colleges and universities to compile an annual security report outlining crime statistics for the three most recent calendar years. They must also disclose safety policies and procedures.

The data must be made available to students and employees and submitted to the federal Department of

Education. The statistics are published online at www.ope.ed.gov/security.

According to those numbers, Wagner College has had the most reported crimes among the Island's three institutions of higher learning.

Despite having the most burglaries in 2008, that figure represented a decrease of four from the 19 reported burglaries in 2007. Seventeen of those incidents were in residence halls.

Besides the burglaries, the school reported 14 assaults in 2008 -- including 13 in residence halls. Those figures represented an increase from 10 on-campus assaults -- all in residence halls -- in 2007.

There were no reported assaults at [REDACTED] or St. John's, although St. John's listed three robberies and two burglaries in 2006. That year [REDACTED] had a reported forcible sexual incident involving two high school students who were part of a summer youth program.

STUDENT-ON-STUDENT CRIME

Wagner has about 1,850 undergraduate students, about two-thirds of whom live on campus, said Joseph Romano, a school spokesman. Another 320 graduate students are mainly commuters.

St. John's has about 1,900 students, including around 240 live in nearby off-campus housing.

[REDACTED]s 14,000 students commute.

Romano said a higher incident rate at Wagner is to be expected, because most of its students board.

"On a residential campus like ours, which distinguishes Wagner from other Staten Island colleges, where students live in close quarters, it seems almost inevitable that we will experience some incidents of this sort, despite our best efforts at prevention," he said.

Most of the assaults, he said, involve student altercations after-hours and on weekends -- when the other Island colleges are much less trafficked. Sanctions are strictly imposed, said Romano. Students caught fighting are removed from campus housing and likely will be suspended for the first offense, he said.

Romano said the school is vigilant, employing a round-the-clock security staff that includes 19 full-time members, about 20 part-timers and 15 student guards.

He could not immediately say how much is spent on security, but said it is augmented by a number of programs, including "Campus Watch," similar to a Neighborhood Watch, which encourages students to immediately report any suspicious or unusual activity.

The school also runs, in conjunction with St. John's, a shuttle to the St. George Ferry Terminal and also has on-campus shuttle service at nights.

"Our most important goal is to ensure the safety and well-being of the students who attend Wagner and members of the campus community," said Romano.

\$2.5 MILLION FOR SAFETY

Paul Murtha, [REDACTED] director of public safety, said the school budgets about \$2.5 million a year for security. He said [REDACTED] aggressively responds to crime.

For example, random patrols were beefed up to deter locker-room thefts from the gym and a "valuables locker" was installed in view of the security desk.

Increased patrols and cooperation with the NYPD led to the arrest of a suspect in vending-machine thefts last year and several years earlier, said Murtha. It also resulted in the arrest of a former employee for computer tampering.

"We have been very fortunate in having a very safe campus that has been virtually free of violent crime," he said.

Kenneth Bach, a [REDACTED] spokesman, said students should soon feel even safer. He said the school plans on

upgrading its security system to allow for campus-wide video surveillance coverage. The public address system likewise will reach the entire campus.

But Tottenville resident Jessica Mignosi, a [REDACTED] senior, said the school needs to do more.

Nighttime security foot patrols must be bolstered.

"During the day it's fine, [but] at night they have to step it up," said Ms. Mignosi. "If you're walking to your car, it's pitch black. It's kind of scary."

Lawrence, the St. John's official, declined to say how much is spent on security at the Grymes Hill campus. But he said a sergeant and three or four officers are constantly on duty. Most officers are former cops who also receive additional training.

All reported crimes are logged and victims referred to the NYPD. Lawrence said the Police Department only accepts complaints from the victim.

At the end of the year, the school checks with the 120th Precinct, in which St. John's is located, to determine if any crimes were reported directly to police, bypassing campus security.

Lawrence said security is on guard for all crimes, especially assaults and thefts. In addition, cameras are strategically placed around campus to boost security, he said. [REDACTED] and Wagner also have video surveillance cameras in place around campus.

Another safety feature Wagner and St. John's employ are "blue light" or emergency phones. Placed throughout the campus, the phones connect those in need directly with the security office and pinpoints their location. Lawrence said St. John's is working to install an emergency phone at the off-campus housing site.

Bach, the [REDACTED] spokesman, said the school also has "blue light" phones in each building, although none currently are outside.

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News Photos:

December 6, 2009

Last night at the Richmond County Country Club, Dongan Hills, the College of Staten Island held its inaugural scholarship gala: The CSI Celestial Ball 'Reaching for the Stars' Celebrating during the event are, from left, honoree Zane Tankel; Dr. Tomas Morales, president of the College of Staten Island; and honorees Gordon and Lorraine Di Paolo, and Robert Scamardella. (Bill Lyons/Staten Island Advance)

baseball team aids Atlas food drive

By Stephen Hart

December 08, 2009, 10:17AM



Members of the [redacted] baseball team lent a hand to the Atlas Foundation during its Thanksgiving food drive.

The [redacted] Baseball team took time out over the Thanksgiving holiday to volunteer their time for the Dr. Theodore Atlas Foundation food drive.

"We decided to help the Atlas Foundation because we love what they represent," said [redacted] coach Michael Mauro. "I wanted our team to get involved and to see what it's like to help those less fortunate."

"It was a great experience for myself and for my team," said Mauro, "I wanted my players to learn that this team is not just about baseball but it's about the community."

The team along with the Foundation's Executive Director, Kathy Zito, helped pack the foods that would be delivered to various sites all over the Island.

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Earn your wings — be a toy drive angel



CAROL ANN BENANTI

SPREADING CHEER

Members of the College of Staten Island Student-Athlete Advisory Committee spread holiday cheer at Eger Harbor House, a 75-unit assisted living facility on the grounds of Eger Health Care & Rehabilitation Center, Egbertville, and treated residents to a holiday stocking decoration session, several games of bingo — and some down-home fun and games — not to mention fabulous holiday photos.

Coordinated by SAAC President and Vice-President **Ednita Lorenzo** and **Danielle McLaughlin**, respectively, the afternoon was part of a year-round community service effort on the part of SAAC — so says **David Pizzutto**, associate athletic director of the group. The entire group and Assistant Director of Student Athlete Services, **Katie Arcuri** — and Pizzutto — met with Eger Harbor House Recreation Leader **Annette Abolt** and exchanged ideas about the afternoon's fare.

"The committee came up with the idea themselves and we started the relationship with Eger last year during the holidays" said Arcuri. "They

went there with the purpose of spending some quality time with those who might not get to be with their families for the holidays and left feeling fulfilled."

The holiday tidings seemed almost fitting for the gray day, as winter's first snowflakes began to fall — and holiday stockings were set off to the side to dry. After the \$1 bingo sweepstakes came to an end, resi-

dents lined up to greet all members of the SAAC committee and their representatives, to offer sincere thanks and best wishes for the holidays — but not before making them promise to return soon.

"It was heartwarming," said Pizzutto. "Hearing the thanks and seeing the smiles lets us know our presence was very much appreciated. As far as our student-athletes, there are a million

places they could have been. To know that they took it upon themselves to do this in particular is striking. It speaks to their character and to what amazing people they are," he adds.

Pizzutto says plans are already in the works to visit Eger Harbor House again. Last year, the CSI Baseball team made its own separate trip to Eger, enjoying an afternoon of food and music with the residents.



Members of the College of Staten Island Student-Athlete Advisory Committee spread a bunch of holiday cheer at the Eger Harbor House, Egbertville, and treated residents to a holiday stocking decorating session and fun and games.



Staten Island Advance

The underbelly of college life

Crimes of opportunity, most notably on-campus burglaries, are most commonly reported incidents here

Monday, December 14, 2009

By **FRANK DONNELLY**

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Property thefts and other crimes of opportunity are the most commonly reported crimes among the 18,000 students who attend Staten Island's three colleges, according to federal data and interviews with school administrators.

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Lawrence, the St. John's official, declined to say how much is spent on security at the Grymes Hill campus. But he said a sergeant and three or four officers are constantly on duty. Most officers are former cops who also receive additional training.

All reported crimes are logged and victims referred to the NYPD. Lawrence said the Police Department only accepts complaints from the victim.

At the end of the year, the school checks with the 120th Precinct, in which St. John's is located, to determine if any crimes were reported directly to police, bypassing campus security.

Lawrence said security is on guard for all crimes, especially assaults and thefts. In addition, cameras are strategically placed around campus to boost security, he said. [REDACTED] and Wagner also have video surveillance cameras in place around campus.

Another safety feature Wagner and St. John's employ are "blue light" or emergency phones. Placed throughout the campus, the phones connect those in need directly with the security office and pinpoint their locations. Lawrence said St. John's is working to install an emergency phone at the off-campus housing site.

Bach, the [REDACTED] spokesman, said the school also has "blue light" phones in each building, although none currently are outside.

Frank Donnelly is a news reporter for the Advance. He may be reached at fdonnelly@siadvance.com.

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New York astronomy this week - December 14-20, 2009

December 15, 12:23 AM • [NY Astronomy Examiner](#) • Laurel Brown

Monday, December 14

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

Tuesday, December 15

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

"The Season of Light and How We've Learned What We've Learned" by David Rossetter – Elting Library, New Paltz, NY – 7:30 PM

<http://www.midhudsonastro.org/mhaaevents.php>

Wednesday, December 16

"Field Trip to the Moon" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – 10:30 AM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 11 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

Observing – Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Westchester County – 6:30 PM

<http://www.aaa.org/>

NYSkies Astronomy Seminar – St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Manhattan – 7-9 PM

<http://www.nyskies.org/>

Observatory stargazing – [REDACTED] Astrophysical Observatory, Staten Island – 8 PM

<http://supernova7.apsc.csi.cuny.edu/scheduleneu.html>

Observing session – Vanderbilt Planetarium, Centerport, Long Island, NY, 8:30 PM

<http://www.asliclub.org/>

Stargazing – Inwood Hill Park (baseball diamonds), Manhattan – 8:30-11:30 PM

<http://www.moonbeam.net/InwoodAstronomy/200908191623.shtml>

Thursday, December 17

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

Friday, December 18

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

"The Sky Tonight: Cycles Big and Small" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 6:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

Amateur Astronomers, Inc. General Meeting – Sperry Observatory, Cranford, NJ – 8:30 PM
<http://www.asterism.org/clubact/friday.htm>

Saturday, December 19

Solar observing – Conservatory Water, Central Park, Manhattan – 10 AM-12 PM
<http://www.aaa.org/>

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)
<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

"The Friendly Stars" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 12:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"The Sky Tonight" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 1:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"Solar System Safari" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 2:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"Holiday Rocket" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 3:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

Amateur Observers' Society Observing – Field #2, Robert Moses State Park, Fire Island, NY – dusk
<http://www.aosny.org/StargazingActivities.htm>

Holiday Viewing Extravaganza – Anthony Wayne State Park, Bear Mountain, NY – dusk
<http://www.rocklandastronomy.com/calendar-of-events.htm>

Public Astronomy Program – Theodore Roosevelt Nature Center, Jones Beach – 7-9 PM
<http://www.aosny.org/StargazingActivities.htm>

Observing – Inwood Hill Park West Overlook Meadow, Manhattan – 7:30-11:30 PM
<http://www.moonbeam.net/InwoodAstronomy/200908191623.shtml>

Observatory stargazing – Custer Observatory, Southold, NY – 8:30 PM-midnight
<http://www.custerobservatory.org/>

Sunday, December 20

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)
<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

"One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Big Adventure" – Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ – 11:30 AM
<http://www.lsc.org/lsc/ourexperiences/publicprogramming>

"The Friendly Stars" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 12:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Big Adventure" – Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ – 1 PM
<http://www.lsc.org/lsc/ourexperiences/publicprogramming>

Young Astronomers Meeting – North Bellmore Public Library, North Bellmore, NY – 1 PM
<http://www.aosny.org/StargazingActivities.htm>

"The Sky Tonight" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 1:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

“One World, One Sky: Big Bird’s Big Adventure” – Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ – 2 PM
<http://www.lsc.org/lsc/ourexperiences/publicprogramming>

“Solar System Safari” – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 2:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

“Holiday Rocket” – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 3:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

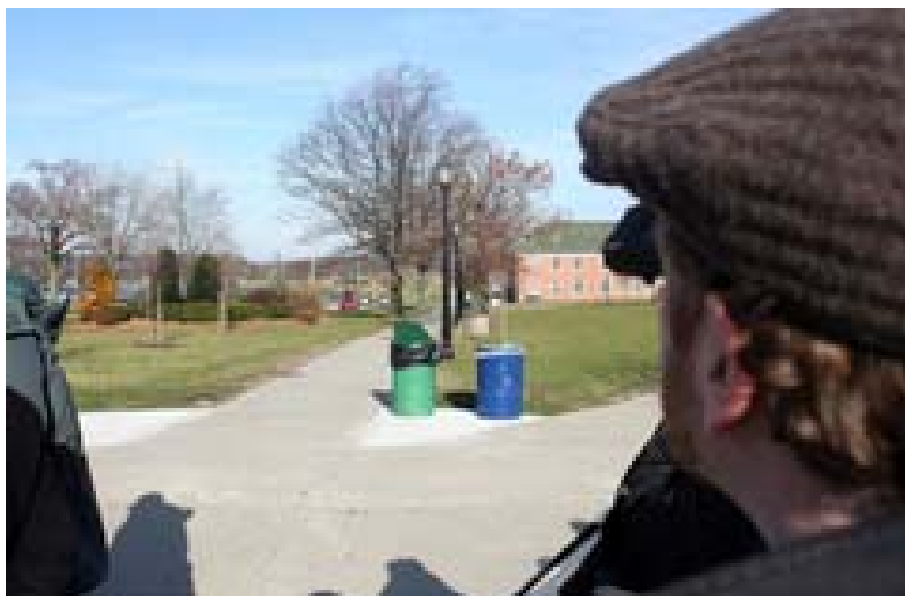
Amateur Observers’ Society Observing – Field #2, Robert Moses State Park, Fire Island, NY – dusk
<http://www.aosny.org/StargazingActivities.htm>

Observing – Belvedere Castle, Central Park, Manhattan – 6-8 PM
<http://www.aaa.org/>

College of Staten Island to MTA: Please serve us better

By Jamie Lee

December 17, 2009, 11:51AM



Jamie Lee

College of Staten Island associate professor Richard Flanagan needs binoculars to see the front gate of the Willowbrook campus from the Center for the Arts, illustrating the need for MTA bus service within the facility.

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. —WILLOWBROOK — According to representatives of the [redacted], there are 1,600 bus stops within the boundaries of the borough.

Yet if you combine the ridership of the two buses that stop at the Willowbrook campus' front gate, the S62 and S93, with that of the [redacted] shuttle bus from the Staten Island Ferry, you would have the third-most-trafficked bus stop on the Island.

Increasing service there, then, would seem like a no-brainer.

Instead, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority has stonewalled proposals to extend city bus service onto [redacted] Loop Road and make one stop in the heart of the campus at the Center for the Arts.

"Extending the bus routes onto the campus would streamline public transportation for students, faculty and staff members coming and going from [redacted]" said Associate Professor of Political Science Richard Flanagan, during a sitdown with elected officials and [redacted] group leaders last week.

With an enrollment of nearly 14,000 students — and just under 3,000 parking spaces — the combined ridership of individuals coming to campus via bus service is more than 2,000 individuals per day.

That's more than get on and off at the intersections of Hylan Boulevard-New Dorp Lane or Bay Street-Victory Boulevard, as well as the Ring Road stop in front of the Staten Island Mall.

In fact, the only two locations that would see more bus traffic are the St. George Ferry Terminal and the Eltingville Transit Center.

"This is standard A-B-C, 1-2-3 stuff in terms of public transportation," said Associate Professor of Finance Jonathan Peters. "You move the buses to where the people are and where they're going. The MTA keeps saying they want to better serve the community, but how do you do that without adding routes and service?"

There was complete agreement with the student representatives at the meeting, which included state Assemblyman Lou Tobacco (R-South Shore) and City Councilman Vincent Ignizio (R-South Shore), who have long been proponents of a similar route extension of the S74 in Charleston.

"As Prof. Flanagan and Prof. Peters explained today, there is a great need for improvement in our bus service on campus," said Ben DeAngelis, representing the Straphangers Campaign of [REDACTED]'s branch of the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG). "The current system means that students have to transfer from their MTA bus to the loop bus, or walk into campus, taking up valuable time. With a main hub centrally located, students could get to class easily when arriving on campus."

The elongated, and inconvenient, commute has translated to negative effects in the classroom, he said.

"As an organization, we believe that in order for students to do well in class and get the education they need, transit to and from campus must be made as smooth as possible," DeAngelis charged. "For too long, Staten Island has been ignored by the MTA, and now as the borough and college's population grow, we need to accommodate for these changes."

And the fact that the S62 route included a path along Loop Road during the 1960s, '70s and '80s before

[REDACTED] moved to Willowbrook has caused some to ask why it can't simply be restored.

"The former bus route [which was No. 112], which is now the s62, included going through the property of the former Willowbrook State School," said Dr. Alan I. Benimoff, referencing a 1969 bus map of the Island. "This should strengthen the case for running the S62 through the [REDACTED] campus."

Routing S62 buses onto the campus and adding a stop at the central Center for the Arts would create a 1.7-mile diversion and tack on some five to 10 minutes in additional travel time, said New York City Transit spokesman James Anyansi.

"We think it would be a major inconvenience for the customers who live west of the college," he said.

In addition, the S62's schedule was designed to meet ferries arriving and departing from St. George, and changes in its timetable would result in missed connections, he said. On top of that, extending the route would increase operating costs.

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ELSEWHERE

Thursday, December 17, 2009

Staten Island Advance

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Here's some of what you'll find online this week in the other Shore sections. Just log onto silive.com and select a Shore to read more.

WEST SHORE

SANTA RUN

The volunteer Oceanic Hook & Ladder Company No. 1 will be hosting its annual Santa Run in Travis this Saturday, and Santa will be on hand to greet youngsters.

SAVING POUCH CAMP

For 10 years, Gil Schweiger has worked tirelessly to keep the William H. Pouch Scout Camp up and running in Sea View, and he's more than overwhelmed by the amount of support he's receiving.

A NEW BUS ROUTE

Officials at the [REDACTED] have asked the MTA for additional bus service to the Willowbrook campus; they've also included a request for the buses to stop at different parts of the campus.

SOUTH SHORE

A HOLIDAY SLAM DUNK

Santa paid a special visit to the Fastbreak Basketball Center, where he handed out gifts to the Rockets, a team of special needs kids.

CHALK TALK

'Act of kindness' assignment teaches children at PS 55 an important lesson on giving back to the community.

UPCLOSE

Speech therapy center has established itself as a kid-friendly destination for families from all over Staten Island.

MARKETING MANIA

The busy intersection of Page Avenue and Amboy Road is littered with advertisements from local businesses, say some residents.

NORTH SHORE

UPCLOSE

Husband-and-wife team open up new storefront that touts nicknaks of every kind -- from antique vases to holiday cards.

TRACK STAR REMEMBERED

Robbie Breen, a high school junior and athlete killed in June 2004, is honored at a bittersweet street-renaming ceremony.

ZUMBA BOOM

Dance-based fitness program, that adds a Latin twist, has YMCA members clammering for classes.

HALK TALK

It's a 'small world' for students at PS 21, who are taking a creative approach to learning about different cultures and countries.



Island agency gets \$221G for youth training program

By Stephannia Cleaton

December 18, 2009, 12:55PM

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. --The New York State Department of Labor recently awarded the New York Center for Interpersonal Development (NYCID) a Disconnected Youth Training Award in the amount of \$221,000.

The award will allow NYCID to expand its existing Achievement in Career and Education (ACE) program. NYCID is based in the St. George section of Staten Island.

ACE is a New York City Department of Youth and Community Development program, in collaboration with the [redacted] that provides educational and occupational training to out-of-school youths under the Workforce Investment Act.

The award will allow ACE to hire a staff person dedicated to helping the students enroll in college, research and apply for college scholarships, and tour colleges and universities.

For more information on the ACE program, contact Jennifer Saladis, program manager, at 718-947-4051.

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Staten Island Advance

Grant deals an ACE to [redacted] allied program

Saturday, December 19, 2009

ADVANCE STAFF REPORT

Staten Island Advance

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- The New York State Department of Labor recently awarded the New York Center for Interpersonal Development a Disconnected Youth Training Award in the amount of \$221,000.

The award will allow the center to expand its existing Achievement in Career and Education program.

ACE is a New York City Department of Youth and Community Development program that provides educational and occupational training to out-of-school youths under the Workforce Investment Act.

In collaboration with the Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development at the [redacted] [redacted] the ACE program affords young people between the ages of 17 and 21 the opportunity to earn their GED and obtain occupational training.

The award will allow ACE to hire a staffer dedicated to helping the students enroll in college, research and apply for college scholarships, and tour colleges and universities.

The award also provides the necessary funding to enroll 25 ACE participants in the nursing assistant program and 10 ACE participants in the hospitality industry training program at the College of Staten Island. The funding also allows for training for the National Work Readiness Credential, the first national standards-based assessment and portable credential for entry-level workers. Services will enhance the opportunities for education and training for NYCID's current population of 60 out-of-school youth.

NYCID is a nonprofit organization founded in 1970 and is based at 130 Stuyvesant Pl., 5th floor, St. George.

For more information on the ACE program, call Jennifer Saladis, program manager, at 718-947-4051.

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JOB DETAILS

Job Title Assistant/Associate Professor - Marketing - Department of Business

Job Profile Assistant/Associate Professor - Marketing - Department of Business

GENERAL DUTIES:

Performs teaching, research, and guidance duties in area(s) of expertise as noted below. Shares responsibility for committee and department assignments, performing administrative, supervisory, and other functions as may be assigned.

CAMPUS SPECIFIC INFORMATION:

Responsibilities include engagement in an active and productive research agenda; teaching basic and advanced courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels in consumer behavior, marketing research and other areas of marketing; and performing department and college service.

The successful candidate will be committed to inclusion and excellence. The Search Committee is especially interested in candidates who can contribute, through their research, teaching and/or service, to the diversity of the academic community. Woman and applicants from traditionally underrepresented populations are strongly encouraged to apply.

Located on a 204-acre park like campus, the largest in New York City, the [REDACTED] is minutes away from the cultural riches of Manhattan including art galleries, museums, Broadway, and some of the world's largest corporate headquarters. [REDACTED] offers 36 academic programs, 15 graduate degree programs, and challenging doctoral programs to 14,000 students. In addition to being fully accessible from the other boroughs of New York City and New Jersey by car and public transportation, [REDACTED] contains an advanced, networked infrastructure and a high performance computer system to support technology-based teaching, learning, and research. The Business Department has over 2,000 students and offers bachelor's degrees with concentrations in management, marketing, international business, finance and accounting, as well as a Master's degree in Business Management.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

For Assistant and Associate Professor designations:

Ph.D. degree in area(s) of expertise, or equivalent as noted below. Also required are the ability to teach successfully, interest in productive scholarship or creative achievement, and ability to cooperate with others for the good of the institution.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

The successful candidate must have a Ph.D. in marketing with a demonstrated commitment to research, teaching experience, business experience, and grant activity.

COMPENSATION:

Commensurate with experience.

BENEFITS:

CUNY offers a comprehensive benefits package to employees and eligible dependents based on job title and classification. Employees are also offered pension and Tax-Deferred Savings Plans. Part-time employees must meet a weekly or semester work hour criteria to be eligible for health benefits. Health benefits are also extended to retirees who meet the eligibility criteria.

HOW TO APPLY:

To apply, please log on to **** Navigate to Careers at CUNY. Click the Additional Job Postings or

CUNYfirst link then set up an account. FIND JOB ID# 2043.

In order to be considered for this position, applicants must attach a letter of application including research plans and a statement of teaching philosophy, curriculum vita and the names, addresses and tele****

Date Last Verified 12/21/2009

Date Posted 12/20/2009

Location USA-NY-New York City

New York astronomy this week - December 21-27, 2009

December 21, 3:43 PM • [NY Astronomy Examiner](#) • Laurel Brown

The following is a listing of astronomy-related activities in and around New York City for the week of December 21-27, 2009. If any activities are missing, please leave a comment!

[Click here to go to the New York-area events archive.](#)

Monday, December 21

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

Crescent Moon observing – [REDACTED] Astrophysical Observatory, Staten Island – 7 PM

<http://supernova7.apsc.csi.cuny.edu/schedulenew.html>

Tuesday, December 22

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

Wednesday, December 23

"Field Trip to the Moon" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – 10:30 AM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 11 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

Astronomy wine and cheese party – Vanderbilt Planetarium, Centerport, Long Island, NY, 8:30 PM

<http://www.asliclub.org/>

Stargazing – Inwood Hill Park (baseball diamonds), Manhattan – 8:30-11:30 PM

<http://www.moonbeam.net/InwoodAstronomy/200908191623.shtml>

Thursday, December 24

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

Friday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

Saturday, December 26

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)

<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

"The Friendly Stars" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 12:30 PM

<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"The Sky Tonight" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 1:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"Solar System Safari" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 2:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"Holiday Rocket" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 3:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

Observing – Inwood Hill Park West Overlook Meadow, Manhattan – 7:30-11:30 PM
<http://www.moonbeam.net/InwoodAstronomy/200908191623.shtml>

Observatory stargazing – Custer Observatory, Southold, NY – 8:30 PM-midnight
<http://www.custerobservatory.org/>

Sunday, December 27

Space Explorers Holiday Camp – The Cradle of Aviation Museum, Garden City, NY – 9:30 AM-12 PM (through Wednesday, December 30)
<http://www.cradleofaviation.org/index.html>

"Journey to the Stars" planetarium show – Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History, Manhattan – shows every half hour from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM (\$12 per person, includes general admission)
<http://www.haydenplanetarium.org/programs>

"The Friendly Stars" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 12:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"The Sky Tonight" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 1:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"9 Billion People + 1 Planet" by Andrew Revkin – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 2:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"Solar System Safari" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 2:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>

"El Cielo en la Noche" – Andrus Planetarium, Hudson River Museum, White Plains – 3:30 PM
<http://www.hrm.org/planetarium.html>



Politicians' take on transit is so much double-talk

By Letters to the Editor/Staten Island Adva...

December 22, 2009, 2:14PM

By JOEL AZUMAH, BROOKLYN

Consider that Congressman McMahon believes that all public transportation should be publicly operated, but obtained \$381,000 to fund a private shuttle service to a college where the S60 operates.

Consider the [REDACTED], which felt the need to add shuttle bus service to the ferry despite being served DIRECTLY by the S62 and S93.

Consider the S89, an illegal bus route designed to kill off private bus service using \$1 million per year in taxpayer money. This is why the route was not allowed to go through the public hearing process.

I hear politicians cry about bad service, but the bad service continues to persist. This means that they support the level and quality of service being provided.

The reason why most politicians like the MTA is because it operates more service than can be paid for and allows them to buy votes.

The deficit is SOLD TO YOU, the taxpayer. That is why the MTA can never balance its budget.

By the way, the reason that East River bridge tolls keep coming up is because the city wants to pull ALL of their MTA subsidy and replace it with bridge toll money.

Go ahead, support congestion-pricing SOLD TO YOU.

[The writer is president of TransportAzumah, a private bus carrier.]

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WEST SHORE DIALOGUE

NO IVY-COVERED WALLS IN WILLOWBROOK



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/IRVING SEIVERSTEIN

The walk to the library is long and cold these days on the campus of the College of Staten Island. Do you have photos taken on CSI's campus? If so, you can share them at <http://www.silive.com/yourphotos>. Don't forget to tag them "West Shore."

Hillel, City Year Take on Los Angeles

January 7, 2010

Participants in the first Hillel-City Year Alternative Break trip were greeted with sunny weather and a warm welcome to Los Angeles.

Students spent their first day volunteering at the Santa Monica Boys and Girls Club – painting, mural drawing, and tutoring the children, capped off by a speaker talking about education challenges in Los Angeles.



Students work with children at the Boys and Girls Club.

"The weather is beyond gorgeous, the local people, as well as all the students on this trip, are more than amazing, and the community work is completely and utterly rewarding," wrote University of Delaware student Kenny Wallach, on the trip blog page www.hillelcityyear.blogspot.com

The 50 students -- from Kent State, [REDACTED], University of Connecticut, Hillel of Broward and Palm Beach, Hofstra University, Hunter College and University of Delaware -- are the first participants in a new partnership with City Year. It is the first large-scale partnership between a Jewish and secular national service organization. The partnership will enable 200 Jewish college students to perform 5,000 hours of hands-on service at-risk communities in Miami, Los Angeles, and New York during winter and spring break.

"It was amazing to see how much a little paint can do. It looks great!," wrote Florida Atlantic University student Lexi Aronson. "Can't wait to see what else is in store."

Follow their progress at www.hillelcityyear.blogspot.com



Staten Island Advance

Symposium at [REDACTED] to help nonprofits attract funding

Monday, January 11, 2010

By **KATHRYN CARSE**

ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Securing funding to accomplish all the good and necessary things that nonprofits do -- from running colleges to serving the needy to fielding baseball teams -- is a perennial challenge.

To add to the challenge, different skills and resources are needed to find dollars through fundraisers, grants and municipal funding.

To help nonprofits marshal the funding needed to fulfill their missions, the Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic is providing a forum entitled "Dialogues between Funders and Nonprofits" Friday, Jan. 22 beginning at 9 a.m. in the [REDACTED] Center for the Arts, Willowbrook.

"Especially this year as we see the funding landscape changing, strengthening your skills to attract and obtain funds is more important than ever. Identifying new sources is even more important," said Vincent Lenza, executive director of Staten Island Not-for-Profit Association, a four-year-old, 115-member organization.

Hosted for over 10 years, the upcoming symposium, subtitled "Rebounding in Down Economy," reflects the shrinking pot for nonprofits.

"The focus has shifted. Funders can't fund everyone so they are becoming more selective," said Valerie Oliver-Durrah, president and CEO of the Neighborhood Technical Assistance Clinic.

She founded NATC after serving as vice president of a foundation where she became aware that grassroots organizations weren't getting the attention of the funders. She saw a chance to use her connections to serve philanthropic organizations in the "disenfranchised boroughs."

Connecting directors and development managers to resources off the Island, brokering connections and making introductions that can develop into lasting relationships are all goals of her association as well as the symposium.

The first part of the program is presentations by funders that include some of the finer points of securing resources such as developing a relationship with a corporate foundation, building an effective board and using research to apply for a grant -- all things that can make a difference in obtaining funds.

Taking advantage of services, such as technical assistance, that are available through the Office of the Mayor, will also be presented.

At a lunch provided by Northfield Bank Foundation, participants will have a chance to share experience, information and expertise.

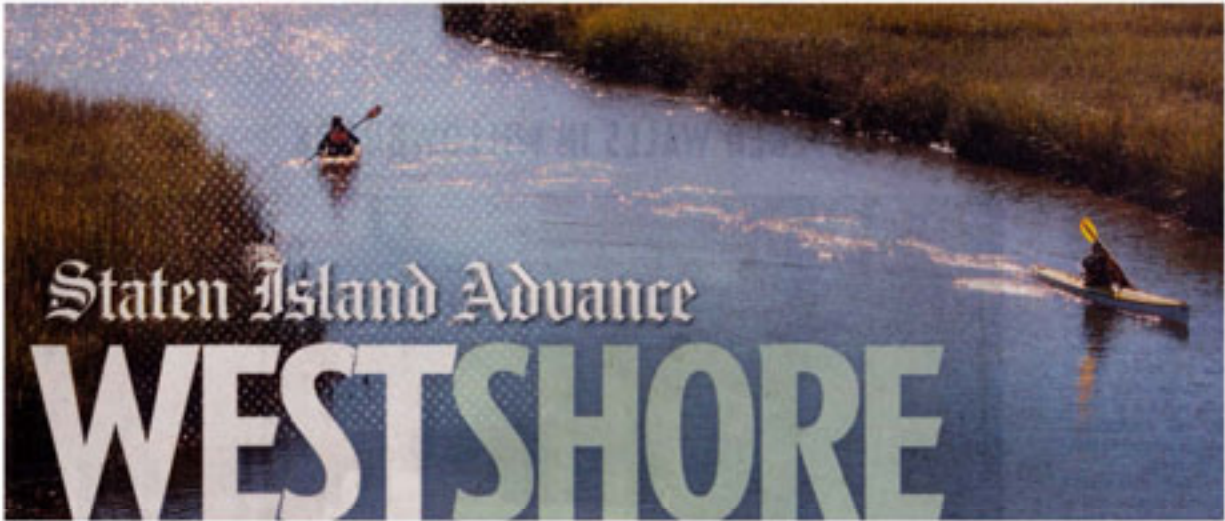
Chase, the [REDACTED] Macy's, Richmond County Savings Foundation, United Way and Verizon are also sponsoring the symposium.

The second session provides a choice of workshops on using technology, grant writing and the 2010 Census.

The nonprofit sector is the largest employer on the Island, generating \$1.4 billion in economic impact -- from salaries to rent and supplies -- noted Lenza.

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YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WEEKLY

BLOOMFIELD BULLS HEAD CASTLETON CORNERS CHELSEA GRANITEVILLE
MEERS CORNERS NEW SPRINGVILLE SEA VIEW TRAVIS WILLOWBROOK

WEST SHORE NEWS ALL DAY ON [SILIVE.COM/WESTSHORE](http://silive.com/westshore)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2010

PUBLISHED SINCE 1886 | 75 CENTS

WEEKLY WATCH

GO BACK TO COLLEGE

- Third Annual Martin Luther King Day of Service, "Step Up Speak Out" Family Summit, College of Staten Island Center for the Arts, 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Everything is free: Admission, lunch, workshops, entertainments, giveaways. Call 718-506-5198 or 718-982-2352.
- Attend a continuing education openhouse today, 6 to 8 p.m., at the College of SI and get information and register for spring classes and programs. Call 718-982-2182 for information. CSI is at 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook.

MLK Day summit preaches a message of community for Island youngsters

By Jamie Lee

January 16, 2010, 9:02PM



Advance photos/Hilton Flores

Guests at the Martin Luther King Day of Service "Step Up/Speak Out" Family Summit take part in a workshop on the transition from street corners to board rooms, titled "From G's to Gents."

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- "I started singing. I started clapping. I started dancing."

The words from Marvin Sapp's gospel song, "Praise Him in Advance," rang through the halls of the Center for the Arts at the [REDACTED], Willowbrook, this afternoon.

Then the music cut out.

A technical glitch left a lone interpretive dancer standing mid-stage and motionless with nearly 300 pairs of eyes trained on her.

And that's when it happened.

The thoughts and themes of community promoted for eight straight hours during the Third Annual Martin Luther King Day of Service "Step Up/Speak Out" Family Summit transformed from a set of ethereal ideals into a tangible reality.

The collection of youngsters in attendance — children, teens and tweens — stepped in and started singing the melody of the song.

And the dancer started dancing.

They cheered her off stage and applauded her resolve.

It was the perfect close to a perfect day.

"That was something, wasn't it?" asked Serena Brothers-Mohamed rhetorically after the impromptu choir's performance.

Three years ago, Ms. Brothers-Mohamed, listed as the program's "visionary," began pitching the idea of having a full day of workshops, discussions and entertainment in order to help the borough's youth address issues like crime, low self-esteem and failing family structures.

A 1995 alumna of [REDACTED]'s Searching for Education, Elevation and Knowledge (SEEK) program, the public school teacher founded a group called the Young, Talented and Gifted for similar reasons.

For "Step Up/Speak Out," fittingly scheduled annually for the weekend of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, she reached out across the board.

SEEK, the Black Male Initiative and the Liberty Partnership Program came together in collaboration with the local branch of the New York Urban League, putting together fitting seminars and requesting support from other nonprofits and local businesses.

This year, the advisory board — Ms. Brothers-Mohamed, Alicia Harrison, Shawn D. Landry, Ranti Ogunleye, Vernon Wooten and City Councilwoman Debi Rose (D-North Shore) — offered 21 workshops, featuring 41 facilitators, and brought in representatives from more than two dozen Island groups.

Those in attendance had candid discussions about topics such as education, abstinence, self-esteem, dressing for success and the male transition from street corners to board rooms, the latter of which was titled, "From G's to Gents."

"We talked about how everyone is responsible for their community," said Ms. Landry. "And this conference encompassed all the different [facets] of that connection. And the message was given to them all day long... that, as Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'everybody can be great... because anybody can serve.'"



Antwaun Gavins of Port Richmond, left, talks with Carl Jackson of the Staten Island Children's Museum.

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Letters from the issue of January 21, 2009

Published on January 19, 2010 at 11:27am

Panic Peddling


Bad spin: Your main thesis that gay people are leaving Miami Beach "in droves" and heading to Fort Lauderdale is absurd. ("Escape From South Beach," [Natalie O'Neill](#), January 14.)

I don't know what you intended with your sensationalist headline and poorly spun story, but I think you've succeeded in scaring away LGBT tourists and potential residents and hurt Miami Beach businesses. I hope you'll print a huge correction that's just as attention grabbing.

Bradley Carlson

Miami Beach

Rot in Hell: I'm a straight man who lived in South Beach in the early '00s, and it was still a good time back then. But it's not just the GLBT faction that's been forced out; it's pretty much all the decent people. After the second time getting jumped by a gang of cowardly thugs, I figured it was time to move on.

Scenes change — that's just the nature of things. I refuse to go there now, even when out-of-town friends and family insist. (I blame ) Let the idiot tourists and pretentious poseurs and wannabe thugs have it. Lament it all you want, but I say rot in Hell, South Beach.

Ryan

Fort Lauderdale

Hard knocks: Everyone is dancing around the real problem with South Beach, and that is the increase in black tourists who have made no qualms about expressing their disgust for gay people. As long as the gay community refuses to take on this bigotry, these attacks will continue.

It's intensely ironic to hear many black people talk about gay people without any sense of what it is like to be a persecuted minority in the United States. You think there would be some sense of empathy but, no.

MS

Miami Beach

Blind justice: Ignorance, bigotry, and violence do not discriminate by class, race, or creed. Neither do enlightenment, peacefulness, understanding, and acceptance. Bad is found everywhere that good is found. Only the ignorant make crass, stereotypical statements.

I'm a 55-year-old black man who has long come to understand that the discriminated and victimized should not discriminate or victimize any other minority. When you get down to it, we are all trying to live our lives.

David Mc

Fort Lauderdale

Count us out: My husband and I lived in the heart of South Beach for five years. We had a wonderful time and loved every minute. This year, we moved to Miami Shores. We never

thought we'd leave the Beach, but times and circumstances change. We do miss it but don't rue our decision.

Oh, and of all our gay friends from the Beach who have remained in Florida, only one still lives there.

Danny F

Miami Shores

Massacre 101

Left out: If Cuba and [Venezuela](#) are involved with [Bolivian President Evo Morales](#), nothing good can come out of that mix. ("Bolivian Butchery," [Tim Elfrink](#), January 14). This note is an apology of the "old left" formula: (1) Organize a protest, (2) use violence against security forces, (3) hope for dead people on your side, and (4) blame the government.

Rick

Via web commentary

Discriminating Cops

Awful truth: Regarding the story about ex-cop [Adam Tavss](#), "Killer Severance" (Tim Elfrink, January 14): Everyone I know has had some horror story about the Miami Beach Police Department, and we're all middle-class or upper-middle-class European-looking people. It's not discrimination; those cops are awful to everyone.

Thanks for reporting on this incident. Good to know at least this guy was fired.

Alonzo Q

Miami Beach

Over and Out

SunFail: The new transponders are a headache for noncabbies as well. ("SunPass Rage," Gus Garcia-Roberts, January 14). They don't offer a way to keep track of the balance and often fail to read. In these trying times, it's quite a pain to be surprised with a ticket because of a malfunctioning transponder while there is no way to show how the transponder failed.

WF

Via Web commentary



/urbanite-1.812039/sources-m-train-looking-to-be-history-mta-hearings-coming-in-march-1.1717211

Urbanite

Sources: M train looking to be history, MTA hearings coming in March

Thursday January 21, 2010 6:19 PM By Heather Haddon



Hear ye hear ye, the service cuts are coming.

According to MTA documents obtained Thursday, the agency plans to axe the M train and send the V out to Middle Village. Riders now using the M in Queens would need to transfer to the J to access five lower Manhattan stations, as amNewYork previously reported.

In keeping with the previous “doomsday” cuts, the MTA intends to shorten the G train and eliminate the W train, documents show. Trains would also become more crowded during weekends

and evenings.

The agency will hold a series of public hearings across the region about the looming service cuts in March, transit sources told amNewYork. Individual hearings will focus on cuts in that particular region, with two sessions a night taking place at 6 p.m.:

- March 1: Westchester County in White Plains, NY; Long Island in Carle Place, NY
- March 2: Queens at the Sheraton LaGuardia East Hotel in Flushing; Staten Island at the [REDACTED]
- March 3: The Bronx at Yankee Stadium; Brooklyn at the Brooklyn Museum
- March 4: Manhattan at Fashion Institute of Technology; Rockland County in Suffern, NY

State law mandates the hearings happen before service is cut, with MTA officials and board members typically getting an earful from individual communities and constituencies. Last year, hearings about similar service cuts lasted for a total of 45 hours.

“This is when you get your voice heard by the big cheeses,” said Gene Russianoff, of the Straphangers Campaign.

Still, some transit advocates criticized the doubling up on hearings each day, arguing that officials should attend all of them.

“This is not good. The purpose of the hearings is so we can hear from the entire region,” said Andrew Albert, chair of the New York City Transit Riders Council.

A MTA spokesman declined to comment.

[< back to article](#)



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WILLOWBROOK

STRIVING TO BE BETTER

Hundreds attend 'Step Up/Speak Out' Family Summit and get to see what a college campus looks and feels like. **E 3**



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/MELTON FLORES

Kim Shapeton of NY Oil introduces himself as a workshop leader at the MLK Day of Service "Step Up/Speak Out" Family Summit, held at the College of Staten Island.

On the West Shore, a perfect place to remember an icon

Though glitches were unavoidable, CSI provides great setting for MLK Jr. Day celebration

By JAMIE LEE
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

WILLOWBROOK — When Serena Brothers-Mohamed was looking for a venue to host her MLK Day of Service "Step Up/Speak Out" Family Summit three years ago, there was only one location she had in mind: The College of Staten Island.

"The community youth that I wanted to really reach out to with this even ... some of them have never even seen a college, much less been inside of one," said Mrs. Brothers-Mohamed, a 1995 alumni of the Willowbrook school.

"I wanted to provide them with a location where they could showcase their talent as well as learn about how to better themselves and their communities," she continued. "And a big part of that is educating them on how to apply to college and the importance of going to college. Having them here allows them to

actually envision it."

At the seminar this Saturday — the third meeting held annually on the weekend preceding Martin Luther King Jr. Day — an unexpected problem proved just how accurate that assumption was.

The words from Marvin Sapp's gospel song, "Praise Him in Advance," rang throughout the halls of the Center for the Arts.

"I started singing. I started clapping. I started dancing," sang the chorus. Then the music cut out.

A technical glitch left a lone interpretive dancer standing mid-stage and motionless with nearly 300 pairs of eyes trained on her. And that's when it happened.

The thoughts and themes discussed and promoted for eight straight hours of workshops and discussions transformed from a set of ethereal ideals into a tangible reality.

The collection of youngsters in attendance — chil-



The color guard from Girl Scout Troop 363 say the Pledge of Allegiance to kick off the event.

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE PHOTOS: NELSON FLORES



Brea Harris performs the National Anthem.

dren, tweens and teens — stepped in, grabbed the reigns and proved that, despite their age, they could make a difference.

They started singing. They started clapping. And the dancer started dancing.

It began with just humming and then those that knew the words picked up the next chorus and the final refrain, growing from a whisper to a melody.

The crowd cheered the dancer off stage and applauded her resolve.

It was the perfect close to a perfect day.

"That was something, wasn't it?" asked a smiling Mrs. Brothers-Mohamed

rhetorically after the impromptu choir's performance.

A humble observation for a woman who inspired the steadily growing event.

Back in 2006, Mrs. Brothers-Mohamed, listed in the program as the event's "visionary," began pitching the idea of having a full-day seminar for the borough's youth, focusing on addressing issues such as crime, low self-esteem and failing family structures.

A graduate of CSI's Searching for Education, Elevation and Knowledge (SEEEK) program, the current public school teacher founded a group called the Young, Talented and Gifted for similar reasons.

For "Step Up/Speak Out," she reached out across the board.

SEEEK, the Black Male Initiative and the Liberty Partnership Program came together in collaboration with the local branch of the New York Urban League, putting together appropriate seminars and requesting support from other non-profits and local businesses.

This year, the advisory board — Ms. Brothers-Mohamed, **Alicia Harrison, Shawn D. Landry, Ranti Ogunleye, Vernon Wooten** and city Councilwoman **Debi Rose** (D-North Shore) — offered 21 workshops, featuring 41 facilitators, and brought in representatives from more than two dozen Island groups.

The youth had candid discussions about topics such as education, abstinence, self-esteem, dressing

for success and the male transition from street corners to board rooms, the latter of which was a double workshop aptly titled, "From G's to Gents."

The admission?

Each participant had to bring a book or non-perishable food item to be donated to the local chapter of the NAACP and the Stapleton U.A.M.E. Church food pantry, respectively.

"We talked about how everyone is responsible for their community," said Ms. Landry. "And this conference encompassed all the different [facets] of that connection. And the message was given to them all day long... that, as Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'everybody can be great... because anybody can serve.'"

Throughout the speech, song, video, workshop, award ceremony and entertainment portions of the day, the message were pushed and promoted.

And when the music went out, it got through loud and clear.

MTA says it will scratch 3 X-bus routes, revamp Hylan service

By Maura Yates

January 22, 2010, 10:06PM



Advance photo/Irving Silverstein

Commuters wait for express buses at Narrows Road South and Fingerboard Road. That wait might get longer.

The MTA announced today that it plans to do away with three Staten Island express bus routes, and shake up the way other express buses run along Hylan Boulevard, as part of a package of service cuts aimed at saving the cash-strapped agency about \$77.6 million a year.

MTA officials helpfully suggested that the borough's express-bus riders might consider defecting to the Staten Island Ferry.

The routes slated for outright elimination are the X16 (Port Richmond to Lower Manhattan), X18 (East Shore to Lower Manhattan) and X20 (Capodanno Boulevard to Lower Manhattan). Those riders will be steered to nearby buses.

Along Hylan Boulevard, service on the X1 will be discontinued during rush hours -- chalk it up to efficiency, officials said -- and riders will have to switch to the X2, X3, X4, X5, X7 or X8, all of which overlap its route.

Service will be discontinued on the X6 and X9 routes, which are also redundant.

The X1 will continue to run as usual outside of rush hours.

To avoid a sardine-can scenario, trips will be added to the routes that remain.

While some passengers may have to board or exit at a different stop, transit officials said service will be maintained to virtually all stops.

The changes on the Hylan Boulevard routes are expected to save \$1.8 million.

The X13 and X14 routes will be consolidated into one route.

During today's briefing in Manhattan about the cuts, MTA/New York City Transit officials noted that for commuters bound for Downtown Manhattan, the Department of Transportation-run ferry is actually a quicker trip than sitting in Gowanus traffic.

In respect of local bus service, the MTA rang the death knell for the S60, which runs up and down Grymes Hill from Clove Road to the campuses of Wagner College and St. John's University, and which has the distinction of having the lowest ridership of any route in the city, with about 210 riders on an average weekday, and 90 on the weekend. Those displaced customers will now face a 12- to 20-minute walk up and down the steep hill for connections to other bus routes. Eliminating the route will save \$400,000 a year.

The S67 will also disappear, but riders can take the S57 or S66 to get to the same neighborhoods, though their trips may take about eight minutes longer. The move will save \$500,000 a year.

The S42 route will be no more, but the most heavily traveled segment of the route will continue to be served by the S52, which will be rerouted along St. Mark's Place and Hamilton Avenue. About 550 weekday and 350 weekend customers will have to make the five-minute walk to the S44, S46 or S52 instead.

The S40 route will no longer serve Western Avenue.

After a huge outcry during the last round of public hearings, weekend service will continue on the S57 route, which runs along Willowbrook Road and Bradley Avenue, to provide transportation to staff and visitors at Sea View Hospital Rehabilitation Center and Home. The S54, which runs along Manor Road, will be discontinued on the weekend. About 1,100 weekend customers will be affected, increasing travel time by between 10 and 20 minutes.

Weekend service will be cut on the S76 route, leaving Oakwood Beach residents facing a 20-minute walk from Hylan Boulevard, where they can now take the S78.

In a move that will save \$30,000 a year, the Staten Island Railway's Ballpark Station will be shuttered, affecting about 70 riders who will now have to walk to the stadium from the nearby St. George station on game nights.

The new package of cuts is more "surgical," transit officials said, and affects fewer riders overall, while still achieving the many-tentacled authority's cost-savings goals. This round of cuts, for example, will affect about 200,000 riders citywide, while the last round would have hit more than 300,000 riders.

With cuts to subway and bus lines throughout the city on tap, "these service cuts would mean -- despite the MTA's efforts to limit their impact -- longer waits, more crowding, slower trips and extra transfers for hundreds of thousands of riders," said Gene Russianoff of the Straphangers Campaign. "This is no way for the MTA to treat its customers."

State Sen. Diane Savino (D-North Shore/Brooklyn) railed against the cuts to Island express routes. "This defies common sense and flies in the face of fairness, especially when considering the contributions that outer-borough residents make to the MTA's budget while receiving very little service in return. Stop picking our pockets. They are empty."

A pro-forma public hearing is scheduled for March 2 in the concert hall at the [REDACTED], and the service cuts could begin as early as this spring.

For details about these and other service cuts, visit www.mta.info.

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Mansfield

UConn Hillel Students Forgo Winter Break To Help Disadvantaged Inner-City Youth

On Campus

Submitted by Jason Baron, Marketing / PR Intern at UConn Hillel, on 2010-01-22.

While other college students were skiing up north or tanning down south during their winter break, UConn Hillel students traveled to Los Angeles, California, to help improve the lives of impoverished inner-city children.

Scott Meshnick, 20, of Weston, CT was among 50 students from various universities who participated in a program organized by Hillel, a worldwide group comprised of Jewish college students.

"I was excited to participate in the first-ever Hillel/City Year Alternative Break," said Meshnick, a member of the UConn Hillel chapter and the Tzedek (Social Justice) Chair. "I felt it was the perfect opportunity to learn about Jewish values and social justice, and I felt really good interacting with people who really needed our help."

Meshnick, along with five other UConn classmates and students from Kent State, [redacted] Hillel of Broward and Palm Beach, Hofstra University, Hunter College and University of Delaware Hillel, teamed with City Year, to perform over 1,400 hours of hands-on community service at the Santa Monica Boys and Girls Club in Los Angeles.

The effort was a weeklong, groundbreaking community service event, where Hillel, a non-secular pluralistic Jewish organization, teamed with City Year, a secular organization, to improve the conditions of a recreational afterschool student facility. Projects included painting murals, repairing building walls, constructing skate park ramps, landscaping, building an amphitheatre, and interacting with children in the community.

The Hillel/City Year Alternative Break combined 25 hours per person of hands-on labor and services, a ten-hour educational program including a "Bringing it Back to Campus" workshop, and a pluralistic, peer-led Shabbat experience. Shabbat is the Jewish Sabbath. Beginning on sunset on Friday, and ending at sunset on Saturday, Shabbat is a day in which Jews are prohibited to work, and are inspired to contemplate and enjoy life.

On Friday night Shabbat, Hillel held several services serving all denominations, reflecting on the importance of their time spent helping make a difference. The theme of the services was "tikkun olam," which in Hebrew means "repairing the world."

Meshnick recalls the words of Abraham Joshua Heschel, a famous rabbi who was involved in the social rights movements of the 60s: "There are two types of people: There is the person who sits and prays all day, and then there is a person who goes out and helps people. We shouldn't assume that the person who sits around and prays all day is the most religious."

For Meshnick, this rings true. "It's not about praying all day; it's about going out and helping people. The rabbi got the message right: you can do all the rituals and recite all the prayers you want, but they don't mean anything unless you



Jamie Melnick

UConn and Hofstra students hold commemorative plaque for their community service. The mayor of Los Angeles made the plaque to thank the student volunteers for their work. Back row: Gary Wolff, executive director, UConn Hillel, Josh Cantor, UConn, Jamie Melnick, UConn, Alicia Kruzansky, UConn, Scott Meshnick, UConn, Harrison Holtz, UConn. Front Row: Amanda Dryer, Hofstra, Alison Cohen, UConn, Jennifer Brill, Hofstra, Lili Sajecki, Hofstra

go out and help the world." One person can make a difference in a community and a community can make a difference in the world.

UConn Hillel is a pluralistic organization connecting more than 2,000 Jewish University of Connecticut students to their community through social, cultural and community service programs.



Staten Island Advance

Foundation Hall is designed to help students transition to the next stage of their lives

Monday, January 25, 2010

By STEPHANIE SLEPIAN
ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Contractors are still regulating the temperature and the flow of hot water, but students are already right at home in Foundation Hall, the first new dorm built on the campus of Wagner College in more than four decades.

"This is definitely the most modern building on campus," said senior Michael Pinto, 21, a Huguenot resident and student government president who has been living at Wagner since he was a freshman. "It's amazing just walking through it."

Students moved into the \$24 million, 200-bed residence hall last Monday even as workers were putting the finishing touches on the four-story building.

Seventy-five percent of Wagner's 1,850 undergraduates live on-campus while graduate students are housed at the nearby Grymes Hill Apartments.

"The past 10 years really marked a transition in the identity of the college," said spokesman Lee Manchester. "Ten or 15 years ago, a huge majority of students were commuters from Staten Island and the other boroughs. Today, we have a vast majority from outside New York City. We needed more space."

Wagner remains the borough's only college with on-campus housing.

St. John's University, which is Wagner's Howard Avenue neighbor, also leases space at the Grymes Hill Apartments for students. At the [REDACTED] groundbreaking for three dormitories planned for the Willowbrook campus was put on hold in 2008 when the school was unable to obtain financing for the project.

Foundation Hall -- named for the Richmond County Savings Foundation, which donated \$5 million toward the project -- sits on the former baseball field on Campus Road, joining Harbor View Hall, Park Towers Hall and Guild Hall atop Grymes Hill.

Construction on the 72,000-square-foot building began in 2008.

The work is expected to wrap up by month's end with an official ribbon-cutting planned for March, according to resident director Chris Diggs, a Manhattan native who joined Wagner's staff in December.

"There are still some little things here and there," said Ms. Diggs, a former career counselor and resident director at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania, where she earned her master's degree in education.

"They're still trying to regulate the air balance and figure out how much hot water we need, but otherwise, it's beautiful."

The red and beige brick building features four-person suites with private bathrooms, double sinks and counter space for food preparation. Six larger Seahawk Suites have a common room. There are also four single-student rooms.

Each floor has two laundry rooms, two common rooms and a study room.

A cafe, which will brew Starbucks coffee and will have early-morning and late-night hours, is almost ready to open.

Although there are a few sophomores and juniors living in Foundation this semester, the building will be devoted to seniors participating in Wagner's Senior Year Residential Experience.

SYRE is designed to prepare graduating seniors for life after Wagner and includes workshops on resume and cover letter writing, interviewing skills, apartment hunting, personal finance, test prep for graduate school admissions exams and negotiating job offers.

"This is more than a residence hall -- it is truly a foundation," said Wagner President Richard Guarasci. "Our seniors are living in a building that helps them transition to the next stage in their lives in the professions and/or graduate school.

"The building is designed to create living and learning spaces for students heavily immersed in internships and experiential learning. And they live in spaces closer in kind to those they will inhabit after graduation."

That was the draw for Alexandra Klein, 22, a business marketing major from Kentucky who shares one of the Seahawk Suites with three girl friends, former volleyball teammates.

Magazines sit on their common room table, along with an empty Dominos pizza box. A colorful throw is draped over the couch and DVDs are stacked alongside the floor-to-ceiling windows that bathe the room in natural light.

"I don't feel like I am living in a dorm room," she said. "I feel like I am living in my own apartment."

Stephanie Slepian is a news reporter for the Advance. She may be reached at slepian@siadvance.com.

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CUNY and New York Blood Center Host Drives To Help Save Lives: Please Give Blood and Register as a Bone Marrow Donor

CUNY and New York Blood Center Host Drives To Help Save Lives: Please Give Blood and Register as a Bone Marrow Donor

The City University of New York | 26 January 2010, 4:32 pm

The City University of New York in conjunction with New York Blood Center will host blood and bone marrow drives at CUNY campuses throughout the five boroughs to help save the lives of patients in need of life-saving blood products and patients who are battling a life-threatening disease and need a bone marrow or cord blood transplant to survive.

CUNY will hold a press conference to announce the combined drives on Monday, February 1, 2010, from 1:00pm to 1:30pm at Borough of Manhattan Community College located at 199 Chambers Street, in the Richard Harris Terrace, New York, NY 10007. BMCC will also hold a blood drive on February 1st from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Among CUNY leaders attending the press conference will be Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Peter Jordan and BMCC President Antonio Perez.

"The uniqueness of CUNY's diverse student body becomes an invaluable asset to the New York City's blood supply. It is of utmost importance to have a blood supply that mirrors the landscape of recipients, especially when a recipient requires a specific antigen that few possess, and CUNY students mirror New York's population. I strongly encourage CUNY students, faculty and staff to participate in this blood drive and to volunteer to be bone marrow donors," said CUNY Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Peter Jordan.

"The BMCC community is well known for generosity toward those in need, and we are proud to participate in The City University of New York/New York Blood Center's Blood and Bone Marrow Drive," said Antonio Pérez, President of Borough of Manhattan Community College. "Our kickoff event on February 1st will raise awareness and address the inequity reflected in the City's current donor pool, in which less than half of all African Americans seeking a bone marrow match are able to find one. A case in point is that of Jennifer Jones Austin, a beloved community activist with over two decades of service to our City, who has been diagnosed with leukemia and is now urgently seeking a bone marrow match. Join BMCC students, staff and faculty, as we strive to offer aid to Ms. Austin and countless other New Yorkers by registering as a possible marrow donor."

Healthy individuals, ages sixteen (with parental permission or consent) and older, are encouraged to donate blood at any of the scheduled CUNY blood drives. Blood donors at each of the blood drives will also have an opportunity to help save the life of Jennifer Jones Austin by joining the Be The Match Registry, a national bone marrow registry that matches donors to patients in need of a life-saving bone marrow transplant. The donor registry drives in honor of Jennifer Jones Austin are an effort to raise awareness about the need for more African American bone marrow donors, and to perhaps find a matching donor for 41-year old Austin and many other patients like her.

Austin, a well-respected community activist for children and families, was recently diagnosed with leukemia and her only hope for a cure is a marrow transplant. Like 70 percent of patients, Austin does not have a matching donor in her family and is depending on the Be The Match Registry – the largest listing of volunteer marrow donors – to find a match.

“Thousands of people like me are searching for their donor match,” Austin said. “By joining the Be The Match Registry you have a special opportunity to offer the gift of life to someone. No higher act of service exists.”

The Be The Match Registry drive for Ms. Austin is aimed especially at recruiting more African Americans to join the registry. Patients are more likely to find a match from among donors who share the same race or ethnicity. Yet out of a registry of millions, fewer than 10 percent are African Americans.

Interested volunteers can join the Be The Match Registry at several locations throughout the United States. People also can sign up to be the one to save a life by visiting BeTheMatch.org. To join, people need to be between the ages of 18 and 60, willing to donate to any patient in need, and meet health guidelines.

Registration is simple and involves completing a health history form and giving a swab of cheek cells. There is no cost to join the Be The Match Registry, but financial contributions help cover the \$100 it costs to add each new registry member. For more information, visit www.BeTheMatch.org or call 1(800) MARROW-2.

The need for blood is constant. New York Blood Center calls upon the community to please donate blood. Blood drive cancellations from the weekend storm of December 19, 2009, coupled with unusually high demand from regional hospitals, have impacted Rh-negative blood supplies, especially type O-negative.

Please join CUNY and New York Blood Center to help save the lives of those in need of life-saving blood products by donating blood and joining the Be The Match Registry to help save the lives of patients in need of a life-saving bone marrow or cord blood transplant. A list of the combined CUNY blood and bone drives is attached.

To donate blood, please call:

Toll Free: 1-800-933-2566
Visit: www.nybloodcenter.org

Any company, community organization, place of worship, or individual may host a blood drive. NYBC also offers special community service scholarships for students who organize community blood drives during the winter holiday and summer periods. Blood donors receive free mini-medical exams on site including information about their temperature, pulse rate, blood pressure and hemoglobin level. Eligible donors include those people at least age 16 (with parental permission or consent), who weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, are in good health and meet all Food & Drug Administration and NY or NJ State Department of Health donor criteria. People age 76 and over may donate with a doctor's note.

About New York Blood Center: *New York Blood Center (NYBC) is one of the nation's largest non-profit, community-based blood centers. NYBC has been providing blood, transfusion products and services to almost 200 hospitals, serving 20 million people, in greater New York since 1964. NYBC is also home to the Lindsley F. Kimball Research Institute and the National Cord Blood Program at the Howard P. Milstein National Cord Blood Center, the world's largest public cord blood bank. NYBC provides medical services and programs (Clinical, Transfusion, and Hemophilia Services) through our medical professionals along with consultative services in transfusion medicine.*

About Be The Match®

Be The Match is a movement that engages a growing community of people inspired to help patients who need a marrow or umbilical cord blood transplant. The National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), a leader in the field of marrow and cord blood transplantation, created Be The Match to provide opportunities for the public to become involved in saving the lives of people with leukemia, lymphoma and other life-threatening diseases. Volunteers can join the Be The Match Registry – the world's largest and most diverse listing of potential adult marrow donors and donated cord blood units – as well as contribute financially to Be The Match Foundation or give their time. Be The Match Foundation supports the NMDP by raising funds to grow the Be The Match Registry, help patients with transplant costs and advance medical research. Since operations began in 1987, the NMDP has provided more than 35,000 transplants to help give patients a second chance at life. For more information, visit BeTheMatch.org or call 1 (800) MARROW-2.

The City University of New York is the nation's leading urban public university. Founded in New York City in 1847 as The Free Academy, the University's 23 institutions include 11 senior colleges, six community colleges, the William E. Macaulay Honors College at CUNY, the Graduate School and University Center, the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, the CUNY School of Law, the CUNY School of Professional Studies and the CUNY School of Public Health. The University serves 260,000 credit students and 269,808 adult, continuing and professional education students. College Now, the University's academic enrichment program for 32,500 high school students, is offered at CUNY campuses and more than 300 high schools throughout the five boroughs of New York City. The University offers online baccalaureate degrees through the School of Professional Studies and an individualized baccalaureate through the

CUNY Baccalaureate Degree. More than 1 million visitors and 2 million page views are served each month by www.cuny.edu, the University's website.

Contact:

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New York Blood Center -City University of New York

Blood & Bone Marrow Drives Schedule

FEBRUARY 2010

Black History Month

Tuesday, March 2, 2010



12:00pm – 5:30pm

Wednesday, March 3, 2010



12:00pm – 5:30pm

The schedules for other colleges can be viewed here: <http://www.zikkir.com/index/134531>



The MTA slams Staten Island again

By Staten Island Advance Editorial

January 26, 2010, 7:09AM

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority finally announced its schedule of long-rumored service cuts around the city on Friday in order to reduce spending and close a projected \$400-million budget deficit.

And, as feared, the cuts hit Staten Island particularly hard, while sparing other parts of the city with much more mass transit.

The MTA plans to eliminate three express bus routes outright: The X16, which runs between Port Richmond and Lower Manhattan; the X18 between the East Shore and Lower Manhattan, and the X20 between Capodanno Boulevard and Lower Manhattan.

It also plans to discontinue service on the X1 during rush hours (How's that for logical?) and eliminate the X6 and the X9.

As for local bus routes, the S60, the "Grymes Hill Shuttle" which serves many seniors and Wagner and St. John's students, has again been targeted for elimination, as has the S42, a popular route serving New Brighton commuters, the S40 that serves commuters who live near the Goethals Bridge, and the S67 which runs between the St. George Ferry and Port Richmond.

And weekend service will be eliminated on the S54 to Manor Road and the S76 to Oakwood Beach.

For good measure, the MTA has decided to close the Ballpark Station on the Staten Island Railway.

Clearly, these cuts will severely affect thousands of Staten Island riders who rely on these lines. True, they have alternative bus lines they can use, but these cuts mean they'll have to walk much longer distances to get to those alternative lines. (Ever walk up Grymes Hill from Victory Boulevard to Wagner College, for example. Or from Richmond Terrace to Brighton Avenue?)

Gene Russianoff of the Straphangers Campaign rightly observed, "These service cuts would mean — despite the MTA's efforts to limit their impact — longer waits, more crowding, slower trips and extra transfers for hundreds of thousands of riders. This is no way for the MTA to treat its customers."

To add insult to injury, MTA/Transit officials made a feeble attempt to justify these service reductions by pointing out that Staten Islanders can use the ferry.

Yes, but how do you get to the ferry from Oakwood Beach or Grymes Hill? That blithe dismissal of Staten Islanders' concerns is typical of the MTA mentality when it comes to mass transit in this borough.

And the cuts are made even more galling by the fact that at the same time it's cutting service on Staten Island, the MTA is preserving full, round-the-clock service on bus lines in Manhattan — in areas that are also served by numerous subway lines.

"The outer boroughs should be the last place that you reduce services. Areas that are already underserved, such as South Brooklyn, Staten Island, and the outer reaches of the Bronx and Queens should be MTA's top priority," thundered state Sen. Diane Savino.

The lawmaker, who has been out front in railing against the MTA's proposed cuts, added, "Unfortunately, the Transit Authority seems to think it is preferable to let a senior citizen in Brooklyn or Staten Island walk a mile or two to the closest transit stop, rather than ask an Upper Manhattan resident to either walk half a mile, take their choice of three local bus routes that cross the park, take a cab ride or even a horse-drawn

carriage to get to the other side of Manhattan.”

She said the MTA’s schedule of service reductions “defies common sense and flies in the face of fairness,” because residents of this borough already have so few mass transit options.

But as we have noted in this space many times, the MTA’s unspoken mindset has always been that money spent on mass transit services for Staten Island is wasted and much better spent elsewhere. Better to cut transit here to the bone and leave thousands of commuters stranded than risk upsetting the residents of the Upper West Side.

Of course, as winter turns to spring, the MTA will dispatch teams of officials to pro-forma public hearings on the service cuts around the city, as required by law. Those officials will barely listen to the complaints of furious commuters and then the MTA will go ahead and do what it wants, whatever the riding public says.

The one on Staten Island is scheduled to take place on March 2 in the concert hall at the [REDACTED]. Even though it probably won’t do much good, Staten Islanders who will be left out in the cold by these cuts should go and make sure they’re heard.

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The quiet time is over at CSI

By Staten Island Advance

January 28, 2010, 3:25PM



Photo courtesy of Niven Abdelhamid

The Cyber Cafe at the [redacted] in Willowbrook is empty during the January winter term.

By NIVEN ABDELHAMID
ADVANCE CORRESPONDENT

WILLOWBROOK — Parking was surprisingly easy, empty tables at the on-campus cafe were plentiful, and there were plenty of seats in the all but deserted library.

January was winter session at the [redacted] — and the pace of life on the Willowbrook campus was about as slow as that in the great outdoors at this time of year. That all changed today, the start of the school's spring semester.

But just a week ago, most of [redacted] 13,000 students were not to be found; instead, they were enjoying time away from studying, reading and writing papers.

There were some, though, who were either forced — or chose — to brave the January cold and enroll for the three-week condensed classes that are offered during this time. For them, the campus took on a decidedly different cast.

Students earn credits during the winter session the same way they do during the regular semester, but they must be willing to work hard for them, since a semester's worth of material is shrink-wrapped into about three weeks.

What kinds of students are up for this? "Highly motivated students who want to fast track their college career," says Ken Bach, a spokesman for the college.

Yong Liu, a freshman from South Beach, was one of them. "Classes are quick. It's a shorter schedule, but the teachers are more demanding because it's a lot of work in a short period of time," he said.

Zeinab Imam of New Dorp, a sophomore co-ed, agreed: "You start classes, then, before you know it, it's midterms and finals. You spend the whole time you are taking winter classes studying. You have no social life," she said.

Despite the drastic time contraction, taking classes during the winter session does have its advantages.

Parking is a breeze. Not so, during the regular semester when it becomes a near impossible task.

"It's horrible. I have to literally leave my house a half-hour before class to find a parking spot during the semester, and I only live three minutes away," says Joey Scarpa of Bulls Head, a graduate student.

In January, things clear out. "There are a lot more parking spaces; it's much better," said Liu.

The benefits of the winter session extend beyond parking. Classes held during this time enable students who may have fallen behind on their credits and want to play catch-up, to do so. They also help students who simply want to get ahead of the game.

"Winter session classes help students graduate on time, or even graduate early," said Bach.

They also enable others to focus on priority classes during the regular semester. Ms. Imam is taking an elective sociology class during the winter session, for instance, to free up time for instruction in her major, biology, during the regular semester.

"Instead of going to school for five months, I can get the class done in three weeks, giving me more time to focus on classes for my major," she said.

Ms. Imam was one of a handful of students found in the campus library earlier this month. That was fine by her.

"It's a lot quieter," she said, "I'm not used to it. When you're outside, it seems empty, but there's people in the buildings. So I know I'm not the only one taking a winter class."

Niven Abdelhamid is a freelance reporter. She can be reached through the Advance at shores@siadvance.com.



Photo courtesy of Niven Abdelhamid

Students had no trouble finding a seat in the college library.



College awarded for its conservation efforts

By Jamie Lee

January 28, 2010, 3:10PM

WILLOWBROOK — A little more than a year after launching a variety of environmentally-friendly initiatives to further conservation practices on campus, the [REDACTED] efforts have been recognized formally.

The Willowbrook school announced last week that it was selected to be the latest Champion of the New York State Department of Transportation's Clean Air NY initiative.

Clean Air NY is a consortium of organizations and individuals in the tri-state area working to improve air quality and reduce emission of greenhouse gases, which the federal Environmental Protection Agency recently deemed a threat to public health and welfare.

[REDACTED] is the third organization to be listed as a 2010 winner, joining the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Manhattan and the Voila Bakery in Brooklyn.

In March 2008, the college announced a variety of green initiatives that it would be pursuing, many of which are currently in place or being expanded.

The changes stem, in part, from [REDACTED] participation in the brand new University Sustainability Council of City University of New York Chancellor Matthew Goldstein. The group is attempting to lower greenhouse gas emissions from all campus buildings by 30-percent in the next decade. and effectively create a fully eco-friendly environment.

A major advocate of alternative transportation – both for green concerns and practical ones, due to the shortage of campus parking spaces for the ever-increasing enrollment – [REDACTED] has organized a carpool matching service and a free shuttle bus to the Staten Island Ferry terminal in St. George.

Additionally, [REDACTED] provides pre-tax transit benefits to employees and even gave away free MetroCards at an alternative transportation fair in November 2009.

On the grounds, prominently positioned recycling receptacles greet entrants in front of each building, and maintenance staff from the Office of Buildings and Grounds have been keeping the paper, cans, bottles, glass and regular trash separate from one another. In fact, [REDACTED] is attempting to become a paperless campus altogether through emphasis on electronic communication.

Other campus projects including Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified buildings, biodiesel production and promoting the development of an undergraduate program in sustainability.

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Students & Alumni



Staten Island Advance

For immigrant, different country but same dream

Native of Ukraine, 23, is among 33 graduates of CSI's nursing program

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

By DEBORAH YOUNG

ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- As she studied to become a doctor in her native Ukraine, the political unrest around Alla Tourakhodjaeva became so intolerable that she left everything behind for the safety of Staten Island.

But the 23-year-old never dismissed her dream of a career in medicine and of helping others.

Yesterday, the standout student who perfected her English while completing the strenuous, registered-nursing course work at the [REDACTED] was among 33 January graduates of the acclaimed, two-year associate arts degree program.

"I am very excited and I think it's a great achievement for me as an immigrant from Ukraine," said the South Beach resident, in flawless English, when asked about her accomplishment before a pinning ceremony at the Willowbrook college's Center for the Performing Arts. "I decided to continue my medical education. I think nursing is much better for me; we treat patients."

As they took the nurse's oath and prepared to join the ranks of a much-in-demand profession, the 28 female and five male graduates from points across the globe wore soothing white uniforms, soft-soled shoes and smiles of relief, exhilaration and pride in their future careers.

"You are caring for our most precious gift, our patients," said Dr. Mary O'Donnell, the chairwoman of the department of nursing, to the gathered crowd of graduates and some 200 of their friends and family members. "There may be a lot of changes coming in health care, but the one thing that must not change are your patient-centered priorities."

The program at the college prepared students for the challenges ahead, said graduate Jennifer Deddo, the chairwoman of the pinning steering committee.

"We have learned some very valuable lessons. ... We have learned to look at people in our diverse world and to embrace and celebrate difference between us," said the 44-year-old Huguenot mother of three, who decided to pursue nursing in honor of her sister, Sarah Wells, who died at the age of 47 of melanoma.

She said nurses provide much-needed medical care and expertise but are also that essential human point of contact in the medical system.

"The most important thing we can do is give a warm smile, a gentle touch and a listening ear," she said.

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STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/HILTON FLORES

Nursing grads at the College of Staten Island, who received an associate degree in applied science, prepare to march into the auditorium for their pinning ceremony.

January 22, 2010

THE NEEDIEST CASES

Many Moves With Children in Tow, and Then a Fire

By JENNIFER MASCIA

By the time Jeffrey and April Fish were 24 and 23, respectively, they were parents to five children under the age of 7. As if that was not overwhelming enough, they have waged a daily battle to stay solvent ever since.

Mr. and Ms. Fish met at New Dorp High School on Staten Island, and when April became pregnant at 16, they dropped out. They moved to Crown Heights, Brooklyn, but their lack of education kept them in minimum-wage jobs. Financial hardship forced them into a shelter.

For a year and nine months they stayed in a shelter in Harlem, where they were subjected to a curfew and random inspections, upsetting the children. (At that time, they had three.) Mr. Fish, who worked odd construction jobs, had a dispute with a security guard, and they transferred to a shelter in Brownsville, Brooklyn, where they lived for a year. It was there they rounded out their family.

“Everything we did, as far as moving and all that stuff, we did on our own,” Mr. Fish said. His family is in Brooklyn, “but they’re in the same boat as us,” he said. Ms. Fish’s father has died, and her 50-year-old mother is in the hospital with cirrhosis. “She’s not doing well,” she said quietly.

While in the Brownsville shelter, they were told of [Housing Stability Plus](#), a program that grants a five-year rent subsidy that decreases by 20 percent every year. Through this program, the Fish family was able to find an apartment in a private house on Staten Island, where they lived for two years — until 2 a.m. on July 8, 2009.

On that morning, Mr. Fish woke to the smell of smoke coming from the floor above. He called 911 and got his family out before helping evacuate the family on the first floor. (Those above also escaped safely.)

“It was the summertime, so half of them had their shorts on,” Ms. Fish said, gesturing to her five sleepy but perfectly behaved children, ages 7 to 13, sitting side by side on the rented living room couch.

The apartment did not burn, but water damage mildewed their belongings. Ms. Fish’s grandmother took them in, and two adults, five children and two cats squeezed into two bedrooms, while Mr. Fish slept in a reclining chair for two months.

And this is when things began to look up.

The children had been attending the [Children’s Aid Society’s Goodhue Center](#) in the summer and after school. When news of the fire spread, the center’s program director tapped into The New York Times

Neediest Cases Fund, of which the [Children's Aid Society](#) is a beneficiary. With a \$700 gift card from Old Navy, Ms. Fish was able to clothe Joshua, 13; Vanessa, 12; Jeffrey, 11; Tyler, 9; and Ronell, 7.

Ms. Fish, who makes \$8.80 an hour at the copy center at Staples on Forest Avenue, found a program called [Work Advantage](#) that matches the amount in her bank account at the end of two years. The arrangement covered relocating costs, and the family moved into a spacious three-bedroom apartment in a two-family house in West Brighton.

With a \$999 gift card from a local furniture store, also purchased with [Neediest Cases](#) money, she was able to get bunk beds for Joshua and Ronell, a trundle bed for Jeffrey and Tyler, and a single bed for Vanessa, who gets her own bedroom.

Mr. and Ms. Fish decided to give the bedrooms to the children, after their odyssey through the shelter system. The parents sleep on a pull-out couch in the living room.

"Even though what happened happened, we wound up getting a nicer place," Ms. Fish said.

Work Advantage pays \$1,431 of the \$1,600 monthly rent. Jeffrey and Vanessa have learning disabilities and receive \$697 in monthly [Social Security](#) disability payments. The Fishes also receive \$527 a month in food stamps, "but that only lasts two and a half weeks," said Mr. Fish, who calls himself "Mr. Mom."

Ms. Fish plans to get her G.E.D. and attend the [REDACTED] for nursing. As soon as she is done, Mr. Fish plans to do the same.

"Some people can't do things on their own, so that's why we're here," Mr. Fish said. "And if I help someone, they'll help someone else."

When asked if they plan to have more children, the answer is immediate.

"No, no!" they say at the same time, and start laughing.



Staten Island Advance

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STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/SAM SONOMA-HAMMILL

Tom Rodberg, CEO of Virtual Law at New Dorp HS, is showered with tickertape as is Futen Odeh, walking beside him.

Moguls-in-making lead New Dorp HS to victory

Confetti and plaudits rain on teams that top citywide competition

By **STEPHANIE SLEPIAN**
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Tickertape showered New Dorp High's School Virtual Enterprise students yesterday, turning the hallways into a makeshift Canyon of Heroes.

Principal Deirdre DeAngelis threw the parade to celebrate a big win: The school's two VE teams took top honors in a citywide competition and will head to the nationals in March.

It's what they've been doing since 2005, when they began participating in Virtual Enterprise International, a program in which students run their own virtual businesses using local companies as mentors.

The classrooms are run like offices, where students draw up business proposals, set prices for their products and develop presentations for clients, all while learning business lingo, entrepreneurial skills and workplace ethics.

"It teaches you a lot about life and the business world and how to present yourself," said senior Maria Bobova, 18, the CEO of VE

Management and Insurance Company, which took first place.

New Dorp's VE Law won second place.

Sixty schools across the city, including Tottenville and Port Richmond high schools, have VE firms. Twenty teams participated in the citywide competition at the Manhattan offices of Deloitte & Touche.

"In a regular classroom, they would learn from a book," said New Dorp's VE Coordinator Paul Presti. "In our classroom, everything is done the way a real business does things."

Tom Rodberg, the CEO of VE Law, said the pro-

gram combines academics with real-world experience, including several days spent at a law firm.

"It has given me so much more than any other class in high school," said the 17-year-old senior. "It has given me a level of professionalism and maturity you can only dream about in other classes."

As for riding on a float in a tickertape parade down New Dorp's hallways: "It was great. It's not often you get a tickertape parade. To have one in your own school is excellent."

Stephanie Slepian is a news reporter for the Advance. She may be reached at slepian@siadvance.com.



If Brown can win in Mass., Republicans can win elsewhere

By Letters to the Editor/Staten Island Adva...

January 29, 2010, 1:13PM

By DANIEL CASTORINA,
BULLS HEAD

What a great experience I had during the election in Massachusetts! As a Staten Island Tea Party member and student at the [REDACTED] I felt I had to do more than just sit home and do nothing, so I bought a bus ticket on Jan.16 and traveled to Andover, Mass.

I went door to door and on Election Day, I was a poll watcher for "Americans for Limited Government" in Lawrence, Mass. I have volunteered on several political campaigns — the feeling I got in Massachusetts was like no other!

I saw the change in voters' faces. They wanted more than just an empty suit that could give a great speech while reading a TelePrompTer. They want a person, not a politician — someone who is on the side of the people. As Senator-elect Scott Brown said, "It's not the Kennedy seat, nor the Democrats' seat. It's the people's seat."

If every Republican was like Scott Brown, we would take back the House and Senate in a heartbeat. If Brown can win in Massachusetts, Michael Grimm has a great chance to win in Staten Island and show the progressive/liberals in Washington. Their failed policies are not welcome in our borough.

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Alumni

A 'minor' miracle

By MELISSA KLEIN

Last Updated: 11:45 AM, December 28, 2009

Posted: 3:55 AM, December 27, 2009

Every year, Merli Desrosier promised her little sister a Christmas gift better than a new doll or the latest computer game.

"She was, like, 'Don't worry. Next Christmas, you're going to be living with me,' " said Marie Estimé, who then lived with their allegedly neglectful father. "Then it kept going -- 'next Christmas, next Christmas.' "

Merli was practically a child herself, a teenager living in foster care and attending high school.

But this Christmas, Merli made good. Now a 25-year-old college graduate, she took in her sister, now 16, and is pursuing the unusual step of adopting her. The move will legally cement a bond that has endured through years of hardship.

"Since I was 9, it's been that way -- that I'm like her mom," Merli said.

Merli's mother died four days after giving birth to Marie in 1993 because of complications from the birth and sickle cell anemia. The sisters and their brother, Yves, were shuttled between relatives and foster care before their father took them in two years later.

Merli was placed in foster care again at 16 after an argument with her father during which, she said, he tried to strangle her.

Marie and Yves stayed with their father, and Merli visited often to keep tabs on them, bringing her sister clothes and doing her hair.

Marie eventually went back to foster care. Merli continued her education, something she said her mother always stressed and she enjoyed.

"School was the only place I could be a kid, where I could be a teenager and not be a parent or an adult," she said.

Merli got a scholarship to the [REDACTED] A financial-aid package later allowed her to attend Purchase College, and she graduated in May.

Her little sister, meanwhile, was despondent in her foster home.

"I just decided, whether or not I had a career lined up or an actual place big enough for her to live in, that I would take her in," Merli said.

Merli became Marie's foster mother, and the younger sister moved into her "mom's" Harlem studio in July.

Merli said she wanted to adopt her sister to get her out of the foster-care bureaucracy and provide her with a more normal life, one that she had promised.

But the small apartment was a roadblock, because it was not suitable for an adoption placement.

And Merli has been unable to find work in marketing or public relations, as she had hoped, and has only a part-time job at a clothing store.

The New York Foundling, the agency that oversees Marie's care, has stepped up to help with the adoption process and in securing a bigger apartment.

First, the agency asked some hard questions, to make sure Merli was in it for the long haul. Cases of siblings adopting siblings are extremely rare, with the agency overseeing just one such arrangement, out of 123 adoptions, in the last fiscal year.

"We just wanted to make sure that this was beyond a passing infatuation," said Bill Baccaglini, The Foundling's executive director. "Merli has certainly demonstrated that."

He said Merli never wavered from her goal of getting an education and one day taking in her sister.

The agency provided the security deposit and first month's rent for a two-bedroom in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. A Section 8 housing subsidy will help Merli pay the \$1,224 rent. The sisters will move into their new home in a couple of weeks. The adoption process could take up to 10 months.

Merli, Marie and their brother -- now a 24-year-old college student in Florida -- spent Christmas together. While Marie said she got good gifts, the holiday wasn't about presents.

"I didn't really want anything," she said, "because I already got what I wanted -- which was to live with my sister."

melissa.klein@nypost.com

ELLEN LAURA ESSES JOINS XENA VALLONE REALTY

Ellen Laura Esses has joined Xena Vallone Realty Inc. at 7727-B Holiday Drive, Sarasota, FL 34231. She has six years of experience in real estate and 25 years in sales.

In addition to changing firms, Esses upgraded her license from Salesperson to Broker-Associate by completing an additional 72-hour course and passing a rigorous state test.

"Ellen has expertise in listing, negotiating and guiding both sellers and buyers through the short-sale process," said Xena Vallone. "Her strong negotiation skills are key to helping clients achieve the best price whether buying or selling."

Prior to joining Xena Vallone Realty, Esses was a sales associate with another local real estate firm.

A native of Brooklyn, NY, Esses attended the [REDACTED] at the City University of New York. She lived in Montana and relocated to Sarasota in 2000 from Summit County, Colorado. She can be reached at (941) 284-4152 or Ellen@EllenLaura.com.

Gene Simmons

AKA Chaim Witz

Born: 25-Aug-1949

Birthplace: Haifa, Israel

Gender: Male

Religion: Jewish

Race or Ethnicity: White

Sexual orientation: Straight

Occupation: Bassist, Actor

Nationality: United States

Executive summary: Blood-spouting *KISS* bassist



Born in Israel under the name Chaim Witz, Gene Simmons relocated to Brooklyn at the age of 9 with his mother, a Hungarian immigrant and the only member of her family to survive the Holocaust. Once in the States his name was changed to the more American-sounding Gene Klein, and he struggled to advance his understanding of English through watching television and reading comics. During his school years, he developed an interest in horror and science fiction, for a while even publishing his own comics fanzine; but the [Beatles](#) phenomenon inspired a stronger urge to become a musician, and in 1967 he secured a second hand guitar from his mother to realize his ambitions.

Participation in a series of different bands followed, amongst which were *The Missing Links* and *The Long Island Sounds*. After high school Simmons enrolled in college and began working towards a degree in education, performing at night as a member of *Bullfrog Bheer* and later in the folk duo *Coffee*. A period was spent as a teacher in Spanish Harlem and then as a personal assistant for the editor of *Vogue*, but by this time he had met [Paul Stanley](#) and, after a series of unsuccessful attempts, the two founded [Kiss](#) in 1973. It was at this point that he adopted the name Gene Simmons.

Kiss landed a contract with the fledgling Casablanca label that same year and released their self-titled debut in 1974. Two more albums quickly followed, each receiving an increasingly favorable response. A rigorous touring schedule gradually established a nation-wide following, and by the release of the live set

Simmons' band persona (and the band's presentation in general) was a clear continuation of his interest in horror and comic books: nicknamed "the demon", he took the stage clad in stylized armor and spiked platform boots, with his face elaborately painted in white and black. Bursts of flame and generous amounts of fake blood regularly featured in his performance.

In addition to his duties with Kiss, Simmons began to branch out into other aspects of the entertainment business in the late 70s and early 80s. He attempted unsuccessfully to promote an early incarnation of the band [Van Halen](#), and later established his own short-lived label, Simmons Records. Ventures into management (for singer and former girlfriend [Liza Minnelli](#)) and producing (for [Wendy O. Williams](#)) were also undertaken. Inevitably, an effort was made to establish himself as an actor; the made-for-TV band movie *Kiss Meets the Phantom of the Park* (1978) effectively opened the door to this new field, and roles for both feature films (*Runaway*, 1984; *Never Too Young To Die*, 1986) and television (*Miami Vice*) occasionally surfaced over the following decade.

With regular changes to the drummer and lead guitarist positions, Kiss remained active for most of the 80s and 90s, armed with a simple formula to restore attention to themselves whenever public attention began to drift: when their first decline took place in the early 80s they made a publicity stunt out of removing their make-up, resulting in a boost of sales for the album *Lick it Up* (1983). When another slump arrived in the mid-90s, they made a publicity stunt out of putting their make-up back on, resulting in another boost for the album and accompanying tour *Psycho Circus* (1998). A long 'farewell' tour was initiated in 2000, but it remains to be seen whether the band will actually put their cash cow out to pasture for good.

Simmons kept himself very busy outside of Kiss in the 00s: launching the magazine *Tongue*, publishing his autobiography, creating the *Dragonfly* clothing line, and re-establishing his record label. First and foremost, however, he has devoted himself to being as much of an asshole in public as is humanly possible, using both radio and television talk shows as his primary venue. This fact was celebrated with the release of his second solo album *Asshole* in 2004.

Father: Yechiel Witz ("Feri", carpenter)

Mother: Florence ("Flora")

Girlfriend: [Cher](#) (musician/actress)

Slept with: [Liza Minnelli](#) (musician)

Slept with: [Diana Ross](#) (musician)

Girlfriend: [Liv Ullmann](#) (actress)

Girlfriend: [Shannon Tweed](#) (model/actress, together 20 years)

Son: [Nick Simmons](#) (b. 22-Jan-1989)

Daughter: Sophie (b. 1992)

Slept with: [Robin Quivers](#) (radio host)

Girlfriend: Georgeann Walsh Ward (1971-74)

High School: Newton High School, Queens, NY

University: BA Education, Sullivan Community College, Platskill, NY

University: [REDACTED]

[Kiss](#) Bassist/Vocalist (1972-)

[Sex Tape Scandal](#) 2008 (purportedly with "Elsa" or "Traci Anna Koval")

[Polygraphed](#) (2008)

Endorsement of [Dr Pepper Snapple Group](#) (2009)

[Hungarian Ancestry](#)

[Jewish Ancestry](#)

Risk Factors: [Polio](#)

TELEVISION

[Gene Simmons: Family Jewels](#) Himself (2006-)

FILMOGRAPHY AS ACTOR

[Extract \(4-Sep-2009\)](#)

[Be Cool \(4-Mar-2005\)](#) Himself

[Wish You Were Dead \(21-May-2002\)](#)

[The New Guy \(7-May-2002\)](#)

[Detroit Rock City \(9-Aug-1999\)](#) Himself

[Red Surf \(1990\)](#)

[The Decline of Western Civilization Part II: The Metal Years \(10-Sep-1988\)](#)

Himself

[Wanted: Dead or Alive \(14-Jan-1987\)](#)

[Trick or Treat \(24-Oct-1986\)](#)

[Never Too Young to Die \(17-Jul-1986\)](#)

[Runaway \(14-Dec-1984\)](#)

[KISS Meets the Phantom of the Park \(28-Oct-1978\)](#)

Official Website:

<http://www.genesimmons.com/>

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MORSELS

New pizzeria sticks with Westerleigh parlor formula

Seasoned restaurateur partners in South Shore venture, emphasize lunch fare

By MAURA GRUNLUND
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

The new Jimmy Max pizzeria in Great Kills has lunch-time buzz.

With the bad economy, many Staten Island restaurants are virtually empty at lunch time. But the opposite appears to be true for the Jimmy Max in Great Kills.

The pizzeria is located in a highly trafficked shopping center that has the Amboy Diner, Pathmark, Dunkin' Donuts/Baskin-Robbins, Thriftway Pharmacy and other shops. Apparently running errands makes Great Kills residents hungry.

NORTH VS. SOUTH SHORE

While the Jimmy Max in Westerleigh has a modest lunch business, the Great Kills location which opened in mid-October has a steady flow of customers stopping for a slice between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

"At our Great Kills location the lunch business is phenomenal," said James McBratney, an owner with John Mastropietro. McBratney adds, "We're already selling far more pizzas at the new location."

However, the Jimmy Max in Westerleigh outsells Great Kills in terms of dinners.

"I think it's because the people in Great Kills only know me for my pizza that we have yet to make strides for our dinners," McBratney said.

McBratney said part of the reasoning for choosing the location is that many Great Kills parents and their children know him from the pizza-making seminars that he has done at area schools such as PS8, PS32 and PS53.



ADVANCE FILE PHOTO

A thin, crunchy pie crust, shredded basil leaves and raft of fresh mozzarella characterize the restaurant's pie profile.

WRAPS AND PANINI

He also was able to negotiate a good deal with the landlord for the location which has changed hands at least three times over the past several years.

The menu in Great Kills is very similar to that in Westerleigh, with an emphasis on wraps and panini sandwiches.

"We wanted to try to keep things that would be less expensive," McBratney said.

If you're in the mood for a Jimmy Max original, try the "Spartichoke" which basically is spinach-artichoke dip on a pizza.

The pizzeria, decorated by McBratney's cousin Kathleen Sforza of West Brighton, has seating for 32 people. Waiter service is available.

"We're trying to make the customer forget they're in a room with an oven. We're trying to transcend the idea of a typical takeout-style pizzeria with laminated booths where you bus your own tables," McBratney said.

Jimmy Max is located at 150K Greaves Lane, Great Kills; 718-984-6299.

Contact food writer Maura Grunlund at grunlund@siadvance.com or 718-981-1234, ext. 2291.



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/IRVING SEVERSTEIN

Jimmy Max Pizzeria expanded to Great Kills recently. John Mastropietro, left, and James McBratney are the owners.



Staten Island Advance

Struck down while jogging

Special ed teacher clings to life; his girlfriend is hospitalized; aspiring model 'high' on Rx drugs arrested BY JOHN ANNESE AND PETER N. SPENCER

Wednesday, January 06, 2010

Staten Island Advance

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- A Staten Island couple jogging along Hylan Boulevard in Annadale was mowed down yesterday by an aspiring model who police say was high on a cocktail of prescription drugs.

Daniel Kelley, 23, of Annadale, a special education teacher and former high school track star, is in extremely critical condition at Staten Island University Hospital, Ocean Breeze, after suffering severe head and chest injuries. He was struck by a black Honda Civic driven by 34-year-old Gypsy Porfirio of Brooklyn, between Lipsett Avenue and Dole Street at 4:45 p.m. yesterday.

Kelley's running companion, 18-year-old Gina Siclari of Eltingville, suffered a broken ankle, scrapes and bruises.

Ms. Porfirio had minor injuries. She was taken from the accident scene in handcuffs, to be charged with Driving Under the Influence, pending results of a drug test, according to a police spokesperson.

Ms. Porfirio appeared dazed and lethargic when she spoke to police, sources said. She allegedly told them she had taken the painkiller Percocet and Xanax, which is prescribed to treat anxiety, before getting behind the wheel. Police found both drugs, as well the sleep-aid Ambien in her vehicle, sources said.

On her Facebook page, Porfirio lists herself as a model. She also posted a glamour shot of herself wearing a midriff-revealing shirt on "Star Now," an online casting and audition service.

Kelley was a standout distance runner at St. Joseph by-the-Sea High School in Huguenot, where he graduated in 2004. He ran track for the ██████████ Willowbrook. He currently teaches special education at PS 16 in Tompkinsville.

Ms. Siclari, also a distance runner at Sea, graduated from the school last year. In June, she was awarded the Luke Parlato Scholarship -- named after a St. Joseph by-the-Sea High School team track star fatally injured in an automobile accident in January 2002. She currently attends St. Francis College in Brooklyn, according to her Facebook page.

This was not the first time Ms. Siclari was touched by tragedy. In Oct. 2004, her brother Franky Siclari, a popular St. Joseph by-the-Sea High School senior was found dead in his car after he had plugged up the vehicle's exhaust system.

Yesterday's accident was just a few hundred yards from Kelley and Ms. Siclari's alma mater. Runners, hikers and cyclists often cross that section of Hylan Boulevard from a wooded trail nearby, sometimes with disastrous results. Just a few feet from the scene, there is still police tape on a fire hydrant where an SUV struck and killed a bicyclist five years ago.

Kelley and Ms. Siclari were apparently running south on Hylan, along a stretch of winding road with few

street lights and no sidewalks. Ms. Porfirio was also traveling southbound after apparently turning right from Lipsett Ave.

She did not appear to be speeding, police sources said.

It is also unclear where Ms. Porfirio was heading at the time. The car she was driving is registered to a man with a Pleasant Plains address.

Accident investigators searched the scene for more than two hours, sifting through broken glass from a smashed windshield that appeared to have two deep impressions where the two victims were struck. The car was later taken by investigators as possible evidence.

Relatives of both victims, who packed the University Hospital waiting room in Ocean Breeze last night as Kelley continued to undergo tests, said they were too upset to comment.

No one at the address where the car was registered, nor at Ms. Porfirio's home in Brooklyn, could be reached for comment.

John Annese and Peter N. Spencer are news reporters for the Advance. They can be reached at annese@siadvance.com and spencer@siadvance.com.

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