



Director of Athletics, College of Staten Island



AD NEWSLETTER

with Charles Gomes

February 2016

Dear Dolphin Fans,

The college basketball season is one of my favorite times of the year and it has been an exciting conference slate for both our men's and women's basketball programs. Our men's team finished the regular season in second place with an 11-5 conference record and have won five of their last seven games. Our women's team earned a share of the CUNYAC Regular Season Championship with a 13-3 conference record and have won nine of their last ten games, including wins over first place Brooklyn College and first place Lehman College. I look forward to the postseason and continue to have high expectations for both of our basketball programs under the leadership of head coaches Tony Petosa and Tim Shanahan. Our men's team earned first and second round byes and will await an opponent in the CUNYAC semifinals on February 23 at CCNY. Our women's team will host the second round of the CUNYAC tournament on February 21 at the CSI Sports and Recreation Center.

Our men's swimming and diving team successfully defended their CUNYAC Championship and repeated as champions for the third year in a row. Junior Tim Sweeney led the way and was named the meet's Most Valuable Player and CUNYAC Swimmer of the Year. Freshman Nick Defonte was named the CUNYAC Rookie of the Year and head coach Michael Ackalitis earned CUNYAC Coach of the Year honors. Our men's program is gaining regional and national attention and I credit Coach Ackalitis for recruiting top student-athletes. I could not be more proud of what his program has accomplished over the last three years. After a third place finish of their own, our women's swimming and diving team will join their male counterpart at the Metropolitan Swimming and Diving Championships at Rutgers University this upcoming weekend. The standard has been established and I continue to have very high expectations for the future of our men's and women's swimming and diving programs.

I am truly proud to report that our men's and women's swimming and diving student-athletes continue to excel in the classroom as well. Both programs were selected as Scholar All-American institutions by the College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA). The citation recognizes the outstanding academic achievements of teams that post cumulative grade point averages (GPAs) of 3.0 or higher. Our men's and women's teams posted a 3.10 GPA and a 3.32 GPA, respectively, and were the lone representatives from the CUNYAC.

On January 30, our athletics department hosted the 6th Annual Matty White Men's Basketball Alumni Game at the Sports and Recreation Center on campus. The game is named in the memory of the late assistant coach and generates necessary funds for our men's basketball program each season. Over twenty men's basketball alumni competed in a full game before watching both our men's and women's basketball teams emerge victorious in a CUNYAC doubleheader vs. Brooklyn College. All alumni received complimentary game jerseys and official CSI alumni apparel and were provided a full luncheon by Alumni Organizer Craig Sleep.

In coordination with our student government, we hosted our annual Student-Athlete Appreciation Night and Blackout Event during our men's basketball game vs. Medgar Evers College. The first 300 students received a free t-shirt and food voucher and I was overwhelmed by the turnout. I hope to see the same turnout on Sunday for our women's basketball postseason game! As always, thank you for your continued support of CSI Athletics and Go Dolphins!

Charles Gomes

Director of Athletics, College of Staten Island



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