Students reach for free t-shirts given away by WRMB, Baruch College’s radio station. Following convoy, a club fair took place on the street between the Vertical Campus and library building, and featured live music, games and food. Page 2.

Bird trapped inside Vertical Campus

BY VICTOR CHU AND SHELLEY NG
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A small bird has been trapped inside the Vertical Campus for over a month.

Identified as a finch, the bird has fluttered from the eighth to 14th floors in an effort to escape the confines of its enormous steel cage. Finches are found in the northern hemisphere and are characterized by their small, stocky beaks. A typical finch nest is a tree and is shaped like a basket.

According to Steve Paintner of BCTC, Animal Control was called in July and stated that its evening visit was short of finding a needle in a haystack. The bird was first fed health food and now its diet consists of pet store bird food. The finch only recognizes that food has been set out for it on a certain bench on the 13th floor, Paintner stated.

Unknowning students, though, have been pushing the plate away from the bench.

ZSB service excellence rewarded

BY NAOMI A. GARDEBERG
ZICKLIN SCHOOL CORRESPONDENT

Baruch staff awarded for quality service

During the ZSB Honors and Recognition Ceremony on May 11, 2007, Zicklin School of Business Dean John Elliott recognized Benjamin Enoma (Office of Graduate Admissions), Joseph Grandone (Office of the Dean), Linda Moore (Department of management), Rasal Mowla (Doctoral Programs Office) and Troy Taylor (Office of the Dean) for going beyond their job descriptions to make the lives of students, professors and other staff a little easier.

This was the second win for Moore and Taylor. Award winners received a desk plaque and a check for $3,000. A wall plaque celebrating each year’s awardees is set to hang near the dean’s office later this year.

Elliott initiated the ZSB Service Excellence awards during the 2003-2004 academic year to recognize administrative assistants who took extra steps to better serve the Baruch campus. Each spring, members of the ZSB community are asked to nominate administrative assistants who provide excellent service. A committee of faculty, staff and student representatives recommends awardees based on their nominations and narratives describing their service.

The 2006-2007 ZSB Service Excellence Awards Committee consisted of David Bojill (Baruch Human Resources), Professor Ann Brandwein (Department of Statistics), Maria DiBenedetto (Graduate Student Services), Imran Emmanuel (ZSB undergraduate student), Professor Naomi Gardberg (Department of Management), Professor Richard Kopelman (department of management), Katrina Mootz (ZSB graduate student), Junie Swift (Graduate Career Management) and Beverly Warner (Office of the Dean).

Over the three-year history of the awards, 14 exceptional employees have been recognized including Rosa Alvarado-DeJesus, Berk Aydin, Ann Festa, Beth Fingi, Tiffiny Lane, Tom Lee, Pat Lewis, Linda Moore, Daranie Ramkisun, Jim Swift, Tara Sinclair, Noemi Taveras, Troy Taylor and Shelby Watson. During the spring of 2008 the ZSB Service Excellence Committee will recognize five more support staff for their service excellence. When a ZSB administrative assistant provides you with superior service, take note of his or her name, so that person may be nominated.

Barry Bonds is a disgrace to baseball.

Page 6.

Textbook prices are on the rise

Students join forces to protect their wallets and save money

BY LUBA BOGOPULSKAYA
Staff Writer

One semester’s tuition at Baruch is $2,000. A year would be $4,000, a bargain compared to most other schools. But whether you attend a private or a public college as a full-time student, you have to spend an estimated $490, according to the College Board, per year on textbook material.

The Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance reports a 186% increase in textbook prices from 1984 to 2004, which is about 8% a year. According to the National Association of College Stores, the average price of a new textbook is $53, while a used one is $44. But if you ask any student about how much they expect to purchase a new edition of Financial Accounting, Art of Public Speaking or any other required material for, the answer starts in the $80 range.

For those who receive no or limited financial aid, these expenses present an extra burden, which has often been a reason for debate. Do we blame the “greedy” publishers and authors or the professors who, after all, are the ones who make us purchase required textbooks? And how do stores come up with such ridiculous prices?

First, let’s look at where the new textbook dollar goes. More than half (64.3 cents) goes to the publisher for such things as promotion and marketing.

“Romeo and Juliet” stirred controversy before Don Imus.

Page 8.

Fed lowers discount rate.

Page 10.

“Nappy Hair” stored controversy.

Page 16.

Shakespeare in the Park heats up with “Romeo and Juliet.”

Page 14.

Watch what you eat and avoid the “Freshmen 15.”

Page 15.
Convocation activities welcomes new students

Two all-day orientations allows new students to familiarize themselves with the college, its facilities and fellow classmates.

BY VICKY ZHAI CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Last Wednesday and Thursday, incoming freshmen and transfer students received a taste of Baruch College as they attended Convocation Day, which included diversity training, an intro activity and the Baruch Beginnings Fair.

Packed with back-to-back activities, students were exposed to college preparation programs where the majority of them met with their Learning Communities and peer mentors together for the first time.

The rest of the students who were not in Learning Communities attended a one-day convocation on Thursday where they too were exposed to similar programs.

Starting with an 8 a.m. breakfast, students were greeted by Mark Spergel, director of student orientation and director/coordinator of the Freshman Year Incentive, Ben Corpus, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management and dean of students, and Kathleen Waldron, president of Baruch College, among many other important speakers.

Later, they embarked on the multitude of activities lined up for them. Activities exclusively for Learning Communities included intro to e-Learning, Project Kickoff and "Ultimate Money Skills."

"Intro to e-Learning"

Once acquainted with Baruch's computing system several months ago at freshman orientation, these students attended another workshop to refresh their mind about BlackBoard, WebMail, wireless connection and BCTC's helpline.

This added workshop was made to reduce havoc and confusion for students in the first weeks of classes.

"Project Kickoff"

Project Kickoff, now mandatory for Learning Communities, bring students closer together as they collectively spend their first semester of college completing creative and self-rewarding presentations.

Working closely with their peer mentors, students will do intensive research for one of the five project topics: microfinance, history of students' lives, design of 17 Lexington and service in the college community.

"Ultimate Money Skills"

"Ultimate Money Skills" presented by a representative of Monster.com taught students basic but vital advice on how to manage money.

"Diversity Training Workshop"

Trainers from the Anti-Defamation League taught a 3.5 hour program called "A Campus of Difference." The students participated in educational and interactive activities.

In light of Baruch's diversity, it is quoted as one of the basic premises of A World of Difference Institute, "Diversity is a strength...not a problem or challenge to be faced."

Icebreaker activities provided students to familiarize themselves with their Learning Communities as they learned about identity, culture, stereotypes and diversity.

While they learned assumptions about physical appearance is de rigueur, they simultaneously realized that this program was nothing like the straight lecture it seemed to be.

"Improv!"

Members of Baruch's Performing Arts Center taught as The Improvoholics. It was an interactive program with suggestions made by the audience.

College themes shown in a different light removed the seriousness of college. Students were uproariously laughing as the members and volunteers made jokes.

Themes included "School blues," job interviews and public speaking, which are related to the adventures and obstacles incoming students will have to face.

Freshman Convocation

Convocation, the opening of each academic year, began with an introduction from James McCarthy, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Also starting his first year as a faculty member in Baruch College, McCarthy stated, "Join me as we get lost in finding classrooms in the Vertical Campus." He gave a historic speech about universities versus colleges.

"Address to speak was President Waldron and her informative speech tailored specifically about Baruch. One noteworthy rhetorical question she asked was: "What does it mean to be the most diverse college in the United States?" The Baruch College community is just as diverse in its student body as it is in its faculty and staff. She encouraged students to use the City's resources to enrich their college experience.

One of the most popular speeches given was by the Undergraduate Student Government President Anthony Hernandez. His inspirational speech gave two of the most pertinent phrases he gathered from his experience here at Baruch: "College is what you make it" and "What would you do if you knew you could not fail!"

"Book Discussion"

Guest speaker Ed Cardoza, director of Development, Partners in Health (PIH), led a discussion about this year’s freshmen reading, Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder.

The moral enforced in the non-fiction text can be used as a metaphor for college.

As a reminder before the students start college Cardoza advised, "Do not let fear prevent you from succeeding...when you have a problem, face it head on...it must be done, it has to be done."

Parents and Families Orientation

At 5:30 p.m., parents and families were invited into an orientation of their own. They were notably greeted by President Waldron, Vice President Corpus and Phyllis Zadr, associate dean of the Zicklin School of Business, as well as members of academia, careers and counseling.

Baruch Beginnings Fair

The club fair, located outside the 25th Street entrance of the Vertical Campus topped the day off with music, food, games and prizes.

The day would not have been complete without ending it in a stress-free evening before college went into session.

All kinds of student clubs took the opportunity to invite new members to join and gave the students a preview of just some of the clubs offered.

Service centers representatives showed up as well and allowed students to become familiar with Baruch's services such as the Student Academic Consulting Center, the Registrars' Office, Health Services and the Newman Library.
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Serving The Baruch College Community
Horse racing reporting leads to national recognition

BY SHERRY MAZZOCCHI
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

By covering the Hamiltonian, the world class harness racing event of the year, three Baruch College journalism students published articles in major New York area newspapers.

Kellie Clark, Lia Eustachewich and Marina Sobiyeva all attended the Clyde Hirt Sports Media Workshop. The four-day course is held each August at the Meadowlands during the sports’ biggest race. It is designed to hone future sport writers’ skills and teach the basics of harness racing, writing and hand-capping. Deborah A. Little, the harness racing writer for The New York Post, compared it to a boot camp. “This was by far the best class we’ve ever had,” she said. “Everyone was really talented!”

Little said the workshop is rigorous. Designed to teach students how to cover a major sports event, they learn to ask sports specific questions and write articles under tight newspaper deadlines.

Her husband, Dave Little, also an instructor in the workshop, is the racing editor for The New York Daily News. “We are brutally honest,” she said. “My husband can be very critical. He said, ‘If it sucks, I will tell you it sucks.’ If we are not honest with them, no one else will be.”

Sports writers sat with the nine participants and helped them focus and edit their articles. Sobiyeva said, “You sit down and start writing right away. You are really working under pressure. It’s stressful and fun at the same time.”

Clark said the deputy sports editors at The Daily News, Jim Rich, gave them tips on writing and had them delete every adjective in their articles. Eustachewich said, “It was just the facts, no flowery words, no big vocabulary.”

Each participant got hands on experience and met drivers and owners. They also get a chance to visit the offices of Sport Illustrated and meet other sports writers like Bill Gallis, the award winning sports cartoonist for The Daily News.

At the Meadowlands, they sat in the press box with other reporters, walked around the paddock and met trainers. They got to ride in a sulky with a driver, Eustachewich explained. “You got a feeling for what it is like to go around the track, although it’s not as fast as the driver goes during a race.” She delicately mentioned that the horse “went number two” while driving around the track. “Not a lot of people can say they’ve had that experience,” she said.

Clark wrote about Pampurred Princess, the only filly in the race, for The Daily News and Foot Beatz Magazines. Eustachewich’s two articles for the Philadelphia Inquirer focused on Adrian Chip, the second place winner owned by former Philadelphia Flyers center Peter Forsberg. Sobiyeva wrote about the new edition of the Philadelphia Rose, a driver focused on Chip, the flip side winner owned by former Philadelphia Flyers center Peter Forsberg.

Eustachewich had the most difficult assignment of all, because her focus was on Forsberg, who did not arrive at the track until just before the race. “I had to write an advance without any quotes,” Little said, but “she found a way to make it work.” After Forsberg arrived, Little and Eustachewich walked into his private hotel suite and introduced themselves to get an interview. Little said reporters have to be willing to track people down and ask questions to get the story.

None of the three Baruch juniors had any prior exposure to harness racing. Clark said that before the workshop, she did not even like horses. “Being in the harness racing community was fun. It was very tight knit. I really learned a lot from it,” she said. Sobiyeva also said that meeting so many people opened up unique perspectives on racing.

Clyde Hirt, for whom the workshop is named, had a long career as a harness racing writer. He wrote for several New York papers including The New York Mirror, The Saturday Evening Post, Sports Eye and The New York Times. In 1987 he was named a U.S. Harness Writers Association Hall of Fame reporter. Little described Hirt as the quintessential New York harness racing writer.

Known for wearing bow ties and sports coats resembling sofa covers, Hirt worked hard to get the story. “He was always involved, always doing something. He was one of the first people to come up and help you and rally behind you,” Little said. After his death, the United States Harness Writers Association decided to honor Hirt by naming the workshop after him.

Little said the workshop was a labor of love for all of the writers, editors and other members of the racing community. She said, “The event is done with the kindness of the harness racing community. She called sports editors from other papers to get bylines for students. Even the Meadowlands contributes to the workshop by paying for hotel rooms and providing a place to meet. Little said that she and other writers are passionate about what they do and want to share their knowledge and experience. All three Baruch students said that what they learned was invaluable. Clark added, “It was the best experience of my life.”

Textbook prices are on the rise

Continued from front paper, printing, editorial costs (32.1 cents). Then online federal, state, local and sales taxes (9.9 cents) followed by marketing costs (15.3 cents) and publisher’s income (7.9 cents). Next is the author’s income, which comes out to 11.6 cents. Finally, the college bookstore takes 15.5 cents for store operation, 10.8 cents for store personnel and 4.4 cents for store income.

Although informative, this breakdown still does not explain why with every textbook price goes up. The Government Accountability Office attributes these changes to the addition of supplemental materials such as CDs, pass- words for online websites and study guides. An execu- tive director for higher education at the Association of American Publishers, on the other side, blames it on “small press runs” and an “incredibly expensive” production process.

With the increasing number of complaints coming from students and their families, publishers have tried to defend their actions at a Capitol Hill briefing by mentioning their programs “that can hold prices down.”

With the increasing number of complaints coming from students and their families, publishers have tried to defend their actions at a Capitol Hill briefing by mentioning their programs “that can hold prices down.” Students are provided with various formats of the textbook material, which “can save them hundreds of dollars by the end of an academic year.” Yet no solution was offered for what to do about used editions, which in most cases cannot be sold back for more than half of their original price. The current semester’s class is already using the new edition.

Baruch students, along with many others across the country, have often taken the matter into their own hands by using various social networking websites, online classified listings (fluericker, campusesave.com, facebook.com, bigwords.com and halfpricebooks.com to name a few). Or, there is the old fashioned way of putting up flyers on the display boards located across the express eleva- tors of the Vertical Campus. The last method, however, is avoided by those who prefer not to have their private email addresses or cell phone num- bers in the whole school.

As yet another school year begins, it seems like this problem will not go away anytime soon. Whether you will exchange textbooks with your fellow students, spend extra time on a bargain hunt or eventually give up and purchase a full-priced edition, the situation is not completely hopeless. For more facts and tips or to find out how to make your voice matter, you can join the “Campaign To Reduce Col- lege Textbooks Costs” by visiting makertextbooksaffordable.org.
Hope conquers sweat.*

Project New Orleans now playing on Channel 1.

*connectedthinking
Barry Bonds: The grim reaper of quality baseball

On August 7, Barry Bonds hit home run number 756 and single-handedly bánhed thousands to their feet. In the same instance, he cast a shadow on America’s favorite past time and forever tarnished the home run record originally held by Hank Aaron. For me, a true fan of the sport, the day that Bonds became the “Home Run King” was synonymous with the desecration of baseball.

As he triumphantly ran the bases after blasting a solo shot off Nationals left-hand-ed pitcher Mike Bacsik, he ruined the notion of baseball in the minds of its next generation fans. In a sport that has slowly been taken over by steroid suspicions, I cringe at the thought of the future of this beloved game.

In the same instance, Aaron prepared a taped speech for when his record was broken, he must not have been too pleased to see that record taken from him by steroid-induced Bonds. With the abuse of steroids that currently clouds over baseball, I haveometry accepted the fact that I will never watch the game the same way my father and grandfather did. I will never turn on the television and see another Hank Aaron, Joe DiMaggio or Willie Mays get up to bat but without wondering if steroids influenced their stellar performance. The future of baseball is in the hands of the current Little Leaguers who have grown up with the controversies of performance-enhancing drugs instead of the respect and admiration that past generations have held for the sport’s most esteemed players.

The fight over whether or not Bonds de-serves to hold this record will continue — most likely to no resolution — and I will continue to feel shame for the sport, its players and for the future of baseball.

Sinclair’s sister, Kathleen Wright, vehe-mently believes that Reverend Sinclair was in-sequently aware of her brother’s sexuality. So, a man can die for his country and its ideals, yet they cannot hold a proper funeral service for him?

Sinclair’s sister, Kathleen Wright, vehe-mently believes that Reverend Sinclair was in-sequently aware of her brother’s sexuality. So, a man can die for his country and its ideals, yet they cannot hold a proper funeral service for him?

The diversity of names that were pass-ing through my hands was profound, no two names were even remotely similar.

Given your indi-vidual uniqueness and distinct backgrounds, you will have a variety of opinions. They might be on your experiences here at Baruch or they might pertain to national or world is-sues. Whatever the case may be, speak up! We’re dying to hear what’s on your mind.

Kathleen Wright holding a picture of her late brother Cecil Howard Sinclair, a U.S. Navy vetern.

DAVID PAULINO

I was recently appalled by an Associated Press article titled “Church Learsn’s Vet Was Gay, Cancels Memorial.”

The story involved a Texas mega-church that “canceled a memorial service 24 hours before it was to start because the deceased was gay.”

Church pastor Rev. Gary Simons stated, “We did decline to host the service — not based on hatred, not based on discrimination, but based on principle.”

He alleges that prior to the abrupt cancel-lation, the church was not aware that the Navy Vet, Cecil Howard Sinclair, was gay, and only became aware of his sexuality after watching a tribute video that showed him and other men showing affection for one another.

Sinclair’s sister believes Reverend Sinclair was aware of her brother’s sexuality. So, a man can die for his country and its ideals, yet they cannot hold a proper funeral service for him?

Although I am definitely not the great-est theologian in the history of Christianity, wasn’t it Christ who stated, “Those shalt love thy neighbor as thyself?”

How are Rev. Simons’ actions and state-ments in accordance with the love Christ taught us, through his own testimonial life?

When Rev. Simons says, “Even though we could not condone that lifestyle, we went above and beyond for the family through many acts of love and kindness (in offering to pay for another service site),” does he truly believe himself?

Doesn’t the Bible state that only God can judge a person? When a person begins to judge and exclude people from the gates of Heaven in the name of God they are osten-sibly playing the role of God, which is blas-pheny.

According to the Bible, 2 Corinthians 5:10 states: “For we must all appear before the judg-ment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”

Given that, we should pray that God has mercy on judgmental,pseudo-Christians like Rev. Gary Simons, for preaching the bigot message of exclusiveness.
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- **$600 - Psychology, Sociology, Criminal Justice, Program Benefits**
- **Requirements**: Be part of a select group of Baruch's top-performing juniors, year-long training and prepare for possible front-office finance. Investment Banking, Asset Management, Research and Sales.
- **Eligibility Requirements**: Receive a complimentary subscription to The Wall Street Journal, and a copy of the Vault Guide to Finance Interviews. Be matched with an alumni mentor who is currently working on Wall Street. Have your resume included in the Baruch College Wall Street Careers Program resume book, which is submitted to decision makers in the industry for consideration for front-office finance internships.

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The Ticker:

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Detroit shifts out of reverse

n Investors wait on economic stats for confirmation

By EMMANUEL ONYEFLI

AD: MANAGER

Although Wall Street was hoping for a rate cut, the Fed has kept citing concerns about inflation, which they see as the economy’s main enemy. The Fed proceeded to maintain the benchmark rate unaltered with a 7.5% inflation rate forecast. The move is part of a broader effort to avoid an unwelcome inflationary surge in the aftermath of liquidity by adding billions to the banking system via mortgage-backed securities to calm the credit crisis, stabilize the system and stop the bleeding we have seen in these markets.

The Fed also explained their reverse rate cut saying “Financial market conditions have deteriorated and tighter credit conditions and increased uncertainty have the potential to restrain economic growth.” Simply put, many economists argue the recently posted housing numbers are just a first step of easy and loose money under former Federal Reserve Chairman Greenspan and rate cutting would rule a fire under inflation and potentially cause another bubble in the housing markets.

Commenting on cutting out that cutting in the midst of this credit crisis and sub prime fallout would be the Fed, President Alan R. Mulally to lead the fact, the Fed is also under pressure to act. It may send the wrong message to some investors and raise credit and mortgage markets that might expect a monetary safety net, but not one with the power of the big leagues.

One of the main causes that have led to the current credit crisis involves the expansionary monetary policies that are currently in a state of review. The world’s central banks have flooded the world with easy money and no one knows how long it will last.

The last summer, the auto and housing industry were at the top of the lists of industries that national economists believed may send the economy on a downward spiral. Many predicting that rising oil prices would accentuate the struggles of Detroit’s automakers in their battle with more nimble and cost efficient foreign competitors.

Fast forward a year to the summer of 2007 and not only did the sub prime mortgage de- bacle help unbelieve the housing market and causing the credit markets that led to the end of easy money may just prove to be a “wake up call” for investors and the economy, especially if the Fed fails to act and the ongoing sub prime rate changes unended through the end of 2007.

Almost forgotten by the mark- et is the other struggling indus- try, the airlines, for the time being reason; Detroit automakers are getting back on track. More specifi cally Detroit’s seven consecutive quarterly losses and a dwindling market share, Ford managed to surprise Wall Street by delivering second quarter net profit of $750m, or 31 cents a share in the midst of a volatile July market and a overall same earnings season. Compared to last year, Ford reported a $317m loss and lost a total of $12.7 billion in 2006. While William Clay Ford Jr. re- ceived prolonged criticisms since vice president Alan R. Mulally to lead Ford’s reorganization, the Boeing exec said, “At the top of the list, I would put dealing with reality;” the reality that sales were falling at most of Ford’s divisions. Ford, Mercury, Lincoln, Jaguar and Land Rover sales were barely in the green. Mulally, who was integral in helping Boeing to succeed after a successful recovery after the crises that plagued the airline industry after Sept. 11, advised Ford to be very cautious but not to be so cautious to see no dividends till 2009 due to a loan provision which anticipates Ford from declaring dividends before the loan is com- pletely repaid, or fall into a new recession.

The quarterly profit is steeping in eight right direction, but the changes facing the automaker are still substantial. Health care and pension costs, rising steel and gas prices and a sliding U.S. market share are major concerns.

Ford’s “less is more” strategy is also evident in its sale of its Aston Martin sports car division in March and decision to entertain bids for other foreign brands under its belt. Several reports suggest that Ford is close to selling its Jaguar and Land Rover brands, both of which will be gone by winter’s end. This strategy follows Ford’s mass market manufacturing roots and place it in a much better position to focus on its core Ford and Lincoln businesses.

While any claims that Ford would be looking to recruit students from all majors. Organized each semester by the Starr Career Development Center (SCDC), the Update Day basically gives you the chance to meet potential em- ployers, tell them about you, your interest in their company and your strengths as a candidate, and net- work with those who are already in the industry. In previous years, companies have reported to fer Baruch students because of their exposure to diversity, strong academic background and professionalism. When attending the Career Day, the key word is preparation.

Prepare to meet the recruit- ers you will look at from two an- gles. First, you need to know about the company and the career you are interested in; to the SCDC recently launched Start Search, a new online system that will help you find and apply for internships and jobs, and also of- fers tons of other career related opportunities. When you log into Start Search, you can look for the career you are interested in Extending the fall Career Day.

Full Career Day: Prepare to meet your potential employer

By SUSANA GOMEZ

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Full Career Day is coming on September 25 to help students who are major looking for full time positions in the market. Full Career Day will be held at Baruch at 454th Street and 25th Street and will be hosting a Resume Rush on Sept. 25 to help students in a first- year of the job market.

CAREER DAY: PREPARE TO MEET YOUR POTENTIAL EMPLOYER

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Program Benefits

- Be part of a select group of Baruch’s top-performing juniors to receive year-long training and prepare for possible front-office finance positions in Investment Banking, Asset Management, Research and Sales and Trading
- Receive a complimentary subscription to The Wall Street Journal and a copy of the Vault Guide to Finance Interviews
- Be matched with an alumni mentor who is currently working on Wall Street
- Have your resume included in the Baruch College Wall Street Careers Program resume book, which is submitted to decision makers in the industry for consideration for front-office finance internships

Eligibility Requirements

- Junior graduating in January, June or August 2009
- Minimum GPA 3.5 or higher
- Passion for finance and motivation to succeed in a front-office finance career
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Excellent quantitative and analytical skills
- Demonstrated leadership abilities
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- All majors can apply

Students are selected through a rigorous application process which includes essays and interviews by a committee of professionals including a retired Wall Street executive.

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For more information and program application, visit www.baruch.cuny.edu/careers/wscp/index.htm
Baruch’s own visits the assembly

BY N. R. BUCHLER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Churchill once said that “democracy is the worst form of government, except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time.” As I was heading to Albany for a semester internship at the New York State Senate on January 1, 2007, I kept in mind this quote. Albany used to be labeled by some as the most dysfunctional system in the country. On the same day at 6 a.m., newly elected Governor Spitzer was running in Washington Park in Albany with the slogan that “On day one everything changes.”

So, we, the 160 interns of the New York State Assembly program, knew that we were coming to Albany in a historical time. Every year, students from colleges across New York State, interns to the New York state legislators. The internship is competitive (students usually are given 12 to 15 credits by their colleges) and remunerated (laws are provided with a stipend of $4,140).

They are given meaningful tasks, in fact, past interns have become legislators, key players in executive offices or in the business world.

Following a week of orientation each intern is assigned to an Assemblymember’s office. The staff of the program is careful in placing interns so that the interest of interns and the demand from offices are met. In instance, upon my request I interned for the Assemblymember of the district where I live (and where Baruch College is located) and I enjoyed great responsibilities because some important staff resources for freshmen legislators.

Besides colleagues in their offices, interns are required to attend a one-hour class per week.

“Students interested in the program can contact Nir Buchler at nb001687@baruch.cuny.edu.”

Imus fallout resurfaces painful memories for Long Island teacher

BY DENNIS MATRIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After being canned earlier this year for calling the Rutgers female basketball team “nappy-headed hos” rumor has it that radio personality Don Imus is heading back to the airwaves. But, according to one of his advocates, the “shock jock”’s firing from CBS should have never happened.

“I do not think Imus is racist at all” exclaimed Ruth McCloskey. “I worked for him for three years.”

“Mordecai about her “squeezed up, knotted up” hair. “The work is loosely based on the experiences of her own children. The program is not restricted to political science majors and every student can apply to the program.”

“I interned for the Assemblymember of his or her district where I live (and where Baruch College is located) and I enjoyed great responsibilities because some important staff resources for freshmen legislators. “Besides colleagues in their offices, interns are required to attend a one-hour class per week.”

“The internship is competitive (students usually are given 12 to 15 credits by their colleges) and remunerated (laws are provided with a stipend of $4,140).”

They are given meaningful tasks, in fact, past interns have become legislators, key players in executive offices or in the business world.”

Baruch’s own visits the assembly

Features

From the capital of the world to the capital of the state

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That purpose was to build self acceptance in appearances. “My goal was to have each and every student feel good about what they were and how they looked,” while stressing positive thinking.

But what was supposed to be a lesson in both literacy and self acceptance turned out to be an education in intolerance. McCloskey, who is Caucasian, became the victim of death threats by some vocal members of the African-American community.

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A glimpse inside the Red Mosque turmoil in Pakistan
BY TABASSUM ALI
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

A pro-Taliban mullah was arrested by police in Pakistani capital Islamabad early July. Mullah Abdul Aziz was trying to escape from a besieged Lal Masjid Mosque, also known as the Red Mosque, where a crowd of students under his leadership demanded an installation of Islamic Sharia Law. The administration of the mosque announced the enforcement of Islamic laws in the federal capital and threatened to unleash a wave of suicide bombers if the government took any action to counter it. “Our youths will commit suicide attacks if the government impedes the enforcement of the Shari’ah and attacks Lal Masjid and its sister seminaries,” Abdul Aziz, then in-charge of the mosque, warned during a Friday sermon in April. But the radical leader’s attempt to flee in a strange way — wearing a traditional women’s veil — has unmasked him and his movement.

Abdul Aziz was born to a conservative Islamic leader, Mullah Abdullah. Before his death, Abdullah led the Red Mosque and became a devoted supporter of the Taliban and the al Qaeda chief Osama bin Laden. Abdul Aziz’s younger brother, Maulana Abdul Rashid Ghazi, confessed to the media that the father had special ties with bin Laden and the two had met on several occasions. After Abdullah died, his sons took over the running of the mosque along with two madrassas; Jamia Hafsa for female students and Jamia Fareedia for men. As the new leaders of congregation, Abdul Rashid Ghazi and Abdul Aziz continued preaching an uncompromising and extreme form of Islam.

However, many Pakistanis are skeptical about their ideas. “Most of these radical extremists have no affinity to Islam or Muslims,” says Salman Ahmad, Pakistani rock star who now teaches at Queens College in New York. “They are interested only in bringing attention and power to themselves.” It’s true that the current government, and all the governments before it, going back to the rule of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, have varying responsibilities in the decrepit and crumbling legal system, much like the mere machinations of a few extremist seminaries and mosques such as Lal Masjid, which were not reined in, but kept on a tight leash? The role of students who took refuge in the besieged Red Mosque should hopefully attract public and media scrutiny on the role played by madrassas towards fostering extremist views in Pakistan. Of course, a solution to this problem is not easy since it involves the decertification and crumbling mainstream education system, but these are all questions and issues that need answers and introspection. The final analysis of the drama that played out in Islamabad is much bigger than this government or its health. This is about what Pakistan is and is going to be. To confine what has happened in Islamabad with the mere machinations of a few clerics or the survival tactics of government types is not only to miss the point. It could very well mean missing the boat on something that will influence the future of both the state and society. Abdul Aziz and his staff attempted to establish a parallel judicial system, much like the Taliban did in Afghanistan. But after being captured, the cleric faced charges of murder, kidnapping and obstruction of justice. Pakistanis like Salman Ahmad saw his attempted escape in a veil as something more than a run from prosecution. Escaping in a burqa shows how cowardly these men of ‘absolute faith’ really are,” says Ahmad. “They are a shame and disgrace to all Muslims.”

Cross dressing for faith, a mullah in drags

Radical cleric Abdul Aziz was arrested wearing a burqa (shown above).

Radical cleric Abdul Aziz was arrested wearing a burqa (shown above).
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Leisure

Avoid the Freshman 15

Steer clear of weight gain by monitoring what you eat, exercising and sleeping well

BY DANA ANDERSON

It’s the beginning of another school year and a new freshman class enters. Below are a few tips to avoid gaining the dreaded “freshman fifteen.”

Planning is key. With proper planning, you can keep the weight off and even lose some if necessary.

Look for free time in your schedule. Most people don’t have classes that run back to back. Use some time between classes to head to the gym. You can also use the weekends as a supplement.

Be spontaneous. Baruch offers a variety of ways to exercise. You can play a game of hacky-sack, head to the game room for table ping pong, or play soccer, basketball, or racquetball in the gym. The only true limit is your imagination.

Try to limit fast foods to two or three times per week. Most of these foods are laden with unnecessary saturated fat and calories. For example, a Big Mac from McDonald’s contains 540 calories and 29 grams of fat. Almost half the recommended daily amount. Yes, there are other sandwiches and burgers, but even a measly hamburger and small fries will set you back 500 calories with 22 grams of fat. If absolutely unavoidable, a better choice might be a sandwich from Subway (easy on the mayo!) or a wrap.

Go easy on the vices. The average beer has 150 calories. While smoking may suppress your appetite in the short run, in the long run it will make exercising harder, not to mention give you yellow teeth and a variety of health problems.

Get enough sleep. Skimming on sleep messes with your metabolism, and generally makes you a grumpier person.

Don’t pig out. Be conscious of all food intake. With proper planning, you can keep the weight off and even lose some if necessary.

Positive Thinking

A new view for a new semester

BY CHANDRESH BHARDWAJ SENIOR STAFF WRITER

As the semester starts, we all have various expectations, hopes, frustrations, and so many other emotions associated with this four month period.

There will be times when you feel that you are the best, while there will be times you will be too depressed to even think about anything. Well, that’s student life!

No matter what we do, we all have our share of ups and downs.

To deal with various situations that might arise, I have come up with some suggestions for my fellow students to help keep it going strong and smooth through the semester.

• Take it easy!
  Don’t let minor things ruin your peace of mind. Strive for the best but don’t cling to the results.
  If you get good results, great, but if you don’t get what you were expecting, don’t stick with that for too long.
  Life is changing every second. You may be missing hundreds of other opportunities while you dwell on your loss.

• Remember, you all are starting your semester with ‘X’ grades.
  Brian Tracy, a motivational speaker, said that all students start the semester with ‘X’ grades.
  The careless things they do are what take away their points little by little, and thus they end up getting less than ‘X’ grades.

• Keep this thought in your mind on your first day of class, and you can get ‘A’ in the classes you are taking.

• Simply make sure that you don’t do anything that would take away your well deserved ‘A’

Set a clear goal for the semester.
  Have you ever tried to go somewhere without really knowing where? If so, you probably know that you end up nowhere.
  In the same way, on the first day, it make very clear what you want from this semester: Is it getting good grades or obtaining a competitive internship? Is it actively participating in some club or making new acquaintances?

After you decide exactly what you are looking for, make sure that everyday you are doing something towards achieving your goal.

Before you go to sleep, ask yourself what you have done today to day to add towards your goal for this semester.

At the same time, make a plan for what you are going to do tomorrow to reach your target.

• Look for your best friend. Hum.
  Last but not least, make sure that you laugh wholeheartedly.
  Most of us don’t need a reason to be depressed, we need a reason to be happy.

Life is too short and too beautiful to even think of sad events. Let go of your frustrations. Accept life as it comes and try to take advantage of every situation you encounter. All the best.

We know it’s leisure, but don’t be lazy.

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9. (Ed. note: And it all started with taxpayer ___ research ___ support of a “____-Cud” Con-
10. Dead fish ___ the low-
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12. southwest
13. Program Director, Utah Environ-
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15. Ranchers Pleads Guilty: Score one for ___ evidence
16. Comparing ___ With
17. Denver, CO enviros
18. Santa ____ National For-
19. 120 came ___.
20. Dead fish ___ the low-
21. Brumley Ridge Allotment,
23. In my mind ___

Down
1. Forest service manager not preserv- ing ____ Padres
2. ranch income
3. Aquila chrysaetos canadensis
4. Ranchers whom I like ___ by ___
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A tragedy well done, Romeo & Juliet

Shakespeare in the Park presents stellar performances

BY KEN K. TSE
ARTS EDITOR

The Public Theatre's Summer Shakespeare Festival, also known as Shakespeare in the Park, garnered much attention this year with the production of Romeo and Juliet, starring Ambrose (Six Feet Under), Camryn Manheim (The Practice) and Oscar Isaac (The Nativity Story).

On this particular night at the Delacourt Theatre in Central Park, June 20, the performance started late due to malfunctioning speakers. However, for this particular performance, perhaps it was best that it started late — the full moon was out, allowing that hint of natural light to enhance the ambiance of the stage. And one cannot fully appreciate the shallow pool in the center of the stage unless it is dark and all light ripples and reflects off the water. The stage is set, and so begins Michael Greif's Romeo and Juliet.

This classic play has been performed countless times throughout history. Every time it is performed, the director must make crucial choices to bring about the correct feel and look with a new interpretation for every performance. While there is no correct one, Greif has certainly done some creative and marvelous things with this classic. As a feature of the stage in Central Park, the shallow pool of water serves many atmospheric purposes in the play. It creates the gritty, dirty feel for the battle scenes and a romantic appearance for the intimate scenes — truly a genius feature for the stage.

However, those not familiar with the play, or those who do not pay attention to the first lines, will have the setting confused for Venice instead of Verona. The industrial-looking bridge suspended over the pool is minimally altered to create backdrops such as Juliet's balcony, Friar Lawrence's cell and even the Capulet's tomb. With creative lighting and other props, one can easily imagine the various settings, despite little change on stage.

Aside from the director's interpretations of the look and feel of the play, the actors themselves must assume the personas of the characters in ways that subsume their style. Lauren Ambrose shines as Juliet throughout the play with such passion and grace. She moves and speaks fluidly as one would expect the naive and young Juliet to do. Her lines are delivered so compellingly that one forgets that Ambrose has a deeper voice than one would expect of Juliet. Of course, Ambrose's small frame, despite having had a baby in January, helps her into the image of Juliet. Her scenes are executed so powerfully, especially in the difficult scenes towards the end as Juliet sheds her naiveté, that murmurous could be heard from the audience from how perfectly Ambrose delivered where many others had failed.

Oscar Isaac's Romeo unfortunately takes a step down compared to Ambrose's Juliet. While Isaac moves like an idealistic lovesick teenager, his voice is stuck on two high and low tones. He does not seem to put as much of himself in the lines as Juliet. Stealing the scenes from Romeo's side is Christopher Evan Welch as Mercutio. While looking much older than one would expect of Mercutio, when you hear his contaminated cackling laugh, you can tell Welch was perfect for this part. For the carefree fun-loving Mercutio, Welch appears like he simply stumbled out from a bar, but still ready for more. And at other times, Welch handles Mercutio like a comedian with much improved comedic routines — true to Mercutio's comedic nature.

Almost of equal status is Juliet's answer to Romeo's Mercutio — the Nurse. Camryn Manheim unleashes the bawdiness of the Nurse, yelling and laughing incessantly, to the pleasure of the audience. The brief scene between the Nurse and Mercutio is a rivalry between Welch and Manheim to see who can outperform the other. Their chemistry makes it arguably one of the best scenes in the play.

Lord Capulet, played by Michael Cristofer, though played well, doesn't reveal his true talent until we see Capulet unleash his fury at Juliet in Act 4. And of great disappointment is Austin Pendleton as Friar Lawrence. Although he has brief moments of passion, he seems to not do so well without Romeo by his side. Friar Lawrence seems to lack the connection so many of the other actors were able to form with the audience at first glance.

While it is difficult to produce a Shakespearean play performed with traditional renaissance costumes, Greif was careful on what to keep and what not to keep. Obviously, the rapiers were a keeper and the fights were rightly choreographed. Much praise for the three-way duel between Romeo, Tybalt and Mercutio — an intense new take on the very active and energetic first scene of Act 3. Enhancing the intensity of the Act 3 battle is thanks to the pool, which gave the fights a fluid, yet gritty aesthetic. While Romeo took on a partially bohemian style of dress, most all the characters were dressed in a style reminiscent of the late 1800's. However, the female servants and citizens appeared to don dresses resembling that of renaissance women's attire.

Ideally, we can expect Greif to cut certain unnecessary lines, such as the laughter of the musicians at the discovery of Juliet's "death" for pacing reasons and such, but we can forgive him for everything else he has brought to the play. It is true that the difference between live and pre-recorded performances is that in a live performance, you leave feeling closer to the story and the characters. You will feel yourself shed a tear in the actions packed opening scene of Act 3, laugh hysterically at Mercutio and the Nurse's antics, and at the end, you won't want it to end.

Hairspray: great on stage and screen

BY LIZETTE ORTIZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hairspray was created in 1988 by director and writer John Waters. Twenty years later Waters let his baby go into the hands of the director Adam Shankman who recreated the movie for today's generation, giving us all the rebirth of the musical — Hairspray.

Hairspray is a very entertaining and amusing musical that carries a great message. The main idea is the ending of racial segregation and accepting people for who they are regardless of color, gender, or physical appearance. I was surprised at how much I enjoyed the songs and performances by the extremely talented cast which included John Travolta, Michelle Pfeiffer, Queen Latifah, Amanda Bynes, Zac Efron, Christopher Walken, James Marsden, Brittany Snow, Elijah Kelley and the star of the movie — newcomer Nicole Blonsky!

I was curious what it was like for established actors to play alongside new comers. In an interview with James Marsden (Connie Collins) revealed that it motivated them even more. Seeing the newcomers' passion and energy made Marsden realize they are going to be the new stars on the block so he and the rest of the well known cast like Travolta and Pfeiffer had to step it up a notch to keep up with the fresh talent. The movie grabs your full attention with witty lines and endless humor.

You'll find yourself tapping your feet and singing to the music in this movie that is definitely worth catching at theaters this summer.
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Its all history

BY STEFANIE SPARACCIO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It was not Friday the 13 nor did the weather almanac predict a full moon for August 4 and 5. Nevertheless, Alex Rodriguez generated thunder in the Bronx while Tom Glavine pitched lights out at Wrigley Field over this unforgettable weekend for New Yorkers and Major League Baseball.

On the sweltering afternoon of Saturday, August 4, New York Yankees television broadcaster Ken Singleton started off Alex Rodriguez’s first at-bat of the day with: “The fans want today to be the day.” And it certainly was. In the bottom of the first inning with runners on second and third, and one out, A-Rod stepped up to the plate unaware that the very first pitch he would see would guarantee him a permanent spot in the record books.

With a deep drive to left field off of Kansas City Royals’ Kyle Davis, Alex Rodriguez became only the 22nd player in Major League Baseball to join the honorable 500 home run club. And as if blasting 500 home runs is not impressive enough, at 32 years of age A-Rod currently owns the record for being the youngest player to achieve such an accomplishment.

As he rounded the bases grinning like a little leaguer who just slugged his first home run, teammates Derek Jeter and Bobby Abreu awaited his arrival at home plate while his entire team cleared the bench to congratulate him in front of the Yankees dugout. A curtain call topped off the moment as roaring chants of “MVP” echoed in Yankee Stadium.

With his home run-less 10-game stalemate between his 499th and 500th home runs, the pressure mounted for A-Rod and Yankee fans became uneasy. Nevertheless, A-Rod pulled through and has since been on fire with the stats to prove it. Alex Rodriguez is only the third Yankee, among Cooperstown natives, Babe Ruth and Mickey Mantle, to reach such a phenomenal point in his career.

New York Met fans certainly had something to celebrate as well over the same weekend Alex Rodriguez blasted his 500th career home run. Across the borough in Queens, faithful Met fans frantically watched the ESPN “Game of the Week” between the New York Mets and the Chicago Cubs.

As it turned out, another future Cooperstown inductee made Major League Baseball history in Chicago that night. The "W" that decorated many scorecards on the majestic night of Sunday, August 5 successfully placed Tom Glavine on an exclusive list of accomplished MLB pitchers. The 41-year-old lefthander joined the 300th All-Time Wins Club as he threw his impressive 300th win against the Cubs in an 8-3 victory at Wrigley Field.

As Mets closer Billy Wagner sealed the deal on Glavine’s historical night, a celebration transpired on the field with congratulatory handshakes and hugs awaiting the honorary Mets pitcher.

The two-time National League Cy Young Award winner surely has a lot to be proud of, especially for a player who has never been on the disabled list since his 1987 MLB debut.

Glavine has become only the 23rd pitcher to earn 300 victories and is also one of three active pitchers, with New York Yankee Roger Clemens and former teammate and San Diego Padre Greg Maddux. The mystique of New York baseball never ceases to amaze its fans, so long as the Yankees and Mets continue producing storybook seasons with monumental moments.
Camilo Reyes (above) will be playing a big part in this year’s team.

Last season’s teams basking in glory

The tennis team walked away with another championship last year.

The men’s tennis team kicked off its championships on Saturday, April 28, in the semi-finals against Hunter College. The Bearcats’ victories in four of six singles games and two of three doubles allowed them to conquer the Hunter Hawks and advance to the finals.

The following day, the Bearcats were back in action, this time facing Brooklyn College. Baruch came back from trailing 2-1 in the doubles by winning four of the six singles matches, winning 5-4 overall and becoming champions for the fourth consecutive year. Not only did they win the CUNY Championships, but the Bearcats were also granted a playoff berth to play in the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament, making them the first CUNY team ever to participate.

The determined athletes made the most of the opportunity, and won against their first-round opponent, Alvernia College, on Friday, May 4. The two teams were tied 4-4 until the very last match, at the end of which Baruch’s Ramon-Shane Johnson, the CUNY tourney MVP, brought the score to 5-4 in Baruch’s favor.

The Bearcats then ended their season by playing national defending champions Emory University. Though Baruch lost 6-2, they still made it past any point previously reached by a CUNY team.

The men’s volleyball team also had a remarkable season and postseason, participating in two tournaments in the latter. Under the direction of Head Coach Justin Stack, the Bearcats ended their CUNY season by beating their all-time rival, Hunter College, in the finals. The Hunter Hawks, who had not lost a game all season, fell to the Bearcats 21-30, 30-27, 30-19 and 30-22, in front of a large, energetic crowd.

Baruch’s favor. After two CUNYAC Championships in just as many seasons, Baruch marched on to its second North East Collegiate Volleyball Association and Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference tournaments. On Wednesday, April 27, the Bearcats won their 50th victory in two years by defeating Bard College at the ECAC tournament, simultaneously recording their first-ever post-season tournament victory.

The team continued on to the tournament semifinals, in which they faced Ramapo College. The Bearcats lost 30-26, 30-26 and 30-16 to the Road Runners, completing their season filled with nationally ranked opponents, with a 21-18 record.

Various Baruch teams have, in fact, been adding nationally ranked teams to their schedules in an effort to intensify competition. More similarly structured schedules for next year will give the Bearcats and their dedicated fans something to see them play it is not fair to say if they are prepared, or not” he said. “[The team] has one of the hardest schedules in this conference. [The Bearcats] are going to play some of the toughest teams,” he continued. This includes the College of New Jersey and NYU teams.

Nick Shnayderman, junior, who is about to start his third year on the team, believes that the biggest challenge will be “to stay focused and disciplined throughout the whole season.” Shnayderman feels confident about the upcoming season.

Although a lot of old players graduated, he feels that “[the team] still has very good players returning, [in addition to] many new good recruits.”

“The team’s attitude is positive about going into the season with confidence from last year’s championships,” he said. “Every CUNY team wants to beat us, so they will play twice as hard when playing against Baruch.” The prospective tough schedule does not seem to intimidate this player: “We are looking forward to taking another step to the top,” he said.

“>This is going to be a challenging season,” said Kamenshchik, “the guys will have to play better than they did before, obviously because of the amount of people that we lost.”