



Smoking policy smells fishy

< New smoking policy implemented on campus

BY MAYA KASHYAP
NEWS EDITOR

The Oct. 18 issue of the Baruch Student Life's weekly e-mail announced that the college has changed its smoking policy. The school felt the need to do so after numerous student complaints of the foul smell and dangers of second-hand smoke, according to director of Student Life Carl Aylman.

According to the e-mail, "Baruch College has taken on the challenge of making the air that its students, faculty, and staff breathe cleaner. [...] No smoking is permitted within 20 feet of any building door, window or air intake. Smoking is limited to outdoor designated smoking areas. These areas will be identified with signage. The smoking areas are located near the center of the South side and at the Northeast side of the Vertical Campus and the Southeast corner of the Library."

Indeed, last Monday new signs were posted outside the 25th St. entrance declaring: "Designated Smoking Area" and an arrow point-



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As a response to student complaints, smoking is now prohibited within 20 feet of any building door, window or air intake.

ing left or right. Campus Peace Officer Daniel Muniz noted that the signs might confuse students. "You have arrows pointing toward each other so they may not know where they can smoke."

Sophomore and mathematics major Alex Skuratovsky noted that walking through the smoke to get indoors "can be uncomfortable." Skuratovsky continued, "What's interesting, though, is that when [my

friends and I] play hackey-sack in the corner away from the doors, it is considered a fire hazard. But all the smokers standing there is not."

SEE **SMOKING** PAGE 4

KPMG rewards student diversity

< Out of 50 selected students, two are Baruchians

BY ANJU SINGH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KPMG LLP, the audit tax and advisory firm, announced on Tuesday, Aug. 21, the launch of its Future Diversity Leaders program, designed to provide leadership training and financial support for outstanding minority undergraduate students. The program is part of its continuing effort to increase the minority group representation in the field of accounting.

Among the 50 selected students for the program were two Baruch College undergraduate business students, Shruti Karnawat and Ruth Fortune.

Prior to applying, they had to be nominated by Hayden Noel, assistant professor of marketing at Baruch College. Also, the requirements for the FDL included an es-

say on the "Importance of Diversity in Our Lives", along with SAT scores, a minimum 3.5 GPA and active community and campus involvement.

The selection process included an interview with a KPMG recruiter to evaluate students' active participation in schools and community. Karnawat heard about the FDL program through INROADS, informing her of a great opportunity to go to California with KPMG, which was certainly a strong incentive for her to apply for the program.

Karnawat, 18, a sophomore at the Macaulay Honors College, accounting major, stated, "The program was a great opportunity to meet so many intelligent people from different walks of life and interact with them for three days. Each one of us had something we could learn from the other, and the activities we partook in let us do just that."

The 50 selected students, representing 32 schools across the na-

SEE **KPMG** PAGE 4

Reception forges common ground

< Students and faculty meet one-on-one

BY ALYSSA WICK
BUSINESS MANAGER

On Tuesday, Sigma Alpha Delta Honor Society and the Undergraduate Student Government hosted the "Presidents and Dean's Reception" in Room 2-125 of the Vertical Campus.

President Kathleen Waldron, Dean John Elliot of the Zicklin School of Business, Dean Myrna Chase of the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences and Dean David S. Birdsell of the School of Public Affairs, along with a number of associate deans and vice presidents, came together to speak directly with the students. They each spoke for about five minutes on their daily activities at Baruch, their main objectives and their recent initiatives.

Daniel LaMazza, president of Sigma Alpha Delta, kicked off the

reception with a brief explanation of the schedule and then gave the floor to President Waldron, who outlined her major initiatives for the school: the strategic plan, the physical master plan and the CUNY Compact (*Issue 7 "CUNY Compact to fatten tuition bills"*).

The strategic plan is an overview of Baruch's academic programs and goals for the future. President Waldron stressed that this will help Baruch "remain true to its mission: affordable, excellent education." The physical master plan outlines the actual look of the college in terms of the buildings and grounds.

Later in the event, Chris Cloud, vice president of college advancement, discussed the most recent initiatives he has been involved with.

Last year, the Career Development Center received a grant from the STARR Foundation, which has lead to increased workshops and other services for students. His office also worked to update the Baruch website, which was launched

SEE **RECEPTION** PAGE 4

Fare hike coming soon

< MTA to hold hearings to discuss fare increase

BY GREGORY ZAREFES
STAFF WRITER

The MTA is proposing raising fares to \$2.25 in late February and eliminating the 20 percent bonus that riders currently get when they purchase Metrocards for over \$10. The fare is now \$2, and considering the extra 20 percent, is actually \$1.67.

One silver lining in that plan would be a reduction of fares in off-peak hours to as low as \$1.50. Since ridership is lower during these times, the trains run less frequently, which helps reduce the cost of the ride.

Any fare increase would be accompanied by a small increase in irregular forms of Metrocards. Examples would be raising the one-day FunPass from \$7 to \$7.50, or raising the 30-day unlimited from \$76 to as high as \$84. Other possibilities would be raising express bus fares, introducing a 14-day Metrocard, or increasing the price of seven-day Metrocards.

A small coalition of politicians, including Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, has opposed the fare hikes. However, nobody contests that the MTA could face revenue shortfalls as early as 2009. Inadequate distribution of taxpayer dollars is considered a strong reason that the prices will soon have to be hiked.


The Straphangers Campaign, the main advocacy group for Subway riders, has urged the changes not to be implemented hastily. The group points out that the New York State Legislature will vote on Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's congestion plan, which includes new transit funding by March 31, 2008, and that the MTA is not facing budget shortfalls as of yet. They also note that in 1981, a fare increase was rescinded because of new financing measures from the city, which the MTA had previously ignored.

Periodically, there will be fare hearings where the public can ask questions about changes in policy. The MTA website, mta.info, lists these hearings. The first one is scheduled for next Monday at 6 p.m. at 333 Adams Street in Brooklyn.

INDEX

Opinion	6
Business	7
Features.	10
Arts	13
Leisure	16
Calendar	18
Sports	19

FEATURES



A new student club raises cancer awareness on campus.

Page 12.

ARTS



Sleep through 30 Days of Night.

Page 13.

LEISURE



Fashionable his and her Halloween costumes.

Page 16.

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News

Inside the mind of Sigrid Nuñez

BY MICHAEL WURSTHORN
MANAGING EDITOR

Guests packed the Newman Conference Center Tuesday night, where English Professor Eva Shan Chou introduced Sidney Harman Writer-in-Residence, Sigrid Nuñez.

Chou used the words of reviewers to describe Nuñez's work, such as, "brilliant, dazzling, daring," and, "remarkable and disconcerting."

Chou's speech offered a brief but detailed look at the accomplishments of a woman whom she would later describe as a very vivid person whom young people could relate to.

Nuñez provided listeners an opportunity to hear an excerpt from her acclaimed book, *The Last of her Kind*.

She took the audience into a vivid depiction of two young girls whose lives come together for a brief moment, but later diverge on to very different paths.

Nuñez followed her reading with a question and answer session, granting the audience an opportunity to gain some insight on how her life has been shaped by her writing.

Nuñez explained that certain writers prefer to use outlines when writing a large novel, whereas she allows the characters and the story to flow as if these are real lives with no prior planning for the ending.



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Writer-in-Residence Sigrid Nuñez autographs her book for a student.

"You have to create a believable world for them ... I would try to imagine a life for that character, I would end up writing about the characters that they have in their lives," said Nuñez.

Students walked away feeling they have a little more understanding into the world of writing and publishing.

"It inspired me to get into creative writing," said Peggy Munn, junior, as she explained the value of programs such as the Sidney Harman program.

"Students are very interested in one particular thing which is how much of your [Nuñez's] life is in there, and if you listen you can hear her try to answer in her particular ways about how much there is and how much there isn't and I think that is a very good thing for a young person to learn," explained Chou when asked what she thinks students took away from the reading and discussion.

Following the discussion, Nuñez explained how much she has enjoyed being the Sidney Harman



MAYA KASHYAP | THE TICKER

Professor Eva Chou chats with Nuñez after the reception.

Writer-in-Residence.

She elaborated on how encouraging and exciting it is to teach creative writing when you get a good class in which students understand and listen to what you are trying to teach much like the one she is teaching this semester.

"When you do something like this you basically hope that they enjoy it and that you give them a sense of what your work is like," said Nuñez, "I just hope that they would enjoy it and be interested in it."

Nuñez has won numerous

awards such as Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Foundation Award from the Academy of Arts and Letters as well as the Whiting Writer's award.

The Sidney Harman Writer-in-Residence program is funded by Sidney Harman ('39) in an attempt to invite notable writers to Baruch College and improve the experience and writing skills of Baruch students.

The program is currently in its 10th year of success since its inception.

New bill to increase financial aid

< Funding for Pell Grants to be extended

BY JANA KASPERKEVIC
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (H.R. 2669) that was signed by the Democratic leadership on Tuesday, Sept. 18, was signed into a law by President George W. Bush on Thursday, Sept. 27.

"According to one study, 80 percent of the fastest-growing jobs in America require some sort of education after high school. Times are changing — when we were the baby boomers like me were younger — it's a different era. We're living in a global economy. And we've got to stay competitive as we head into the 21st century, and the best way to stay competitive is to make sure people have access to good education," President Bush stated during his speech.

"The bill I sign today increases funding for Pell Grants by \$11.4 billion over the next five years. It allows us to increase the maximum award [from \$4,310 in 2007] — to \$5,400 by 2012. These are positive steps, and they're good steps."

The H.R. 2669 will provide the single largest increase in college aid since the GI bill at no new cost to taxpayers by cutting excess subsidies paid by the federal government to lenders in the student loan industry.

"Pell Grants are the most effective way to target Federal aid to our neediest students," said Margaret Spelling, U.S. Secretary of Education in her statement on the signing.

"The bill, however, leaves diffi-



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The College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 was passed in September.

cult choices for future Congresses and the next Administration, while also diverting resources away from Pell Grants to poorly targeted policies and new mandatory programs. This bill also fails to resolve implementation issues the Administration raised regarding changes to the student loan programs," Spelling continued.

Spelling and the Department of Education were criticized by Congress last spring for the lack of oversight over the student loan industry.

The House Committee on Education and Workforce's website claims that the bill will increase the purchasing power of the Pell

Grant scholarship, and ensure a highly qualified teacher in every classroom by providing upfront tuition to qualified undergraduate students who commit to teaching in public schools, encourage and reward public service by providing loan forgiveness after 10 years for public servants.

It will also establish partnerships between federal, state and local governments and philanthropic organization, and make a landmark investment of guaranteed \$510 million over five years in historically black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, tribally-controlled colleges and universities, Alaska and Hawaiian

native institutions, and predominantly black institutions.

"This bill will help ensure that no qualified student is prevented from going to college because of the cost. With the College Cost Reduction and Access Act signed into law, millions of students will receive much needed help to pay for college," read U.S. Rep. George Miller's, Chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, statement released on Thursday, Sept. 27.

"This legislation shows how the Congress and the President can work together to accomplish important things on behalf of American families," continued Miller.

Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee Senator Mike Enzi appreciated that President Bush signed H.R. 2669 and was glad to know that President Bush vowed to work with Congress to pass the year-round Pell grant, which the senate already passed through as part of the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act Amendments of 2007, S. 1642, H.R. 3625.

However, he urged the House of Representatives to mark up reauthorization legislation concerning the High Education Act that expired in September 2004 similar to S. 1642 provisions by mid October.

"Now is the time to get comprehensive higher education reform, before we tackle No Child Left Behind," Enzi said.

On the evening of Thursday, Sept. 27, the Senate passed by voice vote the legislation permanently extending the provisions, S. 1642, H.R. 3625.

The provisions, which authorize the Secretary of Education to waive or modify any statutory or regulatory provisions on federal student aid for service members and others during a war or other national emergency, were passed in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, Sept. 25 and signed by the president on Sunday, Sept. 30.

"The Act recognizes the many problems the service members face when they're called to active duty in such situations, but their college loans shouldn't be one of them," said Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

Kennedy continued, "By permanently extending the 2003 law, we're providing greater assurance to our men and women in uniform that they won't face unexpected burdens related to these loans while they defend our nation."

Baseball history: the Cuban way

BY WILLIAM BATTAGLIA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Believe it or not, this Cuban revolutionary leader has long been believed to be a former baseball player.

However, Roberto Gonzalez Echeviarra, author of *The Pride of Havana: A History of Cuban Baseball* vehemently shot down this claim and considered it nothing more than a “myth.” An “American fabrication” at a recent event co-sponsored by the department of sociology and the department of black and hispanic studies as part of Baruch College’s celebration of Latino/Latina Heritage Month.

The event, on Monday, primarily consisted of Echeviarra, Sterling professor of Hispanic and comparative literature at Yale University, discussing “Baseball and the Birth of Cuban Nationality.”

One of Echeviarra’s claims consisted of “baseball being more Cuban than American” in terms of its importance to the country’s national identity.

Just as the majority of Latin America prides itself on “fútbol,” or soccer, Cuba prides itself on its baseball. In fact, according to Echeviarra, “Baseball helped to structure the time of Cuban culture.”

In the summer season, the Cuban ballplayers would participate in the Amateur League while during the winter season they would partake in the Professional League. In essence, Cubans would incorporate their schedule around the baseball seasons.

However, playing baseball was not the only limit for Cuban ballplayers as Echeviarra suggests. Players were writers and poets so there existed a connection between baseball and literature as surprising as that may sound. In addition,

Cuban baseball was and still remains a mock war with players as folk heroes.

There does exist a small percentage of Cuban-born baseball players within Major League Baseball; players such as New York Mets starting pitcher Orlando “El Duque” Hernandez, Arizona Diamondbacks starting pitcher Livan Hernandez, and former New York Yankee and current Chicago White Sox starting pitcher Jose Contreras.

As Echeviarra notes, because of the political situation in Cuba it is difficult for most Cubans to come to the United States and play ball in the Major Leagues.

As a result, Cuban ball players circumvent the system by leaving their homeland for the Dominican Republic. There they attain a visa or “green card” which is their ticket to their destination, the United States.

However, is baseball “America’s national pastime” or is “Baseball more Cuban than American” as Echeviarra says?

While many of us feel it is an American sport, one must bear in mind that baseball entered Cuban national life at a time when Cuba was defining itself. This certainly contrasts with the United States, a country well-established by the time baseball came on the scene.

One may believe this was one of the reasons why Echeviarra wrote *The Pride of Havana: A History of Cuban Baseball*; to highlight baseball’s impact on Cuban culture and showcase the passion that existed and still exists among Cubans for this sport.

While Robert Gonzalez Echeviarra had doubts about writing a book on baseball because of a belief that “it would destroy his literary reputation,” it was his “nostalgia for his Cuban childhood” that ultimately persuaded him.



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Paper faces on parade, hide your face. It’s a masquerade!

Midnight mask ball

< Mask benefit to raise funds for charity

BY FAINA SHAULOVA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For the first time ever, Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, along with Golden Key, the Italian Society, and the Inter-Greek Council, will be hosting a masquerade ball at Baruch College called “Masq’d by Midnight.”

Apart from serving as social networking event, for students and faculty, the ball will function primarily as a benefit party to raise money for The Hunger Project, a renowned nonprofit organization committed to ending world hunger, in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. All proceeds raised by the Baruch community will be donated to

The Hunger Project, whose global office is located in neighboring Union Square. At the ball, students will have the opportunity to enjoy themselves while simultaneously supporting an important cause.

“Masq’d by Midnight” will be held on Thursday Nov. 15 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the Vertical Campus’ Multipurpose Room 1-107. Students will be able to purchase tickets for \$5 in advance from any one of the participating organizations or \$8 at the door.

Everyone is welcome to generously give a donation to show their support for the tremendous efforts of The Hunger Project.

To enter the party, students will be required to wear a mask, of which they can make or purchase in advance or even buy at the door. A contest will be held on the night of the event for the best mask and a prize will be awarded to the winner.

A bachelor/bachelorette auc-

tion will also take place during the ball in order to raise additional funds for The Hunger Project.

Volunteers will be auctioned off to the highest bidder, who will earn three dances with their new partners. Music and entertainment will be provided by Baruch’s radio station, WBMB.

In addition, the party will also feature a unique, specially-prepared performance from the Brooklyn College Ballroom Dancing Club.

Students are welcome to join along as the performing group graces the audience with a masquerade-themed dance. Finger foods and refreshments will also be served throughout the entire event.

Tickets and masks will be available for sale in the offices of Phi Eta Sigma, Golden Key and the Italian Society as well as on the second floor of the Vertical Campus on the following dates: Oct. 30 and Nov. 6, 8, 13, 15.

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Smoking policy smells a bit fishy

β CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Carol Abrams, chief communications officer of the office of communications and marketing, confirmed that Baruch has changed the policy but “the designated parameters are not known as of yet.”

The e-mail went on to say “Smokers are responsible for the proper and safe disposal of smoking materials in designated smoking receptacles. The campus community is responsible for notifying guests of the smoking policy and ensuring that they abide by the policy. This policy protects the rights

of non-smokers to enjoy a smoke free environment.”

For this new policy to be a success, the e-mail states that “It relies on the cooperation of the entire college community, smokers and non-smokers. It is the responsibility of all members of our college community to observe the smoking policy and to direct those who choose to smoke to do so only in the designated smoking areas.”

If students are unsure of where to smoke, they may check with a public safety officer or the Baruch College website, baruch.cuny.edu.



VICTOR CHU | THE TICKER

John Elliot, dean of the Zicklin School of Business, speaks to students at the reception.

KPMG selects two undergrads

β CONTINUED FROM FRONT

-tion, completed the FDL’s inaugural three-day leadership conference in Hollywood, Ca. this summer, where they had the opportunity to interact and network with industry leaders, professors and KPMG professionals.

Manny Fernandez, national managing partner of Campus Recruiting, added, “While the students selected for the program are all academically strong, the Future Diversity Leaders program takes their learning a step further, providing these students with some of the extra skills, knowledge, and business perspective they need to become the business leaders of tomorrow, we are committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive workforce and feel that a focused program such as this can help increase the number of minority business leaders in the accounting profession and other areas of business.”

Finance major Ruth Fortune, 19,

said, “The FDL Program not only furthers my intellect, it helps me prepare for continual success.”

Upon successful completion of their summer internship prior to their junior year, Karnawat and Fortune will become eligible for additional scholarship money, as well as an offer to remain in the intern program the following summer.

The internship prior to their senior year is “Practice Internship,” where the participants of FDL will gain hands-on experience with clients in their chosen business area.

These students would also be mentored by KPMG professional.

With so many opportunities available for students to succeed career-wise and in a teamwork environment, the expectations are that students will take advantage of all the diversity programs and club related organizations in school.

Career counselors recommended that students start obtaining internships earlier, rather than later, in their college career.

President and deans present initiatives

β CONTINUED FROM FRONT

this past summer. He then touched on a \$600,000 grant, which will be put towards increased lighting on 25th Street in a few months. To end his speech, he asked that students help him show the public that Baruch is as worthy as any other college, by acting as ambassadors in all that they do.

Dean Birdsell followed Cloud, and explained the efforts that the School of Public Affairs has been taking to reach out and increase undergraduate programs such as the collaboration with American Humanics Inc.

According to the American Humanics Inc. Website the mission of the company is “to educate, prepare and certify professionals to strengthen and lead non-profit organizations.”

At Baruch, this means that out-

standing students with interests in the non-profit sector have the opportunity to attend national con-

“[The college] will remain true to its mission: affordable, excellent education.”

– Kathleen Waldron
Baruch College President

for their time and efforts. He also explained that although they work to improve the school, they could not do it without help from the students. He urged students to join college committees and help with the planning of school-wide initiatives.

Toward the end of the program, the floor was also opened for a question and answer session.

“One of the things that I’ve noticed lacks in the core curriculum or the overall emphasis of the school is that of civic engagement stated a recent transfer student and intended public affairs major.

Dean Birdsell fielded that question by first restating his previous point about American Humanics Inc.

He also mentioned that Golden Key International Honor Society has various opportunities for those wishing to get involved in volunteering.

ferences and gain access to internships.

After all the speakers made their points, USG’s Trung Truong, vice president for campus affairs, thanked the presidents and deans

Rezwanna Hoque, USG treasurer, was pleased with the turnout and added that the benefit of this event is that it allows for direct communication from students to faculty members.

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Opinion

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The big debate on the big guy

Morals and values without Him

SHERVAN SEBASTIAN



THE TICKER ARCHIVE

There are few beliefs that are as common to the majority of the human race as is the ritualistic faith in a singular or in a few religions, multiple, godly beings. The name varies between religions, but the concept radiates across the planet and enjoys near universality in almost every nation.

As prevalent as this belief is however, I exist, comfortably, as part of the minority of citizens who does not subscribe to the belief in one God and actually do not subscribe to the belief in any God at all.

But while I do not believe in a supreme being, I do believe that there are many teachings and behaviors that do benefit society in a just way, that there are ideas that we would truly want to teach the next generation as a foundation for the complement of values and principles.

Several of these ideas are often coupled with the indoctrination into a specific religion, but they do not necessarily have to be taught in a house of worship for them to be purposeful.

My belief in sharing my gains with those around me, making sacrifices for my friends and family, not taking what doesn't belong to me and having respect and reverence for my elders, wasn't based on the tutelage and guidance of religion.

It was based on the teachings that were imparted upon me by educators, relatives and parents. These ideas, while devoid of any religious overtones, continued to make sense as I matured.

Forgiveness is an essential constituent of who I am. It is not due to the fear of damnation, but rather because I was taught that the person who carries the grudge carries the heaviest load of all.

While I admit that helpful principles were imparted upon me in the religion I was engaged in as a child, I withdrew from religion when I was 13 years old. I have developed a guiding moral discipline even though I have disavowed myself of virtually all of my religious teachings.

Religion is a vehicle, a medium, that can be used for almost any and every cause, but I challenge you to find one idea that can be taught in only one way.

The subtle side of enlightenment

MARIANE ST. MAURICE

In this hectic and ever-changing world, we tend to look for consistency and stability. We turn to our jobs, we create a routine and surround ourselves with familiar things. It is only natural and we all do it.

However, there are things that never change and things we can always count on, such as religion. Whatever religion it may be, it constitutes an element in people's lives that is not merely another part of their routine.

Even for those who don't fervently practice, having faith provides support and offers something to hold on to. It provides standards by which to live, rather than simply following the crowd. Religion gives us something to work for – a goal to reach.

Anyone who has been raised with religion is armed with a set of morals beneficial to life. My father being from a Roman Catholic family and my mother, though converted, coming from a Buddhist background, I was brought up in a Catholic family. I grew up going to mass every Sunday and attending catechism classes. I was raised seeing my paternal grandparents pray the rosary and my maternal grandparents lay out fruits and incense for Buddha.

Though the two sides of my family were different, both had a place for religion. Today, I realize that I am a better person for the upbringing I have received. In no way is this meant to be condescending, but I sometimes feel like having religion in my life for all those years has made me stronger than some of the people around me.

I am not going to pretend to be the "best" Catholic who lived. Like many others, I have my doubts and my questions. But doubts are part of any religion and show that being religious doesn't mean we stop thinking and questioning.

Religion is not about showing off and proclaiming to the world that you are religious. Most times, a person's faith is apparent in the way they act, the choices they make and the overall way they live their life.

Evidently, the notion of wrong and right can be instilled in anyone. But religion and faith seem to push us just a tad more toward the "good side" so many of us try to live on.



THE TICKER ARCHIVE

New "super bug" hits campus

CARLOS RUIZ

Before reading this, keep in mind that I was not thinking of anyone specific or anything in particular while writing this article. It is up to you to identify who or what the virus I call "Altogurius Vicracizuis."

Fellow Baruchians, there is a virus going around campus and the main symptom is to make people forget the First Amendment of the Constitution. A special warning has been issued to Baruch athletes who seem to be more susceptible to this virus.

After further investigation by *The New York Times*, they have identified two other

symptoms, including hallucinations in adults and disappointment towards authority in teenagers.

After talking to some people who were also exposed to the virus, their reaction was, "Oh my God, are you kidding me? It was about time someone said something." (This quote has been modified and combined to avoid the use of names).

No one has full proof of the virus's true existence. It has been well established that even though you heard it, saw it and wrote down its description, that's not enough proof of its existence. As a result, we are talking about this virus based only on assumptions and multiple comments. If you are willing to risk your life to be accredited as the person who got the most-wanted proof, you will need to record the source of the virus in action with a video camera or tape recorder.

I warned you that having more than 10 people who can testify on the existence of the virus does not count as proof. In my ignorance, I recorded seeing the virus in my huge 8 1/2" x 11" notebook, but it seems that it was unseen in my hands by many.

So what should we do? Over 30 fellow Baruchians have told me they have knowledge of the virus, but are afraid to say so. I encourage you to make your voice heard. That's the only way we can stop the spread of this virus.

WTF: What's really under your costume?

This Halloween, Baruch students will be taking part in the mystical make-believe, dressing up as corny "Ben Dover" doctors, giving in to fantasy costumes like the sexy bumblebee or playing the unrealistic role of a purple-suited pimp.

We will indulge in losing our own identity for the day, something that has given the holiday much appeal.

Sadly, such is the case in our regular every day lives. Think back to when you were a kid (if you can jog your memory that far back). What was your dream ambition? A firefighter? Lawyer? Astronaut? Veterinarian? Are you fulfilling that dream now? Or, did you lose sight of those career goals?

Based on conversations with my Baruch friends, it seems that not enough students are fulfilling their dreams. If you find yourself falling into this generalization, I challenge you: what are you hiding from?

I can offer reasons as to why your average, modern-day student's dreams have gone awry. I've heard horror stories of parents forcing their own expectations on their child.

The consequence of the parent's selfish demand is their child majoring in a subject in which they have no desire to have a career. Sad, but I guarantee you more than half of your Baruch friends are not fulfilling their own dreams.

Sometimes, financial burdens have a limiting effect on educational opportunities. Ask yourself if you went to Baruch College because of its excellent academic accolades or because the tuition was cheap, or in some cases, free?

Here comes my heartfelt pontification for the week. If you're not happy thus far with your college career, what are you waiting for?

It baffles me to imagine that there are soulless students at Baruch, fulfilling someone else's dream.

And it breaks my heart to think that some just don't want it bad enough to stretch for that completely attainable childhood or high school goal they once had. When did old-fashioned ambition and passion become outdated?

Too often, we are unsatisfied with our young lives and we're quick to put that blame on someone else.

If you haven't already realized, those days of naivety over. As adults, we're supposed to take full responsibility for the outcome of our lives.

This Halloween, when you're caking on that drag queen makeup or pulling on that cheesy face mask, think about what you may be hiding behind that costume of yours.

What you find might scare you. This Halloween, try being yourself instead of someone else.

You *can* choose not to live someone else's dream, you just have to want yours bad enough. I know I do.



LIA EUSTACHEVICH
Opinion Editor

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The Ticker opinion page welcomes submissions from students and faculty. They can be e-mailed to tickeroed@gmail.com or delivered to The Ticker office on the third floor of the Vertical Campus, Suite 3-290.

Letters must be signed and will appear as space permits. The word limit is 400 words. Essays must be 300 - 600 words. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length as well as clarity.

The author's name is usually published but may be withheld for compelling reasons, at the editor's discretion.

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ABOUT US

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Features

U.S. policy watchdogs bark in Pakistan

Returned leader survives deadly terrorist attack

BY TABASSUM ALI
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

A suspected suicide bomber killed 138 people on Friday, Oct. 19, in an attack on former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, as she was driven through Karachi to greet supporters on her return from eight years in exile.

Bhutto was unhurt in one of the deadliest attacks in her country's history. She was quickly escorted away from the truck that had been carrying her from the airport through streets crowded with hundreds of thousands of well-wishers. Her arrival was a result of a power sharing deal with President General Pervez Musharraf, engineered by United States and England.

Heavy involvement from the United States in Pakistan's politics raises concerns among general public. U.S. policy interests in Pakistan encompass a wide range of issues, including counterterrorism, nuclear weapons and missile proliferation, South Asian and Afghan stability, democratization and human rights, economic reforms, and efforts to counter narcotics trafficking.

U.S. interest in Pakistan's General Elections

An unexpected outcome of Pakistan's 2002 elections saw the Mut-tahida Majlis-e-Amal (United Action Front), a coalition of six Islamic parties, win 68 seats in the National Assembly — about 20 percent of the total. The MMA also gained control over the provincial assembly in the North West Frontier Province and now leads a coalition in the Baluchistan assembly. These western provinces are Pashtun-majority regions bordering Afghanistan, where U.S.-led counterterrorism operations are ongoing. The result led to concerns that a shift in Pakistani policies might be in the offing, perhaps even a "Talibanization" of western border regions. In June 2003, the NWFP assembly passed a Islamic law bill, Shariat, in the provincial assembly.

Two years later, the same assembly passed a "Hasba" (accountability) bill that many fear would create a parallel Islamic legal body and be harmful to human rights. Such developments alarm Pakistan's moderates and President Musharraf has decried any attempts to "talibanize" regions of Pakistan. Islamists are notable for expressions of anti-American sentiment; they have at times called for "jihad" against what they view as the existential threat to Pakistani sovereignty that alliance with Washington entails.

Most analysts contend that two December 2003 attempts to assassinate President Musharraf were carried out by Islamic militants angered by Pakistan's post-September 2001 policy shift. Some observers identify a causal link between the poor state of Pakistan's primary education system and the persistence of xenophobia and religious extremism in that country.

Anti-American sentiment is not limited to Islamic groups, however. In January 2004 testimony before a Senate panel, a senior U.S. expert opined: "Pakistan is probably the most anti-American country in the world right now, ranging from the radical Islamists on one side to the



ARIKAH.NET

Pakistan ex-Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto survived recent assassination attempt.

liberals and Westernized elites on the other side."

A July 2005 Pew Center opinion poll found 51 percent of Pakistanis expressing confidence in Al Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden to "do the right thing in world affairs" and, in an October 2005 *TIME* magazine interview, President Musharraf conceded that "the man on the street [in Pakistan] does not have a good opinion of the United States." A Pew poll taken months before the Oct. 5 earthquake found only 23 percent of Pakistanis expressing a favorable view of the United States, the lowest percentage for any country surveyed. Yet that percentage doubled to 46 percent in an ACNielsen poll taken after major U.S. disaster relief efforts in earthquake-affected areas, with the great majority of Pakistani indicating that their perceptions had been influenced by seeing such efforts. However, a January 2006 missile attack on Pakistani homes near the Afghan border killed several civilians and was blamed on U.S. forces, perhaps renewing animosity toward the United States among some segments of the Pakistani populace.

Musharraf's importance

The 9/11 Commission Report in 2004 identified the government of President Musharraf as the best hope for stability in Pakistan and Afghanistan. It recommended that the United States make a long-term commitment to provide comprehensive support for Islamabad so long as Pakistan itself is committed to combating extremism and to a policy of "enlightened moderation." In the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-458), Congress broadly endorsed this recommendation by calling for U.S. aid to Pakistan to be

sustained at a minimum of FY2005 levels and requiring the President to report to Congress a description of long-term U.S. strategy to engage with and support Pakistan. A November 2005 follow-up report by Commissioners gave a "C" grade to U.S. efforts to support Pakistan's anti-extremism policies and

"The man on the street [in Pakistan] does not have a good opinion of the United States."

- Pervez Musharraf
President General of Pakistan

warned that the country "remains a sanctuary and training ground for terrorists."

Total U.S. economic and military assistance — loans and grants — to Pakistan from 1947 through 2005 more than \$15 billion. In June 2003, President Bush vowed to work with Congress on establishing a five-year, \$3 billion aid package for Pakistan. Annual installments of \$600 million each split evenly between military and economic aid, began in FY2005. The Foreign Operations FY2005 Appropriations bill (P.L. 108-447) established a new base program of \$300 million for military assistance for Pakistan. When additional funds for development assistance, law enforcement and other programs are included,



APP.COM.UK

Pakistan President General Pervez Musharraf faces opposition from Islamists.

the aid allocation for FY2005 was about \$688 million. Congress also has appropriated billions of dollars to reimburse Pakistan for its support of U.S.-led counterterrorism operations. From FY2002 – FY2005, annual supplemental appropriations have included a total of \$4.16 billion in additional defense spending to be used for coalition support payments to Pakistan and other cooperating nations. The vast majority of this funding has gone to Pakistan: Pentagon documents indicate Pakistan received coalition support funding of \$2.3 billion for the period FY2002 – FY2004 — an amount roughly equal to one-fifth of Pakistan's total military expenditures during that period — and a report of the House Armed Services Committee (H.Rept. 109-89) said the Secretary of Defense expected to disburse to Pakistan the entire FY2006 allocation of \$1.44 billion.

The power-sharing deal with Bhutto

Pakistan's October 1999 military coup triggered U.S. aid restrictions under Section 508 of the annual Foreign Assistance appropriations act. Post-September 2001 circumstances saw Congress take action on such restrictions. P.L. 107-57 (October 2001) waived coup-related sanctions on Pakistan through FY2002 and granted presidential authority to waive them through FY2003.

A November 2003 emergency supplemental appropriations act (P.L. 108-106) extended the president's waiver authority through FY2004. The Foreign Operations FY2004 appropriations bill (P.L. 109-102) extended it through FY2006. President Bush has exercised this waiver authority annually. It's in the best interest of Musharraf to share a deal with Bhutto

to avoid interruption in waiver of coup related sanctions following U.S. Presidential Elections in 2008.

Reasons for Bhutto to give U.N. Access to A.Q. Khan

Former Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said Tuesday, Sept. 25th, that if returned to power, she would allow U.N. inspectors but not Western powers to question the father of Pakistan's nuclear bomb. Analysis of discussions and pending issues in U.S. Congress regarding proliferation legislations reveals subsequent details.

Through a series of legislative measures, Congress incrementally lifted sanctions on Pakistan resulting from its nuclear weapons proliferation activities. After the September 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, policymakers searched for new means of providing assistance to Pakistan. President Bush's issuance of a final determination that month removed remaining sanctions on Pakistan and India resulting from the 1998 nuclear tests, finding that restrictions were not in U.S. national security interests.

Some members of the 108th Congress urged reinstatement of proliferation related sanctions in response to evidence of Pakistani assistance to third-party nuclear weapons programs.

However, the Nuclear Black-Market Elimination Act (H.R. 4965) did not see floor action. Pending legislation in the 109th Congress includes H.R. 1553, which would prohibit the provision of military equipment to Pakistan unless the President can certify that Pakistan has verifiably halted all proliferation activities and is fully sharing with the United States all information relevant to the A.Q. Khan Proliferation network.

Careers On Wall Street



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**Dr. David Shulman
(Baruch '64),
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Jewish mysticism now served with chopsticks



VLADIMIR YELIZAROV | SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

Students participate in "Study with Sushi" with Rabbi Levi Stolik, far right.

n Chabad presents a new learning experience

BY MIRIAM BRAUN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Jewish life at Baruch College is flourishing. There are many ways the students can get in touch with their Jewish roots. Recently, a new learning initiative called the Baruch College Torah Center, created by the Chabad Club, has had success in motivating to learn topics relating to Judaism.

The program, called "Study with Sushi," takes place every Thursday during club hours in VC 3-240. Anyone can come to learn one on one about Jewish mysticism, philosophy, law, Torah, or just to talk about topics they find important, while

delighting in a full array of freshly delivered sushi. It's a great forum to find out more about the things you find puzzling in Judaism, questions that are unanswered, and topics that interest you, in an open and welcoming environment.

"The Baruch College Torah Center provides an environment full of inspiration and insight amidst all the noise and distractions of everyday life," says Jack Gershkovits, senior. It's easy to get caught up in the day to day business of going to college, but its also important to take a step back and nourish yourself — whether with food or with learning.

However, learning goes beyond, and delves into myriad deep aspects of Judaism. Rabbi Levi Stolik and his wife, Sara, the directors of Chabad at Baruch, conduct the program. They provide learning partners for everyone to facilitate learning in an intimate setting.

Seth Steinmetz, the student coordinator who jumpstarted the program, relates his personal thoughts. "It gives me a real learning experience where I develop my learning skills just like I'm at an authentic learning institution full time," he says. The program has flourished in recent weeks. Be sure to come prepared with questions, an open mind ready to learn and an appetite for good sushi, but even more so, an appetite for knowledge.

Chabad is a philosophy within Judaism that believes in intellect, mysticism, and service of G-d through joy and acts of kindness, which will help bring about the coming of the messiah. This is all based upon the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rabbis, a tradition that dates back over 250 years. Chabad can be found in over 100 college campuses.

Club raises cancer awareness on campus

BY ELYSSA MALDONADO
LEISURE EDITOR

About 178,000 American women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2007, according to the American Cancer Society's website. A new club that has been developed by Baruch students is set to tackle the disease.

Colleges Against Cancer is a club that is devoted to raising awareness about Breast Cancer at Baruch.

There is so much that we don't know about this deadly disease and what we can do about it.

One of the clubs first events, Making Strides, was held at Central Park on Sunday, Oct. 21, where CAC and volunteers gathered to cheer on the walkers and give out water bottles.

Making Strides was held by the American Cancer Society, however in the case of CAC, this was their chance to gain volunteers, and get people thinking about how they can help the cause.

"Drink pink" was hosted by both CAC and the Health and Wellness. Taheera Kim Lee, health and wellness coordinator, said, "The 'Drink Pink' campaign was intended to capture students attention with the distribution of smoothies while [currently] educating them about the health benefits of berries and dairy products in the fight against cancer."

Students who have missed

previous events can look forward to the upcoming event "Smoke Out" on Nov. 15.

The "Smoke Out" is going to be a spectacular event that will make a bang and intrigue students into asking, "What is that?"

CAC's main purpose is to show people how prevalent smoking related cancers are and give them the information to stop cancer from happening to them.

"In my eyes, our goal is to raise awareness and to let [students] know that they can come to us for help or information," says Alyssa Wick, the vice president of CAC and business manager at The Ticker.

Directly after the "Smoke Out," CAC plans to act immediately on starting their plans for Relay for Life, an event that has been held at Baruch for the last three years.

Since this event is held annually, they want to promote it as much as possible and continue to raise awareness. Now as a club, CAC hopes to bring cancer awareness all year round.

Other CAC's goals include recruiting volunteers, raising money for American Cancer Society, and in the future work towards finding a cure for cancer.

Wick says, "We want to let people know that cancer is not just one day year, it's everyday and the way to bring awareness is to start with young people."





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Business

Alumni trade industry tips

n Sales and trading careers can start at Baruch

BY LADJI KOUYATE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Finance & Economics Society recently organized a panel discussion on sales and trading. Sales and trading, like other “front-office” positions on Wall Street, are fiercely competitive.

Even though Baruch College is not considered a target school for the industry’s biggest employers, it is, nonetheless, making a major breakthrough in Wall Street through our competitive and enthusiastic graduates.

At the sales and trading discussion, the panelists consisted of four sales and trading analysts who currently work on Wall Street, and more importantly, recently graduated from Baruch College.

When asked to introduce themselves, the panelists all jokingly confessed that they suffered from ADD, which “developed from the nature of their job.” Fritz Charles, (’05), currently working in equity synthetics at Lehman Brothers, stated that he has problems focusing.

After the light introduction, the panelist began on the topic of interviewing.

The panelists agreed that interviewing was their biggest problem area.

Sohaib Iqbal, a JP Morgan analyst in CDO structuring and execution, commented “I considered interviews like boxing and I don’t know how many of you enjoy that.”

Iqbal, after missing an opportunity for a full-time interview with Abbott, fully prepared by having his friends call him at 3 a.m. to make sure he could handle pressure.

Iqbal also pointed out that JP



HELEN HU | THE TICKER

Four Baruch alumni discuss the ins and outs of the industry.

Morgan’s interviews are behavioral and market-oriented. Melissa Acosta, another JP Morgan trader in global currency and commodities, agreed with her colleague.

She gave various examples of behavioral questions to help students with the interview process. She stressed the fact that interviews are sometimes hectic and chaotic.

The questions in an interview can range from real estate, to history, to finance.

She described it as a test, a way to prepare candidates for the nerve-wracking atmosphere that is common on a trading floor.

Damian Lewandowski of Goldman Sachs gave one of the best interviewing tips. He, himself, is a recruiter for his structured credit derivatives desk, and said that he asks potential candidates to elaborate on every point on their résumé.

Being able to walk through your own résumé is crucial for a good interview.

Heather Krasna, the coordinator of the panel, then shifted the topic to the work environment and tasks performed on a daily basis.

Even though all of our panelists

are in sales and trading, they each perform different tasks. Lewandowski, a structurer for a trading desk, states that he is, “something in between a seller and a trader.” He structures synthetic CDO’s and

“I can push a wrong button and get fired.”

- Fritz Charles
Class of 2005

prices products for traders and/or sellers. However, he does not talk to clients at all, like Melissa, whose workday mainly consists of talking with clients. She has 240 contacts that she is committed to every day. She is responsible for providing fresh, exciting products for her clients.

She usually gets her ideas from colleagues like Iqbal, whose specialization is in “fairly new and more complicated products.” Iqbal primarily restructures securities or capital markets which is “a lot like

investment banking, but just not in a cubicle.”

Charles, versed in synthetic equity which is based on assumptions, has a less chaotic workday.

His everyday job is directly influenced by events or news from all over the world. Part of his job deals with creating new securities while simultaneously selling older securities.

The most exciting part of his job, he says, is that, “I can push a wrong button and get fired.” His comment stirred a lot of murmuring among the audience members who asked what the best personality traits for this type of job would be.

Charles responded that the best way to handle the job is, “to be serious, but not too serious about it.” He continued “you either have it, or you don’t.”

Another issue the panelists were eager to comment on was the advantages of Baruch as far as internships go. Lewandowski stressed the fact that Baruch, being in the heart of New York City and close to Wall Street, gives students an edge over other schools located in other states that cannot easily form contacts with influential companies.

When asked about the most important skills students should develop through an internship, the panelists all agreed that interns will get the most full-time offers if they not only soak information like a sponge, but they “add value” to their firms.

A perfect way to go about adding value, according to Lewandowski, would be to produce tangible copies of projects, deliver analysts from simple tasks like sending out e-mails and lastly, finding innovative ways to improve sales.

The panelists, after the discussion had ended, allowed current students to network. Charles, at the end of the event, reminded everyone that “sales and trading [as a field] has a perfect spot for every type of personality.”

CAREER CORNER

BY SUSANA GOMEZ
STARR CDC CORRESPONDENT

Before The Interview:
Preparation is key

Your goal during a job interview is not simply to persuade the employer you are the right person for the job; you should also use the interview to evaluate if this is the right position for you.

An interview is meant to give the interviewer information about your skills, abilities and interests to determine if you will meet their needs. But remember, it is a two-way process. These are some aspects to consider as you prepare.

1. Assess your skills, interests and values.

It is important to think of what you have to offer an employer and what you are seeking in a position. Also, evaluate your communication skills:

- *Handshake* - Don’t hesitate to extend your hand first.
- *Eye contact* - Look directly into the interviewer’s eyes, but avoid staring.
- *Posture* - Stand up straight, maintain a “natural” posture.
- *Language* - Use professional verbal communication and avoid slang.

2. Research the organization.

Navigate the company’s website or talk to someone who worked there in the past. Some questions to guide your research: What does the organization do? How large is it? What are its products and/or services?

3. Anticipate questions you might be asked .

There are no right or wrong answers, but becoming familiar with some of the usual questions employers ask will allow you to offer well thought-out and concise replies. The Starr Career Development Center can provide you with a guide to these questions and the best ways to prepare for them.

4. Prepare your own list of questions for the interviewer.

Creating this list will give you confidence to ask questions spontaneously as the interview advances. Remember, though, the focus during the initial interview is on the responsibilities of the position and the skills you will bring to the position — not what the company can or will do for you.

5. Practice.

Sit in front of a mirror and answer potential questions aloud. You can also schedule a mock interview at the SCDC and have someone conduct an interview with you as if you were actually applying for a position. Afterwards, you can discuss your performance with your interviewer.

The *Basic Interviewing Skills Workshop* on Wednesday, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 pm, in NVC 2-190. The workshop will help you prepare your personal pitch and how to respond to questions in order to increase your chances of landing the job you want.

BUSINESS BRIEF

BY EMMANUEL ONYENYILI
BUSINESS EDITOR

On Oct. 18, the Investment Banking Club hosted an event that brought JP Morgan Investment Banking to campus. They spoke to Baruch students about next summer’s internship opportunities.

Among the JP Morgan representatives was Cathy Flax, managing director in commodities trading. Flax shared her background in sales and trading and provided crucial tips on building a strong resume, constructing a compelling cover letter and acing the interview.

Students asked questions to convey their interest in the internship program. Also present at the event were two Baruch successful alums, Arvind Jagarnath and Chintan Dholakia. Both are working in Investment Banking at JPMorgan. Students also asked questions regarding how they obtained their full-time offers and their job responsibilities.

JP Morgan will be recruiting interested students starting as early as this semester. Students should keep an eye out on Starr Search for the internship listing.

Live and earn with Disney

BY RONGBIAO FU
STAFF WRITER

Recruiters and former alumni of the Walt Disney World College program held an interactive presentation On Oct. 18, in VC 2-190, discussing with fellow students why their program is an experience that cannot be missed.

“Are you looking for a unique opportunity that can open doors for your future and offer the experience of a lifetime?” asked Steve Nowak, eastern region recruiter for Disney, “Then the Walt Disney World College Program in Orlando might be the one for you.”

Participants in this program will have the unique opportunity to work at Disney’s theme parks and resorts, live in a community with participants from around the world, take classes for college credits, learn transferable skills, network with leaders of a Fortune 100 company, gain real-world experience, be a part of a team of cast members from hundreds of job disciplines and have fun while doing it all.

The experience, as Nowak mentioned during his presentation, has always revolved around four themes: live, learn, earn and have fun!



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around the globe while living in Disney’s fully furnished, gated apartments with 24-hour security and transportation to and from work.

Live: Have a great time and make friends from

Learn: Take classes recommended for academic credit, custom design learning plans and gain invaluable skills and training from top Disney leaders.

Earn: Build your résumé, get paid and get an edge over the competition by working for one of the world’s most admired entertainment companies.

Have fun: Be a part of exclusive programs including pool parties, networking opportunities, movie screenings and more. Participants also receive theme park admission and select discounts on merchandise, food and beverage, and resort accommodations. “Each program offers its own unique opportunities, so get started today by exploring which is best suited for you,” concluded Nowak.

Interested individuals can apply now or continue learning about the Disney College Program by going to disneycollegeprogram.com.

To be eligible to participate in the Disney College Program, the individual must view a presentation through campus recruiting or view the E-Presentation online.

Real estate gurus tell all

n There is more to the industry than land development

BY RONGBIAO FU
STAFF WRITER

Christopher Perkins and Peter S. Brooks, two well-respected professionals from the real estate industry, joined a room of passionate students to participate in a discussion on current opportunities and career perspectives in the real estate industry.

Hosted by the Executives on Campus and the Graduate Real Estate Club, this event, as part of the EOC job\$mart Career Hour series, gave students the chance to ask the panelists any type of questions regarding the real estate industry.

Peter Brooks, executive director of transaction real estate at Ernst & Young, has over 30 years of experience in the industry, including arbitration, expert witness reports, consulting, location advisory services, lease audit, brokerage, corporate real estate management, finance and appraisal.

He has also headed the corporate real estate function for a money center bank, negotiated lease transactions, purchased and sold properties, made construction loans, appraised commercial properties and been responsible for project management.

Perkins is currently the vice president of Budget Group at Vornado Trust, a fully integrated real estate investment trust. In this role, Christopher is responsible for the preparation and review of the cor-



Vornado Trust's Christopher Perkins and Ernst & Young's Peter S. Brooks with the event moderator.

porate consolidated budget, reforecasting the original budget and comparing the actual monthly results with budget/reforecast plans.

He then delivers his finds to the chairman, president, CFO and platform division heads. He prepares operational results and analysis as included in all board presentations. He also handles special project work regarding historical work and projection activities.

During this career hour, students had the opportunity to inquire any real estate topics that interested them.

Perkins and Brooks were kind enough to take questions about the real estate industry stating, "We hope it is of great value to you."

What are the advantages of working in a real estate company?

Brooks: When I was at Chemical Bank's Corporate Services Division as the managing head, I was responsible for world-wide corporate real estate, purchasing, security, food service, mail delivery, records storage and reproaching services.

After transitioning to Ernst &

Young in the consulting group, the opportunities have grown larger and wider. With the firm's global presence, my exposure in real estate have expanded, not just domestically, but globally as well.

What is the culture underlying your respective firms?

Perkins: At Vornado Trust, our ultimate and most important goal is to please our shareholders. And because our firm is a public entity, our cultures have always been revolving around deadlines, SEC boarding regulations, quarter end reports, internal documents disclosure, as well as answering to the rigorous scrutiny from the public sector.

Brooks: At Ernst & Young, especially in the consulting division, the culture has always been localized and [geared toward] entrepreneur. In consulting, we are constantly working on new projects and with new teams. And because of such dynamics, we do not have a set of corporate fixed structure. And for me, it's wonderful news, since every new project brings a new experience.

At the end of your college career, how was your transition from being a student to being a professional?

Brooks: Well, academia is definitely less structured in relation to the corporate world. Even though we might have project deadlines in school, there are always certain procedures to follow and protocols to adhere to in the business arena.

However, under E&Y consulting, I think the culture is becoming more flexible like the collegiate level, where now you don't have go to the office to finish work. The technology to telecommute has been made possible.

Perkins: I agree. Technology has allowed us to become more flexible in terms of where to work and how to work. But my experience when I first transitioned into the professional world was considered quite a learning curve.

At school, I was responsible for my own schedule and made my own deadlines. But as I entered the workforce, all the due dates and schedules were set by the organization and there was little flexibility to work around that. But as I moved up the ladder, I had the opportunity to delegate and take advantage, working from home and from the road.

What are the current projects that you're working on?

Perkins: Recently, we completed a deal to acquire 70 percent

controlling interest in 1290 Avenue of the Americas, a 2 million square foot Manhattan office building, located on the entire block front, and the 555 California Street office complex containing 1.8 million square feet, known as the Bank of America Center, located at California and Montgomery Streets in San Francisco's financial district.

Another project is our plan to relocate the 42 Street Postal Office to 34 street. The available space, which is called the Penn Plaza District, will be converted into a financial district area for firms who want to retain their offices in midtown.

Define success in the real estate investment arena.

Brooks: People always said location is the single most important aspect of purchasing a property or transacting a real estate investment. But I always count on three factors: location, timing and luck.

Perkins: What I consider success in the real estate investment arena is the fulfillment of our shareholders' expected returns.

Since our company is a public entity, our success lies in the ability to deliver continuous dividends and bring as much value back to our investors as possible. And recently, our firm has issued a special dividend from our portfolios of investments.

What do you look for in a potential candidate?

Brooks: The potential candidate must demonstrate some form of passion in real estate, whether through education or work experience.

Though experience is not the most important aspect to be examined, attitude is. The candidate must show enthusiasm on the subject matter, such as real estate, and he or she must exhibit keen interest through curiosity, knowledge and creativity.

Perkins: I agree. The candidate must have some related real estate experience in internships.

What is the single best advice given to you to date? And who gave it to you?

Brooks: My Mom. She always said: "Stay out of trouble!"

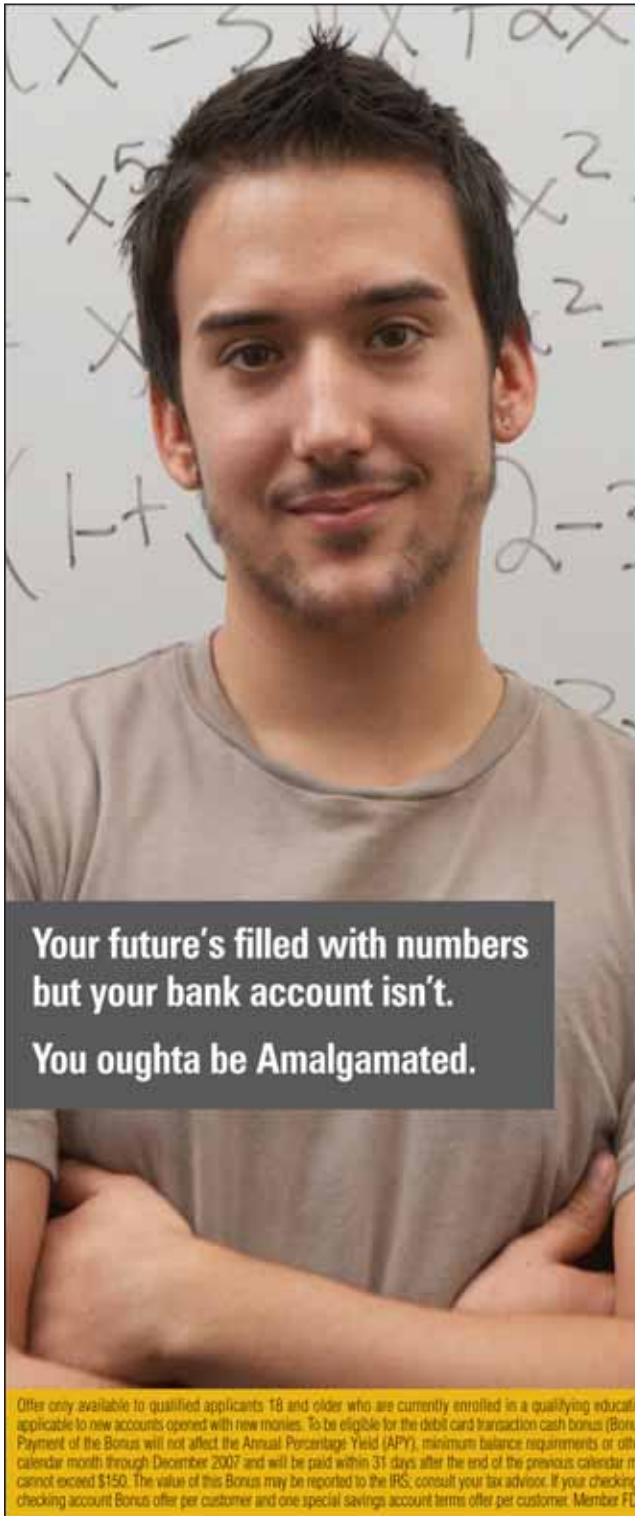
Perkins: Our Chairman Steven Roth. There is one statement that always sticks to my mind: "Stay focused, be prepared to get the job done and not the office politics."

Christopher Perkins

Perkins was with Tishman Speyer Properties as a senior controller, managing two real estate funds with capital of \$400 million. Perkins was also a senior account officer for the Whitehall Real Estate Funds at Goldman Sachs and senior associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers, overseeing non-profit clients. He earned a B.S.B.A in accounting from Georgetown University and is a certified public accountant in both New York and Washington, D.C.

Peter S. Brooks

Brooks holds a B.A. from New York University and a Masters degree (M.Phil) from Columbia University. He holds the MAI designation from the Appraisal Institute and was president of its Mexico-New York Chapter in 1992. He holds the CRE designation from the Counselors of Real Estate. He is a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and a licensed real estate broker in New York, New Jersey, Colorado, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia and Florida. He is a certified appraiser in New York State. He is also a member of the Real Estate Board of New York and chairman of its research committee.



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IBC INTERVIEW SERIES: INVESTMENT BANKING

BY INVESTMENT BANKING CLUB

To help students learn more about careers in investment banking, sales and trading, asset management and research, the Investment Banking Club will be interviewing professionals from these fields. In this issue, Larry Llerena, vice president of Alumni and Professional Relations, spoke to Michael Kostaby, a 2004 Baruch alumnus currently working at Wachovia Securities. His interview may help *you* answer the interview question, "Why are you fit for investment banking?"

Why banking?

It was a confluence of factors. I feel that working in a team-oriented environment was always for me. Working as a team to reach a common goal is a big part of banking. Another reason as to why I got interested in banking and why I enjoy it, is also the fact that you get to be a part of actual deals that can really impact the society we live in and the employment of millions.

What makes someone successful in this field?

Bankers should be well rounded, but I think, for me personally, two things stand out. Tolerance and details. Many people who burn out early on in banking just can't tolerate the hours and the constant requests from associates regarding to pitchbooks, even on off days. Some people let it get to them and they end up burning out in the beginning.

Details are also important. Nothing will anger your associate more so then forgetting a comma or a period at the end of a sentence in a pitchbook that will be in the hands of a pharmaceutical compa-

ny in Europe within 48 hours.

What can I do to improve my candidacy for a summer analyst program?

As most people will tell you, GPA is key, as well as what internships you have completed previously. Coming from Baruch, for me it was always an uphill battle to get my résumé into the hands of the right people. Great networking skills can put you at a great advantage. However, many times, it's who you know, not what you know that makes a difference.

What are the biggest mistakes that analysts/those starting off in the field make?

[The] biggest mistake is probably to get into banking for the money. I do know a few analysts who hate banking and are doing it, but they really are shooting themselves in the foot, because it is impossible to be good at something if you do not enjoy it. Most of the people who burn out within the first few months or year are in it for the money.

The worst mistake I saw an analyst make inside the office was probably during a conference call that Wachovia was having a couple of months ago. Someone asked about Wachovia's strategy within the CDO group. One lowly intern answered completely out of turn and was subsequently scolded by the associate. I don't think that intern is there anymore. Please don't ever do that. (laughs) Just do what you are told, do not try to do more then what you are asked to do.

In next week's issue, we will cover sales and trading. If you'd like to learn more about these careers, please visit [investmentbankingclub.com](#), or contact the club at [info@investmentbankingclub.com](#).

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The Robert Zicklin Center for Corporate Integrity will hold a half-day conference on corporate sustainability in terms of the 3 P's – People, Profit, Planet.

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Arts

Audience hibernates through *30 Days of Night*

BY KEN K. TSÉ
ARTS EDITOR

Of course, with the Halloween season there must be a barrage of horror movies released for everyone's frightening pleasure. However, it is likely that we have become so desensitized to the gory, violent blood fests that nothing really scares us anymore. *30 Days of Night*, based on the graphic novel of the same name, tries to redefine the vampire genre to no avail.

Josh Hartnett and Melissa George play recently separated couple Eben and Stella Oleson from the small north Alaskan town, Barrow. The town is so far north that every winter, it is cut off for 30 days of darkness. It is because of this phenomenon that a band of vampires decides to feed on the town without fear of sunlight. Eben and Stella end up rounding together the remaining survivors and they attempt to survive the month of darkness.

30 Days takes away the traditional sensual, seductive vampire element and gives us a more savage version of the classic blood-feeding monster. Classic vampire films like *Bram Stoker's Dracula* (1992) and *Interview with the Vampire* (1994) have given vampires the reputation of sexual beasts as well as blood fiends. *30 Days* goes raw on the beastial forms of its vampires, portraying them as savage creatures with long teeth, nails and blood-covered mouths, who live only to feed — no sex and no seduction. The vampires are depicted as a group of Euro trash men and women in tattered dress clothes, stained from their previous meals.

The film shows little interaction between the humans and vampires, except for the instances where the



IGN.COM

Danny Huston as the stoic, but brutal, vampire leader in *30 Days of Night*.

vampires use a human as bait to catch the remaining humans. The feral feeding frenzies where the vampires attack humans like wolves are the film's very undoing.

Although a fresh take on vampires, the film reduces these creatures to mere primal beasts. Vampires end up serving no role other than as an element of exploitation, they may as well have been talking wolves, and the film would have remained relatively unchanged.

Much of the film's popularity comes from promises of suspense. However, these promises go unful-

filled. The film is predictable at every corner and basks in a supposedly original vampiric shadow that does not impress.

As a result of being adapted from a graphic novel, much is lost in adaptation and it does not delve into the origins of the vampires. They are rarely on screen and conversation between the vampires is minimal. Further development on the vampires is only available in the graphic novel. Unfortunately, leaving that out may have been the film's downfall.

Focus is instead placed on the

survivors as they attempt to navigate their way to safety. The question is, how do they really survive for 30 days with vampires hunting them relentlessly at every corner? The vampires are never shown to rest. Meanwhile, the survivors take shifts sleeping and must supposedly navigate undetected through the snow?

If we're supposed to watch a group of people huddled in an attack for 30 days, we expect some deeper character exposition, but the cast makes no effort to make us care whether they live or die. Hart-

nett and George are the only characters that seem to have any signs of life in them — despite the barren setting and acting of the rest of the cast.

It doesn't seem like the vampire trend is over, though, because apparently vampire films are popular during Christmas as well. In December, Warner Bros. will release a new adaptation of Richard Matheson's 1954 post-apocalyptic vampire novel, *I am Legend*, starring Will Smith. Audiences will have to see if it's any more original than *30 Days*.

The first time is not always the best

BY VICTOR CHU
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Sex should never be boring. *My First Time*, currently playing at 340 West 50th St. and written, directed and produced by Ken Davenport, is a play that does a decent job of breaking that rule.

The play stars four actors with no props except a single white Mac computer projected toward the screen. Before the show starts, surveys are given out and real time results of the number of virgins in the room are updated on the screen. In a small theater with about 75 audience members, the number never exceeds a one-digit number.

The whole play revolves around the four actors who collectively play a purported 40,000 people, granted that some people only have one word to describe their story.

Kathy Searle has a fresh face, but seems unlikable. Marcel Simoneau plays mostly the nerdy and friendly guys. Dana Watkins gives off the air of a tough guy. The only non-Caucasian actress, Cydnee Welburn, is charismatic and "happy-go-ditzy."

"I remember my first sexual experience. I was alone," says Dana Watkins's character. This sounds awfully similar to Rodney Dangerfield's comedy routine from the 1980's. "I was scared the first time I had sex. I was all alone."

The stories, real and bland, don't honor sex's real pleasure. You or your friend probably has a



MYFIRSTTIMETHEPLAY.COM

The provocative *My First Time*, directed by Ken Davenport.

story that trumps theirs. The stories ultimately don't link together cohesively, and are just random tales thrown together in an unorganized heap. Perhaps it's the sheer quantity and lack of quality stories that submerge the play in a puddle of

mediocrity.

Its pitfall lies in the material. You expect a laugh, strain your ears for the punch line, but lo and behold; nothing. It's like having sex for two hours and not achieving an orgasm.

However, there are a couple of memorable scenes. A young girl with her leukemia-stricken brother, are laying in the back of a station wagon, with their parents in the front. Her brother says he doesn't want to die a virgin. They snuggle

and cuddle under the sheets while their parents are occupied in the front. They stop at a gas station and check into the bathroom where the wish is fulfilled.

Another story involves a young man meeting a surfer dude on the beach who invites him over to his house. The surfer starts giving him a massage and the young man felt they were just being cool. Then, the surfer takes off his trunks and tells him to do the same.

Nothing special, except the surfer had a boner and so did the young man. The surfer began to perform oral sex on him. He returned the favor and soon the deal was closed. The young man still claims that he was anything but homosexual.

The acting itself is nothing spectacular. It's a bunch of people telling stories. Their storytelling skills, and more specifically their delivery, however, are somewhat compelling. Especially favorable is Welburn, who is the best actor in the play. She is believable, energetic and fun. Welburn is able to propel the story with some flavor and distinction in the otherwise dull and banal sex stories.

A few highlights do not justify the majority of the weak tales of their sexual experiences. The play simply does not wrap up. The play suggests that it doesn't matter what your first time was, the most important thing is what your next time will be. Next time, write a better play.

Rent pays back in full



Declan Bennett as Roger, Mark's detached roommate.

SITEFORRENT.COM

BY ALYSSA WICK
BUSINESS MANAGER

The buzz in the room was tangible as people waited to be seated at the rear of the Nederlander Theater. *Rent* has been playing on Broadway for 11 years, and yet the theater was still almost full.

Rent begins on Christmas Eve with Mark (Harley Jay), who spends his time videotaping his friends and narrating throughout the play. Roger (Declan Bennett) is Mark's detached roommate, and they live in a small studio in the Lower East side.

Their ex-roommate, Benjamin Coffin III (Rodney Hicks) has recently married into money and purchased the entire building, along with the lot next door, which is home to many people who have

nowhere else to live.

Benny stops by the apartment to "remind" Mark and Roger that they owe him the past year's rent. Mark and Roger, nervous about the prospect of being evicted, try to reason with Benny, seeing as how he was recently in the same position as them.

The only way for them to get out of paying the rent is to stop Maureen (Nicolette Hart), who left Mark for a woman named Joanne (Crystal Mone Hall), from protesting Benny's plans to evict the homeless from his lot.

On top of all that, where would a Broadway hit be without a major love story and the complications that ensue? Roger reluctantly becomes involved with Mimi (Dana Dawson), and by the end of Act I, they realize that they both have HIV/AIDS.

The plot is a bit complex because of the many connections between the characters; however, the message that the director is trying to convey is quite simple. The general theme of the play is that people must live for today because they don't know what is to come.

A large number of the characters suffer from AIDS, and know that they may not have long to live. This being the case, many people think that *Rent* is going to be a very depressing play. However, although it does have its serious parts, there is just enough wit and humor to keep the audience hopeful.

As many *American Idol* fans may know, Tamyra Gray was cast as Mimi, and much to the dismay of nearby audience members, she did not perform on that night. Dawson, however, proved to be the right person to fill her shoes. She

Baruch PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

BY SHAWYONIA PETTIGREW
BPAC CORRESPONDENT

On Wednesday at 1 p.m., The Great Works Reading Series in the Engelman Recital Hall will give us a glimpse of over 500 years of marital squabbling. The series will feature the French farce, *The Washtub*, Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, an episode from *Everybody Loves Raymond*, and Moliere's *La Jalousie du Barbouille* (or as Jonathan Bernstein's 2007 translation has it *That Old Honky Tonk Monkeyshine*.) This event is free.

The phenomenon of *1001* continues ... join New York's own DJ Arisa Sound, a cast of rising stars and the hot, young theater company for a theatrical experience unlike any you've ever seen right here

on the Baruch campus. *1001* by Jason Grote, features six actors playing over 30 roles and the live spinning of DJ Arisa Sound. The play riffs on the Arabian Nights to tell the story of a New Jersey Jew and Palestinian woman, conjuring a storybook world that dissolves, at a moment's notice, into modern-day Manhattan. *1001* defaces and energizes the Arabian Nights to guide us through a dizzying tour of our precarious world.

Last year, Page 73 received raves for its production of the Pulitzer Prize nominated play, *Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue*. Tickets are only \$25, but Baruch students can purchase tickets at the box office for only \$10 with a valid Baruch student ID. Showtimes are 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and a matinee at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

had a beautiful voice and was able to execute the many facets of Mimi very well. Near the end of the play, during the song "Goodbye, Love," I actually felt the pain she was feeling. Bennett also really pushed the limit. There were points when Roger was so angry that he was actually yelling, and yet it was never off-key.

On the other hand, the sound quality was at times not very good. The cast members had great range, but it seemed that the sound system was distorting the high notes: they became screechy and unpleasant. Another problem was that it was hard to put the play in a time frame. The first act happens over about a

week, until Benny evicted the tenants on New Year's Eve, but the second act happens over the course of the next year. This was slightly confusing for me, but it did not affect the overall meaning of the play.

Rent does something that is not easy to accomplish. It presents a group of homeless people suffering from AIDS in a way that makes the audience identify with them. What's even more surprising is that there are parts that are very funny, without being tasteless.

By the end of the show, you may or may not be teary-eyed, but one thing is for sure: you will know why it's important to live for today, everyday.

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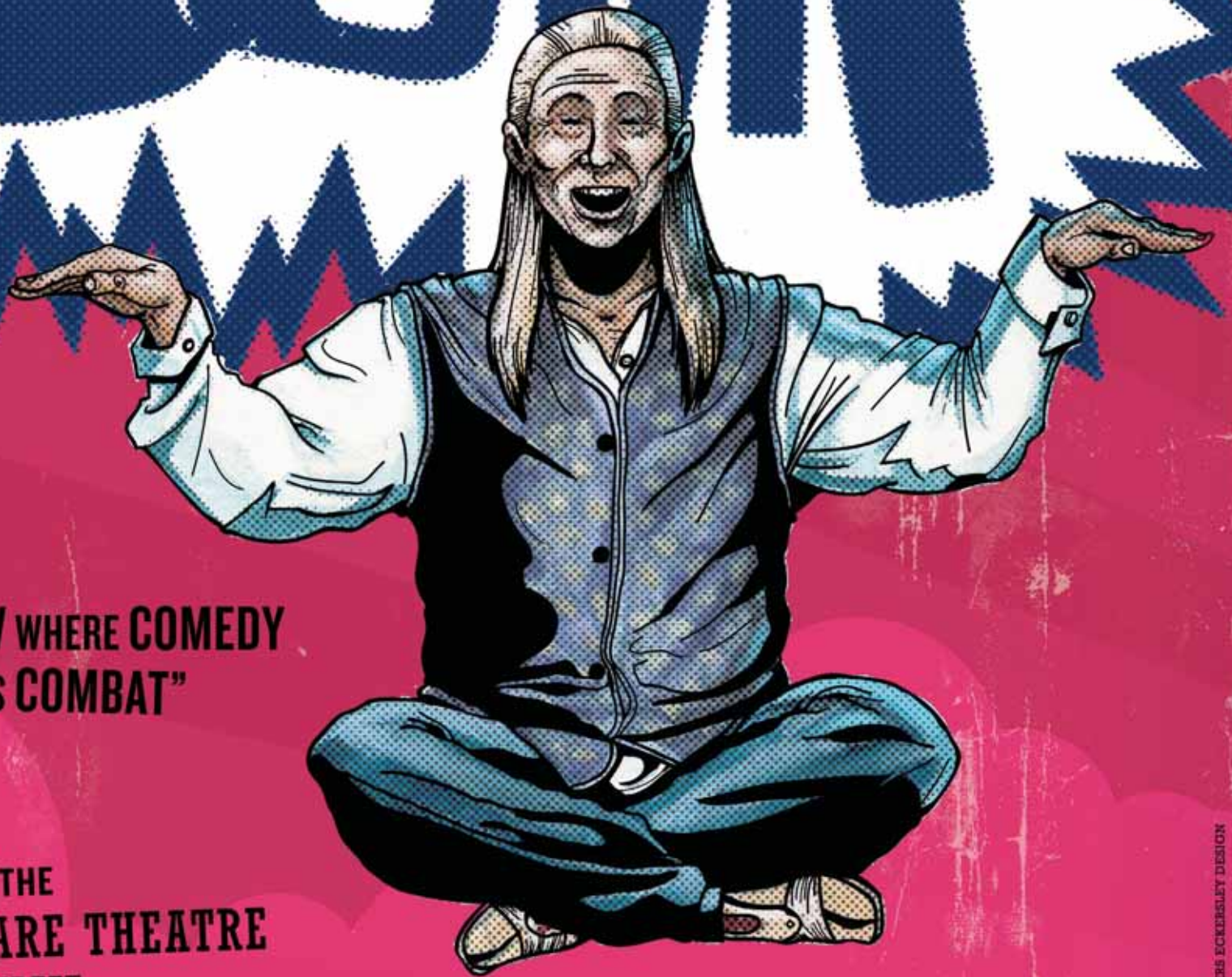


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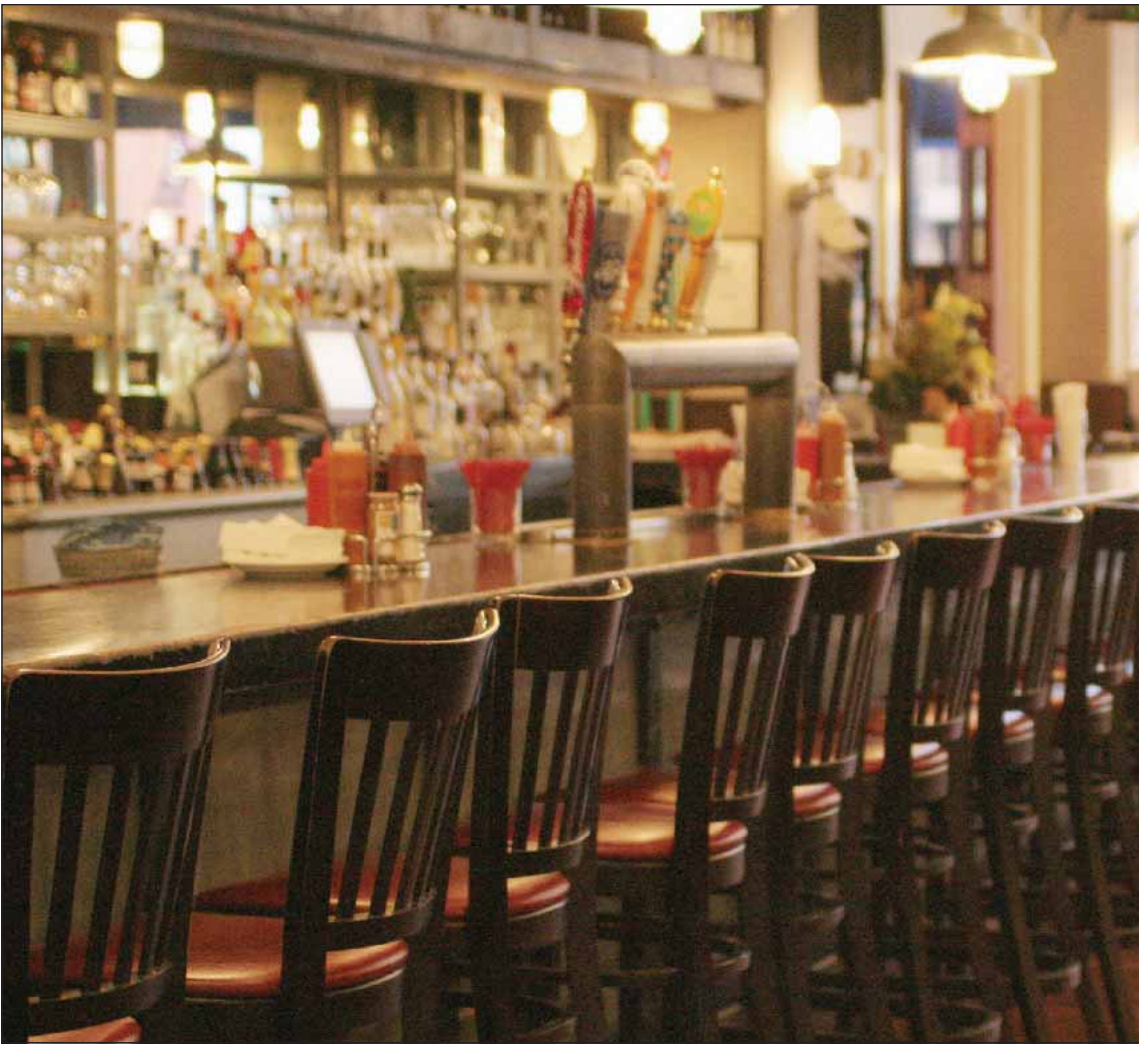
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BY **MARIANE ST. MAURICE**
COPY EDITOR

Any restaurant that uses Magic Dust on ribs has to be worth checking out. Blue Smoke, a barbecue restaurant on 27 St., happens to be one of them. Decorated with industrial and slightly retro-looking lighting, frames and beams, Blue Smoke immediately conveys a sense of comfort to its customers. The large, open seating area at the back of the restaurant has two brick walls and set in the third is a series of windows featuring potted green plants (though the question of whether the view is an outside view or a display remains unanswered).

In one of the corners, near-golden age friends wearing party hats gathered to celebrate a birthday. Their table gave the impression that everyone at Blue Smoke that night was happy to be there, from young families to co-workers, to friends out for a nice dinner and drinks amongst kindred spirits.

Adding to the relaxed décor are round trays set on each table that contain spicy salt and an array of barbecue sauces, including Texas Pete sauce and the restaurant's own specialty sauces. As a side note, be careful with the bottles, as they might jump out at you. My neighbor that night had one such experience, and left his table with a considerable sauce stain on his



SARA GOLDSCHMIDT | THE TICKER

Blue Smoke's comfortable bar adds to the restaurant's warm atmosphere.

polo shirt. The trays also contain the famous Magic Dust. In answer to one of my many queries, the patient waitress explained to me that Magic Dust was simply a BBQ dry rub, a mere seasoning. I couldn't hide the

disappointment such a revelation caused, but nevertheless proceeded to ask her more questions. The waitress kindly explained a few other items to me as I went down the partly expensive menu options — the "Warm Barbecued

Potato Chips" are just regular chips, except they're "awesome and homemade" — and finally settled on a half-rack of ribs for the reasonable price of \$14.95. Just like the menu predicted, the ribs were big and juicy, and

just messy enough. However, the restaurant follows a strict BYOB policy — Bring Your Own Bib. The waitress seriously told us they had no bibs, but generously offered some wet napkins to compensate. They do supply a nice bucket for bones, though, which the busboy took great care in explaining was not a hat.

The ribs come with any side, but I strongly recommend Jackie's fry bread with Chipotle butter. Light and fluffy, it is sure to put you in good spirits, with or without the butter.

A definite winner, however, is the fried ravioli appetizer. Crisp and just spicy enough, they are simply delicious. If you are in the mood for sharing, try the sausage sampler, which proved to be good but too big a portion for one person.

One of the restaurant's unique features is its jazz lounge, Jazz Standard, located in the basement. The lounge is host to different performers every night, and on every Sunday afternoon has "Jazz for kids." The restaurant area has a limited number available for reservation, so I recommend calling a couple of days in advance and saving a table, because the place is always busy and there is waiting time even on Mondays.

With homestyle food, friendly and patient service and a cozy atmosphere, Blue Smoke is a sure bet for a nice Friday dinner with friends. Plus, it just might be the only place in New York that sprinkles food with Magic Dust.

Out of 5 stars:
Food: ' ' ' ' '
Service: ' ' ' ' ½
Atmosphere: ' ' ' ' ½
Price: \$\$\$ (30-50)

Look hot for Halloween

BY **GREGORY ZAREFES**
STAFF WRITER

It's that time of year again. Summer has ended, leaves are changing colors, winter is approaching, and little children are eagerly anticipating Halloween. The exciting yearly tradition of going from house to house and being rewarded with candy is surely one of the highlights of the year.

One of the prerequisites of going trick-or-treating is having a costume (well, not always, but since this article is about costumes, we'll keep that sentence.) Perennial favorites include girls as princesses and boys as pirates.

Women going for a sporty look can choose a referee or boxer. The lonely nurse, or the sweet French maids are also classics that may never go out of style.

Rickyshalloween.com has been advertising heavily, and includes an adult bumblebee and an Ink '50s girl among their featured items. The Pink '50s girl has a bare midriff and short skirt, an exciting combination. Suffice it to say, the model makes the costume look good.

Men's featured costumes tend towards specific movie roles. Darth Vader, V for Vendetta — with the swords — and Batman are three costumes that have been selling heavily. The GEICO caveman also seems to be popular, since his pres-

ence has become ubiquitous in popular culture.

There are many variations on beer themes as well. The adult keg, the beer bottle and the beer tap are always favorites among the much-coveted 18 to 31 male crowd.

Classics also include the 1960s gangster with a Tommy gun, and convict in a prison jumpsuit. Also, Hugh Hefner in a bathrobe seems to be a common aspiration.

For couples, the key and lock, or the plug and socket both have blatant sexual innuendos, which is part of Halloween's attraction. For those with more innocent minds, these costumes may simply represent a way to be cute with your significant other.

E&E Hallstrom Haute Couture carries high-end



costumes for your canine friend. While simple dog costumes may cost only \$20, Couture sells glamorous costumes, including Cleopatra, Rigoletto or Merlin the Magician. Nothing is off limits however, as they can turn a dog into Chinese nobility or famous Renaissance personas.

However, there is no need to pursue a costume. The creative and thrifty have been making their own costumes for generations. Have an idea, buy a piece of cloth, cut, decorate and take countless other steps to make a costume which nobody else can replicate.

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COMPILED BY ELYSSA MALDONADO
LEISURE EDITOR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
29	30	31	1	2
<p>Wall Street Training Program Investment Banking Club Room 12-120 (NVC) 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.</p> <p>Book Drive Sigma Alpha Delta Second Floor Lobby (NVC) 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.</p> <p>Club Promotion Hillel Second Floor Lobby (NVC) 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.</p> <p>Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Opportunity Information Provost Office Second Floor Lobby (NVC) 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (Monday and Tuesday)</p> <p>Goldman Sachs Information Session with Cheryl Pinkard Investment Banking Club Room 1-107 (NVC) 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.</p>	<p>Club Information Lambda Sigma Upsilon Second Floor Lobby (NVC) 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Becker CPA Review Beta Alpha Psi Honor Society Room 3-165 (NVC) 12:40 p.m. – 2 p.m.</p> <p>Grant Thornton Corporate Presentation with Darrell Lampa ALPFA Room 1-107 (NVC) 12:40 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.</p> <p>Symposium on Darfur with M. Rothenberg & Prof. Abraham: Darfur Rehabilitation Project Hillel, History Club, Model United Nations Room 10-150 (NVC) 12:40 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.</p> <p>Guy Trouble & Dialogue on Relationships Jewish Women’s Group Room 11-145 (NVC) 12:40 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.</p> <p>Chinese Learning Program United Chinese Language Association Room 9-175 (NVC) 12:40 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.</p> <p>Mask/Ticket for Masquerade Ball Phi Eta Sigma Second Floor Lobby (NVC) 12:45 p.m. – 2 p.m.</p> <p>The Friedman Hour Jewish Student Alliance Room 3-240 (NVC) 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Focus Program Orientation Investment Banking Club Room 2-125 (NVC) 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.</p> <p>Cycle of Depression Lambda Sigma Upsilon Room 3-210 (NVC) 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.</p>	<p>Book Drive Sigma Alpha Delta Second Floor Lobby (NVC) 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.</p> <p>A Ticker Halloween Ticker Second Floor Lobby (NVC) 12 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Club Promotion Hillel Second Floor Lobby (NVC) 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.</p> <p>Club Information Chabad 2nd Floor Lobby (NVC) 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM</p> <p>Repo Trade Graduate Finance & Investment Club Room 3-215 (NVC) 8 p.m. – 10 p.m.</p>	<p>Bake Sale Turkish Students Association Second Floor Lobby (NVC) 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.</p> <p>Baruch College Torah Center Chabad Room 3-240 (NVC) 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.</p> <p>Club Round Table Meeting USG Room 3-215 (NVC) 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Marketing Luncheon PorColombia Room 3-210 (NVC) 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Latino Leadership ASEDOM Room 3-160 (NVC) 12:40 PM – 2:20 PM</p> <p>“History in a Digital Age” with Professor Richard DiNardo History Club Room 4-220 (NVC) 12:40 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.</p> <p>IBM Presentation with Vince Masi & Patricia McLaughlan Beta Alpha Psi Honor Society Room 3-165 (NVC) 12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.</p> <p>A Direct and Interactive Marketing Lunch and Learn 151 E. 25 St., Room 763 12:45 p.m. – 2 p.m.</p> <p>Information Session Recruiting Program with Dr. Claude Brathwaite from CCNY Provost Office Room 2-125 (NVC) 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.</p>	<p>Dance Practice Music & Performing Arts Guild Room 3-210 (NVC) 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.</p> <p>Mixer Event Kappa Phi Alpha, Sigma Beta Rho Room 3-215 (NVC) 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.</p> <p>Diwali Indian Graduate Student Association Room 1-107 (NVC) 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.</p> <p>Meeting Kappa Phi Lambda Room 3-210 (NVC) 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>General Meeting Lambda Pi Upsilon, Sorority Latinas Poderosas Unidas, Inc Room 3-240 (NVC) 7 p.m. – 10 p.m.</p>

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SATURDAY

3
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March of the Meanies

BY MICHAEL KLAMBATSEN



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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

6				2		1	8	
	7		3				4	
		5			1			9
		9		3		7		
8			6				5	
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1	4				9		3	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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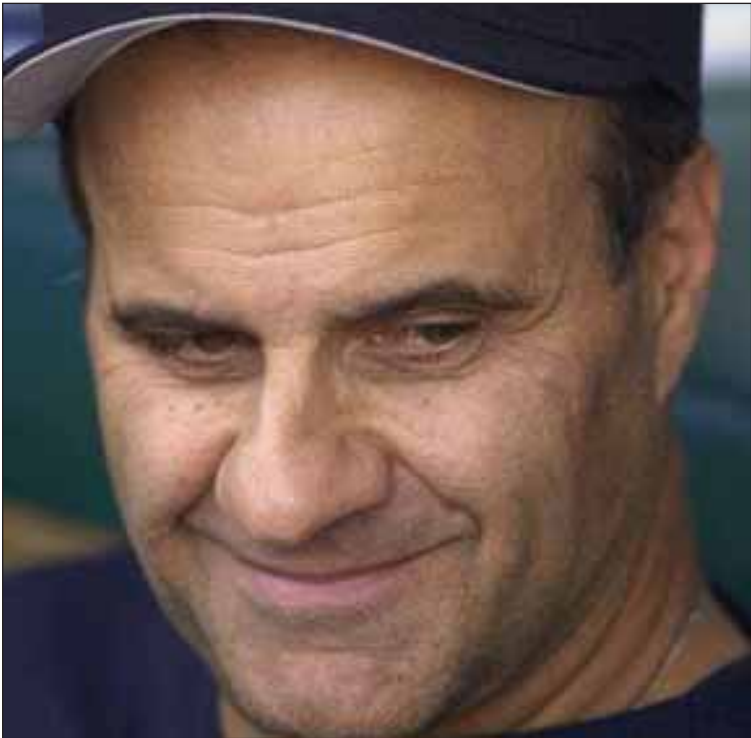
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An October to remember



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The end of an era, Joe Torre has handed in his pinstripes.

BY FRANCESCO DIBARTOLO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Only one team could be at the forefront of baseball news during the postseason, even after having been eliminated. That team, of course, is the New York Yankees. The world, by now, knows that Joe Torre will not be returning to the Yankees, next season. That's right; for the first time in 12 years, a new manager will be donning the pinstripes. Certainly, that will be a huge void to fill, especially since the best man for the job is still Torre.

While the offer made by the Yankees' organization to Torre was by no means cheap, it certainly did make the former manager feel no longer wanted. Not only did the offer entail a \$2 million pay cut, but it intended to also a one-year contract, with an extension contingent upon the team's reaching the World Series in 2008. Even with Torre's remarkable Hall of Fame caliber and résumé, making a contract extension contingent upon this variable is preposterous and overly demanding. Perhaps this aggressive winning mentality will end up costing the Yankees another championship in the near future. One thing is for sure: the life and blood of this team has been removed, and it will be interesting to see what lies ahead.

As for baseball that is actually taking place on the field, we now know who will be participating in this year's World Series: The Boston Red Sox and Colorado Rockies. The match-up comes as no surprise, and by virtue of yet another All Star Game win, the American League holds home-field advantage again this year. Just three years ago, the Red Sox snapped an 86-year World Series championship drought, breaking "The Curse of the Bam-

bino." Could this be the second championship in four years? Or will Todd Helton and the Rockies claim their first World Series championships?

The Red Sox, on paper, have to be given the advantage, not only because of its home-field advantage, but also due to its well-rounded team. Josh Beckett does not seem capable of losing a game in the postseason, even if he tried, and the Red Sox offense at Fenway Park is lethal. Moreover, with the team's postseason experience — as it showed in overcoming a 1-3 hole against the Cleveland Indians in the American League Championship Series — it is very difficult to pick against them. But I will.

The Colorado Rockies could not have put together a more convincing argument throughout this postseason, that it is — and will continue to be — a force to be reckoned with. Granted, the team belongs to the currently less than impressive National League, however, it will get its opportunity to prove that it belongs to a league of its own, this year.

Yes, the Rockies are underdogs in being tasked with facing an experienced, pitching and offensive juggernaut in the Red Sox. It was also left for dead in the middle of September, before putting together such an amazing run to cruise into the playoffs, all the way through to the World Series.

This run has not all been marked by luck. The Rockies have won with its pitching and timely hitting — two vital ingredients for the success of any winning team. While the team will be challenged by the Red Sox, I predict they will steamroll their way past the World Series, as they did in the National League Division and Championship Series, and the Rockies will win in seven games.

Bearcats want to win

β CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

can reach the finals on Oct. 27 and prevail, provided they stay focused. While the tennis finals were going on, the men's soccer team faced the College of Staten Island in the championship quarterfinals. The team's season so far makes it hard to predict the outcome of this championship: with an overall record of 5-11-0, the Bearcats came in seventh in the conference. Though defending champs, the soccer team will have to make a Cinderella story come true if they want to walk away

with the title again this year. Finally, after winning its last home conference game against Medgar Evers on Tuesday, the women's volleyball team will kick off its championship season this Tuesday. After an arduous season that included a tournament in Oregon, the members of the team seem to believe that they will make it past the quarterfinals and into the finals. Regardless of the quarterfinals' outcome, Baruch will be hosting the semifinals and finals on Wednesday.

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Bearcats ready to attack



BARUCH SPORTS INFORMATION

The Lady Bearcats prepare to host the CUNYAC Finals.

BY ROSELINY D. GENAO
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Bearcats are back and their opponents have plenty to be afraid of. While others have been focusing all their attention on the finish line, the Bearcats know what will actually get them there: preparation. The women's volleyball team has been all about preparation this season and now the time has come to finish writing the final chapters in their story: the story of a comeback.

In the coming week, the women's volleyball team is scheduled to face off against their rivals in the CUNY Athletic Conference for a chance to attain the coveted CUN-

YAC Volleyball Champion title. Not only will the game on Tuesday kick off the championships, but it is also Senior Night, where seniors Karlee Whipple and Elina Kerzhner will be honored for their commitment and contributions to the team. Thursday evening will be the big night of the week, with the top four seeds advancing to the semifinals.

The Bearcats are currently the number three seed, with the Hunter Hawks and the CCNY Beavers taking the top two spots. That may soon change with the championships around the corner. This year's team has what no other team in all of CUNY can boast, the most rigorous schedule and a team chemistry, that when combined, may very

well prove to be their secret weapon. The Bearcats have amassed enough strength and confidence to leave their rivals wondering what hit them.

"I am super excited [about the championships], especially because we are hosting it. We are really looking forward to the semifinals because we are going to face the upper seed, which is CCNY. There's a really good possibility of us winning the CUNYAC this year," said junior veteran Lizmarie Vasquez.

This year's team marks a renaissance for Baruch volleyball, with quality players and a schedule that is tough to keep up with. These Bearcats have played a total of 99 single matches, far surpassing the

70-game benchmark of their opponents. They have had to endure double-headers during the week, which they never did before, and three games back to back on weekends.

This year has marked both athletic and personal growth for the women's volleyball team. "I know a lot more [this year] about my team and my team's abilities ... I know what they can and cannot do and I do my best to make it easier for them," stated Mayra Estepan, now in her second year on the team." Vasquez added, "When you have more chemistry on the team, you just focus more on the game."

Head Coach Allison Gunther is proud of her team's accomplish-

ments up until this point and is optimistic on what the future will bring. "Each and every day I see my players improving at practice and in games. We are starting to peak at the perfect time: playoffs," she said.

The athletics department encourages everyone to come out for what promises to be an all-around night of fun and a die-hard ending to a comeback story. BronxNet TV and CUNYTV will be there to televise the much awaited matches. If there is an event that students and fans should attend, it is this one.

"At this point," says junior Star- en Soanes, "Once we're all in it, on that day, there's no looking back. We're just going for it to get back what we deserve."

Baruch enters multiple playoffs

BY MARIANE ST. MAURICE
COPY EDITOR

As Baruch embarks on the third month of this fall semester, many Bearcats are not only facing mid-terms, but also the hardest and most crucial part of their season, playoffs.

Presently, five of Baruch's teams are either on the verge of starting their respective CUNYAC championships, or are about to face their final competition.

The women's cross country team has had a good season thus far, coming in either second or third in their conference meets.

The team has been led by sophomore Jessica Penarrera, who placed first at the York Invitational, and senior Erika Ruski, who came in fourth at the non-conference St.

Joseph's Invitational.

The team also attended the De-Sales Invitational in Pennsylvania, where they ran against some very strong teams.

Thus armed for the CUNYAC finals on Sunday, Oct. 28, the Bearcats should be able to come out first or second in the conference.

The men's cross-country team, however, seems to be facing tougher competition. Though they came in first at the Queensborough Invitational in late September, at which freshman Andres O'Rourke came in fourth overall and senior Matt Soja was right behind him in seventh position, their record shows them twice in fourth position and once in third.

Hopefully, O'Rourke and Soja will be able to rally up the team and

pull ahead as a group to overcome the other CUNY teams in the championship finals on Tuesday.

The Women's tennis team is also well into their CUNYAC championship, sweeping the Lehman Lightning in quarterfinals on Tuesday. The Bearcats then faced the Brooklyn College Bridges on Friday, Oct. 26, in the semifinals.

Though they lost their last two regular-season games, the team ended its conference games with a six-game winning streak.

With a record of 7-1-0, they earned second place in the conference, behind arch rival Hunter College, to who they lost and whom they expect to face in the finals.

Both the athletes and head coach are confident that the team



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