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.”

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 pointing 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 hacky-sack in the corner away from the doors, it is considered a fire hazard. But all the smokers standing there is not!”

**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, Shrutika Karnawat and Ruth Portman.

Prior to applying, they had to be nominated by Horden Noel, assistant professor of marketing at Baruch College. Also, the requirements for the FDL included an essay 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 nation, were invited to KPMG’s offices where they were welcomed by the CEO of the firm, Bill Thomas, and Welcome Dinner Executive Director, Carol Miller.

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 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 foster tuition bills”).

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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.

**Fare hike coming soon**

**MTA to hold hearings to discuss fare increase**

BY GREGORY ZAREFS
STAFF WRITER

The MTA is proposing raising fares to $2.25 in late February and eliminating the 30-day unlimited, for riders currently get when they purchase Metrocards for over $10. The fare is now $2, and considering the extra 20 percent, is actually $2.40.

One silver lining in that plan would be a reduction of fares in off-peak hours; to as low as $1.30. 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 Subways 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 in a pricing budget shortfalls as of yet. They also note that in 1981, a fare increase was re-considered because of new financing policy. The MTA website, mta.info, lists these hearings. The public can ask questions at the 30-day hearing, for $1 and be heard at the 30-day hearing, for $1.

**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 S. Birdsell of the School of Public Service, and Director of Student Life Carl Aylman, announced on Tuesday, Aug. 16, the launch of a new Career Development Center, which was funded by a grant from the STARR Foundation.

Over 30 people attended the event.”

The reception was a great opportunity to meet 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.”

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**See KPMG PAGE 4**

**See RECEPTION PAGE 4**
Inside the mind of Sigrid Nunez

BY MICHAEL WURSTHORN
MANAGING EDITOR

Guests packed the Newman Conference Center Tuesday night, where English Professor Eva Shaw Chou introduced Sidney Harman Writer-in-Residence, Sigrid Nunez. Chou used the words of reviewers to describe Nunez’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 individual who would later describe the audience as a very vivid individual.

Sigrid Nunez’s reading was well received by the audience, who were given insight on how her life has been shaped by her writing.

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

“Students are very interested in one particular thing which is how much of your [Nunez’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, Nunez explained how much she has enjoyed being the Sidney Harman 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 work you basically hope that they enjoy it and that you give them a sense of what your work is like,” said Nunez, “I just hope that they would enjoy it and be interested in it.”

Nunez 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 experiences 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
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 young, et – 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 1 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.”

H.R. 2669 will provide the single largest increase in college aid since the GI bill, new cost to taxpayers by cutting excess subsidies paid by the federal government and Workforce’s website by cutting excess subsidies paid by the federal government and Workforce’s website.

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

“The bill, however, leaves difficult 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,” Spellings continued.

Spellings 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 organizations, 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 predomi-

nantly 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 im-

portant things on behalf of Ameri-

can families,” continued Miller.

Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pen-

sion 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 Re-


However, he urged the House of Representatives to back up reau-

thorization legislation concerning the Higher Education Act that ex-

pired in September 2004 similar to S. 1642 provisions by mid October.

“Now is the time to get compre-

hensive higher education reform, before we tackle No Child Left Be-

hind,” 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 authori-

ze 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.

“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 per-

manently 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.”

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 was passed in September.
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 shuts down this claim and considers 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, 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 exists 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 be mindful 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 endures 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.

Midnight mask ball

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.”

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

President and deans present initiatives

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

- Kathleen Waldron

Baruch College President

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

KPMG selects two undergrads

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

said, “The FDL Program not only furthered 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 professionals. 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.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Finance major Ruth Fortune, 19, 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.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

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You're that smart.

So, you've decided that you want a lucrative career and a life. At Margolin, Winer & Evens you'll find the best of both worlds. Expand your skills in accounting, tax and business in multiple industry and service groups — gaining experience under the guidance of some of the best mentors in the business. We're mid-sized and merit-based, so you'll be recognized and rewarded for your work ethic and willingness to grow.

You'll enjoy a comfortable work/life balance, and an extremely competitive benefits package, including tuition reimbursement for graduate courses, a bonus for passing the CPA exam and merit-based rewards. And, our impeccable reputation will still give your parents full bragging rights.

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The deadly Super Bug staph infection took the life of a young Brooklyn boy.

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MORALS AND VALUES WITHOUT HIM

SHERVAN SEBASTIAN

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

However, there are things that never change and things we can

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 giving to mass every Sunday and attending catechism classes. I was raised seeing my paternal grandparents pray the rosary and my maternal grandparents, in the tutelage and guidance of religion. 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 lives.

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

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 response 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 it down, its description, isn’t that 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.

He asked you that I wonder how many people 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 ½” x 11” notebook, but it seems that it was unseen in my hands by many.

What should we do? Should 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.

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WTF: What’s really under your costume?

This Halloween, Baruch students will be making pictures to show what they believe, dressing up as corny “Ben Dover” doctors, giving in to fantasy costumes like those that have come to play the unrealistic role of a purple-suited porn.

We will indulge in losing our own identity for one, 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 younger, dressing up (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 many students are fulfilling their dreams. If you find yourself thinking 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 been crushed. We’ve heard horror stories of parents forcing their own expectations on their child.

The consequence of a parent’s selfish demand is their child majoring in a subject in which they have no desire to have their career. So, Sadie and Sam thought their parents were more than half of your Baruch friends are fulfilling their own dreams.

Sometimes, financial burdens have a limiting effect on educational opportunities. Always, 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 countless 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 child of high school. The reasons are more than half of your Baruch friends are fulfilling their own dreams.

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

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

In 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.

We’re all hiding something. 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 badly enough. I know I do.

THE TICKER OPINION
Features

U.S. policy watchdogs bark in Pakistan

n Returned leader survives deadly terrorist attack

BY TABASSUM ALI

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 Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal (United Action Front), a coalition of six Islamic parties, win a majority 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 holds a majority in the Baluchistan assembly. These western entities form a predominantly Muslim region 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 MMA together passed a Islamic law bill, Shariat, in the provincial assembly.

Two years later, the same assembly passed a “Hasba” (accountability) bill that many fear could create a parallel Islamic legal body and be harmful to human rights. Such developments alarm Pakistan’s moderates and President Musharraf has decided to make attempts to “Islamize” 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 Pakistan sovereignty that American presence represents.

Most analysts contend that two December 2003 attempts to assassinate President Musharraf were carried out by Islamic militants angered by Pakistan’s post-September 11 policy shift. Some observers identify a causal link between the United States and the “Wahhabi” brand of Islamism that has been a source of insurgency in Pakistan.

Anti-American sentiment is not limited to these groups, however. In January 2004 testimony before a Senate panel, a senior U.S. expert opined that no country is more hostile to the most anti-American country in the world right now, ranging from the radical Islamists on one side to the 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 ACSI poll taken after major U.S. disaster relief efforts in earthquake-affected areas, with the great majority of Pakistanis 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 (PL. 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 aid allocation for FY2005 was about $686 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 $14.16 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 $2006 allocation of $1.44 billion. The power-sharing deal with Bhutto


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

Former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said Tuesday, Sept. 25th, that if returned to power, she would allow U.S. 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 Pro- liferation network.
Careers On Wall Street

Thursday
November 1, 2007
12:30pm—2:15pm
VC 14-220

A panel of experts will provide information and advice about front-office positions on Wall Street.

A Panel Discussion Moderated By:

Dr. David Shulman
(Baruch ‘64),
Former Managing Director And
Head REIT Analyst, Lehman Brothers

Panel Participants:

Michael Bacon
Executive Director, Trading
UBS Securities

Bruce Harting
Managing Director, Equity Research
Lehman Brothers

Eduardo Mestre
Vice Chairman
Evercore Partners

Basu Mullick
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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. Any one 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 Gershkowitz, director. “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.

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 Rebbe, a tradition that dates back over 250 years. Chabad can be found in over a thousand cities in the United States. “Chabad presents ‘Study with Sushi’ with Rabbi Levi Stolik, far right.

Seth Steinmetz, the student co-ordinator 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.

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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.

Seth Steinmetz, the student co-ordinator 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.

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Making Strides was held by the American Cancer Society, however in the case of C A C w a s t h e i r chance to g a i n v o l u n t e e r s, and get people think ing 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.

Club raises cancer awareness on campus

BY ELYSSA MALDONADO LEWIS EDITOR

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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 purposes 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 event is annually, it want to as much 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 just 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.”

Students participate in “Study with Sushi” with Rabbi Levi Stolik, far right.
BY SUSANA GOMEZ  
CORRECTOR

Before The Interview: Preparation is key

Your goal during a job interview is not simply to persuade the employer that you are the right person for the job; you should also come to the interview with the view 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 the employer and what you are seeking in a position. Also, evaluate your communication skills;

- Handshake - Don't hesitate to make eye contact.
- Eye contact - Look direct to the interviewer's eyes, but avoid staring.
- Posture - Stand up straight, maintain a "natural" posture.
- Language - Be professional, courteous and avoid slang.

2. Research the organization.

Navigate the company's website and look for someone who worked there in the past. Some questions to guide your research:

- Who is the CEO?
- What are the company's top priorities?
- What products and services does it offer?
- What is the company's history?

3. Anticipate questions you might be asked.

There are no right or wrong answers, but being familiar with some of the usual questions employers ask will allow you to answer them quickly and concise.

- Tell me about yourself. What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- Why are you interested in working for our company?
- Have you ever been fired? If so, explain.
- What are your career goals?

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.

Practice is as front of a mirror and answer potential questions aloud. You can also schedule a mock interview with someone and have someone conduct the 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 Wednesdays, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., in NVC 2-190, 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.
Real estate gurus tell all

There is more to the industry than land development

BY RONGBIAO FU

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 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 arbitrage, 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 corporate consolidated budget, forecasting the original budget and comparing the actual monthly results with budget/reforecast plans.

He then delivers his findings 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 about 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 reprographic 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?

Brooks: 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 in line with the reporting standards, internal documents disclosure, as well as answering to the rigorous scrutiny from the public sector.

Perkins: At Ernst & Young, especially in the consulting division, the culture has always been branded and [geared toward] entrepreneur.

In consulting, we are constantly working on new projects with new teams. And because of such dynamics, we do not have a set of corporate fixed structure. And for me, it’s wonderful, since every new project brings a new experience.

At the end of your college career, how did 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 to go to the office to finish work. The technology to telecommute has been made possible.

Perkins: I agree. Technology has advanced 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 355 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 major project is a 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: One could always say 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.

If you had to deliver some kind of passion or interest to someone, what would do for an investment firm?

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

Though experience is not the most important aspect to be examined, enthusiasm 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 in my mind. He was focused, be prepared to get the job done and not the office politics.

Christopher Perkins is currently the vice-chairman and Tishman Speyer Properties as a senior controler, 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 holds a B.A. from New York University and a Masters de- gree (M.Phil) from Columbia Uni- versity. He holds the MAA designa- tion from the Appraisal Institute and was president of the Metro-New York Chapter in 1992. He holds the CMA designation from the Realtors of Real Estate. He is a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and a licensed real estate broker in New York, New Jersey, Colorado, and Massachusetts, Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia and Florida. He is a certi- fied appraiser in New York State. He is a member of the Real Estate Board of New York and chairman of its research committee.

Vornado Trust’s Christopher Perkins and Ernst & Young’s Peter S. Brooks with the event moderator.
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 company 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.
The first time is not always the best

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 play is a black comedy routine from the field’s comedy routine 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 arsunal, 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 thirsty creatures as savage as the werewolves, and the film would have remained relatively unchanged.

Much of the film’s popularity comes from promises of suspense. However, these promises go unfulfilled. The film is predictable at every corner and basks in a supposedly original vampire 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 only 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 attack humans like wolves. 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.

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

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 gore, violent blood loss that nothing really scares us anymore. 30 Days of Night, based on the graphic novel of the same name, tries to redeem the vampire genre to no avail.

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The first time is not always the best

By Victor Chu
Photography Editor

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The first time is not always the best

Audience hibernates through 30 Days of Night

By Ken K. Tsé
ARTS EDITOR

OCTOBER 29, 2007

The first time is not always the best

BY VICTOR CHU
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

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The play takes place 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 unlikely. Marcel Simonovic 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’ character. This sounds awfully similar to Rodney Dangerfield’s comedy routine from the 1980s. “I was scared the first time I had sex.”

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

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 struggle 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 feels 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.

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.

By their ex-roommate, Benjamin (Rodney Hicks) has recently married into money and is home to many people who have purchased the entire building, recently in the same position as them.

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

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

The plot is a hit 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, Tammya Gray was cast as Mimi, and much to the dismay of nearby audience members, she did not perform on that night. The cast members had great range, but it seemed that the sound system was distorting the high notes: they might or may not be teary-eyed, but one thing is for sure: you will know why it’s important to live for today, every day.

Baruch Performing Arts Center

BY SHAWYONIA PETTIGREW
HON 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 Wedding, Shakespeare’s The Taming of the Shrew, an epis- ode from Everybody Loves Raymond, and Moliere’s La Folle Jalousie du Barbouille (or as Jonathan Bernstien’s 2007 translation is that Old Honky Tunk Monkeyshyne.)

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 Grotz, 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 dis- solves, 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 rave reviews for its production of the Pulitzer Prize nominated play, Elliot, A Soldier’s Fugue. Tick- ets 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 mati- nee at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

When: Wednesday at 1 p.m.
Showtimes: 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and a matinee at 3 p.m.
Tickets: $25, or only $10 with a valid Baruch student ID
Where: Engelman Recital Hall, Baruch College

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Theme: Masquerade

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BY MARIANE ST. MAURICE

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). The trays also contain the spices that have been selling so well. The adult keg, the beer bottle and the beer tap are just regular items on beer themes as popular culture. While simple dog costumes may cost only $20, Couture sells glamorous costumes, including Cleopatra, Rigoletto or Merlin the Magician. Nothing is off limits.

However, there is no need to chase 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.

Love good food?
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Love
good food?

BY GREGORY ZAREFS

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.) Personal 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 maid are also classics that may never go out of style.

Rickyshalloween.com has been advertising heavily, and includes an adult halloween and an ank ‘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, Y for Vendetta — with the swords and Batman are three costumes that have been selling heavily. The GERCO cawman also seems to be popular, since his presence 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 is 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&L 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.

H owever, there is no need to pu -
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March of the Meanies
BY MICHAEL KLAMBATSEN

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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7 9 8 6 4 2 9 5 1
2 3 8 7 4 1 9 6 5
9 7 5 8 6 3 4 1 2
5 6 9 2 3 7 1 8 4
4 1 3 5 8 9 7 2 6
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BY MICHAEL KAMBATSEN
October 29, 2007

**Bearcats want to win**

*Continued from Page 20*

An October to remember

> **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 resume, 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 Bambino.” 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.

Ultimateyankee.com

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

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The Lady Bearcats prepare to host the CUNYAC Finals.

BY ROSELLYN D. GENAO
SPECIAL STORY 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 CUNY Athletic Conference for a third time.

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 championship 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 well prove to be their secret weapon. The Bearcats have amassed the perfect time: playoffs, “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 Limarie 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 Espirgan, 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 accomplishments 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 encouraged 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 telecast 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.”

Bearcats ready to attack

BY MARIANE ST. MAURICE
COPY EDITOR

As Baruch embarks on the third month of this fall semester, many Bearcats are not only facing mid-term exams, 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 second or third in their conference meets.

The men’s cross-country team, however, seems to be facing tough 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 whom they lost and whom they expect to face in the final.

Both the athletes and head coach are confident that the team