



Bloomberg: Spitzer gypped New York City

On Promised cut funds include CUNY and SUNY aid

BY LILLIAN RIZZO
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 22, Governor Elliot Spitzer released his state budget proposal for this fiscal year. However, just a few days later, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg claimed, during testimony in a joint legislative budget hearing, that, unlike what he originally promised, this budget fleeces the city by \$500 million.

In the proposal for fiscal year 2008, which starts on April 1, Spitzer proposes new taxes and fees while cutting money from health-care and education, in Bloomberg's opinion. Spitzer plans on making about \$1 billion in healthcare cuts. The proposal is in response to the downward turn of the economy but economists

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ILLUSTRATED BY DUSTIN WINEGAR | THE TICKER

More suffering at 17 Lexington

BY MICHAEL WURSTHORN
MANAGING EDITOR

Renovation on 17 Lexington is in serious jeopardy due to budget cuts proposed by Governor Eliot Spitzer in the 2008-2009 state budget on Jan. 22.

Planned renovations for the 17 Lex building may be put on hold for a number of years, which will be a major blow to Baruch. CUNY's proposed Five Year Capital Budget Request asked for about \$3 billion worth of funds, but Spitzer saw fit to provide only \$960 million, leaving a \$2 billion gap for CUNY to fill.

Major changes are needed for 17 Lex, as the building falls into greater disarray each year. Issues such as heating within the building affect students on a constant basis, as it seems the temperature cannot be controlled.

Baruch is not to blame for the current conditions of 17 Lex, however. The main perpetrator of these problems is the State, as they chose to disregard the serious health and safety issues at this institution.

Sam Stemp, a third year student at Baruch, feels that the heat situation at 17 Lex is a major problem

that needs to be corrected. He stated that the temperature is so high sometimes that he feels as if he can barely breathe.

"The heat is unbearable and students are sitting in class in tank tops and fanning themselves with paper. The teacher is standing in front of the classroom sweating, her face beet red, and her hair plastered to her head with sweat," Stemp said in an e-mail.

Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Ben Corpus stated, in an interview, that some members of the faculty expressed concern over the current conditions of 17 Lex.

Corpus reported that Baruch College Campus High School Principal Alicia Perez-Katz is one of those concerned faculty members. According to Corpus, Perez-Katz reported the following problems at 17 Lex: Fibrous glass dust within the air ducts, mold growth on plaster and sheetrock in the science lab and classrooms, rodent infestation, lack of air flow and dirty carpeting causing respiratory problems within the main office.

Perez-Katz further reported a

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Por Colombia protests terrorism

BY CARLOS MACIAS
STAFF WRITER

Millions of Colombians marched worldwide on Thursday, Feb. 4 showing their disapproval against the guerrilla group FARC and their terrorist tactics. The group is known for kidnapping, extortion, drug trafficking and coercion used to finance arms and their four decades of conflict with the government and paramilitary groups.

Among those millions, Baruch College's club Por Colombia joined in on the march in New York City. The organization, whose acronym translates to Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, is a Marxist-Leninist group, although it is considered a terrorist group by more than 30 countries. The demonstration is considered the largest civil display against FARC in Colombia's history.

Messages of support were heard from five continents and cities like New York, London, Madrid and Tokyo held marches. Thanks to social networking, Colombians also demonstrated in places as remote as the Kurdistan region in Iraq, the Red Sea in Egypt and the Chilean Patagonia region.

In New York City, the march



ILLUSTRATED BY DUSTIN WINEGAR | THE TICKER

was held in front of the United Nations building at 42nd Street and First Ave. Early Monday morning, Por Colombia members Angie Van Den Berghe, John Moreno and Jeffrey Navarro joined 5,000 others to march for the cause. According to the Baruch website, Por Colombia is an organization whose goal is to "provide students with the means and the support to act on personal initiatives and accomplish specific

goals focused on Colombia."

Marchers wore white t-shirts with the slogan "I am Colombia" and "No More Kidnapping! No More Lies! No More Murder! No More FARC!"

"We protested in an orderly fashion, Colombians from the tri-state area attended the rally to send a loud message to the FARC that

SEE PROTEST PAGE 4

SGA squashes press

BY LIA EUSTACHEWICH
FEATURES EDITOR

Partial funding was released for Montclair State University's student-run newspaper, *The Montclarion*, after a dispute between the newspaper and Student Government Association escalated into a decision that left newsstands around the campus noticeably bare.

Two weeks ago, SGA froze the weekly paper's budget, a decision that news editor Shayna Jacobs calls "a punishment, a way to make a statement and exercise authority." The problem began months ago after the newspaper, which is funded by SGA, hired an attorney who was advising the paper on the New Jersey state Open Public Meetings Act.

After publicly challenging SGA's practice of closed meetings, Karl de Vries, editor-in-chief of *The Montclarion*, was ordered by SGA to submit correspondence between the paper and its attorney. When de Vries refused to submit the correspondence, SGA fired the newspaper's attorney the next day. The newspaper contends that SGA practiced executive privileges by then freezing their budget.

According to SGA, the decision

to fire the attorney was made in order to prevent the newspaper from continuing to spend SGA-allocated legal fees "illegally." SGA argued that its bylaws were violated by *The Montclarion's* contract with its attorney, whose retainer was paid by SGA. In order to spend funds, a contract must be approved and signed by the president of SGA, Ron Chicken. The contract between *The Montclarion* and its attorney was only signed by de Vries.

Last week, *The Montclarion's* budget for printing and office supplies was partially released, but only for 30 days. During this time, negotiations between the newspaper and SGA will take place in hopes of reaching a compromise. "If the mediation is successful then [SGA will] back down and stop asking for the correspondence that they don't have the right to, and they'll agree to put our budget back in tact," said Jacobs. SGA Treasurer Melissa Revesz said that the government would unfreeze the budget only if the newspaper submitted the requested correspondence. *The Montclarion* and its former attorney adamantly refuse to release it.

The Montclarion currently has legal representation from the

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FEATURES



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News

Montclairion at war with government

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

American Civil Liberties Union and the New Jersey Press Association legal team, because the newspaper does not have funding to hire an outside attorney as a result of their frozen budget.

“Supposedly, [SGA’s] attorney represents us now, but we can’t get in touch with him, we have to go through Chicken ... We were never truly represented by their attorney after ours was let go,” Jacobs explained. Any request for legal advice must be submitted to Chicken, who would then speak directly to the SGA attorney. For *The Montclarion*, “it would seem that our biggest threat is going to be coming from the student government itself,” de Vries said in an interview with the Student Press Law Center.

Speculation of SGA attempting to censor *The Montclarion* has stretched across the nation and has received coverage from ABC 7 Eyewitness News, *The New York Times* and various online bloggers. “In any newspaper and government relationship there’s a tension. We try to provide objective analyses of the way things are being conducted and [SGA’s] productivity, whether they’re available to students and accountable to students,” Jacobs said. “They control \$1.2 million [of student fees], so I think we should apply the pressure on them.”

Chicken did not respond to messages left by *The Ticker* on his cell phone or office phone.

The Montclarion’s budget is comprised of \$33,000 a year directly from SGA. They receive approxi-

ILLUSTRATED BY EDWARD WU | THE TICKER



mately \$60,000 from outside advertisers that is “earmarked” out of SGA funds. “We don’t have direct access [to our money from advertising], we have to go through SGA to get our own money that we earn,” Jacobs said. “It goes into the SGA ‘other appropriated surplus’ and it’s considered earmarked for us. I don’t like the way that sounds at all.”

Cancellation of the first issue’s publication cost the paper about \$1,800 and could potentially turn into an \$8,000 long term loss if mediation does not end in the newspaper’s favor.

Eventually, *The Montclarion* wants to become independent from SGA, an ideal separation which would advocate the universal journalism goal of fairness and accuracy. “[*The Montclarion* is] supposed to be governed by [SGA] and there’s supposed to be a distance and they’re supposed to respect what we do. That’s in our constitution that they pass every year,”

said Jacobs. Montclair State University students have voiced their thoughts on this campus contention on the newspaper’s website, themontclarion.org, as well as through support groups on Facebook. Jacobs also mentioned that the national coverage has “helped immensely,” generating e-mails from people nationwide, offers to help pay for printing issues and vocal support from professional and student journalists. Chicken is backed by other SGA executive board members and legislators, which Jacobs said was present at the meeting during which the newspaper’s budget was partially reactivated. “I would argue that the ones who consider [Chicken] their leadership are blindly following him, not really questioning his motives and they probably think the same things about us [and de Vries], so it’s more personal than it should be,” she said. Though Jacobs and the other editors are optimistic that the mediation will work out in their favor, Jacobs believes the animosity between the newspaper and SGA is pervasive. “I don’t know how much faith anyone has in the system anymore where students can govern students who are running a professional newspaper. This should never happen, there should never be any way for this to happen.” Baruch’s own student-run newspaper, *The Ticker*, currently operates independently and receives its funding from the Communications Board within the Bernard M. Baruch College Association Fund.

Students cast vote of confusion

BY JANA KASPERKEVIC
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Although it was raining and the Giants Parade dominated the lower part of the city, on Feb. 5, New Yorkers found the time to cast their vote and make their mark in this year’s primary election. Baruch College found itself immersed in this political process as it housed two of Manhattan’s polling sites.

According to Cecelia Welborne, a poll inspector who worked the polling station located in the William and Anita Newman Library, some voters who stopped at this location were confused about their actual polling site, since there was another Baruch polling site at the 22nd Street building. Besides voters from outside of the Baruch College community, the Newman library polling site was frequented by students who had questions about the primary election.

“Because we are located at Baruch, we get [questions from] students who are going to be at school late,” said Welborne. “They are hopeful that they can vote in this assembly district even though they don’t live in any of these election districts.”

Unfortunately, students have to vote in the designated election district for their home address. Consequently, students who had class late this Super Tuesday and did not vote in the morning before coming to school did not get to vote in this election.

While Baruch students scrambled to find time to vote, others came through the campus and submitted their votes. Poll inspector Bonnie Bruce observed that the influx of voters was steady throughout the day with more people coming in about lunchtime.

“I thought it would be heavier,” admitted Welborne, when asked about the voter turnout. After giving it some thought, she continued, “A lot of people said that they did not get notices. I don’t know if that had some effect.”

A number of Baruch students confirmed that they had not received the notices that inform voters about their assigned assembly district, election district, polling place and confirm their registration. However, this did not deter them from participating in this election and caring about the various issues that have surfaced throughout the past few months.

Sophomore Arvind Dilawar listed war, immigration and economy as his top three issues during this election. Dilawar is looking for a candidate “who is going to be able to take care of American economy and not continue running us at the deficit.”

“If you live in NYC you understand that immigration is a big part of our lives and to let something that big fall in wrong hands or just continue unmanaged is a problem,” Dilawar said. “It is only going to get worse if we don’t deal with it.”

Like many of the voters, Dilawar prefers Ron Paul for a Republican candidate and Barack Obama, the “refreshing” candidate who stands for change, to Hillary Clinton for a Democratic one. He pointed out that if Clinton were to be elected, everyone under 20 would have lived only during the Bush and Clinton White House.

Professor garners chancellor’s acclaim

BY SOPHIA AHMAD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Chancellor Matthew Goldstein of The City University of New York bestowed five scholars with the title of Distinguished Professor on Jan. 28 and cited Baruch Professor of Art History Gail Levin as one of them.

Nationally acclaimed and world renowned, these scholars demonstrate the high level of academic commitment and achievement as well as excellence in their respective fields that CUNY wishes to commemorate and associate with. Levin is currently working on her next book in Milan and trailing her Distinguished Fulbright Chair in the Netherlands.

The Wall Street Journal praised Levin’s biography entitled as *Edward Hopper: An Intimate Biography* as one of the “five best” biographies about artists ever written. It is only one of the 18 books Levin has either edited or written. Other areas of interest and research that she has explored include feminist art, exploring other artists such as Judy Chicago.

She stated, “I am delighted to have been chosen as a Distinguished Professor in the City University of New York.” She expressed her feelings with regard to her accomplishment and the impact she hopes to make with her new honor. She hopes that her appointment as a CUNY Distinguished Professor will help further the goals of women.

Levin said, “I am particularly pleased that this honor is going to a woman at Baruch College in the

department of Fine and Performing Arts. I am only the second woman at Baruch to receive this title, following that conferred earlier on my good friend and esteemed colleague, the poet Grace Schulman. With a woman president at Baruch and a woman now running for president of the United States, it seems that many new opportunities for women are opening up.”

Levin also hopes to make a difference within Baruch’s business community. She said, “As an art historian and biographer, I hope that my new title will encourage more business majors to take electives in the arts and to make the enjoyment of visual art an important part of their lives after graduation.” She will be back on campus on Apr. 17 to participate in a faculty discussion about biography during club hours, which would provide students with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with her work, as well as the biographical genre.

Distinguished Professorship is the highest honor a scholar or faculty member can receive from the University, and involves a strenuous and thorough process of evaluation.

The candidates are first nominated by their departments, and then the president of the college, who, if he or she chooses, extends the nomination to CUNY’s Board of Trustees.

When asked about the motivation behind the acknowledgement of these academics’ achievements, Rita Rowdin, a spokesperson for the University said, “It’s a method of maintaining excellence in the public university system,” and that



BROADWAYWORLD.COM

Professor Gail Levin

“if there’s an outside professor being courted by other prestigious universities, it’s a great way to secure him or her as a faculty mem-

ber.” She also said that, “There are other scholars who are nationally and internationally known in the same fields as the distinguished professors who send letters of support.”

Put plainly, the Distinguished Professors are highly respected and supported by their colleagues and others in their field, due to the many invitations the professors receive in order to speak at national conferences and other gatherings where they can educate others about their work and findings.

It should also be noted that Distinguished Professors are named yearly. The five new appointments are from this year and are five amongst a group of many CUNY Distinguished Professors.

They are appointed with the hopes of maintaining diversity in the University, as well as a means of attracting students and other scholars to the University. The person’s entire life’s work is assessed and the prospect of future accomplishment and service are all taken into account when presenting a scholar with the title. It recognizes intellectual study and serves as an addition to the list of awards and acclaim that many of the professors have received from sources around the globe.

The other Distinguished Professors are Michael Sorkin, professor of architecture at city college, James Oakes, professor of history from the graduate school and university center, Peter Carey, professor of english from Hunter College, and Fred Gardaphé, professor of Italian American Studies at Queens College.

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Director showcased at National Arts Club



ALEX SKURATOVSKY | THE TICKER

Alyce Mayo, administrative director of entrepreneurship, alongside her work.

BY NASTASIYA KOROLKOVA
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Alyce Mayo, the administrative director of entrepreneurship programs, is not your average director. In addition to her work with the Lawrence N. Field Center for Entrepreneurship and the Financial Women’s Association, she is also an accomplished nature photographer, whose work premiered at the National Arts Club on Thursday, Feb. 7.

The festive reception, featuring hors d’oeuvres, wine and well-dressed guests, highlighted photographers Mayo shot while at the Falkland Islands in January 2006.

“It was summer there, but it was freezing!” exclaimed Mayo. “The gale force winds made it difficult to even set up a tripod.”

Judging from her art, Mayo accomplished this task without a problem. She photographed her subjects, penguins, with a 400mm lens.

The exhibit features photographs of three of the birds, two king penguins and a magellanic penguin. The king penguin is the second-largest penguin in the

world. The magellanic, named after Ferdinand Magellan, is the largest of the warm-weather penguins.

According to Mayo, her “photographic artistry became a logical extension of her new connection to the natural world” after she enrolled in courses on birds and butterflies 15 years ago.

A member of the Audubon Society, she first took the opportunity to photograph flowers while on nature walks in the Palisades. From there, she selected subjects such as butterflies and dragonflies and then moved on to photographing birds.

The exhibit is on display at the National Arts Club daily until Feb. 23, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Club, founded in 1898 by *The New York Times* literary and art critic Charles de Kay, is housed in the Tilden Mansion, at 15 Gramercy Park South, just blocks away from Baruch.

Other penguin works from the Falkland Islands were selected for the 10th Annual Realism International Online Juried Art Exhibition, which opened online on Feb. 1 and will be on view for the duration of the year at upstreampeoplegallery.com.

Colombians march against FARC

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

we’re not going to tolerate their terrorist activities anymore,” added Dr. Claudia Cujar, medical researcher at Columbia University and director of the march.

Organizers used vacation time, sick days, weekends and long nights preparing the demonstration. Supporters even came from Connecticut and Pennsylvania, taking a day off from work. “Colombians showed that we can organize and work together towards a peaceful country,” added Navarro.

Social networking played a vital role; organizers used Facebook to communicate logistics and maintained forums about marketing and promotion ideas. “Un millón de voces contra las FARC” (A million voices against FARC) grew to 277,000 members in less than two months.

“Facebook was an invaluable tool for us to coordinate all aspects of the march, but none of these [would] be possible without the tenacity and compromise from Angie, John and Jeffrey from Baruch College,” says Cujar. “They worked with fortitude and charisma, they care about hostages and their long captivity, their families and the future of Colombia,” he says.

Besides Facebook, the group printed 25,000 posters and 50,000 postcards that were distributed in restaurants, parks and in front of churches. A party bus was also rented to go around nightclubs and spread the word, according to Luz Carreño, the logistics coordinator of the march.

But criticism was drawn from some victim’s families who disap-



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Baruch’s Por Colombia joined 5,000 New Yorkers in the march against the drug trafficking terrorist group.

proved of the march because of fear of retaliation from their captors. Some opposition members and scholars argued that the message of the protest was too narrow. In an article published by opendemocracy.org, journalist Catalina Holguín argues that the simplicity of the march’s message presents a distorted view of the complexity of the Colombian armed conflict.

The FARC, government, drug traffickers and right-wing paramilitary group AUC (United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia) have been key players in the Colombian conflict for the last four decades. It has spilled over its borders, pro-

voking tensions with Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru and Brazil. Colombian President Alvaro Uribe has improved the internal security situation that keeps his approval ratings above 80 percent, according to independent polls. But he has failed so far to disarm the FARC or to reach a peace accord that guarantees the safe release of all the hostages.

Here in NYC, the march’s organizers are evaluating their experience using feedback coming in via Facebook. “We didn’t feel comfortable to sit there and do nothing when hostages have nothing but hope,” said Navarro.

USG revises constitution

BY MEGAN LAW
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Undergraduate Student Government, USG, has undertaken the task of rewriting its constitution, which was originally adopted in March 1999.

It contains articles concerning the name of the organization, the constituency, the powers and duties of the executive board and the student senate, the committees, elections and its meetings.

The constitution also lists the function and responsibilities of each office. It states the procedure in which an official can be convicted and removed from office as well.

According to its website, usgbaruch.com, USG intends “to represent and serve the common interest of the student body [...] to provide student services and activities by acting as a liaison between students and faculty [...] to enhance the total experience at Baruch and to provide a voice for the students on the city and state government level.”

Sean Perryman, the vice president of legislative affairs, keeps the USG up-to-date on relevant policies and represents the students in their lobbying efforts. He explained that the constitution “is being revised because it is flawed.”

The current constitution has some things that applied when Baruch had an evening student government. The amendment about

evening student representing evening interests makes it hard to find senators to fill the position.

Students must be able to attend the 6 p.m. meetings and still have 50 percent of their classes in evening ... this is almost impossible to find.”

He also said that “we are changing the constitution so senators can fill any senator position regardless of whether they are evening or day.”

Perryman added that, in order for these revisions to be made final, a referendum must be signed and passed by the students.

These changes are expected to take effect next semester.

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Campus Briefs

COMPILED BY MIKE WURSTHORN
MANAGING EDITOR

- Sign up for CUNY Alert to receive text or voice notifications of campus emergencies or weather-related closings. Visit cuny.edu/alert.
- The new student e-mail system will be coming to Baruch. CUNY will launch the new e-mail system to replace the current one. Hosted by Microsoft servers, Live@Baruch includes greater accessibility and options. Log onto baruchmail.cuny.edu for more info.
- Celebrate Black History Month. For a complete listing of events, visit baruch.cuny.edu/stulife.
- Auditions for the production of *Getting Out*, by Mar-

- sha Norman will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 12 and Wednesday, Feb. 15 from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. in room B3-130.
- The Baruch College Study Abroad fair will be held on Thursday, Feb. 14 from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m. on the seventh floor Conference Center in the Library Building.
- USG will be presenting a student fee referendum to the SERC committee on Thursday, Feb. 14 for approval.
- Phi Eta Sigma invites undergraduates who enrolled at Baruch as entering freshmen and have a GPA of 3.5 or higher, to join. Contact Dr. Aaron, in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Room 2-255.

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State cuts funding to City University

β CONTINUED FROM FRONT

are criticizing for not acting fast enough to slow down spending, according to *The New York Times*.
The Mayor's focus lies mainly on higher education and taxes. Bloomberg's qualms with the new budget is that the lack of money will lead to fewer new schools and higher taxes on citizens. Insisting that his complaints are nothing personal against the governor, Bloomberg did say he was satisfied about Spitzer's plan to restructure Medicaid and make an expansion on Child Health Plus.
According to ny.gov, Spitzer's "budget proposed the creation of a \$4 billion Higher Education Endowment to fund improvements in New York's colleges and universities, and an ambitious \$9.3 billion, five-year Capital Plan for institutions in the State University of New York (SUNY) and the City University of New York (CUNY) systems."

This revenue is to come from a deal involving the state's lottery system.
After Spitzer's budget proposal was released, politicians began criticizing it in hearings that will continue until the end of March.
As stated by Spitzer's plan, there will be no increase on CUNY and SUNY tuitions and TAP should remain unaffected as well. Even though CUNY and SUNY may be in the clear, there is no certainty especially when public schools could lose money from their budget.
Spitzer's budget proposal will not be approved until the end of March and it could be subject to change. Until then, Bloomberg has decided to stand firm on his beliefs. "Now it's a year later and we find that instead of this promised full share, we're budgeted to receive only half of what were due," Bloomberg said in *The New York Times*. "Well, New York City doesn't need another I.O.U."

Ambitious job-seekers wow recruiters at Internship Fair



SARAH GOLDSCHMIDT | THE TICKER

Over 60 company representatives met with prospective interns in the Baruch gymnasium on Friday.

BY TAMEKA VASQUEZ
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Friday, Feb. 8, Baruch hosted the annual internship fair where over 60 companies were seeking interns. It was a large turnout, with students well groomed in business attire and resumes at hand, ready to sell themselves to top recruiters.
The gymnasium allowed students to navigate from table to table without much rush hour-like fuss. Recruiters, some of which were Baruch graduates, were diverse and had such positive attitudes towards the Baruch community. Many others were no strangers to Baruch and its reputation for bringing forth some of the best and brightest.
Cecilia Tse, a representative from the Port Authority of NY and NJ smiled and admitted "nowhere else does it like Baruch." Her company actually holds particular spots for Baruch students, who have

demonstrated themselves to be analytical, interpersonal and effective communicators. She emphasized the importance of Baruch's liberal arts curriculum, since in the workforce. "We deal with more people than numbers," she said.
There were plenty of handouts and freebies to keep students occupied as they reviewed how they were going to interact and sell themselves.
Naquan Ambrose, a business journalism junior, was grateful for the fair as a way of networking and gaining the experience that would give her a foot into the world of public relations and media. She was confident that companies such as "NY 1" would be interested in her.
A senior finance major, Cyntia Gosso was a first timer at the fair who was simply trying to get to know the companies and impress Morgan Stanley in particular.

About to step into the workforce full time, she admits that she will miss the Baruch community, the beauty of the campus and the experience that she's gained in her years here.
Although students must take the first step of introducing themselves, some recruiters were welcoming the fresh faces and even introduced themselves.
For instance, Gdadebo Williams from PriceWaterhouseCoopers, an accounting firm, came from behind his desk to shake hands with browsers. He mentioned that he looks forward to the turnout every year at the fair which brings out a diverse student body and good reputation.
He advised and many others agreed that the key to long term success is to be a "high performer", who he defined as someone with individuality, drive, culture, skills and an overall balanced life.

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17 Lex renovation on hold

β CONTINUED FROM FRONT

situation where a broken window slammed down and severed a student's finger, an issue that she brought to Baruch's attention over two years ago. Even though this unfortunate accident happened to a high school student, it could very well happen just as easily to a Baruch student who takes classes in the same building.
Without the necessary funding provided by the state, Baruch may be forced to endure these unsafe conditions at the 17 Lex building indefinitely, severely affecting the health of students.
Materials such as fibrous dust particles in the air can cause eye, skin and respiratory problems, and the mold growing within classrooms could pose a serious risk to students with asthma or other respiratory problems.
Even though health concerns are a serious issue for Baruch and the State to consider, Baruch's image is in danger of being tarnished, especially as less space is used within the building, forcing Baruch to offer fewer classes, and possibly lowering the graduation rate.
The learning environment inside 17 Lex is already at an unacceptable level with the noisy air conditioning, lack of technology and uncontrollable heat. Serious health issues such as the asbestos, when exposed, and temperature controls can cause long-term risks.
Renovations of 17 Lex have



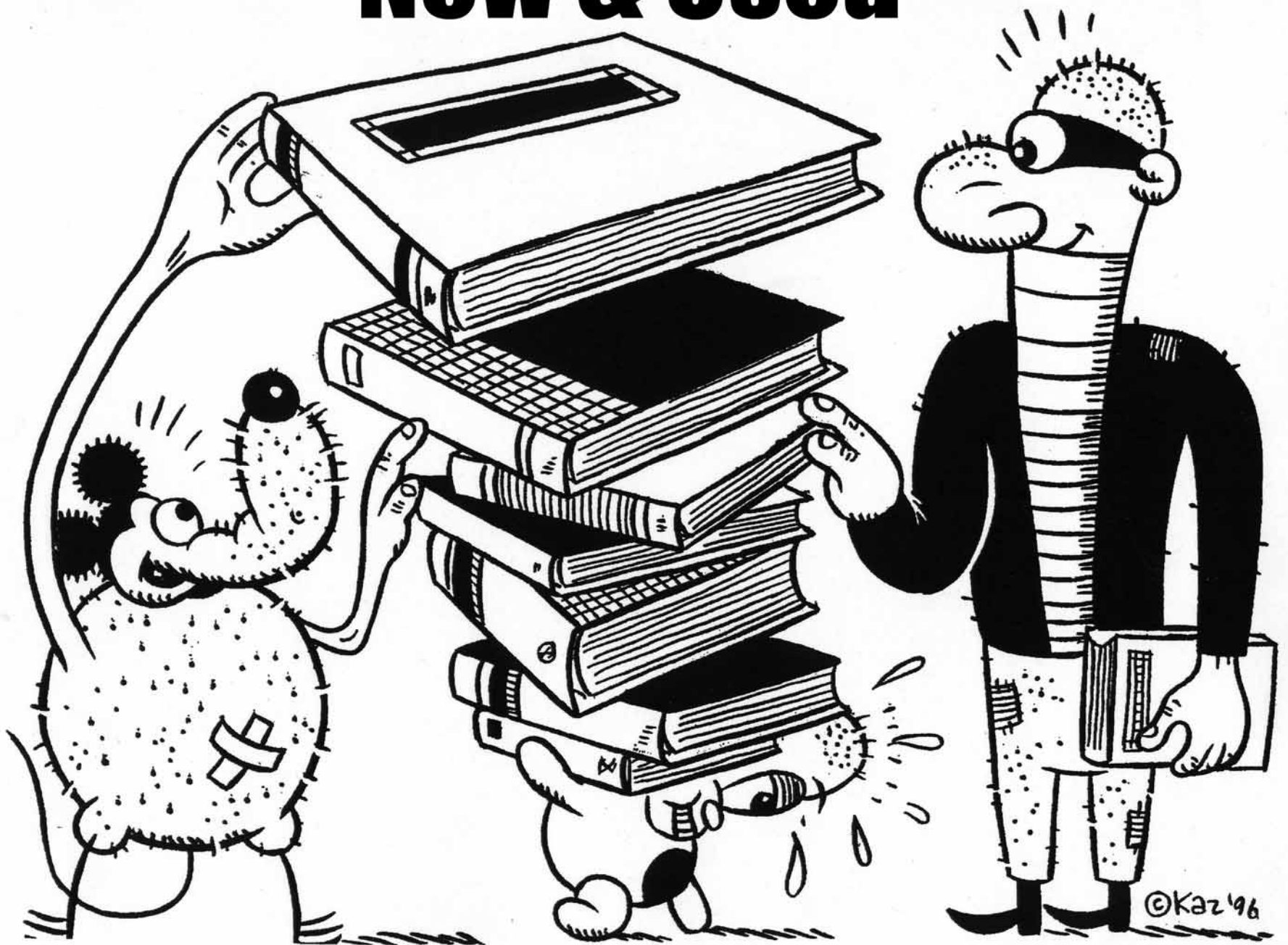
FLICKR.COM

Promised renovation of 17 Lexington, above, is on hold due to budget issues.

been discussed as far back as 1985, when Baruch proposed its five-year Master Plan for 1986 to 1992. Administrators saw the need for major renovations in this building over 20 years ago, but very little has changed since then.
Some proposed renovations were the installation of central air conditioning, the removal of asbestos insulated conductors and the conversion of the gymnasium and pool into student space.
Baruch and CUNY are further shortchanged, as Spitzer's budget

has no intention of funding the CUNY Compact, and CUNY colleges will not receive state funding for any Master Plan initiatives. After further reductions in State support, CUNY is looking at a 2008-2009 budget gap of more than \$71 million.
17 Lex occupies the site of the original College of the City of New York. It was designed and built in 1928 under the guise of the Free Academy. No major renovations have been performed on 17 Lex during its 80-year lifespan.

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When Facebook goes too far

INNA ESTHER VERNIKOV

Logging on to Facebook last Tuesday morning, I was beyond devastated. Over the years, Facebook has gained popularity among people from all corners of the world. It allows people to communicate, post pictures, network and find old friends — without a doubt a great way to stay in touch.

Last week, however, I was extremely distraught by the creation of an “event” called “Hook Up With A Jew Day.”

I am Jewish and reading this was very offensive to me. The description of the event was the following: “Go find a hot Jew and have some fun!!! Show how much you appreciate this small minority of hot people, and what is a better way of showing your appreciation than HOOKING UP with one, two, three or MORE Jews!!!”

This event, created by a Christian liberal, Katie Cross, does not show any kind of appreciation for the Jewish people. It is an offensive, derogatory statement that only helps create more anti-Semitism and hatred for Jews. Perhaps reading some of the comments that were posted by people “attending” will help to understand more about why this event was insulting (last names have been omitted).

Melkon wrote: “Who ever cant find a jew I have a basement full of them, first come first served basis maximum cap 4 Jews per candidate, get your numbers at www.MalKolMe!.com.”

Chad wrote: “is there such thing as a pretty Jew cuz i have never seen one.”

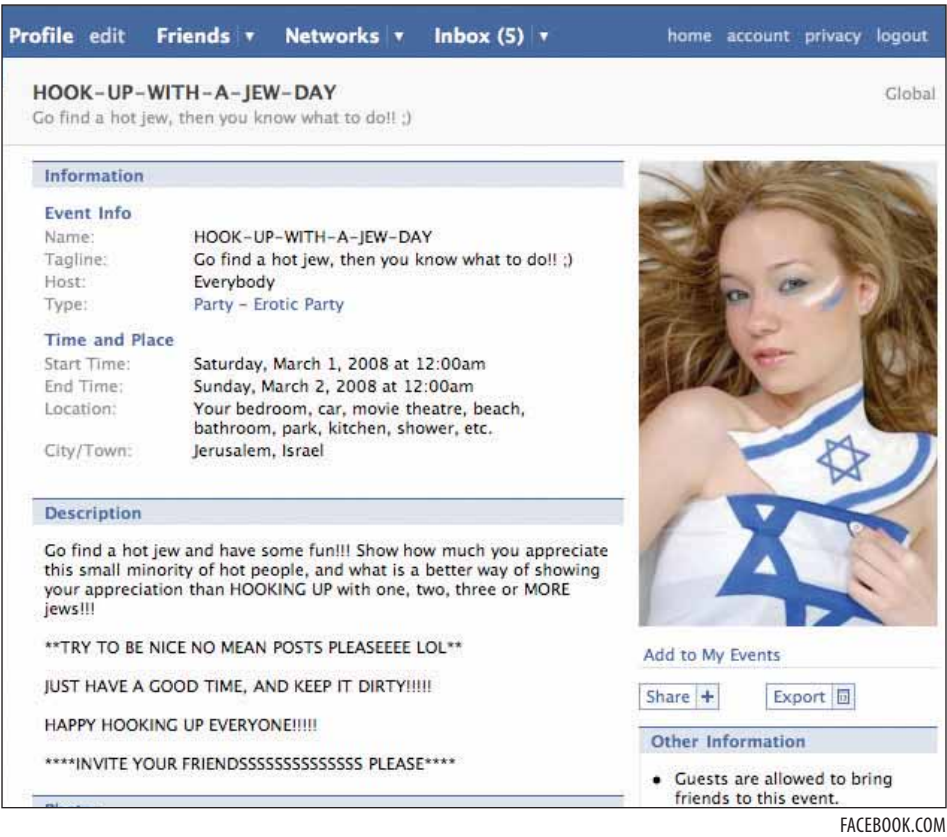
Devin added, “I’m just curious as to what you do with the Jew-claw while we’re hooking up...and where does the nose go?”

Sid: “can i bring my Hitler toy?”

James wrote: “dude ill bang a Jew. ill burn their fire.(no racist pun intended).”

Julian: “feel bad about the holocaust? PAY SEXUAL REPARATIONS and while your at it hook up the brothers for their ancestors enslavement.”

My grandfather’s whole family was killed in the Holocaust — his mother, father, sisters and brothers were all maliciously murdered by Nazis. There is not one Jewish person of



Eastern European background who did not lose a family member as a result of the Nazi regime.

The scary part is that the Holocaust did not really begin with the Nazi invasion. It began with “innocent” propaganda about the Jewish people. Newspapers publicized Jews as “dirty,” “money-hungry” and drew cartoons with Jews having large noses.

Germany’s economic downfall was blamed on the Jews. Hatred for Jews grew through mockery and scapegoating by the media. Therefore, comments like “can i bring my Hitler toy?” and “dude ill bang a Jew. I’ll burn their fire” are very hurtful.

Facebook is currently very popular. People all over the world have access to it, and this particular group has over 40,000 members. I don’t believe this group or their comments do any good for the Jewish people, but

instead create a terrible image for us.

The disturbing picture of the girl seductively wrapped in an Israeli flag is not a representation of Judaism or what Jewish people stand for; Judaism teaches modesty, humility, dignity and self-respect.

The creation of this type of event and the comments that ensue only create more hostility towards Jews and provoke others to make more negative comments. So although it is nice to see that our right to freedom of speech is being upheld, I ask the following question: What is the point of this freedom if, as a result, a group of people is offended and can potentially become oppressed?

Due to this nonsense, Facebook is becoming extremely controversial. I believe that there should not be unlimited, boundless activity on Facebook. If something is offensive, it should be proofread and not posted.

An over-promoted battle

ALYSSA WICK

One could not walk in or out of school last week without noticing the promotions for the Battle of Lexington. There were about five life-sized posters with pictures of basketball players as well as a giant projection of past games on the wall of the second floor lobby, along with free coffee everyday.

As if the five posters and fancy mail-home postcards didn’t reinforce the date of the event enough, there was also a giant countdown clock on the second floor. Even those who tend to avoid Baruch life at



all costs were bribed by coffee to think about attending the event. This would seem to be a good thing for the school, but perhaps it was more than necessary.

Try to imagine how much it cost the school (and its students) to print the postcards. Baruch also spent countless dollars on promotional items and food to distribute to students. I wonder how many students go to the games to support Baruch and how many are just looking for a subsidized dinner. On top of that, staff members from various offices have been putting in hours upon hours to plan for both the pep rally and the doubleheader.

I must say that I do not disagree with the promotion of athletics at all. As a former athlete, I completely agree that the

athletics department should try to promote the different teams. It is not fair that these players train and play hard everyday, but do not receive the recognition they deserve from the rest of Baruch.

But is it really fair to spend so much time and money on two games within one sport? What about all the other teams? Perhaps the costs would not seem as excessive if they were distributed among all the athletic teams.

My next criticism is that they chose to allocate all this money and time to the last home game of the season. This is the most mind-boggling part of the whole thing for me. I don’t see how hyping up the last home game of the season will increase Baruch pride or spirit.

It is important for students to form a sense of pride and community in their school, but I’m not sure that the extreme promotion of this event is the way to achieve that.

Hockey, snow and maple syrup

So Valentine’s Day is upon us. Again. Hurray.

As I sat at my kitchen table last Wednesday, sipping tea, listening to the Backstreet Boys’ most recent album (great stuff) and trying to write something about Valentine’s Day, I suddenly got a teeny bit depressed (Thankfully, I had my BSB music in the background. It never fails to make everything better).

I had written three different versions of this column on the same dreadful topic by the time I realized the reason I wasn’t satisfied with any of them. It was because they all sounded so bitter.

I mean, go figure. Ask any single girl to write about Valentine’s Day and chances are you won’t be getting a happy article.

Don’t get me wrong. Valentine’s Day is great for people in relationships who get one day to say how much they care about each other — although why this particular day is any better than any other day is beyond me. Hasn’t Valentine’s Day become sort of an obligation to do something nice and costly? But I digress. (By the way guys, please remember to get your girlfriend something nice. We all know that they will be comparing with their friends the next day, and if someone surpassed you, you’re in trouble. So mark your calendars — it’s this Thursday!)

But then I realized that practically every holiday we have can be somewhat depressing. They’re bound to suck for someone. Christmas season must be horrible to go through for someone who’s alone. New Year’s can’t be too thrilling if you’re drinking cheap champagne by yourself, racking your brains to find something to look forward to in the new year.

Heck, even St. Patrick’s Day, with all its drinking and jolly celebration has to be something all cops dread. You know, what with the picking up of drunks and all.

And then there’s Valentine’s Day. Do not even get me started on that one.

But wait! Before you get all depressed and move on to the next article, finish this one — it has a happy ending, I promise.

What I mean to say is this: realizing that some people spend those holidays alone has hopefully opened your eyes to the fact that you should be grateful for the people around you. Be grateful that, though you may be single, you have friends who care about you and family that loves you.

Valentine’s Day, they say, is a day of love. So take that day to tell people you love them. It’s so simple to say, yet can change the world when you truly mean it (hum, that was cheesy).

And though people don’t necessarily all agree on the legitimacy of Valentine’s Day or its origin (I still blame Hallmark), I think we can all agree that the world could use a bit more love.

So go ahead. Spread it.



MARIANE ST.-MAURICE
Opinion Editor

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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. ©2008 The Ticker, Baruch College

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Obama debate

SHARMAINE HARRELL

This is a response to “Dem candidate a hypocrite,” which appeared in the Feb. 4 issue of The Ticker.

Mr. Zachary Klein, is it racist when you are talking to your friends in one manner, then walk into a classroom and speak to a professor in a totally different manner? Do you, Mr. Klein, find it racist that Baruch College offers courses in Hispanic studies, Black studies and linguistics in foreign languages? Do you, Mr. Klein, know that in public speaking some speakers have been known to change their tone and/or vocabulary depending on the audience he or she is addressing?

In all the above instances there is some form of separation, but none of them are intended to be racist, nor hypocritical for that matter. In fact, their purpose is to bring people and cultures together.

Professor Carla Thompson, of the communications department here at Baruch, doubts that Mr. Obama was being racist or hypocritical, but “merely adapting to his audience, which is what a good

speaker does.” What you consider racist, hypocritical and the beginning of segregation all over again is a normal technique.

Have you taken Communications 1010, Mr. Klein? It seems that Mr. Obama, just as many of us do on a daily basis, was just familiarizing himself with his audience and letting them know that he understands them.

For someone to write such a judgmental article without any factual information to back up his or her very extreme accusation of racism is irresponsible. One could call you a racist, Mr. Klein, for referring to Obama’s speech as “colloquial” just because he was speaking to a mainly black audience.

Hypocritical, another word you used to “bluntly” describe Mr. Obama is yet another word one could use to describe you. When you assassinate someone’s character based on a single speech, you are almost as bad as a racist. You know, the kind of person who judges someone based on the color of their skin.

V-day or D-day?

ELYSSA MALDONADO

There is one day a year when you get to see sickeningly public displays of affection, sappy boy-friends frantic over last-minute gifts for their girlfriends and singles scurrying to find someone to celebrate with.

Yes, I’m talking about Valentine’s Day. What exactly makes this holiday so great? Is it the idea that you could have possible admirers come out in the open? Or a sudden burst of courage to tell your crush of your feelings?

Well in reality, we all know that V-Day is just an excuse for couples to celebrate themselves (even though they have what we call anniversaries) and for shy people to get an opportunity to just say what they’re feeling, even though they could do it on any other day. So, instead of following tradition this year, try to be independent and boycott this holiday.

Here are four ways to benefit from not celebrating Valentine’s Day:

- **You can save a lot of money.** What’s the point in spending money on someone who might not even return the sentiment? Instead, invest in something that will appease you.
- **No chance of rejection.** Who needs the additional stress of looking for a valentine? Most people just celebrate with their friends in order to not feel ashamed that they aren’t in a relationship, where a significant other would be spoiling them rotten.

- **No worries over planning the perfect day.** Having to make reservations at a fancy restaurant, making sure it’s the right type of chocolate and a certain color of roses just adds unnecessary pressure on people.
- **No obsessing on having a date.** This day turns everyone into love-crazed maniacs. Being alone is nothing to be ashamed of. However, on this one day, it’s almost an unwritten rule that you must have someone to celebrate with. But rules are meant to be broken, so go ahead and break this one!

Maybe it’s the idea that “romance is in the air,” or that this holiday might pave the way for a relationship that makes everyone so nervous. However, why put yourself through so much drama?

Life would be so much simpler without the added pressure of pursuing someone on Valentine’s Day. For new couples, there would be no worry about what to buy each other and for singles, there would be no striving to find someone to call your “valentine.”

So, for this upcoming V-Day, instead of stressing yourself out, just enjoy what you have. No searching for a last minute date, no overspending on flowers that will die in a week and, last but not least, no heartbreak.



ILLUSTRATED BY DUSTIN WINEGAR | THE TICKER

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Business

Baruch students invited to KPMG

BY WILLIAM DICKSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Friday, Feb. 1, as rain drenched Midtown Manhattan, it was Baruch students that were pouring into KPMG's headquarters at Park Avenue and 51st Street. More than 100 students attended. So many in fact, that it took nearly half an hour to get everyone through security and up to the 37th floor. The event included an interactive panel discussion, an office tour and a networking lunch.

Before the panel discussion, students were split into groups and taken on an office tour. The highlight of the tour was the Hotel System. The audit employees generally work from client locations.

After the office tour, Rob Arning, a managing partner and the campus executive representing recruiting at Baruch, gave an interactive speech. Arning took one look at the Baruch crowd and joked that the group looked so professional, that KPMG should just hire everyone there and skip the entire interview process. He stated, "Baruch is very heavily targeted by KPMG." He noted that 200 Baruch alumni are currently employed with the company.

Arning said that this is the most relevant time to enter accounting. "Everything in the global business landscape points in the right direction." This is especially true in regards to a new movement towards more transparency and regulation within the business world.

Arning stated that during the first year at KPMG, employees are exposed to a variety of clients to determine what industries they like best. KPMG focuses on developing the person, but also on having fun and finding a balance between



ALEX SKURATOVSKY | THE TICKER

KPMG partners share accounting insights with Baruchians during a panel discussion.

work and life.

When training was mentioned Brandon Molloy, the Northeast Area director of campus recruiting, said that KPMG is the only one of the Big Four to use a national training program. Every year, new hires from around the country go to Anaheim, Calif., for a week of training. "There is even a night when part of Disney Land is closed off for KPMG."

Scott Stern, a partner in tax who specializes in financial services, made an interesting revelation, describing that he would rather hire someone directly out of college and cultivate them at KPMG rather than hire someone already in the full-time job market. However, he must sometimes hire experienced employees from other companies because there are not enough qualified college graduates to fill positions.

John Verdonck, the panel moderator, said that accounting jobs are very recession resistant. "Companies will always need to have their financial statements audited," he stated. Many of the companies that are having problems with the economic slowdown are using KPMG's Advisory services to help reduce cost.

Suzzain Soos said that there is no such thing as a typical day at KPMG. There are so many things that could happen. Gene Ozgar added that in just one day he could be on 11 various conference calls.

Gene Ozgar, a partner who received both a B.B.A. in finance and an M.B.A. in accountancy from Baruch, said that he tries not to get so caught up in the daily activities that he neglects the personal development of someone he is mentoring. Attention to particular processes or people may be more important

in the long run than day to day hassles.

When asked how the new CPA requirements would affect the recruiting process, Verdonck said that students graduating this year will not need the 150 credit hours to become CPAs. Students graduating in June of 2009 must get their applications in by July 31, 2008. Students graduating in 2010 and beyond will need the 150 hours to become CPAs. Verdonck further stated that going forward from 2010, students who wish to start a career in accounting will recognize that a five-year program is necessary to become a CPA.

After the panelist discussion, students were treated to a catered lunch and an opportunity to network with all of the panelists, recruiters and employees that attended the event.

After the event, David Kaplan, the main organizer and president of the Graduate Accounting Society, stated, "The purpose of the event was to foster a more interactive experience where Baruch students can meet recruiters, partners and Baruch alumni currently working at KPMG."

The student clubs represented included Zicklin Graduate Accounting Society, Zicklin Graduate Beta Alpha Psi, Zicklin Graduate Tax Society, Undergraduate Beta Alpha Psi, Undergraduate Accounting Society, Undergraduate Tax Society, NABA, NAASA, GLASS and ALPFA.

The Graduate Career Fair is on Feb. 29. KPMG deadlines are also approaching for the China Round Trip Program for Mandarin Speakers and the Future Diversity Leaders Program for freshman who have a 3.5 GPA after their first semester.



TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ON-CAMPUS RECRUITING

BY ANNA AULOVA
SCDC CORRESPONDENT

In high school our goal is to graduate and to get accepted to a reputable college. In college, our goal is to receive our degree and find a job within the field of our interest.

We work hard as freshmen, sophomores and juniors to get good grades, but as seniors we sometimes get lost, not knowing the extensive amount of resources available to us.

The Starr Career Development Center provides seniors with many opportunities to figure out their career paths, from providing career counseling to organizing Career Fairs. Further, the On Campus Recruiting (OCR) workshops have been organized to assist upper juniors and seniors in finding a full-time position after graduation.

The OCR works directly through Starr Search, which is an online recruiting system to which students can upload all your professional documents. It is used to search and apply for different positions as well as to sign up for any events held by the Center.

The next OCR workshop will take place on Feb. 13 in VC Room 2-190, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. It will be conducted by Dr. Richard Orbé-Austin, and all attendants must sign-up on Starr Search or by coming to the Starr Career Development Center office.

Attendance at one OCR workshop is mandatory in order to participate in on-campus recruiting for full time positions. On Campus Recruiting was developed specifically to coordinate real job interviews between employers and Baruch students on campus.

The employers who choose to recruit do so specifically looking for Baruch students, giving you a very nice advantage. Barbara Lambert, the deputy director, is in charge of the OCR workshops. She states, "Anywhere from two to three hundred employers are brought on campus each year. It is a wonderful opportunity that is handed to students; all they have to do is reach for it and grab it."

The workshop is a preparation for the recruiting process. It will review everything from resume writing to interviewing techniques, as well as answer any questions students may have about the process. Two hours of your time for one workshop is a very small price to pay for such a wonderful resource.

The workshop will not automatically get you an interview, but it will qualify you for OCR and provide all the information you will need to present yourself in the best light. Take advantage of this great opportunity and sign up today.

THE BIZ GIST

BY EMMANUEL ONYENYILI
BUSINESS EDITOR

SURVEYED. Grant Thornton LLP, ranked as the best national accounting firm for work-life balance and ethics in Public Accounting Report's 26th Annual Survey of Accounting Professors. More than 1,200 accounting educators from 173 colleges and universities participated in the survey. Accounting faculty members are often influential in shaping the perceptions and career decisions of students.

7.6%. Percentage of credit card accounts at least 60 days delinquent or had gone into default in December 2007. This represents a 1.2 percent increase from the 6.4 percent delinquency rate in December 2006. This date was released by the research firm, RiskMetrics Group.

ON CAMPUS. Tarun Khanna, the Jorge Lemann Professor of Business Strategy at Harvard Business School, served as the guest speaker in the first Mitsui & Company lunch-time forum of the semester. Khanna discussed the concepts of his book, "Billions of Entrepreneurs: How China and India Are Reshaping Their Futures and Yours." Included in his discussion was a comparison of both countries on a wide range of issues ranging from government involvement to their degree of openness.

Positioning matters

BY NASTASIYA KOROLKOVA
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Hillary Clinton. Barack Obama. Britney Spears. Whether you are thinking "experienced", "inspired" or "insane" depends on how each of these individuals has positioned themselves in your mind. Jeanette Paladino, head of Belmont Communications, explained the concept of personal positioning at the Financial Women's Association Mentee Lunch on Thursday, Feb. 7.

Unlike branding, which projects how you want others to think of you, positioning is about the reality of that desire.

"A commonly accepted definition of positioning is how you are perceived in the minds of your teachers, peers and employers," said Paladino. "It's what sets you apart from your competition."

A key factor in defining your positioning is identifying your credentials. Chief among these for students are your GPA, internship experiences, awards and honors, bottom line experience and professional certifications.

Once you have identified these, try putting together a positioning statement. A position statement is a grabber. To be effective, it must leave your interviewer thinking, "That's interesting. Tell me more."

This statement must be simple and easy to understand. It must emphasize how you are different and better than your competition. Most importantly, it must show to your interviewer what you can do for them.

"You don't have to put every-



EMMANUEL ONYENYILI | THE TICKER

Jeanette Paladino advises FWA mentees on how to present themselves.

thing into a personal positioning statement," recommends Paladino. "Just identify what is distinctive about you."

A good idea is to start with a punch line and then describe your credentials.

Paladino offered his own example. "I am John Smith with Leading Bancorp. I help my clients to retire in comfort for the rest of their lives. For a young professional like yourself, saving just a few dollars a month can build a handsome nest egg," Paladino explained.

Personal positioning is an introduction to your career. Your career, according to Paladino, is a series of jobs, which you must always be prepared to pursue and attain. In

a career, "It is the little things that make the big package," she stresses. Staying an extra hour at work, for example, sends a particular image, one that leads to rewarding developments.

Paladino has much experience in the matter of personal positioning. According to belmoncommunications.net, she specializes in transforming her clients into "powerful communicators and problem solvers."

These diverse clients include everyone from Deloitte & Touche to the U.S. Mint. As a member of the Board of the Financial Women's Association, she also offered her services to Baruch students.

Copyright 101: Must pay to play music

BY OLEXA CAPILI
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Every day, people are exposed to recorded music, whether they are out shopping at a store or surfing a website in the comfort of their own home. No matter where a person hears music — be it at a restaurant, club, skating rink or cell phone — it is most likely the case that someone is paying a license fee to play or broadcast such music.

The American composer Victor Herbert is attributed with bringing about the first lawsuit against the unauthorized use of music. One result of this legal battle was that Herbert brought together America's best composers and lyricists, such as John Philip Sousa and Irving Berlin, to form an organization to protect their financial interests. Herbert and these composers founded the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) in 1914. Herbert served as ASCAP's vice president for a decade. The purpose of the organization, then as now, is to collectively enforce copyrights for all its members against commercial establishments that play music.

Under U.S. copyright law, protected music can only generally be used after permission is granted from the copyright owner. Such consent is generally granted with a license, which usually involves the payment of a fee. The world of music licensing is a highly lucrative and complex one that can be best understood as a system of permissions and payments tied to various copyrights. Some licensing deals will be granted for a flat fee, while others will require the payment of royalties. The three biggest licensing areas are mechanical,



ILLUSTRATED BY DUSTIN WINEGAR

performance, and synchronization licenses.

It is first important to understand the difference between the two different types of music copyrights a licensee might seek permission to use.

The composition copyright and the sound recording copyright. The former is the copyright in the song itself, which encompasses the music and words. The songwriter or music publisher usually owns the composition copyright, and this person affixes the symbol "©" to the composition.

The use of the music dictates what level of permission a licensee must obtain, as well as what type of license to get. A mechanical license is legal permission given by the copyright owner to make a commercial recording of the copyrighted music.

Mechanical licenses are compulsory after a song has been recorded once, which means that copyright owners are compelled by the law to license any other person to pro-

duce and distribute recordings of the copyrighted music in return for a fixed statutory royalty.

A performance license is legal permission granted by the copyright owner for the public performance of copyrighted music. These are generally granted in the form of blanket licenses, which offer access to a vast catalog of copyrighted music. Meanwhile, the synchronization licenses grants the right to the holder to synchronize a composition in a timed relationship with visual images on film or tape.

Many composers and publishers obtain their largest source of income from performance licenses. A performance encompasses a live concert, a broadcast over radio, TV, the Internet or any other form of transmission. There are several performing rights organizations (PROs) whose purpose is not only to issue performing rights licenses but also to collect and distribute the royalties generated by these licenses to writers and publishers.

In the United States, the three

major PROs that handle the performance rights for virtually all copyrighted musical works are ASCAP, BMI and SESAC.

PROs typically issue blanket performance licenses, which allow their entire repertoire from all affiliated writers and publishers to be used for a single, annual fee.

Each PRO negotiates license fees, and the deals range from hundreds of dollars to hundred of thousands of dollars and beyond. Some agreements are based on a percentage of the user's revenue or are keyed to other criteria. Other deals set a flat annual rate.

There are some exceptions to the license requirement like the Fairness in Music Licensing Act of 1998, which exempts smaller businesses such as restaurants, taverns, and mall stores from having to pay royalties for background music if their square footage is under a certain specification.

Several companies have been created that handle the distribution and licensing of music for the purposes of branding a particular corporation's image in the eyes of consumers. Establishment contracts with companies like DMX Music or Muzak Holding LLC, companies that brand each corporation's image through the use of music, video, spoken word, or even scent.

Clients of music services can have the provider customize their particular sound product to just about anything they want. Retail establishments create an overall style and they choose what style of music they want. Some stores like American Eagle recognize that video and music work hand-in-hand. Therefore, their stores include the artists' music videos on monitors within the shops instead of just the

audio.

Advertising also goes hand in hand with music. For example, a store like Toys 'R Us uses commercial breaks in between songs to indicate which items are on sale. Companies also use such subliminal messages in their telephone hold music.

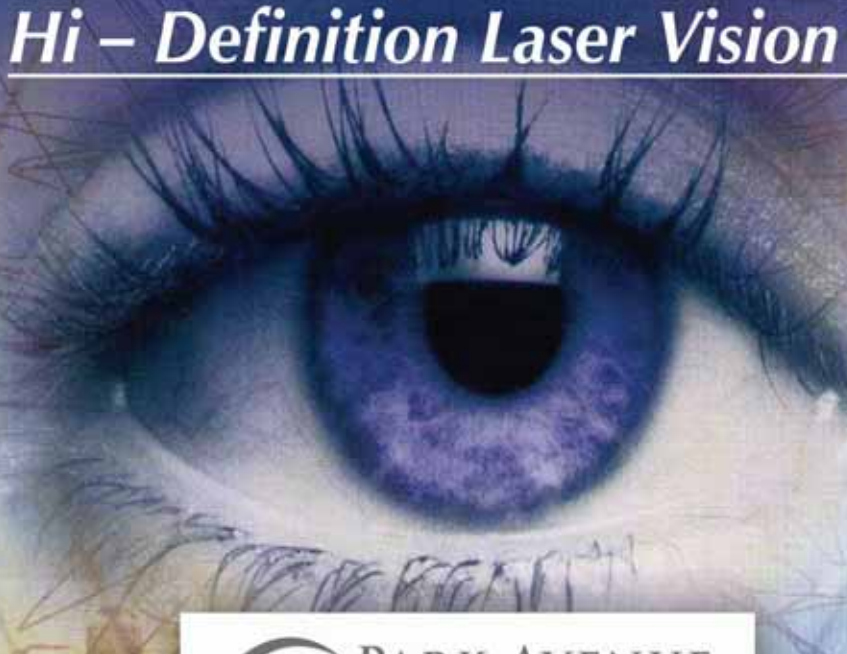
Although organizations like ASCAP and BMI have stringent laws pertaining to the use of copyrighted music, many restaurants remain uninformed or refuse to follow such laws. Elliot Axelrod, chair of the law department at Baruch, he indicated that it is perfectly legal for an individual to play a CD that was purchased from a store in the comfort of his own home. However, the purchase price does not include the right to play the CD in public.


The owner of a commercial establishment cannot use recorded music for public performance without obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Axelrod also stated that commercial establishments cannot merely sample or change a musical work without acquiring rights; thus, for example, a DJ cannot create a remix of a song without first obtaining permission.

United States copyright laws have continued to evolve over the past decades. While regulations about who must pay for performance licenses can be viewed as being cumbersome and costly to the commercial establishments, such laws are nonetheless the only safeguards that composers and publishers have to protect their musical works. In an age where music piracy is becoming increasingly rampant, copyright laws are so much more important and necessary to protect the intellectual property of an artist's work.

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BUSINESS SITE OF THE WEEK: TED.COM



Ideas worth
spreading

Themes	Jo
Talks	Me
Speakers	

Inspired talks by the world's greatest thinkers

BY EMMANUEL ONYENYILI
BUSINESS EDITOR

Every video on TED starts with the same message, "Once a year, 1000 remarkable people gather in Monterey, California to exchange something of incalculable value; their ideas."

The premise is simple. The world's most fascinating thinkers and doers are challenged to give the talk of their lives in 18 minutes or less. The result is an unrivaled collection of almost 200 talks by

intellectuals, moguls, scientists, entertainers, economists and tech wizards.

Featured talks include Bono's call to action for Africa, Richard Branson's environment initiatives, Eve Ensler on happiness in body and soul, Malcolm Gladwell on spaghetti sauce, Euvin Naidoo on investing in Africa and a slew of other ultra-fascinating speeches and cool presentations on Silicon Valley's newest innovations.

TED stands for Technology, Entertainment and Design.

TICKER WATCH: CONSUMER CONFIDENCE



BY EMMANUEL ONYENYILI
BUSINESS EDITOR

In the week ending Feb. 3, the ABC News/ Washington Post consumer index fell to -33. This is its lowest level in 14 years. In January alone, the index fell by 13 points.

Consumer's views on personal finance fell by 53 percent, views on the buying climate and personal finance fell to 26 and 22 percent respectively.

Essentially viewed as a gauge of

consumer spending, which makes up for over 70 percent of the economy, the index points to signs of decreasing consumer confidence.

A separate ABC News/ Washington Post poll indicated that 59 percent of Americans believe that the economy is already in a recession.

In New York state, a Siena Research Institute survey revealed that the consumer confidence in New York state fell to 64.9, its lowest level since 1999.

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WELCOME to AFRICA

REDIFINING AFRICAN INGENUITY

"The only thing dark about Africa is our ignorance of it"

George Kimble



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SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Obinna Isiadinso

Baruch Alum '97
Harvard MBA '02
Portfolio Managing Partner - Monolith
Africa Investment Master Fund, Ltd
Former 1 billion dollar hedge fund analyst

Euvin Naidoo

President, South Africa Chamber of
Commerce - America
Harvard Business School MBA
Co-Author "Nelson Mandela, change
leader"

A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH TOP AFRICA-FOCUSED EXECUTIVES

Thomas S. Mims

Founder, Chief Executive Officer of
Emerging Africa Ltd.

Amini Kajunju

Executive Director - Workshop in
Business Opportunities (WIBO)

An introduction of the Zicklin Africa Business Club

African Cuisine will be served... come experience a taste of Africa

Relay FOR

I am madly in love with Yevgeniya Mikhailovna Funk from Gomel, Belarus, the former former United Soviet Socialist Republic.
-Anton Chuprun

Happy Valentine's Day,
Michael Wursthorn.
-Lucy Bangieva

To Kalaya,
You are very special. I hope we can be friends 4ever. Since meeting you my world has been blessed.
-IAABO

Dear Vovachka,
I love you. Happy Valentine's Day!
You're the hottest model ever!
Love, Angie

My Funk,
You're the Ticker's Marilyn Monroe.
- Mark Emmanuel

Rush Sigma Beta Rho!
Informationals Thursday 6-180
-Abbas Mukhi

yo bro, you got a bone? oh
hey what up Jein?
-Alex Levin

Yana,
I love you. You're so wonderful.
Happy Valentine's Day.
From your JeJe.

This is all Jein's Funk's fault. I wanted to eat but instead I had to do this. Oh, Jein Funk. Jein Funk, Jein Funk, Jein Funk, Jein Funk.
-Daniel Domovsky

I love you more! Ha, I win again!
You can't beat me now!
-Irina Khushenazarova

Wanted: Someone to go back in time with me. This is not a joke. You'll get paid after we get back. Must bring your own weapons. Safety not guaranteed. I have only done this once before.
-Time Traveler

To My JeJe,
Happy Valentine's Day to the blondie that lightens up my world!
Love,
-Yanachka :)

I wanted to wish all my Kappa Phi alpha sisters a happy Valentine's day! Love you guys! Muahz!
-Eden

Black Love Party 02/14/08, Multipurpose Room 1-107. 6-9 p.m. Be there!
-Ira

I LOVE ALYSSA!!
-Rosalind Tsai

Tiffany,
Yo quiero Taco Bell y me gusta pollo.
-M.E.

Happy Valentine's Day, Irina.
I love you MORE.
Love,
-Igor Khenkin

I'm guilty just as much as you of playin hard to get just way too hard. When I kiss you all the insecurities you ever had about us will go away.
-31975

To Dustin Winegar:
I know you work for the The Ticker and you were in my graphic design class last semester. You know who I am.
Love,
Me

I hope you have a very happy Valentine's Day, Mike Wursthorn.
-S

To all my sisters and hang out buddies, I love and will miss you all. Special shout out to Vlada and Ed. Muah!
-Emynenz

I LOVE ANDREW BENJAMIN FISCHER, my best friend and boyfriend. I'll always be here for you.
Love Always,
-Andrea

Zaychik loves Jein.
-Zayets

Emmanuel, Bareeska, Ilya, Ilya, Ilya, Ilya, Ilya, Ilya, Ilya, Ilya, Anton, Eddie, Alex, Alex, Alex, Alex, Alex, Gleb, Ana, Tim, Ilya (just to be safe), Dima, Tickers, Banyas, Ary, etc, etc, etc - - - BFFL4EVAEVAEVAEVA <3
-jeinfunk

Ed, I better get a message or you're giving me a dollar.
Love,
-Mariane

Mike,
When your pants are off, I think you're the black one in our relationship.
-Mark

My love for Jein Funk knows no earthly bounds. Either that or she scammed me.
-Ilya Rozhkov

Dearest Volf,
Your flowing flocks and immaculate girth never cease to running through my mind and keeping me up at night. No homo.
Your Valentine Always,
-Max Leyvi

Happy Valentine's Day to the magnificent Phi Class of KPA and all my sisters.
XOXO,
-Rulette 80
PS- Wazzup LC 36 hommes!

Have a happy Valentine's! Stop and think before you act!
-USG

Boris,
You are my orange snowflake.
-M.E.

Happy Valentine's Day to Ad class. More love to Ed.
-Tatiana

To Joseph F:
I love you, baby. You are my love.
-Libby

Love you my habib alby! Thank you for being the best, sweetest husband I could have ever wished for! ;-)
-Maryam

ALPFA wants to wish all of their members a great Valentine's Day. Please stop by our club, 12-145, for an afternoon of fun and love!
-Janet Rodriguez, ALPFA President

Rush Sigma Beta Rho Spring 2008
-Arturo Lauilo, VP, Brother Wakko

Jein Funk beat me in an alley and ran off with a dollar. Please tell her to return it if you see her.
-Flex

Love to all: Chris, Eddie, Elina, JEIN!, Emmanuel, Tiffany, Jany, my tennis girls, Boris and stranger.
-Ana



To all the girls that broke my heart...
-Steven Yang



Happy V-Day! Seni Seviyorum.
-Jacqueline



Dicen, que como te quiero tanto. Yo que tuve tanto Amores. Seguro me has embrujando.
-Elizabeth



To the most beautiful girl in the world! Please forgive me I don't know what I do, Please forgive me. I can't stop loving you
-Pandoggy



A special Valentine's Day to all the girls from the Italian Society. I LOVE ALL OF YOU.
-Salvatore Inzerillo



For Anthony Favara,
My love, there's only you in my life. The only thing that's right. I wish you the good luck with your career and everything else. By the way, I want to publicly announce my congratulations to you on such a big news! I am so happy for you and ever so proud. I wish you all the best. Lastly, before I forget, I want to tell let you know that I adore you, everyday. I love you. xoxo
Love always,
Monnica Honrade



For the Women's Cross Country Lady Champs, happy valentine's day! You all rock. We've been through hard times and good times, mostly fun and good times. Last year, we made it happen. This year, we gonna make it happen again!! "Lady Bearcats, are you ready? Born ready!!! Let's go Baruch. 1, 2, 3 B-A-R-U-C-H!"
xoxo,
Monnica "cutie pie" Honrade



For the Italy Society:
Happy Valentine's to all of miei' amici! We have had so many good times that we've become our own little family. Here is to another year of fun, festivities, and food... bring on the nutella pizza, Sal! Ya dirty! Un bacio per tutto, ciao!

LOVE

I'll see you next Christmas.
-Hektor Dhime

Maine in Harlem, stay sweet.
Your heart deserves the best.
-Da Ref

Happy Valentine's Day, Jein!
-Secret Admirer

Dear, sweet Hallal guy,
Every day with you is a day worth living.
Every day with your steaming, hot plate
in my lap is a day when the sun shines
brighter. Additional shout outs to the
chorniys, Mar.....k (who?), and jeinfunk.
-Ary Byk

Michael Wursthorn,
You have the prettiest eyes I've ever
seen. Will you be my Valentine?
Love,
Wayne Cheng

To Ed:
This buck could have been used
towards your new jean fund. Instead
it goes to cancer. And maybe to you.
-Maya

Maya,
You are the fire that burns when I pee.
-Luchador

Ashdod is the best city. Also, buy my Jetta!
-Vadim Katchmarik

Wayne
Is lame.
What a shame.
Too bad you have only yourself to blame.
-Sophia Hepheastou & Alex Wei

Hey Caracita,I love you with all my
heart. You are perfect for me.
-PapiSongo

To Nigel,
MWA Bubala!
-Tamara

To Tracy Bragen:
Happy Valentine's Day and thank
you for all your help last semester!
-Ilia Kolosov

Kaleya, you are the greatest. I enjoy your
friendship. On a scale of 1-10, you are a 10.
-Mr. Official

I love you baby. See You later, Kitty.
-Dr. Love

Vriti the gruff eats a lot of m*ff!!
-Yana Banana

Happy V-Day, dearest Boris.
Love,
-Professor

I Love Baruch Sig Rho
Delta Class Fall 2k7!
-Abbas Mukhi

I'm the next big thing.
-Andrew Torres

I LOVE RELAY FOR LIFE!
<http://events.cancer.org/rflcunymanhattanny>
-Alyssa Wick

Edward,
There are starving kids in so many
places. Save some for them.
-Mark Emmanuel

To my ladies at The Ticker:
If I was a guy I would mack
on all of you, seriously.
Love,
Mayo Ketchup

HAPPY V-DAY!!!
-Abdelhadi

Dear Alyssa,
We've had our fair share of laughs
together over the past two years. I
look forward to many more.
Love,
Mike

Happy Valentine's Day Y'all!!!!
-Jason Wang

Let's all fight cancer for Valentine's Day!
-Jane Odartey

Dear Ticker,
Will you be my Valentine?
Love,
USG

Alinca, you are so sexy! Justin
wants your love.
-Justin M

Dear Giuseppe,
I love you more than you know.
Happy Valentine's Day
Love,
Tu Bon Bon,
Adriana

Maya & Vriti,
Let's make an Indian sandwich.
-M.E.

Happy Valentine's Day and
I love my mommy.
-Dmitry Uchitel

Dear Mariane,
I'm spreading my love to you!!!
-Manashe Khaimov

Hey Guys! Happy V-Day=]
-Silly C

Dear Mariane,
You are my one, my world, my love.
-AssFace

After we do yoga we can
think about sky diving...
-31975

Hey ED,
Happy V-Day!
-Helen Kwon

Helen Kwon,
Happy V-Day!
-Ads

MARIA S,
I LOVE YOU!
-Laura Vardanian
Happy Valentine's Day to all the
Ticker staff that are angry at me
for one reason or another.
-Ed

Happy V-Day!
-Ali

To my Ticker ladies,
I can truly say you girls make staying
late for production on Thursdays and
Fridays worth it. The laughs, nights out
and girl talks are what keep me going.
Maya, Kel, thanks for being my dates for
Valentine's day. We put the sin in single.
-Lia

All students,
Good luck on your internship search!
-Starr CDC



Dear Wendy,
Happy Valentines Day!
Love you,
-Rob



Boris,
I'm so glad you are the new
photo editor, now you are in my
presence at all times. I hope the
14th will be the beginning of a
beautiful relationship for us.
-Kellie



Dear Julian,
You're the sweetest person in
the world. I don't know what
I would do without you.
Happy Valentine's Day!
Love,
Shelley



Matt/Popo/Bearkitty/LB,
Love is when a blue eyed boy meets a brown eyed girl,
Love is supporting each other every mile we run,
Love is a want and a need brought together,
Love is 7/11/08, the day we will wed in matrimony.
xoxo,
Hercades/Booboo/Bearkitty/Fianceliciousness

Thanks to all of you whose messages
appear here, we were able to raise
for *Relay For Life!*

\$134

Relay For Life is hosted by the American Cancer Society. It celebrates those who survived cancer and remembers those who passed away.
If you are interested in donating or joining Relay For Life, please visit <http://events.cancer.org/rflcunymanhattanny>.

Features

Broaden your mind and study abroad

BY ANNA AULOVA AND
LIA EUSTACHEWICH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER AND FEATURES EDITOR

Looking to get out of the Big Apple? Why not study abroad? Many Baruch students have already taken advantage of the study abroad program our school offers, which administrates over 100 different programs in as many as 35 different countries.

The obvious perks of studying abroad include traveling for as long as an entire semester, while earning course credits. A student has the luxury of choosing to study abroad during a regular semester or even during a winter or summer session.

The application process a student must complete in order to study abroad can be a bit confusing and time consuming. A student interested in the program should first make an appointment with a study abroad advisor to discuss preliminary plans for your trip, including what program would best fit your personal and academic interests.

Johanna Ferreira, study abroad advisor, says that the most common place to study among Baruch students is Salamanca, Spain, which is the only program that allows students to study various levels of the Spanish language all at once.

The study abroad website has a complete list of countries students can study in, including semester-long programs in intriguing places like Austria, Ecuador and Ghana.

However, if there is a particular country that a student wishes to study in that is not offered through Baruch, they may petition for permission to attend the program.

Students also have the option of direct enrollment or applying directly to a program that is not offered through Baruch. An overlooked but significant factor Ferreira notes is that students must first apply to do so through Baruch, receive permission and then apply to the outside sponsor.

The cost of studying abroad varies from program to program. The Study Abroad office encourages students to fill out a cost sheet that helps calculate a program's budget. There are specific scholarships available to help fund your trip, but the criteria to meet are strict. As stated on their website, <http://zicklin.baruch.cuny.edu/centers/weissman/study-abroad>, the Study Abroad Office will help students find a desirable program no matter their financial situation.

Applying to a study abroad program is similar to applying for college. According to Ferreira, an applicant for the study abroad program must have at least a 2.6 to a 2.7 GPA, or a 3.0 in order to apply to the competitive Baruch Exchange program. Students may not study abroad during their last semester or session at Baruch and freshmen are not eligible at all.

After all the paperwork is completed and accepted, the program is extremely rewarding for students,

according to Richard Mitten, director of Baruch's study abroad program. "For many, studying abroad is an experience that truly alters their lives," said Mitten.

Ryan Contino, a student from Suffolk County Community College who studied abroad in Italy, loved the program and would love to do it again. "I was there

during the World Cup tournament, so the experience was [even more] amazing." As in Cotino's case, you too may be lucky enough to experience great moments in history that happen away from home.

The advisors and staff are available in the 137 East 25th Street Annex building, right next to the library. The Study Abroad Office has

plenty of brochures on programs in different countries, as well as insurance packages to help stay protected while away. The Study Abroad Fair will take place this Thursday, Feb. 14 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. on the 7th floor of the library building.

Whether you are just curious or if you're ready to take the most unique journey of your college career, the very first step is choosing your ideal destination.



ILLUSTRATED BY EDWARD WU | THE TICKER

Across the street down the road?

n Student fee increase looks to provide more student space

BY ELYSSA MALDONADO
LEISURE EDITOR

The semester has just begun but already students are grappling with crowded hallways, overstuffed elevators and of course, broken escalators. But it seems that a solution to these nagging problems is near.

Starting this fall, the Student Activity Fee may increase by about \$9 or \$10, in addition to the \$70 we currently pay. Currently, the money is allocated to student-

related areas around campus. However, this increase is anticipated to provide exciting new possibilities for students.

The Undergraduate Student Government and members of Baruch's administration are toying with the idea of a student activity center.

This center would go in an entirely new building, which could solve the problem of limited student space in the Newman Vertical Campus. The building that is being considered to house the new student center is one Baruch students may be familiar with already — the 23rd Street post office building.

Even though this project could take at least eight or nine years to complete, Vice President of Student Affairs Ben Corpus feels inspired by the University of Miami, which increased their student fees in order to pay for their own student center.

While this idea

is ambitious, it leaves students to wonder how much money this project will actually cost. When asked about this, Corpus said that students will not foot the entire bill.

As for timing, it is not impossible to build a student activity center within the next four or five years. However, the main issue is whether or not students want to pay for their own student center.

"Well, it is unfortunate that the center won't be completed until after our graduation but considering it's only a small fee increase I wouldn't mind helping to benefit the future Baruch students," said Danielle Jacovino, sophomore.

Even if plans for a new student activity center falls through, USG President Anthony Hernandez is certain the fee increase will benefit students. "What we're doing to minimize the impact is giving the

money to certain groups and that's based on need, and that's need that we can extrapolate over four years," he said.

Some of the main areas that show a need for increased funding are the student center (Student Life), the club area and the health center. Since it seems that these three areas are in need of more funding, this increase will allow for better access to the health center and a bigger budget for the student center.

If the plan goes through, students might have "a central location for financial aid, registrar, child care, health care, study space, not the only study space, but the main one, computer labs, tech support. Hopefully, more students are going to get laptops, it's a whole long time initiative," explained Hernandez.

As the next few weeks pass, USG

will be busy figuring out how to properly distribute the money from the fee increase. "[USG] is putting together proposals to decide how much money should be allocated to each area," said Sean Perryman, vice president of legislative affairs. "From there, we can decide on how much we can spend on the student activity center."

Though this increase runs the risk of making a large impact on students' pockets, they will eventually come out on top with better funding for programs and departments that already benefit students.

"Getting student space, particularly a student center building, would be a nice, beautiful thing to happen," said Hernandez.

SARAH GOLDSCHMIDT | THE TICKER



Thinking about studying abroad?

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Study Abroad Fair

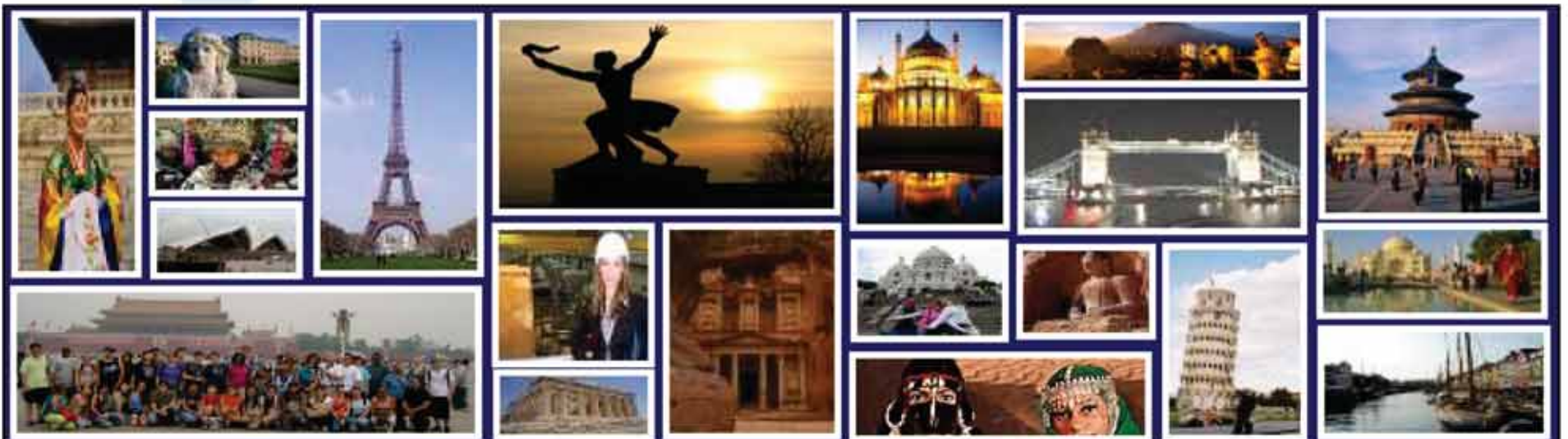
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Baruch COLLEGE
Study Abroad Office
Engage the world!

Putting 'life' back in Student Life for 30 years

BY SAIDA KENDALL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

You sign into your Baruch e-mail account weekly, scan the subject titles and see the Student Life e-mail from the Carl Aylman. But just who is Carl Aylman? When I asked a few students if they knew of him and if they read the weekly e-mails, I received several disappointing “no’s.” How else will you find out the extensive events that are available for students to participate in?

In 1978, coming in as an employee from the Bronx Community College to Baruch College, Aylman took a pay cut and then discovered his wife was pregnant. He says that, now, he wouldn't have taken the job if he knew of the pregnancy at the time, but in hindsight, it was a good decision. Starting off as the assistant director for Student Activities one semester, he became the director of Student Activities and Student Center by June of that year. Eventually, Student Activities and the Student Center were merged into what we know now as Student Life.

Jan. 31 marked Aylman's 30th anniversary at Baruch as director of Student Life. And this coming May, Aylman will have another milestone to celebrate: his 35th anniversary with his wife. After meeting as undergrads at City College, Aylman talks of Ann, his wife, and her unconditional love she has shown him over the years. "My wife always understood what [my job] meant and what it entailed. She always understood and appreciated what I was trying to do," he said.

Ann appreciated Carl for his continuous efforts because of his ability to touch the lives of students at different points in their college career, helping them achieve success. Ann shows up at some of the events "sharing his excitement over things." Their daughter Abby, now 29 years old, would come into the office as well and assist with student aids.

What Aylman finds to be the best outcome of his position is how “wonderful his staff and the students are.” He went on to comment that the Baruch students “have taught him more than he taught them.”

Since Spring 1989, Aylman has also found the time to teach business law here at Baruch. While working on his PhD in higher education, he decided to go to Brooklyn Law School after being urged to by Elliot Axelrod, chairman of Baruch's law department. Not all too interested in practicing law, he preferred the theoretical side of it. Consequently, Dean Bud Connolly suggested Aylman teach a law class which he started with two sections that semester. Because of this decision, he said that it's "fun



BORIS BERDICHEVSKIY | THE TICKER

Carl Aylman, director of student life, has given back to Baruch students for 30 years.

to see both sides of the college [the faculty and the staff]." Many of the students Aylman educated later got involved in Student Life.

The Student Life department is in charge of many big events, like graduation, Spring Fling and Leadership Weekend, an event that Aylman has a central part in coor-

“[Students] have taught me more than I taught them.”

- Carl Aylman
Director of Student Life

dinating each year. He also helps plan graduation and strives to put on a memorable show each year. Other notable responsibilities on Aylman's résumé include the es-

establishment of over 150 Baruch student clubs, which was once only 30.

He initiated the Blood Drive, which is held twice a year (March 4 and 5 this year) that has been very successful and also lends a hand in helping raise huge amounts of money for cancer research through the Relay For Life and Making Strides programs.

Jean Shuck, a member of Aylman's staff for 24 years and current senior office manager, expresses nothing but high praise for him. "He has a special way about him. He never makes you feel like he's the boss, he's really friendly," Shuck said. "If you work for him, he helps you bring out the best in you ... He's the most fantastic director and the best guy to work with."

Saying that Aylman is good at what he does would be an understatement. According to Shuck, "He always has time for students, no matter what time they come in. The students are the No. 1 customer. No matter if you're 12 or 70-years old, he relates well to people."

Ice, ice baby: love on skates

BY MEHRAN GHAFFARSAMAR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As Valentine's Day makes its prodigal return more and more individuals find themselves scrambling for newer and more creative ways to express their feelings to their loved ones.

Amid all the frenzy, it's often hard to tease out the generic from the inventive. Sure, roses and chocolate are fail-safe staples, but they alone can hardly make a memorable Feb. 14. Factor in those of us wishing to do something extra romantic for the holiday — say popping the big question and proposing — and the difficulty of getting things just right increases exponentially.

Luckily, there is hope in our city. Thanks to Rockefeller Center and their "Engagement on Ice" package, most of the work is already done in advance for those looking for a unique and romantic proposal. The only work that needs to be done, other than paying the nominal fee of \$200, is dropping off a CD with your song of choice.

At the conclusion of a skating session, the general public will be asked to exit the rink, leaving you and your significant other the only two on the ice.

Once the question is popped and the answer is received, the speakers will proceed to play the song you've provided.

During this time, the newly engaged couple will have the whole rink to themselves for a whole five

minutes.

Additional perks include a bouquet for your fiancé, a celebratory gift bag courtesy of brides.com that is valued at over \$500 and a champagne toast at the Rock Center Café, overlooking the ice rink on which you've just romantically immortalized event in the annals of your relationship. Throw in tickets that allow you to bypass any rental or waiting lines and you're assured no twiddling of thumbs on Valentine's Day.

According to manager Carol Olsen, the "Engagement on Ice" package came about as a result of the sheer volume of people wanting to propose on the ice rink, while having their favorite song blaring from the sound system.

Coordinating the music and timing with the right couple was no easy feat and eventually the “Engagement on Ice” package was conceived in order to lend some method to the madness.

Since its inception five years ago, numerous couples have been engaged on the ice at Rockefeller Center.

This year, approximately 150 couples were engaged at the ice rink, a number that's bound to rise dramatically as Valentine's Day draws closer.

But if you've run out of time to book this package this holiday, you have until April, when Rockefeller Center's ice rink closes, to get down on one skate and propose.



FLICKR.COM

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Arts

Seeing through other people’s eyes

▮ *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* soars to magnificent heights

BY JACQUELINE CHANCER
ARTS EDITOR

They say you can only feel true empathy if you walk a mile in another person’s moccasins, but shoes and feet can only take you so far. Imagine being able to see through another person’s eyes, to truly experience what they perceive. That is what *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* bestows upon the audience, to such realistic depths that we find tangible, wet tears welling up in our own nasolacrimal ducts, not just the narrator.

Based on a true story and memoir (which bears the same title, but in French), *Le Scaphandre et la Papillon* the film recounts the life of Jean-Dominique Bauby, a former writer and editor of *Elle* magazine.

After suffering from a stroke, Bauby is paralyzed from head to toe; however the portion of his brain, which controls awareness and his thoughts is still functioning. It is a hopeful, yet heartbreaking film about a “locked-in” man.



ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

Le Scaphandre et la Papillon the film focus on the life of Jean-Dominique Bauby, a former writer and editor of *Elle* magazine.

Filmed mainly from the perspective of Bauby’s only working eye, we learn about his situation with him. We share his tears and his smiles.

Blurry portraits of reality woven with vivid hallucinations, highlight this film’s feat as an artistic venture. Duality further pervades the film in

the two varying dialogues; the silence, which saturates the sadness of the situation and the brilliant loquacity of Bauby’s wordlessness

that is only audible to the audience. But, with just the blink of an eye, Bauby’s silence is broken and beautiful poetry weeps; a book is born.

Despite the fact that the creative genius behind *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* is artist and filmmaker is Julian Schnabel, the film remains in the story’s native tongue, French. It was a daring and laudable choice by Schnabel, who went so far as to learn the language.

His artistic eye is so clearly visible in his juxtaposition of scenes, which serve to elevate this film to the realm of high art.

He creates a visual equivalent of an emotional rollercoaster, depicting scenes of drowning, spliced with views from Bauby’s eyes, woven with foggy distant memories and lucid dreams. If you don’t read the subtitles quick enough, you needn’t fear, Schnabel’s images ensure your sentimental comprehension.

Despite the general sadness of the film, there is something inspirational for even the most removed viewer. If a man can write a book, with just the blink of an eye, imagine what one could do if they had control of their body.

Tear-jerking to the very end, *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* reinforces the age-old belief that happiness is everywhere. All you have to do is open your eyes.

The Cool Lupe

BY PATRICK WESTRICK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Lupe Fiasco continues to contest the claim that hip-hop is dead. Fiasco’s sophomore album alternative titled *The Cool* is a redundant refreshing to the ring-tone rappers of today’s culture. *The Cool*, released on Lupe’s own 1st & 15th Entertainment label, which features notable production from Soundtrakk and Chris & Drop. Featured artists on the album include Snoop Dogg, Bishop G, Matthew Santos, Nikki Jean and GemStones.

Lupe’s album starts off with “Go Go Gadget Flow,” where he exhibits a style similar to his Chi-Town counterpart, Twista. Lupe emulates the style well, although it’s difficult to decipher the song’s meaning.

“Superstar,” the album’s second single, goes through the superficial life of people in the spotlight. The chorus is provided beautifully by Matthew Santos. “Paris, Tokyo,” is a refreshing song produced by Soundtrakk in which Lupe takes listeners around the world on a fantasy vacation.

The album’s flow hits a bump when Lupe introduces the tracks “Hi-Definition” and “Gold Watch.” “Hi-Definition” features Snoop Dogg and Pooh Bear collaborating for the peculiar chorus, which is just a genuinely horrible combination.

During “Gold Watch,” Lupe goes through a laundry list of things that define his “coolness.” At this point in the album, the concept of “cool” becomes irritating.

Lupe picks his concept lyrics on the track “Intruder Alert,” speaking about intruders in the story of a rape victim, a drug addict and a man sending his daughter to Amer-



AMAZON.COM

The Cool is a refreshing alternative.

ica for a better life. “Little Weapon,” featuring Bishop G, is arguably the best track on the album. Lupe discusses disturbed youths who kill and “can’t write their own names, or read the words that are on their own graves.”

Bishop G spins his verse off of Lupe’s and talks about violent video games and the disassociation people face between reality and the virtual world. He states, “Imagine if I had to console the families of those slain. [The ones] I had slayed on game consoles.” Both illustrate the idea of children that are exposed to violent situations.

“Dumb It Down,” the album’s lead single, attacks Lupe’s intent to deliver meaningful lyrics. Lupe’s refusal to “dumb down” his lyrics to fit the need of mainstream listeners and DJs is a courageous attempt to

keep real hip-hop music alive. “The Die,” is the track in which he finally decides to kill “The Cool.” It was definitely an assassination that was overdue to say in the least.

Lupe Fiasco’s “The Cool” is a very solid album filled with socially conscious lyrics. The major drawbacks of the album are the sub-par guest appearances and redundant musical techniques. It is also hard to separate some of the tracks from one another.

I have a major problem with the personification of “cool” throughout the entire album.

Although it was annoying, it was necessary for Lupe to do this in order to keep structure throughout the album. Lupe’s lyrical content on “The Cool” make this album noteworthy when compared to other albums that are out right now.

Solving Crimes is fun

BY FRANK MARZULLO
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Crimes of the Heart is perhaps best known as a “chick flick” about three sad Southern sisters. But the story started out as a Pulitzer Prize winning play by Beth Henley that has achieved immense success since its 1979 debut.

Kathleen Turner, who knows a good story, snagged the dark comedy for her directorial debut at the Williamstown Theatre Festival. Turner has now lassoed the leading ladies to the Roundabout Theatre in the big city to continue their sister-act shenanigans.

In the grand southern gothic tradition, the Magrath sisters can’t help their twisted personalities. Their mother made national headlines for hanging herself alongside the family cat’s own noose. Lenny, Meg and Babe grew up in their grandparents’ rickety home.

Lonely Lenny is still stuck in the rickety house. The play opens on Lenny’s thirtieth birthday. She enters the scene, sticks a candle in a cupcake and sings herself *Happy Birthday*, a ritual she repeats twice more.

Fading beauty, Meg, is summoned back to sleepy Hazelhurst, Miss., from LA, where she’s a failed country singer. The reunion is crisis-driven when the youngest sister, Babe, shoots her abusive husband, who caught her in an affair with a 15-year-old.

Gossipy cousin Chick is in a tizzy over losing her “community status,” while anxiously clutching the newspaper. It is hysterical to watch this big-boned woman trying to squeeze into the pair of extra-petite pantyhose she insisted that Lenny pick up.

The flighty Meg is an alcoholic who was committed to a mental hospital. She left town after her

boyfriend Doc got his leg crushed in a hurricane due to Meg’s insistence on riding out the storm. Now married and walking with a limp, Doc is still attracted to Meg. Doc brings pecans and bad tidings. Lenny’s 20-year-old horse Billy Bob is hit by lightning the night before and dies.

The plot is driven by Babe’s fate as she forms a defense for her trial. Out on bail, the childish Babe is content to eat oatmeal and play the sax. Her husband is a state senator and she is doggone proud to have gotten state headlines out of the shooting.

Newbie lawyer Barnett has had a crush on her since she sold him cake at the fair, another tasty morsel Henley adds to the mix. First in his class at Ole Miss Law, Henley gets down and dirty in his attempt to get Babe off.

Lenny is the heart and soul of *Crimes*. The audience roots hard for her when they discover that she has placed an ad in *Lonely Hearts of the South* magazine. Jennifer Dundas gives a very fine performance in the role. In a drab brown dress, sporting short brown hair, she could coast on appearances. She’s alternately warm and feisty, with an accent that lingers in the ear.

Sarah Paulson makes Meg more than just a bitter loser. While struggling mightily with her own life, she is doing everything she can to help Babe and Lenny. By expertly combining sugar and spice, Lily Rabe crafts a revealing portrait of Babe. Solid support is given by Jessica Stone as Chick and Chandler Williams as Barnett. Anna Louizo’s cluttered kitchen set has a down to earth - homely warmth.

Turner’s stagecraft is remarkably seamless. Why, I do reckon that if y’all go on over and sit a spell, y’all will get a hankerin’ to pay a return visit.

Checking into the *Smith Island* asylum

BY KATHERINE CHANCER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Blondie meets Iron Maiden. Pat Benatar and Kate Bush meet Pink Floyd and have lunch with Black Sabbath. These are just a few of the many references made that are used to describe the one of a kind sound and vibe that is, Smith Island. Even though listeners try to find the words to describe Smith Island, you won't really understand their diverse sound until you hear it for yourself.

Smith Island is one of the many bands who are based in New York City, but are at the forefront, standing apart from the hoards of emo kids and guitar players who dream of making it big.

From their distinctive sound, to their even more unusual subject matter, Smith Island has created a name for themselves in New York City's underground rock scene.

What makes Smith Island radically different from other bands is that they have created their own genre, which is referred to as rock

opera. All of the songs on their debut CD are based on a true story of a 1970s woman whose life, filled with numerous tragedies and various drug addictions, leads her to madness. The band is named after The Smith Island Asylum, an orphanage that existed solely in the mind of a delusional schizophrenic woman.

The group came together in 2002, with the chance meeting of lead singer Gabrielle Stubbett and lead guitarist Angus Clark. There are seven members in the band, Steve Dawson on guitar, Aaron Burk on the keyboard, Pemberton Roach on playing bass, Dave Berger on the drums and Deirdre Stadtmauer who acts as both a professional ass-shaker and back-up singer.

The septet released their first and only album, *Asylum*, in 2003. The band is currently unsigned, which is a shock because their music is great. Stubbett's voice is hauntingly beautiful. The band as a whole is energetic, and really excited about their music, just like their devoted fan base.

On the first Friday of every month, Smith Island performs at the Bowery Poetry Club, a small venue with room for no more than 100 people.

Their monthly appearance at the Bowery Poetry Club is more than a concert; the band places as much emphasis on the visual aspects as it does on the music.

The lead singer and her two back-up vocalists wore coordinating outfits, changing multiple times throughout the course of their hour and a half long show. While the band was performing on stage, a projector showed Smith Island's music videos that documented the downfall of their 1970s heroine, Zelda Zardo.

Even though the idea of Smith Island may sound strange, to truly understand how rare a band like this is, you have to experience it firsthand. The group knows how to put on a show that will definitely shock the weak of heart.

For only \$10, you can get a night of really good music, and a really great story to tell your friends.

“Shout” band comes to BPAC

BY MICHAEL WURSTHORN
MANAGING EDITOR

Just in time for Black History Month, *The Milt Hinton Jazz Perspective Concert Series* is presenting The McCollough Sons of Thunder at the Baruch Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, Feb. 20.

The McCollough Sons of Thunder, a brass band, are known for their unique style as they blend African-American religious musical expressions, combining African worship style and Christian theology within their music.

As one of New York's premier “shout” gospel bands, the Sons of Thunder can trace its routes back to the 1920s in Virginia.

Spiritual leader, Macelino Manoel de Graca, founded the first United House of Prayer for All People.

A gospel scholar states that Graca encouraged the use of brass and reed instruments other than the piano and organ.

Even though Graca died in the 1960s, fans are still thrilled to hear the music of McCollough Sons of Thunder.

The Milt Hinton Jazz Perspective Series began in 1992 with its inaugural concert, starring jazz bassist Milt Hinton himself. The series has enjoyed much success at Baruch since then.

The concert is free to Baruch students, faculty and administration.

Those outside of the Baruch community will have to pay a nominal fee for ticket purchases.

For ticket information, please call 646-312- 4085 or visit theatermania.com.

Baruch PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

BY SHAWYONIA PETTIGREW
BPAC CORRESPONDENT

Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and a matinee on Saturday at 3 p.m. This outrageous comedy is centered around a group of actors frustrated with rappers turned actors who steal their roles.

The play will star Vanessa Simmons, actress and daughter of Reverend Run, Michael Shawn of Hot97 and J. Kyle Manzay, most recently seen in American Gangster. Baruch students and faculty receive a special discount and may purchase tickets for \$20.

Don't forget student auditions will be held on Feb. 12 and 13 for Getting Out by Marsha Norman, from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the BPAC Rehearsal Studio.

This is the spring production from the Fine and Performing Arts and director, Thom Garvey will be casting seven men and five women. For more information, visit the department of fine and performing arts, located in the NVC, 7-235.

BPAC is seeking administrative interns, technical interns, members of the 55 UnderGround street team, ushers and box office staff.

If any of these positions interest you, please contact Shawyonia Pettigrew (shawyonia_pettigrew@baruch.cuny.edu).

Tickets to all productions and information regarding BPAC events can be obtained at the box office (in the lobby of the Newman Vertical Campus) or by visiting baruch.cuny.edu/bpac.

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NEW LINE CINEMA
A Time Warner Company

invites you and a guest to an advance screening on Tuesday, February 19th at 7 p.m. at a Manhattan theatre.




JACK BLACK MOS DEF
DANIEL GLOVER
BE KIND REWIND
COMING SOON

To pick up your complimentary pass for two, stop by Building VC3-290 today from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. Offer good while supplies last. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Pass does not guarantee admission. Limit one pass per person. Each pass admits two. This film is rated PG-13. Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13. Must present valid Baruch College student identification to claim a pass.

IN THEATRES FEBRUARY 22nd!



I'm calling all the lords and ladies of the realm to take part in the fight against the wretched dragon! Dress in your fanciest attire for the battle beginning on April 4th! Best fantasy costume wins a prize.

CUNY
Relay for Life
Where: Baruch
ARC B-2 Level
Date: April 4th -5th
Time: 5 p.m. to 8 a.m.

Science

Make fire from water

BY BORIS BERDICHEVSKIY
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

With just salt water and some radio frequencies, John Kanzius, a retired broadcast executive, made fire.

After being diagnosed with cancer, Kanzius used radio waves to find a cure. He intended to bombard himself with ionic metal particles, which would attach themselves to cancer cells. He would then be treated with passing radio waves set at specific frequencies, that would heat up the metal particles and destroy the diseased cells, leaving the healthy ones unharmed.

During one of Kanzius' experiments, an assistant noticed a flash in a test tube containing salt water. Kanzius learned that if ignited, the salt water burned as long as the radio waves were being passed through it. As of now, scientists believe the reason for this event is that the radio waves help break the oxygen-hydrogen bonds and ignite the released chemicals.

So how can this random discovery be of major use? Salty ocean water is everywhere and we're constantly looking for new resources to power our generators. Can this prove to be the long-awaited solution to the energy crisis problem? As more tests are performed and more conclusive results determined, we will soon learn if it is, in fact, the answer.

For now, using the Kanzius radio wave technique on lab animals has shown positive results in fighting cancer. Maybe this discovery will kill two birds with one stone, or maybe it will miss them both.

What happens while we snooze

BY CHRISTOPHER ESPEJO
COPY CHIEF

Sleep has been a popular topic of discussion for centuries, not only for its ubiquity, but for its many mysteries as well.

A main point one should keep in mind is that the brain does not simply "shut down" when asleep. Many areas of the brain become more active during sleep than during wakefulness. For some time now, neuroscientists have believed that at least one function of sleep is to promote memory and learning. According to "An Active, Purposeful Machine That Comes Out at Night" by Benedict Carey a new study was conducted in which participants were asked to discern patterns between pictures of Easter egg pairs with varying patterns. When tested, they were able to easily tell the differences between pairs, but the task proved more challenging when asked to describe a pattern for all eggs. After a full night of sleep, however, the majority of participants improved their previous test scores after gaining "inspiration." It seems that the mind is capable of performing certain tasks while asleep that it struggles with or is not able to do when awake.

The brain passes through several phases in sleep known as Stages 1 to 4. The most famous stage is REM, or rapid eye movement sleep and was discovered at the University of Chicago by Eugene Aserinsky and

his advisor Nathaniel Keitman. After beginning to monitor eye movements to determine if a person awoke, they both found that a portion of sleep contained these rapid eye movements, which they later named REM. It is well known for having the highest percentage of remembered dreams, about 90 percent.

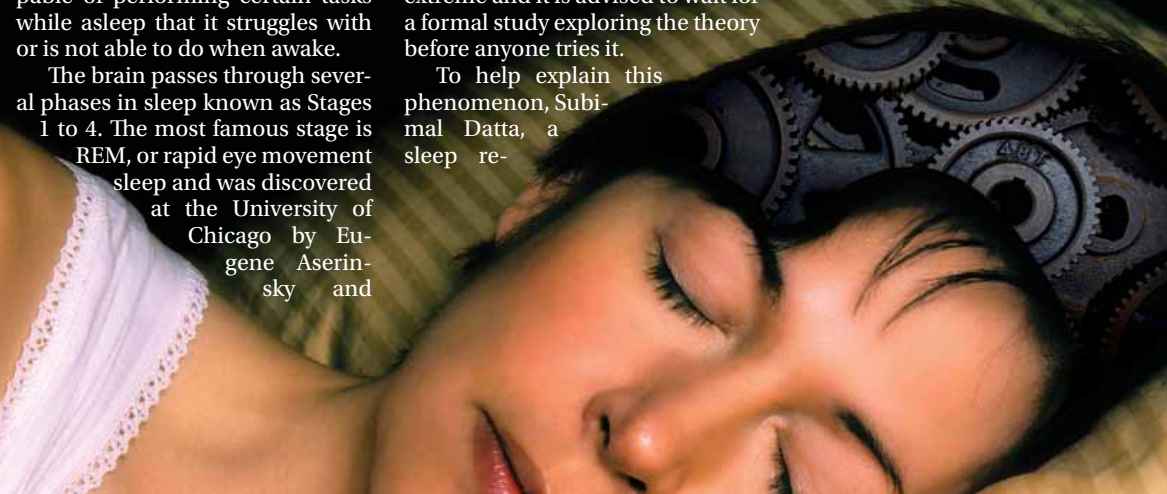
New studies now suggest that while asleep, the brain separates memories by categories and processes them at different stages of sleep. Stage 4 SWS, or slow wave sleep, which is characterized by high amplitude waves that resemble gently rolling hills, processes facts like lists or definitions. REM, on the other hand, seems to be exclusively for managing pattern recognition "for learning grammar, for example, or to bird-watch, or play chess." Stage 2, which is seen as an intermediary between the other stages, seems to be used for processing memory for motor tasks. Studies suggest that a skater, for example, might want to stay up late and wake up later to gain more Stage 2 sleep in the early hours of the morning. This seems somewhat extreme and it is advised to wait for a formal study exploring the theory before anyone tries it.

To help explain this phenomenon, Subimal Datta, a sleep re-

searcher, believes the inhibitory hormones released during sleep may make memory processing better than during wakefulness by suppressing the excess load of information swarming in the brain.

Other studies, however, have shown that adolescents tend to sleep less than they should. Mindy Engle-Friedman, sleep psychology professor and head of the sleep lab at Baruch College, has many suggestions for good sleep: Go to sleep only when you are tired. Wake up at the same time every day, including weekends. If you take a nap during the day, limit yourself to 20 minutes early in the day. If you drink beverages that contain caffeine, switch to decaf after 4 p.m. Exercise in the early afternoon, late night exercise will keep you up. Study, watch television and chat on the phone in places other than your bed. Use your bed only for sleep or sex to develop only sleep related associations to it.

In the meantime, we should all try to get a good night's sleep knowing that our brains are hard at work.



Cannabis users may head for chemo

BY KEITH ARORA-WILLIAMS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A recent publication in the latest issue of the *European Respiratory Journal* has brought to light the fact that there may be an "epidemic" of cannabis related incidents of lung cancer on the horizon for nations all over the globe. The director of the Medical Research Institute of New Zealand, Dr. Richard Beasley, has equated lighting up a joint to smoking approximately 20 cigarettes.

Past studies, published in July 2007 by the Institute, likened the smoking of a single marijuana cigarette to five tobacco cigarettes, but they now qualify these past findings as erroneous. They attributed the issue of trying to separate out the contribution made by tobacco to respiratory damage as the crucial difficulty they encountered in past studies. They say that although it is common practice in most countries to mix tobacco with cannabis, this is not the case in New Zealand.

The study included interviews with 79 lung cancer patients in which information was ascertained in an attempt to find the main risk factors that cause the disease.

In addition to common questions about occupation, smoking habits and family health history, researchers also inquired about a patient's level of alcohol and cannabis consumption.

Their conclusion were patients who smoked more than one marijuana cigarette a day for 10 years, or

two marijuana cigarettes a day for five years, are five times more likely to have lung cancer than those that abstain. Beasley admitted, "While [the] study covers a relatively small group, it clearly shows that long-term cannabis smoking increases lung cancer risk."

Beasley also stated, "Cannabis use could already be responsible for one in 20 lung cancers diagnosed in New Zealand... In the near future we may see an 'epidemic' of lung cancers connected with this new carcinogen. He added that it is already a "major health problem."

The reason that marijuana is more of a health threat than smoke lies in the way in which it is consumed.

While cannabis contains twice the level of carcinogens, including polychromatic carbons, as compared to tobacco, it is the way in which it is smoked that compounds the damage done to the respiratory system.

It is common practice to smoke a marijuana joint end to end and without the standard filter found in cigarettes. When inhaled, drug users pull down smoke as quickly as possible and hold it in for as long as they can. This leads to the inhalation of much more smoke, which is additionally damaging because it is at a higher temperature. "Cannabis smokers end up with five times more carbon monoxide in their bloodstream [than tobacco smokers]," said Beasley.

These findings come at a crucial time with many countries consid-

ering marijuana related legislature. Arguments over the possibility of its legalization in the United Kingdom and the debate over its medical applicability in the United States are currently major issues.

In the United States, groups like The America Marijuana Policy Project spends thousands of dollars every year in an effort to legalize the prescription of cannabis as a therapeutic drug. They claim that it counteracts some common symptoms of AIDS and cancers including clinical depression, nausea, loss of appetite and weight loss. There is evidence to suggest that marijuana may also be used to treat the loss of eyesight associated with glaucoma.

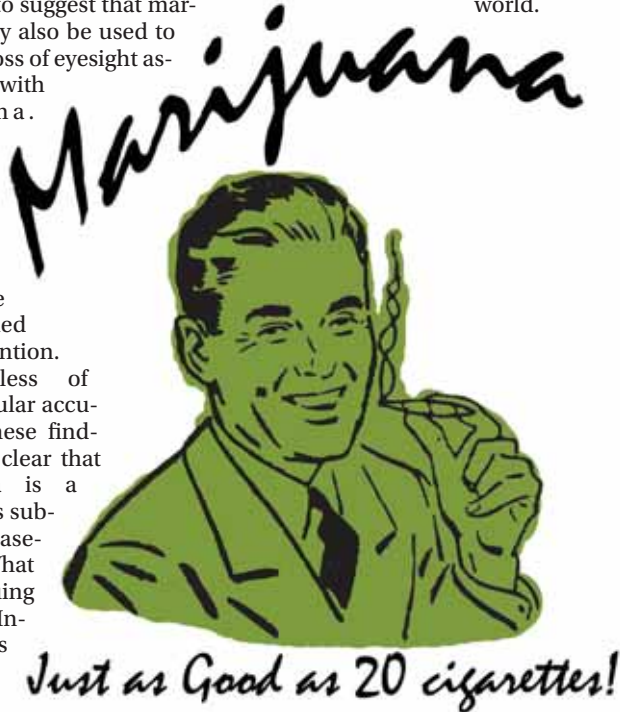
However, studies related to this conclusion have been called into contention.

Regardless of the particular accuracy of these findings, it is clear that marijuana is a dangerous substance. Beasley said, "What is intriguing to [The Institute] is there is so little work

done on cannabis." It is evident that the use of marijuana is more widespread than many people realize."

Politicians including Sens. Barack Obama, John Kerry and John Edwards and former president Bill Clinton did not have a problem admitting to smoking marijuana. These officials have collectively been in the Democratic Party's limelight for the past 16 years.

With so much work done to vilify cigarettes, much scientific focus should be diverted to expose the extent of the health damage experienced by populations around the world.



ILLUSTRATED BY DUSTIN WINGER/THE TICKER

From dusk till dawn: our cells tick on

BY REBECCA FORBES
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

For some time, scientists have been working to pinpoint why certain people are early risers, or what they term "larks," while others are "night owls." A new study has produced an intriguing answer: every cell of the body has its own internal "clock" that potentially determines a person's sleeping habits.

According to a recent BBC News article, a team led by Dr. Steven Brown of the University of Zurich, gathered skin cell biopsies from 28 volunteers and monitored them in a lab. Questionnaires were then distributed to the subjects that helped to identify their sleeping patterns and preferences.

The study, which is published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, found that the "ticking of the clocks" in the cells matched the behavior of most of the volunteers.

A 2006 article from the online science magazine *First Science* titled "Morning Person or Late Riser," notes that the difference in preference comes as a consequence of variations in circadian rhythms, or the "rough 24-hour cycle in the physiological processes of living organisms."

Each person has a unique internal body clock, or chronotype, that regulates body temperature and hormones such as melatonin and cortisol. With a normal circadian rhythm, melatonin increases just before bedtime and decreases just after waking.

People fall into sleep categories in accordance with the timings of their sleeping habits. In the *First Science* article, about 80 percent of people fall in the middle of the "lark" vs. "night owl" spectrum. The remaining 20 percent are equally distributed to the opposite extremes.

An earlier study led by Dr. Simon Archer from the University of Surrey in England found a connection between people's preference and a gene called Period 3. The research is published in *Sleep*, the *Journal of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine* and the *Sleep Research Society*.

As reported in a 2003 BBC News article, Archer and his team gathered genetic samples from visitors to the Science Museum in London. Participants were also asked to fill out a questionnaire that would help determine their preference for morning versus evening.

After the results of both tests were analyzed, it was discovered that most of those with an extreme preference for morning had the longer version of the gene, while those with an extreme partiality for evening had the shorter version.

It is believed that the work of both Brown and Archer could be beneficial for many people. As BBC News reported, Brown's work could help diagnose certain sleeping disorders such as Seasonal Affective Disorder, a kind of depression seen during the winter months, which was found in some of his subjects.

Archer believes the results of his research could allow people to better manage their lives if they know what is their genetic preference.

Leisure

Delicious Valentine’s Day treats

BY JESSICA CHEN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The red satin ribbons, the pharmacy aisles overflowing with bright shiny cards crying out sentimental messages, it’s easy to understand why Valentine’s Day isn’t a holiday that appeals to singles. But with all the extra cheer that’s going around, it’s a waste not to enjoy the day. Here are some of the best things about Valentine’s Day, whether you’re happily coupled, single or hopelessly bitter.

1. MAC Viva Glam Lipstick
For girls, Valentine’s Day is all about the sexy reds and looking as fabulous as possible. If you’re in search of that perfect, classic lipstick to complete your look, try MAC’s Viva Glam lipstick (mac-cosmetics.com, Viva Glam I, \$14). The lipstick comes in six shades, and 100 percent of the profits go to benefit HIV/AIDS victims worldwide. Plus, purchases come with a limited edition postcard, and this year’s sponsor is the Duchess herself, Fergie, who graces the card in a sexy bodysuit.

2. Fredericks Hollywood
The over-advertised, over-priced and over-hyped lingerie of Victoria’s Secret leave you wanting more. Why not check out Frederick



EXPATS.CZ

LUSH offers a variety of fragrant body care for an extra sensual V-Day.

of Hollywood? This online shop has a wide selection of everything from demure bras and panties to border-

line scandalous corsets (fredericks.com, Parisian lace corset, \$58) and garters. The lingerie has recently been modeled by burlesque dancer Dita Von Teese, and reflects the dancer’s sensual and feminine characteristics.

3. Museum of Sex (MOSEX)
Museums usually call to mind stuffy rooms with little ventilation, and hours of boredom. The real life models and videos detailing the history of porn (think celebrity sex scandals and actual porn videos, not monotone documentaries) are sure to keep your attention. In addition to the features mentioned, the museum also hosts sex dolls, an inventory of sex toys, and special exhibits on topics such as fetishes.

This is one museum visit that won’t leave you half asleep and numb.

4. LUSH
This fragrant store is one body-care shop that won’t scare away potential customers. The labeling of the store items is clear and concise, in a jovial text that details all the ingredients used in all of the products. And did I mention all of the ingredients are organic? LUSH is known for its handmade soaps, soap bomb, massage bars, lotions and anything that has to do with the body. Both guys and girls will enjoy the soft skin and smiles brought on

by use of LUSH products. Popular products include bath bombs like the Sex Bomb (lush.com, \$5.65), a bath bomb that fizzes and releases wonderful smells of rose and lavender while nourishing the skin.

5. Voseges Chocolate
Chocolate. It’s a food that has been considered both an aphrodisiac and ambrosia, the food of the gods. Good chocolate is hard to find, and while Godiva has made a fortune with its high prices and ubiquity (consider it the Starbucks of chocolate), it is far from the best. Voseges chocolate, a line that sells a variety of chocolate (truffles, chocolate bars, caramels, drinks, cakes), is a refreshing find. It offers exotic chocolates, in its aptly named Exotic Truffles collection, which include the Naga, a truffle made with coconut and sweet Indian curry, and are beautifully wrapped in their signature purple box with a luxurious purple sash. If exotic flavors don’t tempt you, try the Gatsby Collection (vosegeschocolates.com, Gatsby Collection 9pc, \$28) this Valentine’s Day. Made with either dark or white chocolate, the Gatsby and Daisy truffles (named after the Great Gatsby and his love) have champagne swirled centers and are topped off by a pink or red (edible) rose petal. Perfection.

Say more with graphic tees

BY COSETTE PICHARDO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Graphic tees are a wonderful way to show off your sense of humor your political inclination or your bad humor without the uncomfortable nuisance of having to open your mouth. When you’re on the go, graphic tees offer an image of careful dishevelment and they are always a conversation starter.

Unfortunately, many graphic tees sold at retail stores such as Abercrombie & Fish, Yellow Rat Bastard, and other teen retail stores are super-duper expensive. Other stores that sell graphic tees have a pretty lame selection. Still others have shirts, but nothing tailored for women’s sizes and shapes.

Today, the Internet offers an array of affordable t-shirts that are funny, fashionable and form fitting. Let’s go over two of these websites along with some of their highlights.

BustedTees.com is all about funny t-shirts. Run by the members of humor website CollegeHumor.com, the website describes itself as having been created because they wanted their customers “to have fun, laugh, look good, feel comfortable” amongst other desirable goals.

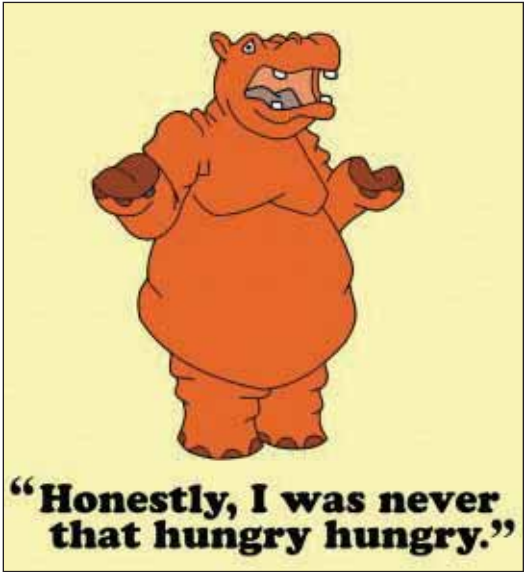
Catering to both sexes, they have a fabulous selection of t-shirts full of clever puns, funny images and reminders of our youth. Their prices range from \$15 to \$18 a pop.

Tillys.com is another great website with a large choice of tees from designers like Paul Frank, Hurley and Roxy. These shirts are longer than the regular tee so that they cover your hips while keeping the waist cinched.

These tees can go plain or intricately designed and they range in price from \$7.99 to \$31.99. You can get a really bad shirt for \$15. Here



TILLYS.COM



BUSTEDTEES.COM

Sex with your Valentine

BY TAHEERA TIM KEE
HEALTH AND WELLNESS CORRESPONDENT

Valentine's Day is fast approaching and among the chocolates and the flowers and the paper hearts, all inscribed with endearing words, there will also undoubtedly be a lot more "love making" happening than usual. Given this fact, National Condom Awareness Week, which has been recognized by the American Social Health Association, occurs annually around Valentine's Day. This year it is being held on Feb. 10 to Feb. 17 and intends to promote the use of condoms as a preventative against unwanted pregnancy as well as some sexually transmitted diseases.

According to research done by staying-alive.org, 62 percent of young men and women do not use condoms every time they have sex. This is an alarming number considering that the incidence of AIDS stands at about 40,000 newly reported cases each year, 25 percent of which are persons between the ages of 15-29. New York also has one of the highest infection rates as well, second only to the District of Columbia. Given all of these facts, we would think that more than 38 percent of sexually active youths would use condoms before "doing the deed."

Why are there so few consistently responsible youths? We could surely attribute the nonchalance about the topic to the fact that there are several myths about condoms and their use. The top five "Condom Myths" that I have found consistently in my research are as follows:

Myth#1 Condoms break anyway. Condoms don't break, the users

break them. The likeliness of a condom being broken in the package or during intercourse is slim, and the breaks are typically due to human error and possibly a hasty hand. If the condom is put on properly, it should remain in tact.



SXC.HU

Myth #2 Condoms don't protect me from STDs.

Condoms are actually very effective in preventing the spread of both gonorrhea and chlamydia as well as the most severe of them all, HIV. While it is never 100 percent fool proof, it has been shown to be "your best bet" in protecting yourself against these life-altering diseases.

Myth #3 Condoms don't fit well. They hamper my pleasure.

Modern times have allowed for the technology to create condoms

that are said to be quite comfortable and may even enhance pleasure during intercourse. It's all simply a matter of taking the time to identify the right fit and moving forward from there.

Myth #4 I'm allergic to latex.

There are alternatives to latex condoms that are just as effective in preventing pregnancy and disease. The most notable is the polyurethane condom, which is made from a plastic derivative. It may typically be a bit more expensive, but not nearly as expensive as the college tuition you would have to pay for the baby that you could potentially have.

Myth #5

Condoms are not that effective.

Condoms, when used properly, are 99.8 percent effective. That leaves you with a 0.02 percent chance of getting pregnant as opposed to a 99 percent chance of getting pregnant by not using one. I think the first alternative makes the most sense.

Now that you are armed with these facts, please be safe always. For National Condom Awareness week, we have a New York based group coming to campus on Wednesday, Feb. 13 to the VC's 2nd floor lobby from 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. to share information with students on condoms and emergency contraception.

In addition, the Baruch Health Care Center will have a representative during club hours on Thursday, Feb. 14 to hand out free condoms to ensure that everyone has a safe and very happy Valentine's Day.

Beat The Cheats

n “Gaining the attention of the opposite sex”

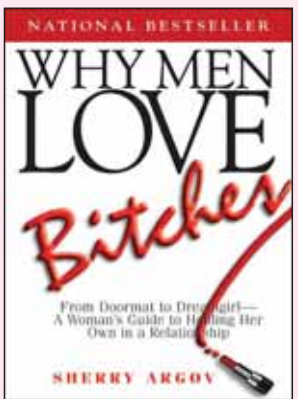
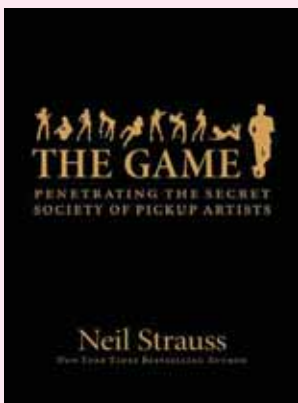
**BY HELEN KWON AND
ELYSSA MALDONADO**
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT AND LEISURE EDITOR

Pick up artist (P.U.A.): (n) a person skilled in the art of seduction and "pick up."

For all the women out there that just can't seem to figure guys out, it's ok because someone else has. *Why Men Love Bitches*, by Sherry Argov, gives a "woman's" guide to hold her own in a relationship." However, men are not left out of the loop. It seems to us that men seem to have this sacred "bible" that tells them exactly how to pick up women, called *The Game* by Neil Strauss.

Argov gives a set of rules that help women have the control in a relationship without the man's knowledge. In one of her attraction principle's, she mentions "a woman looks more secure in a mans' eye when he can't pull her away from her life, because she is *content* with her life." She also elaborates on "The Nice Girl" vs. "The Bitch." The nice girl is always willing to appease her man, whereas the bitch only offers when she knows that it will be reciprocated.

Strauss, on the other hand, gives a play-by-play instance on exactly what to do to pick up a woman. The man in the book named "Mystery" gives "workshops in several cities around the world, due to numerous requests." It's almost like this book trains men in the art of seduction



BN.COM

and how to obtain the attention of a woman. One instance is when a man walks into a club or lounge. Mystery advises “see the group with the target and follow the three-second rule. Do not hesitate — approach instantly.”

Even though these books are meant for their respective genders, both men and women should pick up a copy so that they are aware of what to look out for. Don't be embarrassed to be in the self help aisle, because you're not alone. Many people won't admit to using them, but self-help books are an inexpensive way to solving your issues.

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COMPILED BY ELYSSA MALDONADO
LEISURE EDITOR

Office of Student Life and New
York Blood Drive
Second Floor Lobby (NVC)
9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
(Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
and Friday)

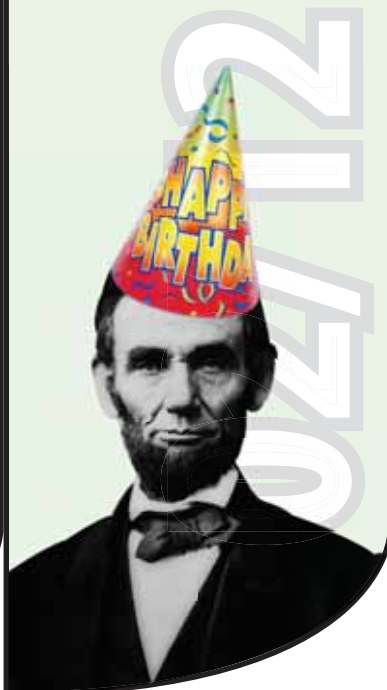
Theta Phi Gamma
Second Floor Lobby (NVC)
12 p.m. – 5 p.m.
(Monday and Tuesday)

Jewish Student Alliance
Room 3-240 (NVC)
12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Black Culture Discussion
Black History Month Committee
Room 1-107 (NVC)
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

DIVA Movie
Lambda Pi Upsilon
Room 2-110 (NVC)
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Thanks for closing
the college!



National Asian-American
Society of Accountants
Second Floor Lobby (NVC)
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
(Wednesday and Thursday)

Continuing Studies
Second Floor Lobby
11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Club Promotion
Public Affairs Society
Second Floor Lobby
12 p.m. – 2 p.m.
(Wednesday and Thursday)

Jewish Student Alliance
Room 3-240 (NVC)
12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.

United Chinese Language
Association
Second Floor Lobby
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Black History Month Committee
Room 2-125 (NVC)
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Health Services
Second Floor Lobby (NVC)
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

WBMB
Second Floor Lobby (NVC)
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

AIESEC
Room 2-110 (NVC)
12:40 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

SHRM
Room 12-175 (NVC)
12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Black History Month Committee
Second Floor Lobby (NVC)
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

United Chinese Language Association
Second Floor Lobby (NVC)
1 p.m. – 2p.m.

Room 3-210 (NVC)
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Black History Month Committee
Room 1-107 (NVC)
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Office of Student Life
N.Y. Blood Drive
Second Floor Lobby (NVC)
9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Black History Month Committee
Dining Room (NVC)
6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

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Giants tackle Patriots' winning streak

BY WILLIAM BATTAGLIA
STAFF WRITER

With 39 seconds left in the game, the NY Giants pull a huge upset and win, 17-14

No one is perfect. Apparently, not even the New England Patriots, who in Super Bowl XLII failed to capture their fourth championship in seven years and picked the most inopportune time to lose their first game of the season. As a result, the New York Giants and their fans can rejoice. The New York Giants are Super Bowl Champions!

Quarterback Eli Manning and the New York Giants ended the Patriots' bid for perfection by winning a nail biter. A final score of 17-14 gave the Giants their third Super Bowl championship in franchise history.

The Giants began the game on a near 10-minute offensive drive that culminated with Lawrence Tynes' 32-yard field goal to give the Giants the early 3-0 lead.

The Patriots, however, as they have done all year long, showed their resiliency and scored on the first play of the second quarter, a one-yard touchdown run from running back Laurence Maroney. The Patriots led 7-3, keeping the score entering halftime. The third quarter began with the Patriots on the offense. Anyone who has followed the Patriots this season was waiting for the offense to explode.

The points, however, never came as the relentless pass rush of defensive ends Osi Umenyiora, Michael



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Most Valuable Player Eli Manning lead the Giants to their first third Super Bowl win, the first in over 20 years.

Strahan and defensive tackle Justin Tuck made quarterback Tom Brady uncomfortable in the pocket all game, sacking him five times and hurried him a dozen more times

while Brady tried to find the open receiver. The Patriots' offensive line resembled human turnstiles rather than a group of veteran Pro Bowlers.

In addition to the lack of protection for Brady, there was certainly some questionable play calling by Patriots' Head Coach Bill Belichick. With 6:49 remaining in the third

quarter, the Patriots elected to go for it on the fourth down from the Giants' 31 yard line. Rather than have kicker Stephen Gostkowski attempt a 49-yard field goal, the Patriots went for it on four and 13. Brady threw a deep, incomplete pass into double coverage intended for wide receiver Jabar Gaffney and so ended the New England's drive. With Brady down on his hands and knees in frustration, little did he know that those potential three points would be the difference in the football game.

As they entered the fourth quarter, the Giants and Patriots were still stuck at 7-3. The Giants opened up the fourth quarter with a six-play drive, which began with a 45-yard hookup from Manning to tight end Kevin Boss and ended with a play action touchdown pass from Manning to wide receiver David Tyree to give the G-Men their second lead of the game at 10-7.

Tom Brady and company proved why they were favored to win the game as they answered back by engineering a 12-play 5:12 scoring drive.

Tom Brady hit Randy Moss for a six-yard touchdown pass, and with nearly 2:45 remaining in the fourth quarter, it appeared the Patriots were going to finish their perfect season at 19-0. Eli Manning, however, had a Most Valuable Player award to win and wide receiver Plaxico Burress had to keep true to his Super Bowl prediction.

At 9:56 p.m., Manning connected with Burress on a fake slant fade pattern to the left corner of the end zone. With 36 seconds left to play in the game, Big Blue was primed to pull off arguably the biggest upset in sports history. At 10:06 p.m., nearly 97.5 million viewers watched as the New York Giants were officially crowned Super Bowl Champions.

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Swim team at CUNYAC

BY TIM PETROPOULOS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last weekend, the Baruch men's and women's swim teams both competed in the most important event of the year, the CUNYAC Conference Finals at Lehman College. The three-day event began Thursday night and ended Saturday morning with the men and women both falling just shy of first place honors.

On the men's side, day one was positive and would set the tone for the rest of the weekend. Three school records fell by the wayside including the team of Tal Patlazaan, Brian Ramirez, Tony Zhang and R. Michael Shiwnath breaking the 200 free and 400 medley relay school records. Shiwnath also broke the 200-meter individual medley mark, which would be a sign of things to come for the sophomore swimmer. Baruch finished the day in third place, but only 21 points out of second. "[We] honestly didn't pay much attention to the score during the meet," said team captain Igor Gorodetskiy. "Our goal was to swim out best times and I knew we were capable."

It was more of the same on day two as the records continued to fall. The team of Patlazaan, Ramirez, Zhang and Shiwnath were back and set the school record for the the 200 medley. Patlazaan also broke the school record for the 100 butterfly and, taking first in the event, Shiwnath set the CUNYAC record in the 100 backstroke. At the end of day two, Baruch was still in third but was creeping up on Staten Island for second place with Lehman well in first.

On day three, R. Michael Shiwnath was at it again taking first place in the 200 backstroke while setting another CUNYAC record, and was part of a first place 400 free team. Despite the late push in points by the Bearcats, Lehman (first place) and Staten Island (second place)

held off Baruch and the Bearcats took home the third place. Despite Baruch finishing in third place, Shiwnath still took home CUNYAC MVP honors for being part of seven record-breaking performances. "We had a good showing this year," said Captain Gorodetskiy. "This [competition] was just another block to the teams emergence as a solid competitor."

As for the women, they went into the competition looking for gold and after day one, Baruch was only 39 points away from that goal in second behind undefeated Hunter College. Some highlights from the first day were three record-breaking performances, including the team of Dorene Chin, Dawn Wursthorn, Laura Tumulak and Annelie Gregor in the 200 medley relay and Gregor, Chin, Tumulak and So. Jessica Penaherrera also made an impressive display in the 400 medley relay.

On day two, Penaherrera and Gregor finished first in the 100 butterfly and 100 breast respectively while setting CUNYAC records. Grace Kim and Chin joined Gregor and Penaherrera for the 200 medley relay and took first while setting yet another CUNYAC mark. Despite the monster performance, the Bearcats still trailed Hunter going into Saturday.

In order to win the competition on day three, Baruch would have to swim the meets of their lives and hope that Hunter had an off day. The Bearcats did their part setting two more CUNYAC records when Annelie Gregor won the grueling 1,650 free and 200 breast while Penaherrera took first in the 200 fly. The Bearcats definitely did their part, unfortunately Hunter did not, and they took home their sixth CUNYAC championship in the last seven years with Baruch finishing a tight second.

Although neither team finished in first, both made big strides and look forward to bring a championship to Baruch in 2009.

Superbowl wonder

BY STEFANIE SPARACCIO
STAFF WRITER

An inspiring Addidas advertisement once reminded us that “impossible is nothing.” On Sunday, Feb. 3, 2008, the New York Giants justified that statement when they pulled one of the biggest upsets in sports history by defeating the almost perfect New England Patriots at Super Bowl XLII.

Ninety-seven and a half million Americans, the most amount of viewers of any NFL Super Bowl, frantically watched as Eli Manning and the Giants did what most of the sports world viewed as "unthinkable."

Not only were the fifth seed New York Giants crowned Super Bowl champions, they were responsible for putting that dreaded “1” in the Patriots’ loss column.

How could this have possibly happened is the question on everyone's mind. How could the 2007 Patriots, the team who earned its spot among the greatest sports teams of all time, come so far and so close, yet fall so short?

For a team that averaged out just under 37 points per game in its regular season, it's hard to believe that the Patriots were not the team bringing the Vince Lombardi trophy back home.

While there are numerous opinions columns and analytical articles addressing this particular point of view, there are very few that focus on granting the Giants the due credit that they rightfully deserved from the moment they won the NFC conference in Green Bay.

When wide receiver Plaxico Burress predicted a 23-17 Giant's defeat against the Patriots, sports

anchors and writers criticized him for his foolish remarks and presumptuous attitude. Little did Burress and the rest of the world know, however, that he gave more credit to the Pats than they actually earned that night in Arizona. It's funny how many critics considered Burress' statement as arrogant, while I thought it signified a sense of fearlessness; fearlessness to predict a victory that would defy the odds.

It seemed as if the Giants were being reprimanded for having too much confidence in their game. But how can you tell the Giants' defensive line, which sacked Tom Brady five times that night (the most all season), that they were just giving themselves false hope, that they were setting themselves up for disappoint?

And after Eli Manning escaped from that fourth quarter blitz and threw downfield to David Tyre, who probably made one of the greatest catches you will ever see in the NFL, that it would be somewhat miraculous if they were named Super Bowl champs? The Giants strategically used every piece of criticism to their advantage, and when every skeptic said it couldn't be done, the team used these words as their ammunition on their path to victory.

Sure, Randy Moss broke Jerry Rice's record for receiving touchdowns in a single season and there's no question that Tom Brady passed Peyton Manning to become the new leader in touchdown passes.

But the 2007 New England Patriots will forever be known as the team that couldn't get the job done and fell 18-1.

As for the New York Giants, the David and Goliath legacy lives on.

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SCHEDULE

Men's Basketball
2/12 - Baruch @ New Paltz State, 7:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball
2/12 - Baruch @ New Paltz State, 5:30 p.m.

Men's Volleyball
2/11 - New Paltz State @ Baruch, 7:30 p.m.
2/12 - City Tech @ ARC Arena, 7 p.m.



Cats devour Hawks

BY MARIANE ST.-MAURICE
OPINION EDITOR

On any other night, a group of half-dressed students covered in body paint and glitter sporting fluffy wigs would have seemed out of place. But on the night of Thursday February 7th, it only reminded people that this was the night.

This was the night that had been advertised for weeks and for which a pep rally had been held just a few hours before: the annual Battle of Lexington, a basketball doubleheader in which the Baruch Bearcats faced their biggest rival, the Hunter Hawks.

In a foreshadowing of the evening's games, two piñatas decorated with Hawks were smashed by some of the basketball players at the pep rally. The piñatas and a dance performance by the Music and Performing Arts Guild were the highlights of an otherwise dull and prolonged rally, which nevertheless served to introduce the college's athletic teams and give a final promotional boost to the battle.

The evening's games marked the last home game for both the men's and women's teams. Each team honored its seniors in a short ceremony preceding their respective game.

The women, who played first, recognized seniors Chiresse Paradise, Carlee Whipple, Dominique McClendon, Naesha Tyler-Moore, Myleka Garnett and Luisa Howell. After getting flowers, the Lady Bearcats redirected their focus and were ready to face the Hawks.

The last time the two teams had played each other, Baruch had won by over 40 points, leading them to enter this battle with the confidence that they could bring down the Hawks again. This was easily done by our Lady Bearcats.

Playing in front of a packed gym, the Bearcats dominated the game, led by Paradise and McClendon, two of the team's seniors. Paradise had 14 points while McClendon got a double-double with 13 points and as many rebounds.

Video cameras for CUNY-TV and photographers for various publications were swarming the gym as the Bearcats played the bench and maintained a solid lead on their opponent. Hundreds of fans ran down from the bleachers and onto the court when the buzzer ran the end of the game, with the scoreboard showing a victory of 69-51 for the Bearcats.

The Brooklyn Steppers, a high school band that has attended Baruch's three annual battles, played triumphant melodies, including "We are the champions," as fans were slowly ushered off the court to make way for the men's teams.

After warming up to booming sounds of brass instruments, the Bearcats ran out of an inflatable through smoke onto the court, an entrance the women's team had also made.

Seniors Phil Schatz, Adrian Serrano and Laurence Smith were honored before the game and then it was on to a battle that everyone expected to be even closer than the women's had been.

Hunter won the tip-off and scored the first points, but it was a game where the lead continued to



VICTOR CHU | SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

The home crowd roars as the Bearcats seize victory at the annual Battle of Lexington.



VICTOR CHU | SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

Dominique McClendon goes for the goal.

switch between teams. Whenever the Bearcats were down a few points, exciting plays by several key players brought the crowd to its feet and the Bearcats to the lead.

Among those key players were Tammer Farid, who had 18 points, Serrano with 11 points and both Smith and Eric Quintero scored

10 points each. Schatz scored 13 points and had seven rebounds while George Kunkel had nine rebounds and five steals.

The game stayed exciting through half-time during which the Chinese New Year was underlined through a dragon dance performance by the New York Chinese Freemason



PALLAVI | SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

Phil Schatz leaps for a shot among a nest of Hawks.

Club and well-executed stunts by Baruch's cheerleading team.

The final minutes of the game had the huge crowd on its feet, chanting and rooting for every point. Though the game had been tight, the Bearcats pulled ahead and clinched a 74-65 victory over the Hawks.

This last win inspired the fans to astounding cheers on the court and in the bleachers, a symbol of Baruch's success both on the court and for the overall event. It was a night of victory bringing a momentum that could take the Bearcats very far into the upcoming play-offs.