MBA students win big in nat'l competition

Executive Leadership Council’s 2008 Business Case Competition

BY NGA Vu
Senior Staff Writer

A group of five Baruch MBA students won first place in a national competition, surpassing students from the University of Michigan, Florida A&M University and Cornell University. This victory is extremely remarkable because it was the first time Baruch students entered the competition.

The competition is organized by the Executive Leadership Council and sponsored by Shell Oil. The participants were asked to find the solution for a business problem and present it to the ELC and Shell Oil at Shell’s headquarters in Texas. The team from Baruch was assigned a case on the problems stemming from the recent acquisition of Fifty Lube International franchises by Shell Oil.

Shell Oil is an oil and gas producer with significant presence in the United States. Fifty Lube, with more than 2,000 service centers in North America, offers car maintenance services such as oil changes, fuel system services, and inspections. Combining the two companies was supposed to be a match made in heaven, but there was a brand-repositioning problem.

After countless hours of working under high pressure, the team from Baruch had found a solution that “was able to use Shell’s existing resources to maximize their potential returns with minimal risk by simultaneously (1)拴起 their core customer group, (2) entering into a growing segment of the declining market, (3) protecting existing product lines from cannibalization, and (4) preserving the brand image.”

In December 2007, when the director of Graduate Student Life was rejoicing, “It doesn’t take a lot. It takes one person to make a change on campus,” she said.

You would have come to the USG meetings and become involved [. . .]. It doesn’t take a lot. It takes one person to make a change on campus,” she said.

Hoque continued, “As far as involvement, we did co-sponsor many clubs this year. We helped out a lot of students. One thing people, the students of this school have to understand is that we co-sponsor and fund and allocate money for clubs. It is our responsibility as the sena- tors at the E-board to attend every event on campus because we do allocate money to them.”

In speaking about USG’s visibility, Hoque said, “Our name is all over The Ticker, of all the things we’ve done on campus. Inside the newsletter, there is an invitation for students to come to our meeting. There’s a date and time. Now its up to the students to come in and find out about us.”

As the debate progressed, the pressing issue of student space arose. Hoque favors the renova- tion of the game room and the transformation of the current TV lounge into a gaming center. “I try my best to work with the auxiliary board to get as much furniture and renovation space as much as possible,” she said.

Giraldo, however, disagreed. “I don’t support this initiative. I think that there is very little student...

SEE PAGE 6
The StudyPods are located in the same space that was once occupied by microfilm machines.

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newman.baruch.cuny.edu
An innocent charged with murder

BY ROB REALE
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Jeffrey Deskovic, a man wrongly convicted of rape and murder, gave a speech at Baruch last Wednesday, April 2. Deskovic’s talk, lasting over an hour, was one of the most disturbing accounts of miscarriages of justice ever told. The organization that helped overturn Deskovic’s conviction after 14 years, The Innocence Project, has another 215 convictions that it has helped overturn since its founding in 1998. Alpha Phi Delta, The Black Student Union and The Undergraduate Student Government sponsored the presentation.

In 1989, Jeffrey Deskovic was a 16-year-old high school senior living in Westchester, New York. When a female classmate had been murdered, there was an enormous public outcry since there had not been a murder in Peekskill in the last 25 years. Classmates noted that he was quiet and emotional at the funeral; they told this to the police who quickly decided that Deskovic must be the culprit.

Without an attorney and denied food, he was interrogated for seven and a half hours. Towards the end of that interrogation, the police threatened to assault him. He was told that he could go home after confessing, and that he would not go to jail, but instead receive psychiatric treatment. He gave a false confession, which essentially meant he had consensual sex with him. At sentencing, the judge said, “Maybe you are innocent,” and proceeded to sentence him to 15 years to life. Deskovic spent 16 years in prison, mostly in the upstate Elmira prison which houses some of the state’s most violent inmates. Deskovic states that there were three to four stabblings or cuttings per day. He discussed in detail, the horrible conditions, one of the most notable being when an inmate is assaulted. They were disciplined regardless of their role in the assault. Standard disciplinary action results in being restricted to a cell for 23 hours per day, two showers per week, no phone calls at all and being fed small quantities of food that was two to three days old.

Then, Deskovic told a story about his dying grandmother. His grandmother was his primary caretaker growing up and she became ill. Prison officials gave him the choice of visiting her on her deathbed or going to her funeral. They drove him four hours each way, with rest stops and ankle handcuffed, so he could spend exactly one hour with her.

In prison, Deskovic pursued an education, first getting his GED, then an associates degree. He started on a bachelors degree when for- mer Governor Pataki cut funding for prison rehabilitation programs. Deskovic detailed a 10-year long appeals process in the span of an approximately 20 minutes. Then-District Attorney Jeanine Petro (not the original prosecuting DA) twice argued against Deskovic’s appeal. Once petitioning the court to deny a motion filed four days late, only because Deskovic’s defense was late. The fairness was no fault of Deskovic or his lawyer; he had been given incorrect information by the court’s own clerk.

In 2001, his final appeal, the United States Supreme Court declined to hear his case. After that, he spent years writing what he called “SOS letters” to beg for help. Every law firm he wrote to declined to offer pro bono services, but was happy to quote exorbitant fees for their assistance; he received no replies from reporters or community groups.

From what he described as a “chance encounter” in 2005, Deskovic met a woman who encour- aged him to contact The Innocence Project. He had contacted them in 1993, but DNA technology had gotten much more sophisticated, and so their policies for accepting cases had changed since that time. He applied to have his case heard, and six months later his case was accepted. The new Westchester District Attorney agreed to run the rape kit DNA against the state’s da- tabase and there was a match for convicted murderer Steven Cun- ningham. Cunningham confessed to the crime and Deskovic was released from prison on Sept. 26, 2006. Deskovic was released with nothing more than the clothes on his back. There is no policy or sys- tem in place to give the exonerated any financial support after leaving prison.

He continued his education and graduated with a bachelor’s degree from Mercy College while on school- ship. He is currently awaiting the results of his LSAT test. He wants to become a lawyer and help other wrongly convicted people.

According to the Department of Justice, over 2.5 million people convicted of crimes were incarcer- ated as of Dec. 31, 2006. A New York Times article from March 25, cites Professor Samuel R. Gross, a law professor at the University of Michigan, as calculating the false conviction rate for inmates sen- tenced to death as about two to five percent.

The article goes on to cite his estimation that 185,000 innocent people have served hard time in the past 30 years. Even with factoring in the lowest value of about two percent, there are roughly 52,000 innocent people serving time in jails and prisons across America. While it is not statistically accurate to extrapolate the two percent to the entire prison population, it is not an unrealistic estimation.

Baruch College sophomore Vincent Pullara, Jr. organized this event. Pullara has volunteered at The Innocence Project since Feb- ruary 2007 and showed a real pas- sion for the cause in his opening remarks.

Through The Innocence Proj- ect, he has met people including Barry Scheck, Janet Reno and John Grisham. He is interested in coor- dinating more events on this topic, including educating students on their rights when dealing with the criminal justice system.
CUNY helps the disabled

BY NGA VU
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

When it comes to internships and job opportunities, students with disabilities are always at a disadvantage. To help equalize the playing field, the CUNY LEADS project, which stands for Linking Employment, Academics & Disabilities Services, was created to equip CUNY students who have disabilities with skills and essential knowledge to gain equal access to internships and jobs.

Any CUNY student in a degree or non-degree program, in the Adult & Continuing Education or allied program, who has a documented disability but not necessarily registered as a disabled student at Baruch, are eligible to join.

The benefits of the program include career counseling, job placement assistance and job seeking skills, which are similar to that offered by the Starr Career Development Center. The participants also receive training regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504, which is the civil rights act that protects against discrimination in the workplace. Students who join the program receive free textbooks, regardless of their financial aid status.

Students with disabilities have different needs regarding internships and job assistance. At interviews, potential employers might not be sure if the person can handle the job. If the interviewee lets his nervousness become apparent, this may spell disaster in terms of getting a job.

Knowing when and how to dis- close the disability, or never do it at all, is another huge concern for the students.

To help students overcome such disadvantages, the CUNY LEADS project hires specialized counselors who have extensive experience in working with students, and place them in every CUNY campus. The specialized counselor at Baruch College is Melanie Menge in the Office for Services for Student with Disabilities.

Since the start of the program in February, Menge has been busy reaching out to students. The program now has about 35 students. An example of something Menge does is a mock interview, in which she helps students get ready to face obstacles like the ones mentioned above.

Menge advises, "instead of worrying about what you cannot control, it is better to work on something that you have control over."

Having a good interaction with potential employers during an interview helps convince them that you are the right person for the job.

The project receives enormous support from Baruch’s Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. Barbara Sirios, the director of the office, has been working for years to help students. Sirios says she is glad that the project expands the resources for students on campus.

CUNY was approached by VEIS, a state agency that assists individuals with disabilities to obtain employment, about the project.

On Nov. 1, 2007, CUNY hired three people to develop the project, since the concept of LEADS is entirely new. The specialized counselors were recruited, trained and sent to each individual campus.

For the remaining time of this semester, Menge will keep reaching out to new students.

More information can be found at the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities, located in Room 2-271.

The issue of privacy and disclosure is taken very seriously at the office. Students can even arrange meetings off-campus.
New math game fosters learning

BY KEITH ARORA-WILLIAMS SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Although Baruch College offers the standard base of liberal arts majors, it is invariably a school that receives distinction for its commitment to providing a competitive business education as well as pertinent experience for private institutions like NYU.

Baruch's student population is chock-full of aspiring stock analysts and prospective investment bankers, who hope to stock the halls of corporate giants like Merrill Lynch and UBS.

With dreams like this, it is disheartening that a substantial impediment on the road to success is turning out to be required courses in basic college level math.

Without passing these classes, students are disqualified from entering the Zicklin School of Business. The problem is compounded by the fact that this is one of many prerequisites for entrance into Zicklin. If time is wasted retaking these courses, it becomes increasingly difficult to complete 11 other courses within the two-year deadline, especially if math is put off until the last semester.

The problem for students with inadequate math skills is not specific to Baruch. It is a national endemic that has fanned the flames of the immigration debate in this country … which is why every corporation in Silicon Valley had to come to rely heavily on foreign students.

To be accepted to Baruch from New York State, a student needs to pass the Regents B exam in Math with a score of 65 percent. However, the results of these tests are curved in secret, so it is likely that students have snuck by knowing less than half of the material.

When nearly 44 percent of students failed the calculus course, MTTH 2206 in 2007, the need for change hit a tipping point.

As of April 3, the Undergraduate Student Government, in collaboration with the math department, announced the first ever MATHletes competition. The event is a limited registration prize-oriented contest comprised of reasoning and logic questions.

Supposedly, with iPods and cash prizes in their sights, struggling students will compete with and possibly triumph over their more successful colleagues, who also register for the event.

Math coordinator for the SACC Center Judy Broadwin cited concerns over the event's logistical organizing it. Funding for the event has snuck by knowing less than half of the material.

In Broadwin’s eyes, "any event that is aimed at fostering a more math-friendly atmosphere at Baruch is definitely positive and I believe that is the competition's goal.”

The math department of Baruch, chaired by Professor Warren B. Gordon, has instituted a considerable number of additional tools aimed at helping students who are in dire need of supplementary pedagogical assistance.

According to Gordon, “With the new resources on hand for students, the passing rate for the 2003 and 2206 classes have increased significantly, especially in 2003. The rate of passing students jumped from 59 to 69 percent last semester.”

Students now have 24-hour access through BlackBoard to online videos of senior professors teaching lessons that they might have missed. Also in the works is a set of videos, in which these same professors methodically work hundreds of problems from sample exams posted online. The plan is to make these videos available in DVD format and sold at a marginal cost in the Baruch Book Store.

According to Gordon, "The videos are good because, you say you have a terrible adjunct as your teacher who doesn’t make any sense, you can just watch the videos. It’s sort of a second line of defense.”

Gordon indicated that the overall enhancement of student performance has a different, more relevant impetus.

"The main reason that students are improving is that they are doing their homework now. Most classes don’t have a serious homework grade, so students took this as an invitation to ignore assigned textbook work," he said. "Now, because of a new program started in the fall called WeBWorK, students can do their homework online and the program grades it makes it easy for the teacher establish a legitimate homework grade.”

WeBWorK, a Java-based application developed by OpenSymphony, is used by many prominent schools including Columbia, University of Virginia, Rutgers and Hartford. Baruch would have to expend around $2,000 per year to make WeBWorK a fixture at the school.

The MATHletes competition should take place April 17 but this is subject to approval from the SACC Vice President of Academic Affairs Carlos Ruiz has championed this event from the start and has spent months organizing it. Funding for the event was supposed to be approved on April 1. Due to some awkward politics on the part of Ruiz, co-sponsorship by SIGI was nearly forfeited and ultimately put off until 10 days before the event.

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Celebrating women

Students discuss personal appearance with a makeup professional.

MBA students rake in $20,000 in cash

The winners received a $20,000 prize and a trophy was awarded to the college.
Opinion

We've all talked about it and we've all felt it: the existence of a bad professor during our Baruch career. What amazes me is how those professors are the ones getting paid and we are the ones paying to take their classes.

I'm sure that just by hearing "bad professors," any student can automatically envision that particular professor whom either you or a friend or the entire class-unprepared, speed-raced through the subject, failed to answer questions or committed a mix of all three. I understand you need a Ph.D. to be a bad professor, but you do not need to be a bad professor because you are able to get a degree in a particular field does not automatically mean you are able to teach.

There are a number of wonderful professors in Baruch and I am fortunate enough to have met some of them. But that's what makes me so disappointed when I get stuck with the few horrible ones.

When I decided to take a course, I never thought better to fill my requirement for the Weissman School as the leader of the Baruch professor. But what I did not choose was his wonderful professor who teaches the lab.

I acknowledge that he is intellectual and knowledgeable, but, like my back of his hand, despite the fact that he cannot find a class for 30 years old. Great because he knows his stuff, though, does not change the fact that this is his very first teaching. He has one of the fumbling accents and is nervous to the point of stuttering through our questions rather than try and explain the material. My classmates and I literally had to pick out the清晰, yet sharpest guy from our class and make him substitute for the actual lab professor.

Now, my question is, why did you choose my particular class have to be the Sweeney pig for this professor? And of all the classes, why did it have to be precisely the one in the class is taking it to fulfill their requirements and was obviously struggling with the subject. I was lucky enough to be able to drop the class and not run the risk of ruining my GPA, but I truly feel

ment's "hand-earned" money, on these courses and receive unsatis-
factory results. The semester evaluations can definitely help in preventing other-

s from making the same mistake as we did with certain professors, but the evaluations do not give us back a whole semester's worth of correcting the teacher's mistakes made in the classroom.

I do not want to spend my full-time evaluating just how bad my professor's presentation skills are and how COM 1010 would be very easy to ignore.

All I'm saying is that school ad-


dministrators should pay as much attention to professor's ways of teaching as to any other matters within the school.

Nicholas Barone, whom I be-
mused in my first semester here at Baruch College, teaches my ACC 3320 class. And hopefully, no other classes.

Barone is quite incompetent in that he has been asked to act as a substitute for the entire semester. For my particular class have to be the substitute for the actual lab profes-

sor for the entire semester.

It is the right stupid because the whole class failed a test that students from other classes passed. He has specifically told us that he does not care whether or not we complete our accounting-


degree. These are a few of the things that he does not care about. My personal problem with him is that I believe he is an ass. If I appear-

ently, have become his scapegoat.

The problem started about two weeks ago, when I came to class about 20 minutes late. Barone stopped lecturing, came up to me, put me down in front of the board, and refused to let me grade the attendance sheet.

Unfortunately, as I am working in a tax department, I am lacking for the tuition, and tax season is no joke. I was late for the first time in my life, as Barone asked to see me after class. He told me that because I had been late, I would lose 20 points if I were to be late or absent one more time, he would give me a VTI. I listened to him and tried to ex-

plain that I had only been late twice and that next time I wouldn't be there any other time, either.

I really hope that this matter does not go unrecognized. I really hope that for other students' sake, Barone is either spoken to about this or he will be given a better attitude towards his students or he simply be replaced.

Next semester, I will be chang-


I'll never forget my pre-
calculus class by the end of the semester, but I still made it through, down from about 70 to 80. I simply hope the professor barely spoke. I'm not sure, but I was quite satisfied because you have to teach b e c a u s e e v e r y t h i n g w a s t o o f u n c o m p l e t e d t o h i m.

It's story often heard at Baruch. Students complain about the bad professors they have who lead them to drop classes. Here's the problem: students complain about the right people. When we had that horrible math professor, the entire class (when it was still big) signed a petition against him. It was his first semester, and the following semester they haven't even gone.

In that case, we were proactive and went to the president, complaining to your friends over coffee, or (strong alcohol, believe it or not) the professor is just that bad. Isn't it solving to solve the problem?

You see, I may be overly optimistic, but I believe that the administration of this school wants us to do well. I wish we could tell them that if we complain to them about bad faculty members, they should take action.

I visited the department or a letter complaint, to the best of my knowledge, will be much more effective than peer complaints. Also, again, a simple letter help overlook the importance of professors simply brushed off us. We fill out at the end of every semester for each class. If you do not, you don't let him/her off easy. If you do, you take the right to get out of class early, the next thing you know, that professor will have a 10-year contact and it will become untouchable.

You can also write to the newspaper (ink, wink) or go on a rant @RATEDMYPROFESSOR.COM. So, instead of aimlessly complaining, take action in the way you were also supposed to mention the great professors. That way, together, we can make changes.

Hey, we pay tuition. They kinda have to listen.

Professor projects his own lack of skill onto students; calls them "incompetent"
In March, as President Bush ignored the worsening financial crisis, the Federal Reserve finally took action by rescuing Bear Stearns. Wall Street’s fear of a financial market meltdown, however, continued to spread, compelling desperate Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke to quickly lower the Fed funds’ rate to 2.25 percent. This is the rate that member banks charge one another. He also poured $400 billion in cash liquidity into the ailing banking system. This was a back-door bailout for troubled banks, potentially costing U.S. tax payers billions of dollars. Our financial crisis continued to jitter European and Asian financial markets. Their crisis was boomeranging back to deepen America’s economic recession. Just how did this crisis begin?

As president, Bush ignored the Constitution, Congress and even the Supreme Court, dismantling constitutional foundations first established with the New Deal. In New Deal America, the government was to maintain a high level of employment and the safety of financial institutions, not service the greed of big business and financial speculators. Bush eliminated government supervision of financial markets and privatized the government’s traditional responsibilities from mine safety inspection to waging war in Iraq. He gave hefty tax cuts to big businesses at the expense of the working class and abetted Wall Street’s financial games. He also ignored the lessons of the bank failures of the 1930s, that unregulated, unsupervised financial markets inevitably produce frauds and catastrophic failure and depress the economy. Wall Street increasingly wiggled free from New Deal regulations that maintained the financial market safety.

After the crash of the "dotcom" stock bubble in 2002, Wall Street shifted its bulging cash into real estate speculation. Traditionally, banks and insurance firms that made housing and real estate development loans carried the mortgages and acted as investors and credit providers. In their quest for quick profits, however, they inverted mortgage-backed securities and sold them to banks and firms worldwide. The mortgage credit standards were relaxed and then eliminated. Banks became the "commission retailers," peddling securitized mortgage funds.

Many low-income families rushed to buy their dream homes without down payments, but at premium interest rates beyond the "promotional" low rates, called subprime mortgages.

In spring 2006, the real estate boom faded, declining employment in the manufacturing and services sectors. This hit the already overburdened lower-income households. Collapsing housing prices made homeowners default on their mortgages and lose their homes. The subprime mortgage funds had turned into bad debts that weren’t collectable, and no one could evaluate their financial risks. Investors shunned all bonds, funds and commercial papers, banks were left holding uncollectible debts and stopped lending and investing. A meltdown of the financial market and real economic recession followed.

How can the U.S. avoid sinking deeper into serious recessions? Albert Einstein once said, “You cannot solve the problems with the same thinking and people that produced the problems in the first place.” President Bush’s wrecking of American democracy and economy is the root cause of the financial crisis and deepening recession.

The Republican presidential nominee, Sen. John “Bush” McCain, has already promised to continue President Bush’s disastrous domestic and foreign policies. Both of them are now blaming the poor’s problems that produced the subprime mortgage fiasco.

Nothing less than a true regime change will save the U.S. and the world. Thirty-four years ago, when President George W. Bush was a student of mine at Harvard Business School, he declared in my class, “People are poor because they are lazy.” Tell this to the hard-working people who lost their jobs and homes through no fault of their own.

Yoshi Tsurumi is a professor of international business.

Sen. Barack Obama has just weathered his most serious political crisis amongst his own democratic party — race.

A few weeks ago, reprehensible comments by Obama’s former pastor, Reverend Jeremiah Wright, surfaced. The now well-publicized videos of Wright’s hate sermons shocked America.

Wright’s words of “God damn America” after the Sept. 11 attacks, as well as other racist words, left America with serious doubts about Obama as a person.

He has been a member of Wright’s church over 20 years and has publicly referred to Wright as a friend and mentor. Until the videos surfaced, Obama had campaigned as the candidate who transcends race.

But Obama was forced to confront the elephant in the room and talk about it.

In his much-applauded speech, Obama said that he vehemently disagreed with Wright’s words and said they are against his core beliefs. However, Obama did not go as far as disowning Wright as a person or as his pastor. He said about Wright, “I can no more disown him than I can disown the black community. I can no more disown him than I can my white grandmother.”

The popular media gave rave reviews about this speech, it was said to have opened up a true dialogue about race and to have confronted this important issue. I agree that Obama’s speech was well orchestrated, well delivered and has publically referred to Wright as his friend.

Obama continues to turn this negative crisis about his friend into a positive story. Obama’s democrats certainly may buy what the media is feeding them, but if he succeeds in becoming the Democratic presidential nominee, Republicans and non-Obama Democrats will indefinitely be re-examining the media’s free pass given to Obama.

This race issue is inevitably going to be at the forefront of the media in the general election, and this time around, liberals won’t be the only ones doing the examining. I do believe Obama would have benefited from a full examination of the controversy by the media. He would have overcome the scrutiny and be in a stronger position overall.

This issue has not been vetted, and there are still more headlines to come. But unfortunately for Obama, it could very well be in the general election, and not with the comfort of his fellow Democrats.
Being outstanding is standing out

BY HELEN LI AND DANIEL SO
ILLUSTRATED BY DUSTIN WINEGAR
INSIGHT.COM

In a sea of corporate sameness, the key to success is to be unique. By being perceived as different and unique, customers can see that the establishment is extremely different from the others. As the class progressed and our panels were presented, it became clear to us that there was a reason for Professor Abraham Tawil's madness. We realized that when group members work diligently without delay and procrastination, they can create high quality work and bring together prestigious speakers for their panels. This project was no small task. The panels gave great advice for students: If you have an idea, grow on it. If you have a dream, put it in the test. If you survive, you're successful. If you don't survive, you're not a failure. The person next to you who did not try to accomplish his goals is the real failure.

Creativity affects every aspect of business, like the employees. When asked what type of individuals they hire, Yakov answered, “I hire people who can adjust to what I want them to do.” What employers look for is whether a person is able to learn and adapt to the environment quick and efficiently.

The speakers also urged students to think outside of the box and work hard. In order to be successful, you must prove that you have the value of team work while learning to take creative initiatives.

SPRING CAREER DAY: APRIL 11

BY SUSANA GOMEZ
SJD DEPARTMENT

Spring Career Day is coming on Friday, April 11, and over 70 companies are registered to attend. Organized each semester by the Stark Career Development Center, Career Day is a fair which gives students the opportunity to meet potential employers.

Companies will hear about students’ interests through preliminary interviews and give information about the positions they offer. Baruch students are highly regarded because of their exposure to diversity and strong academic background.

On the day of the fair, you are required to wear business attire. Since students expect to hear about what qualities you as a candidate, we recommend that you prepare your personal pitch, a brief informal about yourself, and bring a correct proofread copies of your resume.

In order to assist you in polishing it, the SCDC is hosting a “Résumé Rush Day,” on April 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. You don’t need an appointment and you can bring a draft of your resume for review.

Also on April 9, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in VC 2-190, and on April 10, from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. in 3-160, the “Preparation for Job Fair Workshop” will cover everything you need to know before coming to the fair, from appropriate grooming and researching your preferred companies to what to ask the recruiters on the day of the fair. To attend either of these workshops, you need to sign up online through Stark Search, the SCDC online career management system.

If you are looking for a job, the Stark Search database currently has 560 internships and 750 full-time and part-time jobs waiting for you to apply.

Many of these companies will be on campus on Spring Career Day. Check them out at baruch- csm.simplicity.com.

Remember, you are eligible to attend the fair if you are an enrolled Baruch College undergraduate or a German graduate student, or if you graduated from any of these programs in December 2007 or January 2008.

Many of these companies will be on campus on Spring Career Day. Check them out at baruch- csm.simplicity.com.

Remember, you are eligible to attend the fair if you are an enrolled Baruch College undergraduate or a German graduate student, or if you graduated from any of these programs in December 2007 or January 2008.

Spring Career Day is on Friday, April 11 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the NYC Sec.

TICKER WATCH: CREDIT CRISIS CLAIMS STUDENT LENDERS

BY EMMANUEL ONENTILY
EONLINE.COM

Students may soon start to feel the effects of global credit market crises. On Thursday, CIT Group Inc. was the latest lender to suspend its student loan operation. CIT, which stopped originating private loans last year, announced that it would no longer make government-guaranteed student loans.

Since the start of the credit crises, over three dozen lenders nationwide have exited the federally backed student loan business. Even with the credit crises, almost 2,000 additional lenders still remain in the marketplace.

Lenders are simply having a hard time finding investors. Investors are moving away from bonds backed by educational debt and, according to HSBC, MG analysts securities with student loans as collateral fell 65 percent in the first quarter.

Bloomberg recently reported that about 60 U.S. schools, including Pennsylvania State University, have switched to a federal student loan program. Other schools are now offering fewer benefits due to increased borrowing costs.

For students fascinated by the technical analysis or the price action of stock charts, inspectcd.com will give you a great opportunity to perfect your chart-reading skills through practice.

The premise is simple. You are given a $100,000 in play money and shown a random stock chart from the past. The challenge is to study the chart patterns and decide whether to buy or sell the stock.

Because they are historical charts, the result of your decision is shown right way.

BUSINESS SITE OF THE WEEK: INSPECTCD.COM

For students fascinated by the technical analysis or the price action of stock charts, inspectcd.com will give you a great opportunity to perfect your chart-reading skills through practice.

The premise is simple. You are given a $100,000 in play money and shown a random stock chart from the past. The challenge is to study the chart patterns and decide whether to buy or sell the stock.

Because they are historical charts, the result of your decision is shown right way.
Attention all students who will be juniors by Fall 2008

Be part of a growing community of diverse, talented and qualified finance professionals

Launched in Fall 2006, the mission of the Baruch College Wall Street Careers Program (WSCP) is to increase the recruitment of diverse, talented and qualified Baruch students in front-office finance positions in Investment Banking, Asset Management, Research and Sales and Trading. By providing intensive technical and career training to a select group of Baruch’s top-performing juniors, WSCP cultivates successful finance professionals who are mentored by alumni and other industry professionals.

Since its inception two years ago, WSCP has placed over three dozen students in front-office summer internship and full-time analyst programs.

Program Application Deadline
5PM EST on Monday, April 21, 2008

For more information and program application, visit
www.baruch.cuny.edu/careers/wscp/apply.htm
Biz Gist
BY EMMANUEL OYENYILI
BUSINESS EDITOR

Small talk: It's a big deal
On Tuesday, the Starr Career Development Center held a workshop called "Corporate Success: The Art of Small Talk." The workshop was designed to help students improve their communication skills and learn how to make small talk in professional and social settings. During the workshop, students explored the importance of social skills in "making it." Both in corporate and social environments.

Launching your career On Tuesday, students had the opportunity to discover the many career tracks in marketing and advertising. Students were able to obtain information on the variety of job scopes within the industry and skills required. The panels shared information and knowledge about their marketing/advertising careers.

Everyone's Going Green: A Distinguished Lecture Series
On Tuesday, April 1 was geared to students interested in the importance of social skills and advertising careers. The workshop called "Corporate Success: The Art of Small Talk." The workshop was designed to help students improve their communication skills and learn how to make small talk in professional and social environments.

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In Next Week’s Issue
The Zicklin Graduate Leadership Speaker series will take place on Wednesday, April 9 at 8 a.m., featuring Shelley Lazarus, chairman & CEO of Ogilvy & Mather Worldwide.

Distinguished lecturer Bernard Doneller will present an event titled "Cigars, Cigars, and SIVs: What are they and how have they impacted the tobacco industry?" This event will be held on April 8 from 12:45 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Subotnick Financial Services Center.

Altria: Image vs. Reality
BY NASTASIA KOROLKOVA
PROFESSIONAL BRIDGE

Altria Group, Inc., the parent company of Philip Morris USA (PM USA), Philip Morris International (PMI) and Kraft Foods claims to honor a "commitment to responsibility" to its customers, to its employees and to the environment. However, the company sends a mixed message: while declaring "there’s no such thing as a ‘safe cigarette’" it thrives on markets, holding a 14.5 percent international market share in the tobacco industry. A discrepancy thus arises between Altria’s desired positive image and the reputation of its business.

Philip Morris Companies became the Altria Group in 2001. Two of the company’s three constituents, PM USA and PMI, specialize in tobacco products such as the well-known Marlboro, Virginia Slims and L&M brands. A recently acquired third, Kraft, includes various food and coffee products such as Nabisco, Oreos, Maxwell and Gevalia. The company also holds a 3.9 percent economic interest in SABMiller.

Altria Group claims admissibility to its social welfare philanthropy advocacy. One of its main objectives is to promote awareness about cigarette hazards, especially among youth. As manufacturers of some of the top-selling brands in the world, Philip Morris International prides itself on candor. A member of the World Health Organizations Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), it cites goals such as "regulation of the contents of tobacco products" and "licensing to prevent illicit trade." PMI also encourages smoking minimum-age laws.

In addition, the firm supports financial contributions to charities to four main areas: domestic violence prevention, hunger relief, disaster relief and arts development. In 2004, we made charitable contributions in 72 countries, totaling more than $13.6 million," claims the PMI website. It has pledged $6 million for the tsunami relief effort and $5 million for Katrina/ Rita hurricane relief. It has also been a beneficiary of the arts, donating over $130 million in dance and theater grants in the last decade. Although striving for positive recognition through its vast quantities of global projects, the company cannot shake its tainted Marlboro Man reputation so quickly. This is partly due to the infancy of the acquisition of Kraft, as well as the company’s new name. The title Altria, a shift for neutral accountabilityRating.com, which “measures the extent to which companies have built responsible practices into the way they do business,” based on categories such as strategic intent (to reach social/environmental aims), performance management (meeting the goals) and public disclosure, gave Altria a score of 21 out of a potential 100 on the accountability scale.

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Undergraduate Elections

Tues., Apr. 15 - Thurs., Apr. 17
11 AM to 7 PM
NO ELECTIONEERING AT THE POLLS.

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Clubs’ concerns with current USG

Baruch’s Undergraduate Student Government is at the forefront of over 170 registered clubs on campus each year. According to their website, the organization’s purpose is “to see that no one student goes unheard in their concerns.” However, it seems that some students’ concerns may be falling on deaf ears. Taking a look at their annual budget as well as their relationship with USG, certain members speculate whether or not USG is doing the best they can.

“Baruch’s USG is the best at helping with their annual budget as well as their relationships with USG. I would like them to revise the appeals, said that when it comes to the Chair of Finance, he said. “Maybe some clubs are not getting their fairest allocation of those fees for clubs. The Chair of Finance interviews all the clubs and they try to get the fairest amount of money, but the Chair of Finance said, “If the [club] feels that they aren’t getting money, they can come and meet with the Chair of Appeals and they would be viewed in regards to their budget.”

USG President Anthony Hernandez and Treasurer Rebecca Hoque were contacted but were unavailable for comment.

UNG elections are just around the corner on April 15 through 17, and it’s no doubt that club leaders and members will take their grievances with USG into consideration before pulling that lever.

“I still have a positive outlook on USG. I would like them to revise their policy and process on how money is spent and can be spent,” said Noel. For Cadavid, working on strengthening communication between USG and clubs is on the top of his list of concerns. He said, “I would like to see USG reach out to the clubs a little more. They should be reaching out more and saying, ‘Hey, we asked if I wanted an adviser for the club,” he said. “Maybe some of the USG representatives could come to visit clubs to hear our issues and make their presence known, just more involvement.”

Jana Kupurek also contributed to this article.

THE ProuSTIAN PROBE

BY REBECCA FORBES

Senior Staff Writer

In the late 19th century, French writer Marcel Proust popularized the pastime of answering relatively nonsensical questions that were meant to reveal the preferences of the person. Although he did not create the questionnaire, it was later named after him.

This issue’s interviewee is Sociology Professor Angela Jones of the sociology and anthropology department.

What is your current state of mind?

The sky is blue.

Who are your favorite authors?


What is your most obvious characteristic?

My wit.

What is your favorite project?

Any given Sunday on the beach.

What do you consider the most over-rated virtue?

Patience.

If you could choose an object to come back as, what would it be?

A baby grand piano.
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- Male winner will receive SportPerfect.com Exile Sport Products valued over $500, 429/Number, Lab men's high end basics valued at $500
- Male & Female winners each will receive a ghd IV styler and an array of products from the ghd thermodynamics® collection valued at over $500

Wed. April 9th
Thurs. April 10th

FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER GO TO http://topbutton.com/college
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship hosts David Tyree of the New York Giants
BY JOSHUA KU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, with the help of World Vision, recently held a Live @ Baruch event to raise awareness of the crisis in Uganda. Hosting the event was the Fellowship’s president, Priya Thomas, with guests David Tyree and Tom Richter and performances by Jeevo, Jonathan Walton and Sherwin Gardener.

For the past two decades, two million people in northern Uganda have been dealing with the effects of war between the Ugandan government and the Lord’s Resistance Army. Due to its diminishing support, the LRA has resorted to abducting children and forcing them to become child soldiers.

Fortunately, in recent years, awareness of the crisis has grown considerably, with the help of media outlets and organizations working towards a peaceful resolution.

As able Christians, there is a need to serve those who are less fortunate. In the case of Uganda, there exists an opportunity to make an impact.

Sophia Babel Gahosury, a campus minister, explains, “We want to provide morally enriching experiences at Baruch in hope of inciting students to make a positive difference in the world.”

The testimonies and performances during the event all expressed a common theme of gaining the strength to overcome hardship through hope and faith. And by doing so, countering negative influences from the people around you.

Spoken word artist, Jonathan Walton said, “We are people pebbles tossed into a pool, every ripple I create in turn ripples you. So in union we are rippling, a type of ripple rhythm but we need to ripple in a way that benefits our living.”

Towards the second half of the event, David Tyree, of the New York Giants, began to speak about his own story. He explained that on the outside, he seemed to have the perfect life. But in reality, there was a struggle with substance abuse and an idling state of mind.

After falling to an all-time low in his life, sitting in a prison cell, Tyree began to really feel the need for a change. “What seemed to be the lowest point in my life ended up being the greatest thing that ever happened to me,” he said, standing, mic in hand.

Tyree attributes his material and substantial success to his faith as a born-again Christian. His down-to-earth vibe provided the necessary context to which he gave his testimony.

Tyree concluded by expressing the need to come to a certain realization of your self as an individual, only then can you help the larger picture.

Hallelujah. Amen.

Music, charity are live @ Baruch

BY JACQUELINE CHANCER
405.618.1183

Beginning April 8 and running through April 12 at 7:30 p.m. with a 2 p.m. matinee on April 12, Baruch’s Nagelberg Theatre will be featuring Marsha Norman’s award-winning 1977 play, “Getting Out.”

Directing a cast of Baruch students, the play is directed by Thom Garvey.

Briefly, what is this play about?

The play is about Arlene who is leaving prison after eight years at the age of 27. She has had a very troubled life. She grew in very difficult circumstances and has made some very bad choices, which landed her in juvenile prisons and then finally she committed a very serious crime, which led to her eight-year incarceration.

While in prison, she has a conversation of sorts and begins to take stock of her life. She is determined to change her life and go straight on the outside despite all of the temptations and challenges that ex-cons face day to day. She has no job or any prospects for a getting a good job. She has no family support of any kind.

Throughout the play we also see Adelle, the younger Arlene played by another actress, on stage simultaneously with Arlene. Adelle acts out Arlene’s past at different stages of her troubled youth engaged in all kinds of illegal activities. It is a play about someone trying to make peace with her past so she can move on with her life.

Why this play?

I like the complex nature of this play. I like its emotional intensity. Bringing the colorful array of characters to life is a great challenge for me and the actors. It’s an intelligent play with many good roles for the students. The play also grapples with one of the major issues facing the United States: an ever-growing prison population. We now incarcerate over two million of our citizens.

I learned from one of the actors that you took them to a prison. Do you believe in method acting? How else did you attempt to get the actors into character?

I took the cast to Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, which is a maximum security prison for women. It was part of our research to gain some insight into prison life and prisoners, to learn about the basic workings of prisons to the day-to-day life of prisoners to the psychological experience of being behind bars. It was quite compelling and eye opening to be in the presence of so many people who had committed violent crimes and who would never be on the outside again.

Being an actor yourself, do you think that helps your directing?

“I find my experience as an actor is invaluable to my directing. I wouldn’t be able to empathize with the actor’s experience, nor would I be able to speak their language.

My job as a director is to fill the actor’s imaginations. I want to lead them to the water, but I don’t want to tell them when to drink it, or how to drink it. I want them to find their way organically so their choices are a result of their own discoveries shaped by my sense of the world of the play. Theatre is a collaborative process.”

Being at a business school, did you find it difficult to get actors to fulfill the required roles?

It can be difficult to get enough people to audition for the plays here at Baruch, but I find that more and more students are finding their way to the theatre department. I think it’s a kind of oasis for those students who are creative, but maybe have never acted before. The students I’ve worked with in the plays and in my classes have been highly motivated and committed. They really give themselves over to the process of acting and rehearsing.

Last Words …

“ Theatre can’t happen without an audience. I want to urge everyone to come to the show. There’s nothing quite like the live theatre experience. It’s cheaper than a movie and it will be a very moving and memorable experience. The Nagelberg is a wonderful facility. Support your fellow Baruch students.”

For tickets to the play, call (646) 312-4085 or visit the Box Office.
Tristan is dull and uninspired

BY JACQUELINE CHANCER
ARTS EDITOR

“Our lives are a set of interlock-
ing plays,” Gavin Rose (Tom Patella) sorrowfully laments on the night of his suicide, as he stares at the crowd of no more than 10 spectators in the tiny Where Eagles Dare Theatre (which is more a boiler room than a performance space).

Gavin’s self-actualization of his family’s star-crossed fate, in which he follows the worn footsteps of his father and his father’s father before him, was probably meant to stir serious contemplation. However, his soliloquy merely provoked a yawn from my neighboring audience member, who informed me during intermission he had difficulty stay-
ing awake.

Playwright Don Nigro’s “Tristan,” an off-Broadway installment of his Pendragon series, loses the audi-
ence in a dark web of familial lies and betrayals and further appears to be an inferior cache of classic dramatic motifs from the works of Sophocles, O’Neill and Tennessee Williams.

Set in 1867 Armitage, Ohio, the play begins as Gavin’s son Rhys (Russell Moore) rescues a beautiful young woman, mysteriously hid-
ing in the bushes not far from their home on a stormy night. Allison (Jennifer Sandella), who was also the play’s pro-
ducer, took her role very seriously and perhaps went a bit overboard with her use of emotion. She plays a femme fatale, manipulating Rhys and Matt Armitage to worm her way into her rightful position within the Pendragon household.

Sandella could have let her looks and actions play a bigger role in her performance. But her voice oscil-
lated between shrill, discordant oc-
taves, and as a result, the audience was constantly on the edge of their seats for the duration of her vocal chords might take.

It’s no wonder the family’s servant girl Sarah, played by Jennifer Rapp, was so annoyed by Allison regardless of the fact that Allison brought the demise of the entire family. Rapp, who had the only same role within the play, remained true to her character despite the failings of the script.

However, Gavin’s first wife Bel, played by Susan Neuffer, stole the show with her slightly unstable personality. Married by Gavin out of pity for her madness, Neuffer’s dialogue was definitely the most interesting, but more importantly she had a striking stage presence and exuded wit, which provided a much-needed comedic reprieve from this long, drawn-out play.

Gavin’s son Rhys, played by Russell Moore, was all too aware that he was acting. His body language and tone seemed to contradict his words. Both charac-
ters fell in and out of southern ac-
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“Tristan” strives to be a classic, but loses credibility with its con-
textual history, which serves an

Nigro’s “Tristan” leaves the audi-
ence scratching their heads as a result of extensive family trees and relationship maps, reminiscent of daytime soap operas. Without any

knowledge of Nigro’s earlier plays, the audience is confused as to the context of the characters, which serves an important role in the fates of the characters.

Yet, the play is predictable. The incestuous plotlines are wrenched directly from ancient Greek myths, particu-
larly Sophocles’ “Oedipus Rex.”

Gavin and Rhys are pitted against each other in a love triangle involv-
ing Allison, who of course turns out to be Rhys’ half-sis-
ter, mother of his baby and fa-
ther’s new wife.

Similarly, the classic dysfunc-
tional family re-
fering to come to terms with their bleak real-
ity evokes the Ty-
rones of Eugene O’Neill’s “Long Day’s Journey into Night” and the Wingfields of Tennessee Williams’ “The Glass Menag-
erie.”

But, Nigro’s family lacks the depth of both the Tyrone and the Wingfields since the situations they are forced into seem stilted and their responses inadequate. Furthermore, we find ourselves asking who is Tristan since there is no character that bears that name in this play, nor is there any evoca-
tion of the legendary myth “Tristan und Isolde.”

Granted, there was a lack of quality material with which to work. Regardless, Director Chris-
topher Thomasson failed to move the play along, and at points, the monologues grew stale, particu-
larly Gavin’s, which is probably why I caught my neighbor nodding off. Furthermore, the disinterest among some members of the cast was reprehensible.

Tom Patella, who played Gavin, has a very long list of credits to his name. That didn’t stop him from fumbling his delivery, though. His monotonous voice sounded like he was reading the script for the first time that night.

Similarly, Gavin’s son Rhys, played by Russell Moore, was all too aware that he was acting. His body language and tone seemed to

contradict his words. Both charac-
ters fell in and out of southern ac-
tons, which seemed anachronistic

with the use of current colloquial language by Nigro in the dialogue.

The only saving grace amid the mess was Tim Erickson, who played Matt Armitage, a close family friend to the Roses, who like every male in the play, felt the tumble in his knees for Allison. Interestingly enough, Erickson was not a member of the original casting. Despite the short notice with which he was given to prepare for the performance, Erick-
son executed his role with the preci-
sion of a true housing Southerner.

Even while acting at points as a nar-
orator, Erickson played a fully devel-
oped character and made his vari-
ous complications seem intriguing.

Allison, played by Jennifer San-
della, who was also the play’s pro-
ducer, took her role very seriously and perhaps went a bit overboard with her use of emotion. She plays a femme fatale, manipulating Rhys and Matt Armitage to worm her way into her rightful position within the Pendragon household.

“You’re the highest yet the poorest ever!”

“This is the greatest yet the poorest ever!”

THE TICKER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT I PAGE 17
Cynthia Lin is one of seven emerging artists on the BPAC’s roster.

She changed the vibe dramatically with “Eclipse,” a pop-rock tune that soars into the stratosphere. Her gentle voice cushions the news, but the listener can’t help but feel a sense of urgency. The song’s tautness expertly balances the raw emotion with a sense of hope. It’s a powerful message that speaks to the human condition in a way that is both familiar and fresh.

I’m a team player as long as that team is supportive and encourages me to be my best. I am accessible. My door is open and I’m always ready to collaborate and contribute.

If you were an animal, which one would you want to be? A penguin. I love the way they move and their unique way of life.

If you had to live your life over again, what is one thing would you change? I would have pursued a career in music instead of focusing solely on my academic pursuits.

Baruch Performing Center
BY ANA DEL ROSARIO
#BPCCon

Come discover the astonishing performance of your fellow classmates at the fine and performing arts department spring production, “Getting Out.” The play revolves around an ex-con (Arleene) who has just gotten out of prison. Arleene struggles to adjust to life on the outside while Arlie (the younger Arleene) is shown at different times in her life as an adolescent and teen. Arleene acts as Arleene’s memory of her past when she made mistakes and misbehaved.

Throughout the play, the audience learns how the early abuse and difficulties circumstances of Arleene’s life made Arlene who she is today. This week, from April 8 to 11 at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., come support your fellow Baruch students while learning about redemption and making peace with the past. Tickets are only $10 and can be purchased at the BPAC Box Office or via phone at (646) 312-4805. April is not only known for its flocks, it’s Jazz History Month. To celebrate, “The Milt Hinton Jazz Perspectives Series” will present a free lecture on Thursday, April 10, 8 p.m. at the BPAC. Come hear renowned jazz writer and critic Dan Ouellette give his perspective on the world’s most respected jazz bassist. Seating is limited, so be sure to stop by the box office for a ticket. For more information, visit www.baruch.spickeferesten.com.

If you had to live your life over again, what is one thing would you change? I would have pursued my passion for music more seriously.

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American Cancer Society
Relay For Life
Science

Bionic contact lenses

BY RACHEL VINCENT
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Watching any of the “futuristic” conceptual movies of the ‘50s and ‘60s would make anyone living in today’s world laugh. While they predicted communities of people living on Venus and Mars and other exotic places, even in the Moon, no one guessed we would be carrying music in a square the size of a stamp.

Science has taken some very interesting and unexpected leaps in the past few decades and has left our generation quite jaded in the process. We’ve seen circuits and wires embedded into a contact lens that would allow you to see in night vision, room in or out on whatever you are focusing on and improve your vision dramatically.

It may sound like science fiction, but incredibly, scientists at the University of Washington have already created a prototype. The lens looks like a mini circuit board and will apparently be embedded with microelectronics and a wireless display.

The lenses have yet to be perfected. There is currently no current solution to power them. However, the fact that they have been developed to a wearable state is incredibly enough. The technology will not only benefit those who want enhanced vision coupled with various displays reminiscent of the Terminator, but could also be utilized to aid those with impaired vision or the microscopic components. They were tested on rabbits, who showed no negative reaction after 20 minutes of wear.

Purvis’ research has settled the problem of building and wearing the lenses, but they have not yet attempted to activate them. They must first solve the issues of how the eye will adjust to the displays, how to create effective overlays and how to hook the contacts up to a viable power source.

It may sound like a long way to go, but if you consider that the first corneal contact lenses were invented in 1949, which were hard and not permeable to oxygen, and the first soft lenses appeared in 1959 and was approved in the United States in 1971, functional bionic contacts could become available in the not too distant future.

Imagine looking at a plant or a bird and actually see exactly what species it was, or have a visible Myapth screen come up while walking right before your eyes. At this point, the possibilities are endless and it is only a matter of time until bionic vision is a reality.

Copper alloys can kill life-threatening bacteria

BY KEITH ARORA-WILLIAMS
 BIG CORRESPONDENT

As of March 25, the United States Environmental Protection Agency approved the registration of a proposed public health claim stating that surfaces composed of certain copper alloys can kill off life-threatening bacteria.

Copper releases ions that kill bacteria, according to Guillermo Figueroa, professor of environmental and nuclear technology department of the University of Chile. “Copper ions separate on contact with bacteria and cause irreversible damage to the bacterial cell,” Figueroa said. “It is a very swift, physical chemical process.”

Copper Development Association Inc., the Latin-American arm of the international copper association, sponsored the lab testing of copper alloys, which commonly used aluminum and stainless steel surfaces. A grouping of 100 million MSRA bacterium atrophied under the same conditions, the number of MSRA bacteria atoprophied in a mere 90 minutes when placed on a copper surface at room temperature. The number of MRSA bacterium decreased by 90% after 2 hours and atrophyed by 90% when placed on a bronze surface. Under the same conditions, the number of MSRA bacteria on stainless steel surfaces actually increased over time.

The findings have resonated loudest in hospitals around the world. Approximately 1.7 million Americans contracted infections during hospital stays and a subsequent 150,000 people perished from these diseases in 2002 alone according to the National Center of Disease Control.

In a study done by the American Medical Association in 2005, MSRA bacteria caused 18,650 deaths in hospitals, translating to nearly 19 percent of these types of deaths. If this study is accurate, it would mean that staph infections were a more likely cause of death than AIDS in the U.S. for that year.

In the aftermath of the EPA’s approval, manufacturers have begun to pitch ideas to hospitals, all of which include copper, dioxidum, copper bars, counter tops, railings and intravenous needles.

The EPA warned that, “copper alloy [surfaces] are a supplement to, not a substitute for standard in- fection control practices.”

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“Having shaken hands with a sniffing patient, pulled a sticky dressing off some one’s wound, pressed a stethoscope against a sniffing chest, most of us do little more than wipe our hands on our white coats and move on,” admits Gawanade.

The ironic fact that doctors themselves can perpetrate the spread of contagions is not, however, a discovery of the modern age.

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Mock Interview
NAASA
Room 2-150 (NVC)
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sustainable Development Promotion
Ziklum African Business Club
12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Arts of Asia
Asian Heritage Month Celebration
Room 3-215 (NVC)
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Sister’s Discussion Group
Women in Islam
Room 10-129 (NVC)
12:45 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.

Tax Career and Opportunities for Working in a Private Firm
by K. Doriz and A. Mahoy of Arrow Electronics Inc.
Tax Accounting Society for Undergraduates
Room 4-220 (NVC)
12:45 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.

What’s Love Got To Do With It? Tovah’s Perspective on Cheating.
Jewish Women’s Group
Room 9-165 (NVC)
12:45 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.

Model Search with TopButton.com
Shop of Style
Room 1-107 (Multipurpose)
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

International Exchange Infossession
MISEC
Room 1-107 (Multipurpose)
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Teach-In on Race with: A. Lewin, C. Taylor, Prof. “G” J. Fernandez, & M. Marriott S. Jarvis, & K. Bernard
Black Students Department
Room 1-125 (NVC)
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Grad Social
GSA
Room 14-220 (NVC)
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Students Services Fair
Advisement and Orientation
Room 1-107 (Multipurpose)
12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Becker overview of the CPA
NAASA
Room 12-145 (NVC)
12:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Mystery of Tai Chi
Kappa Phi Alpha
Room 3-215 (NVC)
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Line Dance
Asian Heritage Month Celebration
Room 3-210 (NVC)
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Roc the Mic Talent Showcase
NY Music Industry Association
Room 1-107 (Multipurpose)
6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Jane Gladstein Presentation
Graduate Development Group, LLC
Real Estate Networking Club
137 E. 23rd Street
12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Spring Career Day
Graduate Development Center
ARC, Main Gym (NVC)
12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Dress Rehearsal
CSA, SOCA, WICC
Mason Hall (23rd St.)
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Modelling Practices
CSA, SOCA, WICC
Room 2-215 (NVC)
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Dance Practice
CSA, SOCA, WICC
Room 1-215 (NVC)
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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Explore New York over spring break

By Kerri Jarema

Spring break is a mere two weeks away. An entire seven days all to yourself, without having to wake up early to go to class, worrying about writing papers, reading textbooks and studying for exams.

Most of your friends are probably heading to far away places, to sit on the beaches, visit landmarks, buy souvenirs and get a change of scenery. Unfortunately, not all of us are able to travel during break. But that should not mean that we are confined to our apartments, sleeping until noon and watching day-time soap operas and talk shows.

There are plenty of fun, interesting activities to do right here at home. New York City is, after all, considered one of the most glamorous and exciting tourist cities in the world.

If you’re hoping to get outdoors during your spring break, the beach is not the only place to do it. Central Park is one of our Big Apple gems — an oasis where we can escape from the constant chaos of the concrete jungle, and actually enjoy some nature.

Anything you could on the beach, read a book, play volleyball, get a tan, have a picnic lunch, enjoy the water — can all be done in Central Park. If you go far enough into the park, it can be easy to forget that you’re in the City at all. You can sit by various ponds, walk on shaded, well-lit paths and even climb rocks.

There are also the common tourist attractions like the Central Park Zoo, the Great Lawn and Strawberry Fields, which includes the Imagine mosaic and beautiful meadows that are a tribute to John Lennon.

A look at the Central Park website can give you directions to all of these places, as well as suggested areas for sports and recreation, nature lovers, runners and bikers, and serene and solitaryplaces.

There is no reason to be jealous of the shopping trips your friends may be taking during Spring Break, because New York City has some of the most amazing and unique shops in the world. If you are tired of shopping at Union Square and Soho, check out all of the cool new boutiques opening on the Lower East Side.

Headling towards Rivington, Orchard, and Clinton Streets, Honey in the Rough, Narnia Vintage, An-Nae 6, Edith Machinist, Le Sous Sol and Suite Orchard are just some of the amazing shops that can be found nestled away between cafés, hairdressers and tailor shops. Most of the stores carry hip new lines like Jovovich-Hawk, Alexander Wang and Sonia Rykiel, while others carry strictly vintage.

The shops may be a bit on the expensive side, but if you are searching for one-of-a-kind pieces, these shops will have something for everybody. Going to these shops will feel like a special event in and of itself, equivalent or greater than any vintage shop you would go to if you were visiting Boston, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, even Paris or London.

If the weather during break is not conducive for playing in the park or shopping, there are many indoor alternatives to explore.

If you are looking to take in some culture during your break, there are countless amazing museums in the City you could visit. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art and the Guggenheim Museum are all located in Manhattan and each offers student discounts. With your student ID you will pay anywhere from $10 to $15, which is not much considering all the sights the museums have to offer its patrons.

Most students equate museums with school work and, therefore, stress and boredom. However, when you have the option to choose the museum and the exhibits you want to see, rather than being assigned to see, feeling of conducting a school assignment removed. A trip to a museum is actually an enjoyable experience.

A great alternative to the traditional museum is Madame Tussaud’s Wax Museum, hailed “New York’s Most Famous Tourist Attraction,” by the museum’s website. The museum features wax statues of famous celebrities such as Angelina Jolie, Jennifer Lopez and Madonna. The museum also has interactive statues and sets like the Pirates of the Caribbean experience, loaded over by Captain Jack Sparrow, and the American Idol experience, with an eye-rolling Simon Cowell to entertain you. If you are looking for a non-conventional museum, Madame Tussaud’s is the place to be. However, the museum does not offer a student discount. The price of admission for adults is $29. Directions and open hours are available on each of the museum’s websites. They also offer a list of the permanent and temporary exhibits to help you plan your trip effectively.

New York City is one of the most exciting places in the world. Full of culture, shopping and greenery, living in the City can sometimes blind us to all of the fun and new things that are available to explore.

The spring break to take in a new look at New York City and enjoy your break as much as you would if you were in a far away place.

Ladies, learn how to turn those heads

By Martina Miclo

As spring rolls around again, the birds are chirping and the flowers are blossoming. Spring is the start of new things, including relationships.

Many of us have someone in class that we would like to get to know better, but how do we get them to notice us?

That’s the big question. Most of us are shy and won’t talk to our crushes, but there are several ways to get that special someone to spot us.

One way to get someone’s attention is through appearance. Now that it’s spring, it’s time for a wardrobe change. Ladies, try wearing a cute skirt or cute dress; the guys notice us.

Ladies, try wearing a cute skirt or cute dress; the guys notice us.

To apply a perfume is to spray and walk into it so you will have it as a reflection of your own style. That’s not your style, try a daring top or changing your makeup routine.

It is a new season after all. Girls, try getting a new stylish haircut or sunglasses and hats are also attractive.

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Subtle hints that will grab his attention.

Getting noticed, than doing something you like and showing off your skills. After all, don’t things happen when you least expect them?

Since it’s a new season, why not try a new fragrance? We don’t realize it, but scent is a way people notice us.

Visit the nearest Sephora for a new spring scent. The best way to get noticed is to apply a perfume is to spray and walk into it so you will have it as a seemingly natural scent.

The idea behind perfume or cologne is to reflect our own style. When shopping for fragrances, pick something that appeals to you the most.

When you are strolling, enjoying the spring weather, don’t be surprised if you’re turning heads with your new perfume.

Smile and walk with your head high to show confidence. This shows that you are a person that anyone would like to get to know.

By being yourself people see the real you, and if they like it, they will try to get to know you.

The new season has arrived, and it’s time to make several changes. Since we didn’t have much luck getting that crush last semester, maybe heading to far away places, to sit on the beaches, visit landmarks, buy souvenirs and get a change of scenery. Unfortunately, not all of us are able to travel during break. But that should not mean that we are confined to our apartments, sleeping until noon and watching day-time soap operas and talk shows. This shows that you are a person that anyone would like to get to know.

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CUNYAC Rookie of the Week: Jason Valentin

BY TIMOTHY PETROPULOS
SUNY STUDENT WRITER

This week, the Bearcats opened their CUNYAC schedule on a high note. Competing against defending champions John Jay in a three game set, although dropping two out of the three games, Baruch showed heart and moxie while taking on the best CUNY had to offer.

On top of the valiant effort, another hit of good news also lifted the Bearcats this week. Rookie Pitcher Jason Valentin was named the CUNYAC Rookie of the Week for his efforts against Vassar College in the front end of a double header.

Valentin tossed seven plus innings of six hit ball while recording three strike-outs. Although the Bearcats narrowly fell to Vassar 3-2, Valentin’s efforts kept the game close and gave the Bearcats the opportunity to win.

When asked about his young, hard throwing freshman winning this award, Coach Jose Torres knew that Valentin would be capable of this and much more as soon as he first saw Valentin play. “I predicted to a few people before the start of the season that he would win Rookie Pitcher of the Year, the CUNYAC Conference, so it doesn’t surprise me,” Torres said. Although he is only a freshman, Valentin (younger brother of star first baseman Joseph Valentin) is no stranger to pitching under pressure.

As a senior at DeWitt Clinton high school he won Pitcher of the Year, captained the team in both his junior and senior years and won the Gold Glove his junior and senior years while leading his team to the F.S.A.L. for the first time since 1988.

And if that wasn’t enough, he was also in the ARISTA Honors Society all four years of high-school and graduated in the top 10 percent of his class.

After all this, it would be understandable to develop an ego, but Valentin remains as humble as the day he first started playing baseball when he was five years old.

When asked about what the award meant to him, the modest Valentin said, “To be honest winning CUNYAC [Rookie] of the Week doesn’t really mean a lot to me. I’m just hoping that I can continue to be successful and help my team win a CUNYAC Championship. That’s my ultimate goal.”

Valentin’s ultimate goal of winning a CUNYAC Championship for Baruch outweighs whatever personal accomplishments he can acquire this season and, in his mind, this team has the potential to do it.

“We have a very good team. We are continuing [to] work hard in practices and trying our best on the field. I feel that we will come together and have a successful season,” said Valentin. “Beating [John Jay] was a big confidence booster. Hopefully we [will] build on this and dominate the rest of the conference.”

Although the award may not mean much to Valentin himself, Torres uses the example set by his star freshman to motivate everyone on the team to achieve greatness. “The rest of the players have to realize that this is an achievement they can all attain, hard work and intelligence is what’s needed,” said Torres.

Baruch’s next CUNYAC game is April 5 against CCNY at noon. Every conference game is important at this stage of the season and if Baruch wants to compete at the level Valentin believes they are capable of, this series is a must win.

Don’t sleep on these players

Perhaps bigger than the Major League Baseball season beginning in Japan, fantasy baseball season has begun. While there are some players that are always going to be drafted (like Albert Pujols, Alex Rodriguez, Chase Utley and David Ortiz), there are several others flying under the radar who have the potential to do very well this season. What is it we fantasize baseball fanatics like to call “sleepers”?

Here’s the rundown.

Texas Rangers outfielder Josh Hamilton: After being selected as the first overall pick in the 1999 MLB draft by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, his promising path towards superstardom took an immediate detour after a reported heroin addiction.

Eight years later, the kid finally realized his dream as the Cincinnati Reds gave him a spot on their 2007 opening day roster. While he played admirably in a part-time role, he eventually had to serve two stints on the disabled list and he would eventually be traded to the Texas Rangers during the off-season.

Now as an everyday player, many scouts believe that this former first rounder has potential to do great things in his first full season in Arlington.

Want some reasons to believe that the guy can have a big year for the Texas Rangers and his fantasy owners alike? He turns 27 in May (known as the “breakout” age in fantasy circles) and hits in a hitter’s ballpark. If you can trade for him in your league; you can do so with full confidence.

Atlanta Braves shortstop Yunel Escobar: With the Braves trade of Edgar Renteria to the Detroit Tigers in the off-season, the Braves elected to fill their shortstop position from within their organization.

Scouts believe it was the right choice as shown by his hot spring batting average of 473, with two home runs and 12 RBI (runs batted in) in 36 at bats.

He will be hitting and setting the table for a solid Braves lineup behind him that includes first baseman, Mark Teixeira, third baseman, Chipper Jones and outfielder Jeff Francoeur. Consider him a solid stopgap with the potential to finish statistically in the top 10 in his position.

Cincinnati Reds pitchers Johnny Cueto and Edinson Volquez: Known as the “ Dominican Dandies,” both pitchers were acquired in the Cincinnati-Texas trade that sent Josh Hamilton to Texas. Projected as the third and fourth starters of Cincinnati’s pitching rotation, the sky is the limit for these two young burgeoning hurlers.

While both have individual strengths, each player has the ability to strike out a batter per inning. “The Reds have not had a winning season since the year 2000. In this case the risk may be worth the reward.”

Some other “sleepers” to consider:

Kansas City Royals shortstop Alcides Escobar: While the Kansas City Royals elected to fill their shortstop position from within their organization, this player has the potential to do very well in fantasy circles. Known as the “Domini-
Bearcats routed by Hawks

BY ROSIE GENAO
SPORTS EDITOR

April 7, 2008

For two years, the men’s volleyball team reigned as champions in the CNYS Athletic Conference. Their dreams of creating a legacy through a third championship were cut short by the Hunter Hawks, who faced the Bearcats in the final round and brought the defending champs to their knees. It was the fourth time the archrivals had met in the finals, but this time, Hunter swept the Cats with a 30-26, 30-25, 30-22 victory.

Earlier in the season, the Bearcats lost three matches to Hunter. Still, hope was far from lost as it seemed similar to the same story from the past two seasons: Hunter would beat Baruch during the regular season, and Baruch would come back strong in the end.

“We were feeling good about ourselves going into the game, and wanted to defend our title from the past two years,” said team captain Danial Levent. “We were definitely confident going into this match.” This time, though, it was not the case and Hunter made it their mission to rewrite the story.

Levent, who served as the backbone of the team for much of the season, won Tournament Player of the Year. He had won National Player of the Week earlier in the season and it seemed only right that he would get the recognition.

“Winning Tournament Player of the Year is just going to make me work harder in the off season so [that] I can reach it again next year,” Levent said.

Rudolf Kryzansky, who is now associate head coach of the volleyball team, reigned as champions through Facebook and flyers that Schnayderman complained were offering a concession stand to raise money to support the team. He first thought up the concept four years ago, as a senior, and made it a reality with one of his teammates.

Attirnately, team members were taken over by junior Nick Schnayderman, who decided to take control “to raise money for the team, but also to promote the soccer team to the school!”

The event was advertised through Facebook and flyers that Schnayderman decided to “deem itself.”

Unfortunately for the Bearcats, they were in too deep a hole to dig themselves out of. All six players on the court had to play well in order to defeat Hunter.

As veteran Boris Stitsky said, “Everything that we expected [for] the first game for the season happened in the last game.”

Greg Waldvogel, who served as assistant coach and was Tournament Player of the Year two years ago, noticed that “the team needs to be a lot more disciplined on defense and on blocking.”

According to Waldvogel, the team relied on Levent too heavily and could have worked harder during practice sessions. “Next year’s team needs to work to a lot over the summer and more people should step up,” Waldvogel said.

Despite the loss, the Bearcats still qualified for the North East Conference Volleyball Association tournament, held this past weekend. Baruch has never won a NECKA tournament and this posed another chance for the team to redeem itself.

Ironically, the loss against Hunter in the final round was good for the team. They learned to not rely on the past and focus on the present. In retrospect, rookie Mike Mazzara said, “We could have played harder and had more faith in one another.” In addition to faith and confidence, next year’s team will need to step up collectively and cut back on relying on one team member.

Gunther is looking forward to next season with the index of three to four new recruits, who she describes as “exceptionally good.”

The new players, combined with this year’s lineup, will make Baruch the “team to watch” next year, according to Gunther.

Until then, the Bearcats can learn many lessons from a season that brought them a new coach, a mostly rookie team and better-than-expected results.

With Baruch and Hunter hav- ing the best volleyball teams in the conference, the archrivals can expect to meet again in the final round next year.