On Tuesday, March 10, the Blackboard 8.0 production environment underwent scheduled maintenance from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. The nature of the repairs required a full system shutdown, cutting off approximately 600,000 students from assignments and syllabuses. Upon completion of the work, specialists from the CUNY Computer Operations department found that they could not restart Blackboard.

The Computer Services division of CUNY took the past winter intercessions to upgrade 16 of the 20 CUNY schools to Blackboard 8.0. The switch required new hardware to be purchased from Sun Microsystems to accommodate the new software and it was within these newly purchased servers that the latest technology problems occurred.

“We were [CUNY] Portal problems at the beginning of the semester... and now Blackboard itself is down. So we've had a series of problems,” said Baruch's Chief Information Officer, Arthur Kowling. “If the University hadn't switched (from 8.0 to 8.0), we wouldn’t be using the new software... so the problem is definitely related.”

BY KEITH ARORA-WILLIAMS  ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Martinelli moved to Republic National Bank in 2000, prior to which he worked at KPMG, formerly known as Pear McWethy Mitchell, where he specialized in financial services. After 18 years at KPMG, Martinelli moved to Republic National Bank to head the capital markets division of the bank.

Martinelli has had the unique advantage of being in the cross flow of information and the changes that are taking place in the financial services sector. Martinelli, who served as an adjunct professor, is among a select number of executives that have achieved a high level of success in their chosen fields while simultaneously broadening their sphere of influence in the academic world.

As discovered during our “Prominent Executives” interview, Martinelli is an executive whose career has largely been defined by his willingness to tackle new challenges while being guided by the intellectual curiosity and core principles that have led to his success. Martinelli, a certified public accountant by trade, graduated with a degree in accounting and a minor in economics from St. John’s University and began his career at KPMG, formerly known as Pear McWethy Mitchell, where he specialized in financial services.

Despite the two clubs running similar programs, “We’re actually using the same vendor as the IBC,” he said, “but a different service.”

Matthew Choudhury, president of the Wall Street Club, justified the steep price, saying that the club is offering a discounted price to attend the event.

“This sort of program would cost $2,000 for an individual outside (the club),” he said. Although the Wall Street Club has a $1,100 budget, the club would use some of its money to pay for the event’s promotion and refreshments.

Seigel only needs $7,500 to cover the event’s expenses. The additional $2,500 would pay for the admission of 50 students. Despite the USG’s reluctance, Seigel is confident about obtaining the additional funding. Other clubs have been contacted for co-sponsorships in the event USG does not cover the full cost.

SEEN BLACKBOARD PAGE 2

ILLUSTRATION BY RUPIN YUSUDEAN

Buy CUNY credit now, pay later

GOP announces new plan allowing parents to buy CUNY and SUNY credits at current cost for future

BY LILLIAN RIZZO  SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Republican lawmakers in New York have created an education portion in their budget savings plan that centers around the futures of CUNY and SUNY schools and prospective students as young as infants.

According to a March 5 press release, the State Senate Republicans’ budget plan proposes to give parents the ability to pay for SUNY or CUNY credits now so that their children can have an affordable, first-rate education at one of New York’s state or city universities and at the same time will generate much-needed revenue for New York State to provide enhanced support to our public higher education system, said Sen. Dean Skelos (R-Rockville Cen- ter) in the press release.

Prepaid college tuitions are common in other states but in New York, upfront payments typically invest revenue into the stock market to make up the prepaid tuition rate and the actual cost at the time of enrollment, according to Newsday. This current proposal explained that it would funnel $216 million into state universities.

“I definitely think this is a good idea, especially when we’re in an economic problem,” said Baruch junior Stephanie Yang. Yang said since the majority of his friends went to either SUNY or CUNY schools, it would be a good idea. He also mentioned the variety of schools from which young adults could choose.

The proposal includes a payment plan based on when a parent enrolls in the program. Parents would have until the child is 18

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Baruch students helped raise more than $1,300 for Relay for Life all while giving themselves an academic boost at last Thursday’s auction of tutoring sessions hosted by Student Academic Consulting Center.

The members of SACC had an enthusiastic turnout for the event. Sarah Moen, an adjunct faculty member and writing coordinator at SACC, acted as the auctioneer while other members sold food like pastries.

The result of their combined efforts exceeded their expectations.

“I didn’t know if we could actually do $1,000,” Moen said at the end of the auction.

Giving back to students was an important part of SACC’s plans as helping support Relay for Life, an overnight event held at Baruch to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

“By helping people, we are re-focusing what we want to give back to the Baruch community,” Moen said.

One SACC tutor, who was a particular favorite, sold an hour of tutoring time for $105.

John Bautista, a senior mathematics and philosophy major, also received his second tutoring session as a pre-calculus tutor and has seen the effect tutoring has had on students.

“When I work at SACC and tutor students, I feel like I’m making a difference in their lives,” he said.

The tutoring time and food that students sold during the event was donated by SACC members. Carol Morgan, the SACC director, said that the tutors “believe in the cause and want to support it.”

Gavin Maglancy, a 1998 alumnus who has worked with SACC for 14 years, said the opportunity to share his experience and education with Baruch students was more than enough of a reward.

Maglancy, known among the group as an experienced chef, pledged to bake a chocolate cake — his specialty — for the winner of his session, Hailee Conception.

Conception, a junior finance major, won two separate tutoring sessions in mathematics at the auction, bearing a $160 total price tag.

“I could hire the tutors privately anyway but this helps the cause, so why not do it,” he said.

Strong emotional connections to the fight against cancer were common among SACC members.

Nizhaida Garcia, the assistant director of tutorial services at SACC, has witnessed first-hand the effects cancer has on a person.

“I’ve known lots of loved ones that have passed because of this disease,” she said. “We need to do something about it.”

This is the second time SACC sponsored an auction of this sort. With the additional money obtained from food sales, they were able to raise more than twice what they did last semester.

Several members agreed that the event was a success for SACC, Relay for Life and Baruch students.

Buy credits now for later

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

years old to pay off the cost.

Payments range from $96 a month when the child is a newborn to $253 per month for an eighth child, the government will cover.

The proposal has received little media attention, appearing in Newsday local television stations.

SUNY’s Director of Media Relations David Henahan said in Newsday, “SUNY continues to advocate for the rational tuition plan and we will evaluate the proposal and make recommendations accordingly.”

Newsday predicts the proposal will not pass because of Democratic control of the state legislature.

“I was also told that in the current economic climate it is highly unlikely the proposal will pass,” said Rita Bodie of the SUNY-CUNY admissions and financial services at Baruch.

Gov. David Paterson’s spokeswoman, Marissa Shoemaker, said in Albany, “These kinds of structures should never be looked at as a way of providing near-term fiscal relief — as they only create a hole down the road when the students arrive and the funds have been spent.”
Thank You!
For Giving Blood!
For Giving Life!

Adarsh Abraham
Tatyana Acuna
Iselva Alcantara
Joey Alexander
Adham Alifarag
Christopher Anosike
Deborah Apsan
Mark Arelyer
Iqra Aslam
Julia Astudillo
Vladimir Atanasov
Christina Avenoso
Carl Aylwin
Victoria Baldes
Nicole Baruffaldi
GayleLaurenne Bathan
Joseph Bibi
Dino Boddin
Isabel Bonet
Holger Briones
Julisse Calderon
Charmaime Callender
Liling Chan
Abbas Chando
Winnie Chau
Yash Chava
Godwin Chen
Tamara Chen
Xian Chen
Andrew Cheung
Ru Hai Chii
Michael Chiang
Joseph Cho
Ruma Choudhury
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Nickolas Cox
Ralph Dayan
Gabriela De Jesus
Joel Delince
Keith Denis
Pratik Desai
Rose Ding
Marco Dinovelli
Kara Donnelly
Cynthia Duran
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Louisa Kerma
Yelena Khvatskaya
Grace Kim
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Steven Kim
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Michael Kuchinsk
Thu Le
Gwyn Lange
Arturo Laulo
Heung Hung Lee
Joe Lee
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Robert Smith
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Mariane St. Maurice
Matthew Tesoro
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Francisco Torres
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Alyssa Tropea
Kwok Tse
Walter Vargaspena
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Anastasia Volkova
Ashok Vora
Karen Walsh
Mian Wang
Yuejuan Wang
Gregory Washington
Elizabeth Whitworth
Joseph Wilson
Ernest Wong
James Wong
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Jennifer Woytovich
Tomomi Yazama
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Baruch COLLEGE
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Spring 2009

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MAY 2009 COMMENCEMENT
DEADLINE IS
MARCH 31

The City University of New York
VITA deals with reality

BY STEVE GUTTBINDER
STAFF WRITER

For the past 18 years, Baruch College has been home to one of the national locations of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. VITA is an IRS-sponsored program that helps people all over the country prepare their taxes for filing free of charge.

But aside from crunching numbers this year, volunteers have had to consider effects of the ailing economy when dealing with clients. "All of a sudden, it seems like everyone has lost their job," said Daud. "We have to ask them about kids, marriage and sometimes they get really emotional if things aren’t working out." Volunteers who have given their time in previous years have said that it seems there has been an increase this year of personal family matters.

"At the end of the day, our clients are pretty grateful for the work we do. They know we give a lot of our time to help them," according to an anonymous VITA volunteer.

Baruch is one of the program's largest participants, with over 330 student volunteers this year. VITA is open to anyone who needs tax assistance, not just Baruch students.

Volunteers have met with a diverse array of filers, ranging from Columbia University students to senior citizens. Special locations are available for filers who aren’t native English speakers.

VITA accepts walk-ins and no appointments are necessary unless the filer is an international student. For more information, go to baruch.edu/vita.

Civil rights falls short in education

BY TINA GRANDINETTI
STAFF WRITER

Last Wednesday at the latest installment of the School of Public Affairs' Ackerman Lecture Series, Baruch faculty and students gathered to discuss whether current policy changes would extend to the main-ner in which government addresses civil rights.

The Ackerman Lecture Series on Equality and Justice in America brought Gerald Reynolds, chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, to the Baruch campus to speak at the "Civil Rights in the 21st Century" event.

Reynolds’ speech was preceded by a presentation by Kenneth L. Marcus, this semester’s Ackerman visiting professor of equality and justice in America, who began the evening with an examination of President Obama’s stance on civil rights.

Noting that while Obama’s history and rhetoric suggest that he could herald a new approach to civil rights, Marcus stressed the importance of taking eloquent oratory with a grain of salt.

Marcus concluded that the new administration represents a cross-road at which America must decide how it will approach civil rights.

Expanding on this idea, Reynolds, a CUNY alumna and product of the Bronx, emphasized that although America has come a long way in terms of formal recognition of equality under the law, it now faces different problems and must create new solutions.

Central to his argument was the need to reevalu-ate the problems America faces in the realm of civil rights and the tools we use to remedy them.

Citing the fact that the average 17-year-old African-American male has the same reading level as a 13-year-old white male, Reynolds paid par-ticular attention to the issue of education.

"While fate is no longer decided solely on the color of one’s skin, it is largely determined by one’s education and capabilities," said Reynolds.

He argued that the nature of civil rights has largely shifted from state-sponsored segregation to structural inequalities in the educational sys-tem.

Advocating the use of charter schools, settlement houses and neighborhood organizations to deal with the “deficiency of infor-mation” that exists in impoverished areas, Reynolds stressed the power of community organizing in tack-ling the issues of a new generation.

Wall Street Club

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Some clubs continue to include the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting, the Graduate Finance Investment Club and Toastmasters.

Wall Street Club’s budget-get agreement is part of an initiative to continue events BIC was forced to drop due to a lack of funds and change in leadership. George Wang, vice-president of BIC, blamed this on his club’s transfer of power.

Wall Street Club event, an intensive three-day seminar, will cover financial statement modeling, discounted cash flow models and transaction comparables modeling. Siegel explained how many former BIC members who attended similar seminars enjoyed the event.

Chow was enthusiastic about the program.

"If the company sees this, they may hire you right away," he said.

Siegel is looking to have one of two financial analyst companies - Wall Street Prep or The Analyst Exchange - run his analyst training curriculum. Both were sources recommended to him by successful former BIC members.

Wang has expressed support for Wall Street Club’s initiatives, saying that the club has a broader scope than his own BIC.

"[They have] more potential for success," Wang said. "I support co-sponsoring [the Wall Street Club]. We pretty much haven’t touched our budget." Siegel has not yet been able to contact any current members of BIC to work out a plan for co-spon-soring Wall Street Club’s event.

Best of the blogosphere

BY SABRINA SMITH
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, March 12, a number of guest bloggers gathered to discuss “How Blogging Empowers Women in Business, Politics and Media.”

The Friedman Symposium, a collaborative effort of Robert Fried-man and Baruch’s history department, used the event to broadcast the progressive contributions to so-cial media made by women, students and faculty assembled to hear the five featured speakers.

The first speaker, Julie Des Jardins, a feminist historian and professor at Baruch, jump-started the evening with an examination of the realm of civil rights, to the audience’s surprise.

Julie Des Jardins

"... Civil rights [have] largely shifted from state-sponsored segregation to structural inequalities in our educational system."

Jennifer Pozner, founder and executive editor of Blogher.com, a website dedicated to social media, as well as their blogging knowledge.

Following the introductions, Jory Des Jardins, the co-founder of Blogher.com, a website dedicated to social media, as well as their blogging knowledge.

"The web is becoming viral because it is not just a way of commu-nication. It can also be used as a strategy of acquiring stature," said Pozner.

Jory Des Jardins, the co-founder of blogher.com, a website dedicated to social media, as well as their blogging knowledge.

"The web is becoming viral because it is not just a way of communication. It can also be used as a strategy of acquiring stature," said Pozner.

Lena West, social media consultant and CEO of synxMedia Techn-ology moved the student-domi-nated audience with her testimony of getting kicked out of college and making her way to success by the influence of technology and social networking.

"The web is becoming viral because it is not just a way of communication. It can also be used as a strategy of acquiring stature," said Pozner.

West. The women concluded the program by answering last minute questions and providing feedback to those seeking a foot in the door to social media.

Write for news.
E-mail
news@theticker.org
THE BARUCH COLLEGE FUND is where Baruch privately holds other money. Much of this money is through donations and other money, but students and faculty have little idea as to how much money we currently have.

This economic time is hurting everyone, especially in- stitutes of higher education. Endowments are taking big hits, and Baruch is no exception. Departments throughout the school are being forced to cope with cutbacks, while a pile of student services at Baruch? Tell us at editor@theticker.org. 

Before we lose even more.

For you have experienced cuts or disruptions in any of your services at Baruch? Tell us at editor@theticker.org.

Baruch Business Need Only Apply

I’m a marketing major at Baruch but I must admit that I am and always will be a film major at heart. Why am I not pursuing my heart’s desire? Take a look at the economic climate outside. However, in order to keep my spirit alive, I like to partake in anything that allows me to keep my creative juices flowing, including writing for The Ticker every now and then. My heart lies in acting and film but there’s no acting club or film club for you. Why aren’t you involved in this? This would be the perfect opportunity to appeal to those other students who often pass on Baruch because of the “strictly business” aura, which I’ve heard Baruch is trying to change. Put more funding into the creative field. Make more classes skew towards the arts and set up an official school theatre club so that we can have more than just one play per term. Hunter always has at least two. Many students consider transferring out of Baruch after the first semester because they discover business doesn’t fit them. If the school actually offered other things, there wouldn’t be so many students with that sentiment. It’s better to be in a college that offers a broad selection of subjects, rather than a college that specializes in one particular field. This way, you get more students who are willing to stay.

 residential, year and organization title, if applicable. Letter submissions should not exceed 250 words. The Ticker reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity and length. Submissions should be sent each Wednesday by 5 p.m. to opinions@theticker.org.

Your Letters

Letter Policy

The Ticker welcomes correspondence from all readers. When a submission is made, please include your name, graduation year and organization title, if applicable. Letter submissions should not exceed 250 words. The Ticker reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity and length. Submissions should be sent each Wednesday by 5 p.m. to opinions@theticker.org.

PREPAID TUITION IS DETERIMENTAL

Recently, New York State Senate Republicans proposed a bill which would grant parents the opportunity to pay for their children’s college education before the child starts school. The purpose of the proposal being that it would allow the child in the future tuition at its current rate. In addition, the proposal would provide huge investments for CUNY and SUNY schools, estimated at more than 8 billion dollars over 10 years.

While this proposed bill is intended to address the financial crisis that both parents and schools face while encouraging more parents to send their kids to college, there are several questions that need to be asked.

Can parents afford to pay for their children’s college tuition right now? Given the state of the economy, parents are probably not looking to invest in their child’s education years in advance. Rather, they are trying to consolidate the money that they have so as to evade this recession. In addition, by paying for a child’s college tuition well in advance, parents would be placing restrictions on their child’s choice of education. Who’s to say the child wouldn’t be interested in attending a private university over a CUNY or SUNY school?

What happens to those funds once the child begins their college career? Can we be assured that the money is being used properly?

If the proposed bill does pass, there should be full disclosure to the public of how the money is intended to be used. There needs to be an understanding that this money is spent wisely and will benefit the current students as well as incoming students thereafter.

While it’s nearly impossible to argue against the prospect of parents who want to send their children to college, the fact remains that they are making a decision without consulting those who will be attending these schools. Some of these kids are either just graduating elementary school or entering high school. The final decision should rest with these young burgeoning minds, not parents or politicians.

MORE FOR LESS?

While it’s nearly impossible to argue against the prospect of parents who want to send their children to college, the fact remains that they are making a decision without consulting those who will be attending these schools. Some of these kids are either just graduating elementary school or entering high school. The final decision should rest with these young burgeoning minds, not parents or politicians.

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Looking back on the road to graduation

SHARMAINE HARRELL

In January of 2008, I began what would seem like an everyday at Baruch College. Before the Vertical Campus existed, with its broken escalators and crowded elevators, there was the 18th St. building. It was a building on Park Avenue and good old 17 Lex. I was more than happy to walk from 25th and Park to 18th St. to get from one class to another. Waiting on the extremely long lines to board the elevator or go up the escalators was not an easy task.

I flunked out of school once because of pre-calculation and cried for a week. Sometimes, I could only afford to take two classes and at times couldn’t afford any classes, so I missed some semesters.

Three men came and left my life while I attended Baruch and, although they were not from Baruch, all were very emotionally supportive. The consulates in my life throughout my Baruch experience have been my family and my best friend, who were shoulders for me to cry on and support in all of my decisions, goals or bad. Without them, I don’t think I would have had the courage to continue my long trek through this place.

Needless to say, I have great stories, sad stories and very interesting stories that will forever link me to Baruch. From 2008 to 2009, I fought really hard to get an undergraduate degree and it is here.

Although it has taken longer than I wished, I am sure that this route was one I had to take and it played a huge role in making me the person that I am today. As I walk in and out of school each day, I grow a little sadder that I will have no reason to fight my way through the turnstiles or get into the elevators any longer.

But, the elation I feel knowing that they only smoke a few cigarettes a day and will not smoke forever. It seems that they believe the effects of smoking do not apply to them because they will only smoke for a few years. This conventional wisdom crumbles against startling statistics.

A study showed that around 50 percent of adolescents who start smoking, go on to smoke for 15 to 20 years. These kids think that they will just smoke in social situations through college but many find that they cannot stop even after they receive their diploma.

They need to understand that addiction is a physical and mental dependence, not something to be taken lightly. According to the American Lung Association, almost 6,000 children under the age of 18 start smoking each day and out of those 6,000 teenagers, 2,000 will become regular smokers; representing 800,000 new adolescent smokers a year. These children do not seem to realize that 90 percent of smokers start before they are 21 and according to a 2001 national survey, 28 percent of high school students smoke cigarettes.

Those statistics are unacceptable and should be treated as a plague infecting America. For a country with such an alluring health care system, we should commit to preventing young people from taking up a habit that costs millions of dollars every year in care. It needs to be combated using a proactive and educational approach, but we should not underestimate one of the perpetrators of this problem. We cannot meet these problems head-on if we do not first understand where it began, with the media.

The parallel drawn between the Nazi regime and the mental or psychological Marlboro Company is one with purpose. The Marlboro Company recognized to manage our conscience is not something to be taken lightly. According to the American Lung Association, almost 6,000 children under the age of 18 start smoking each day and out of those 6,000 teenagers, 2,000 will become regular smokers; representing 800,000 new adolescent smokers a year. These children do not seem to realize that 90 percent of smokers start before they are 21 and according to a 2001 national survey, 28 percent of high school students smoke cigarettes.

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got ideas?

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9 am–7:30 pm or @
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Filing Deadline:
Thurs., March 19 / 5:00 PM

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On Feb. 26, launching its series for the spring semester, the Zicklin Graduate Leadership Speaker Series featured William E. Macaulay, chairman and CEO of First Reserve. Held in the Newman Library Building’s Conference Center, the audience included students, faculty members and President Waldron. Moderated by Larry Zicklin, the namesake of Baruch’s Zicklin’s School of Business, the discussion centered around Macaulay’s perspectives on the energy industry, entrepreneurship and leadership.

Macaulay’s career path, which ranges from investment management to corporate finance and now private equity, is what is now known as First Reserve. In early December of 2008, Macaulay and his team were invited to Washington, D.C. to explain energy and the environment with President Obama’s transition team. With the government playing a larger role in the financial industry, it became imperative for Macaulay and his team to adjust accordingly. “In response to the Obama administration, we had our alternative energy companies look harder at the U.S. energy market.” The team asked many questions regarding alternative energy.

Macaulay’s views on nuclear energy in the United States were unexpected. While the need for alternatives is understood, he argued, “The nuclear business does not need to return to the United States. (Battle) the United States needs to think more globally.”

His firm’s investments reflect this global view; close to 50 percent of First Reserve’s business is done outside of the United States. “We are the biggest and most important economy in the world, but we’ve not the only economy and we’ve not always the most advanced in terms of our thinking,” Macaulay added.

Following the moderated discussion, faculty members were eager to ask questions relating to the importance of communication skills for students graduating in today’s uncertain job market. MBA students had more targeted questions on alternative energy and First Reserve’s presence in China.

A select group of MBA students then joined Macaulay and Zicklin in a private tea session, where the students had the opportunity to engage in conversation with Macaulay and Zicklin. The discussion centered around discussion even after Macaulay left the event. After graduating from CUNY in 1966, Macaulay received his MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. In 2006, he and his wife donated $30 million to the CUNY Honors College, which was renamed the Macaulay Honors College.

All forums in the Zicklin Graduates Leadership Speaker Series include a formal presentation followed by a small tea session where students exchange thoughts and ideas with the featured speaker. The second installment will be held on March 25 and will feature John Grifoletti, president and CEO of Credent, Inc.

**Career Corner**

**CIS: The HOT "NEW" MAJOR**

**BY GABRIELA ROBLES**

**SUNY CCC COOP REPRESENTATIVE**

Computer Information Systems, also known as CIS, is becoming one of the hottest majors in the country. According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook, CIS is expected to grow 16 percent by 2016. This makes this career one of the leaders among other professions.

A bachelor’s degree in CIS prepares students for various occupations involving the design and development of complex software systems and the testing and maintenance of existing software. Computer software specialists are also needed in industries like education, business, research, entertainment, the arts and medical fields.

The career snapshot of a systems analyst includes being responsible for the redesign of organizations’ computer systems. Sometimes, clients need to either add only a few software programs to run their business smoothly or make better use of their computers. In some cases, students will have to design entirely new software systems.

The first step that a systems analyst takes in starting a project is gathering information. The second step is finding out the organization’s needs. Usually, this is discussed with the managers and staff members. Once the goal is established, the analyst determines whether or not it is a software system needed to be designed. The last step occurs once plans are approved. The systems analyst then coordinates the upgrades or installation of the computer system. In addition, a system analyst trains staff members on how to use new computer systems and writes manuals to help users operate the system.

Computer Information Systems are described by The Princeton Review Guide to College Majors (2005 Edition) as “developing the ability to solve problems using careful analysis and design techniques, as well as the ability to compare the relative effectiveness of various solutions.” The implementation of a solution that uses software engineering principles is the end-result of this process. Information systems analysts work with their minds, their knowledge and creativity. Analysts view problems systematically and must be determined, patient individuals.

The skills and abilities that an analyst acquires are divided according to analytical skills, which include analyzing problems, identifying and rectifying problems, thinking logically, assessing needs and evaluating tradeoffs in software design. Communication skills like writing program documentation, training personnel, technical writing, data visualization and presentation skills are also a must-have.

Organizational skills are also necessary, which include working in teams or alone, coordinating tasks, planning complex projects and integrating different approaches. CIS workers also graduate study programs to become professors in the field.

The Vault College Bible (2005 Edition) also says that CIS majors have a good chance to actually work in their field of interest after graduation. Approximately 80 percent of majors are working in a closely related field. About 15 percent work in a somewhat related field and five percent are working in a totally non-related field.

Finally, CIS professions are considered to be one of the hottest job fields today, but keep in mind that technology changes constantly. For this reason, systems analysts and other CIS professionals must constantly read manuals, magazines, take additional training classes to learn new techniques and keep their technical knowledge up-to-date.

**Chart of the Week**

President Obama, Meet the Markets-Market/Meet Pres Obama

Obama’s First 50 Days as President Compared to First 100 days of Other Presidents, & the Change in the Dow Jones Industrials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% change in Dow Jones Industrial Average</th>
<th>+10% and above</th>
<th>+5% to 10%</th>
<th>+0% to +5%</th>
<th>0% to -5%</th>
<th>-5% to -10%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Norman 1</td>
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<td>+90%</td>
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For Martinelli, working at HSBC for the past 18 years has been an illustrious experience for many key reasons. Most notably, he highlights the fact that he enjoys working for a company that is run very well, like HSBC. He says, “I like the fact that there are different options and opportunities available within HSBC. He notes, “You need to have a high level of touch point with various employees that work for you.” He believes that an executive needs to have an ongoing level of touch points throughout an organization on all different levels. For Martinelli, this is important in order to ensure “your strategies and leadership skills don’t just get cascaded down, that they hear it coming directly from you.”

One way that he maintains these touch points is through quarterly town hall meetings where he uses videos conferencing to bring in all audit group employees. This helps update everyone on developments that are taking place within the different areas of HSBC. He emphasizes that it is not only important to deliver factual information, but also essential to guide employees by conveying tactical and strategic goals to them. These meetings give employees the opportunity to ask any questions they may have. He states, “I’m trying to make sure that they understand what we’re doing, why and where we are going.”

Martinelli believes that you constantly have to communicate, making eye contact, being personal skills to reach your audience. These skills include the actual way of communicating, expressing your ideas. "A lot of what you do throughout the day. In order to succeed, you need to be able to effectively communicate your ideas.”

Mark Martinelli in his New York office.

Like most top executives, the financial crisis has created a list of challenges for Martinelli. But surprisingly, one of his biggest challenges has little to do with auditing. He explains that before the financial crisis, most people in the corporate world weren’t used to working for companies that lose money. Most people also never had to worry about their job security, but with so much bad news in the media, many people are now uncertain about many things. This is why Martinelli believes that this is a time when it is imperative that executives make use of high touch points with their employees.

He states that you have to “explain to them [employees]. Yes, these are some challenges we are facing, what are we in the company doing about these issues to make things better and being very candid with them, so they have an understanding of yes, these three things are bad, but these things are good, so what can we do about it.” So, one of his biggest challenges is leading and inspiring employees by communicating with them. He makes sure that employees stay focused and have an honest understanding of what’s going on, and that it’s not all doom and gloom. Otherwise they can’t effectively do their jobs.”

Martinelli denotes that communication isn’t limited to spoken and written words. His broader based definition of communication skills includes interpersonal skills. He admits that although it is a prerequisite that hired employees have the right technical skills, the ability to communicate is paramount. He says, “A lot of what you do throughout the company is making presentations, speaking to convince people why we should be going in a certain direction. In order to succeed, you need to be able to effectively communicate your ideas.”

According to Martinelli, when you’re making a proposal, how effective your communication skills are will determine whether or not your proposal or ideas will be accepted. These skills include the actual way of communicating, having the level of confidence to communicate, making eye contact, being able to explain concepts and using interpersonal skills to reach your audience.

In order to stay ahead in your field, Martinelli believes that you constantly have to challenge yourself. He cautions against settling once a major goal is achieved. “I need to constantly learn, reinvent and challenge myself in everything I do and the reason I say that is because it’s very easy to get comfortable.” He continued, “If your goal is to become a bond trader and you achieve that goal and you relax, keep in mind that there are about 20 people that are just as hungry as you who want to become bond traders as well.” For him, “The learning never stops.”

He believes that you have to stay on top of what is going on in different sectors and keep up to date with the changes that are taking place on a global basis. Challenge yourself to strengthen different skills like speaking skills and networking to develop strategic relationships that may help you in the future.

Throughout Martinelli’s career, he has continually placed an emphasis on maintaining a high ethical standard. He says, “I think ethics are extremely important. Working for an ethical company is extremely important.”

He admits that he has been fortunate to have worked for companies that have had the highest level of ethics.

As he conveyed to his students during his tenure as a professor, a high level of ethics is crucial in auditing. He says, “Being able to keep your finger on the pulse of the company that you’re auditing to understand what the social and moral fabric of that company [and] what makes that company tick” is important.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

A passion for accounting revealed

auditing team. He then used his accounting and auditing skills to begin a new role in strategic and financial planning with RNB where he worked with the CFO to determine new investing initiatives as well as developing financial forecasts for RNB and eventually HSBC USA Inc. after it acquired RNB in 2000. In 2002, Martinelli was given the unique challenge of serving as chief financial officer of HSBC USA Inc. after it acquired RNB in 2000.

He values working with quality HSBC employees, whom he refers to as “extremely bright people” who he can rely on and learn from. He also places a high value on the level of opportunities available within HSBC. He notes, “I like the fact that there are different options that I can take. Every several years, I need to do something fundamentally different, some new area of the business; it’s like being asked to go to a bit of my comfort zone.”

It was then that he faced new challenges and a passion for his profession that landed Martinielli at Baruch College, where he taught auditing from 2002 to 2003 at night while dealing with the demands of his position at HSBC during the day. He states, “I was the leader of several high profile accounting scandals that engulfed several large corporations in 2002, Martinelli felt compelled to help his profession by sharing his experience as an auditor with the future generation of accountants. “I think that the accounting and auditing profession was under siege. You had a lot of individuals that believed themselves being too practical and overly boring, accounting were [being] dishonest,” Martinielli explained. He added, “You had a lot of executives that were interested in the profession and I wanted to do what I thought was fair and share to change those perceptions.”

Using real life examples to convey and explain accounting principles, Martinielli aims to show that accounting is a fascinating business world and the academic world. He says that he would often use examples “real life” in the paper today. What are some of the things we could have done as auditors to prevent that? That always seems meant being actively engaged in classroom discussions that were intended to augment their skills as future auditors. For Martinielli, it meant going beyond the boundaries of the textbook to facilitate what he labeled an “outstanding experience” and “one of the most professionally rewarding things that I’ve ever done in my career.”

For Martinelli, active engagement was not limited to the classroom; it’s also a key element of his management philosophy. He says, “You need to have a high level of touch point with various employees that work for you.” He believes that an executive needs to have an ongoing level of touch points throughout an organization on all different levels. For Martinelli, this is important in order to ensure “your strategies and leadership skills don’t just get cascaded down, that they hear it coming directly from you.”

One way that he maintains these touch points is through quarterly town hall meetings where he uses videos conferencing to bring in all audit group employees. This helps update everyone on developments that are taking place within the different areas of HSBC. He emphasizes that it is not only important to deliver factual information, but also essential to guide employees by conveying tactical and strategic goals to them. These meetings give employees the opportunity to ask any questions they may have. He states, “I’m trying to make sure that they understand what we’re doing, why and where we are going.”

When it comes to his role as chief auditor, Martinielli also emphasizes communication. He states, “The chief role of internal auditing is to ensure that the internal control environment is functioning the way it should, that the control environment, the way of measuring and mitigating risk works the way it should.” To achieve this, he explains certain principles to his staff; principles that are predicated upon having an ongoing dialogue with the audit areas themselves. He believes that with an ongoing dialogue, auditors can be more effective in determining where there may be issues and providing more proactive assistance.

Like most top executives, the financial crisis has created a list of challenges for Martinelli. But surprisingly, one of his biggest challenges has little to do with auditing. He explains that before the financial crisis, most people in the corporate world weren’t used to working for companies that lose money. Most people also never had to worry about their job security, but with so much bad news in the media, many people are now uncertain about many things. This is why Martinelli believes that this is a time when it is imperative that executives make use of high touch points with their employees.

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161 Madison Ave. – 11th Fl. – Btwn 32nd & 33rd St.
BY DAVID ENGEL
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Baruch College has many different business clubs for students to choose from, but one that stands out from the rest is the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting Club.

ALPFA New York has been nominated as the best business club on campus inducts about 400 members each year, and out of those members, 200 members are active. The club was founded in 2004 by the first natural Latin American professional association in the United States. According to ALPFA New York, “Our mission is to: be a vehicle to enhance opportunities for Latinos in the accounting and related professions.” Membership is open to anyone who shares our values, goals, and principles.

Daniel Gomez, the president of ALPFA Baruch, says the fall is “a good time to jump into the club, a good time to start recruiting students for the club.”

How do you join? You can attend the national events. Members also enjoy discounts on national conventions and memberships are $20 annually and the Baruch membership is free and one can attend an upcoming event. ALPFA New York also exposes students to both local and national events.

The ALPFA team at Baruch College.

BY EMMANUEL OVERTYNYI
BUSINESS EDITOR

So why specifically auditing? Why did you decide to head down that route in accounting?

“Why did I decide to head down that route in accounting? Well, let’s imagine you have a few candidates in front of you that are inter- ested in the accounting field, you take into account their background and take into consideration the current climate we are going through. Martellino: it would be a given that they did exceptionally well in their studies. That doesn’t mean I’m looking for a four index, but I am looking for a good solid index. I don’t know, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7. And ideally I would like someone that balanced doing well in school with working. I like to see someone who managed their time well and was organized.

When they are in front of me, it is no longer matters that they had odd-end jobs or worked for the student newspaper. I am looking for someone that has done a certain level of research in the company as well as the position. Do I expect them to be an expert in HSBC and all of our services around the world? No. But I do expect them to have a minimum working knowledge in HSBC and what we do.

And on a more broad-based nature, what is going on in banking right now. I mean, 100 people in this room, not a small piece of what you do. Early on, I was able to understand this language, and you, as a student, must have skill set, and you can use it to your advantage.

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Let’s imagine you have a few candidates in front of you that are inter-
Feed your future

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PwC interns made in Belize.

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The main entrance to the Vertical Campus gained a new spar-ling last week when the CUNYAC Championship trophy was placed on top of the security desk for all to see. Behind it is a picture of the athletes and coaches responsible for bringing home that trophy: the players and coaches of the women’s basketball team at Baruch.

Referring to them as a team doesn’t accurately describe their relationship. The women feel they have become a family.

Kales “Cornbread” Davis, team co-captain and a junior corporate communications major, referred to herself and her teammates as sisters. The assistant coaches are their uncles and the head coach, Machi Joseph, is “dad.”

“I imagine having 11 sisters,” said Davis, “and our boyfriend is Wilson, the basketball.”

Davis, “and our boyfriend is Wilson, Joseph, is “dad.”

Joseph paused for a moment when asked how he would describe the team. “You’ll never be bored,” he said. “The team as a whole has a big personality, which he attributes to the fact that each player is unique. “Everyone on this team will make you laugh,” he said.

What makes them even stron-ger is that their relationship is not confined to the borders of Baruch’s campus. “Some of us grew up in the same neighborhood and some now share an apartment. In fact, they said they often talk to each other on Facebook or via text messages and instant messaging.

Maintaining balance is the women’s friendships outside of the team and school increases the level of cooperation and loyalty on the court, which translates into a better game. “Those people get on the court and play for each other,” he said.

But despite the close bond, the women on the team sometimes get a little “catty” when caught up in the action of a game, said Davis. “Tempers flare, people get angry, but we never take it off the court,” she added.

The coaches put the captains in charge of the team after the season ends. The captains organize practice sessions and encourage every member to continue honing their skills and exercising regularly in preparation for the upcoming year.

“We try to set the bar high, and then tell them to go for it,” said Joseph.

“Everyone hates losing that extra hour in the morning, but they don’t change the clocks,” said Davis. Silber explained.

The team achieved their vic-tories despite certain challenges, including an absent height advan-tage and replacing seniors who graduated last year, said Silber. “The team was very much under-estimated at the beginning of the year,” he said.

Captain Karlee Whipple and her teammates supported the assertion that there were numer-ous obstacles to overcome, and that most people didn’t anticipate the level of success that the team achieved. A sense of family unity among the players and the coaches was undeniable even though this year has concluded. “I was very proud of the way we performed,” Whipple said. “I was very impressed with how well the team played when they were dis-appointed when the season ended,” said Silber.

“Everyone said she wanted this season to be explosive because she would be ‘done with ball’ after graduating in May,” Silber said. Assistant coaches and made it the best expe-rience it could have been this year,” she said. “I love this team.”

BY AARON MONTEABARO

BY YAPHET MURPHY

How many people do you know who work and play lights out, sleep at noon, pay attention to little things like street signs, billboard ads, graffiti on the walls and the other little features added to the visual back-ground in order to make the landscape seem more real? Karl Kablok, says he does that all the time.

As a child, he watched Chinese and Japanese animated movies without knowing any of the words. It was early inspiration, he said.

“I’ve known since I was four years old that I wanted to go to Japan and that I was going to make video games,” said Kablok.

In fact, he’s already been to Japan. The first time was after he convinced his parents to allow him to visit for six weeks dur-ing a summer break from high school. He decided to stay with a surrogate family so that he could really experience the culture in stead of just sightseeing. When he was 16, he decided to transfer to City-As-School, where he accelerated his studies in order to graduate in three years. And then bought himself a ticket and flew back to Japan. This time, the stay lasted four years. Though he had virtually no money and no

Karl Kablok

THE TICKER FEATURES I PAGE 13

BY JHANIEL LOCKHART

Last week, we all turned our clocks forward by one hour be-cause of Daylight Savings Time. This was a great day for Baruch students yet another reason to miss an hour of sleep. DST, which begins on the second Sunday of March and ends on the second Sunday of November when the clocks are then turned back, is used as a way to save energy as people take advantage of longer daylight hours.

The idea of DST is rumored to have begun when Benjamin Frank-lin joked that people should wake up earlier to save expensive can-dles. In fact, he authored the say-ing “Early to bed, and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.”

Two centuries later, an English-man named William Willett offic-ially proposed to have the clock advanced during the summer months.

Concerning the creators of this concept may have had people’s in-terests at heart, many debate that our attempt to spring forward is doing more harm than good.

Everyone hates losing that extra hour of sleep and scientists have found that daylight saving Time may have disastrous effects on our health. The sudden change in ad-justing to DST disrupts our natural biological rhythm, and the effects can be deadly.

According to AOH, Health, there has been a five percent increase in heart attacks during the first few weeks of DST. The sleep depriva-tion has adverse effects on our cardiovascular system and make people more susceptible to attacks, some scientists say.

It has also been said that work productivity decreases as people adjust to the time change.

Some states, including Arizona and the Hawaiian Islands, as well as Puerto Rico and Guam do not practice DST, often confusing trav-elers.

Moreover, not all countries ob-serve daylight saving at the same day. Countries in the Middle East, for example, start on the last Sunday of March, while others start on the first Sunday of April.

Officials still do not agree on whether or not DST is beneficial. But despite the drawbacks, there is no doubting that most people are happy for the extra hours they get during the summer to relax and unwind.

Spring forward, fall way back

SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

BY JHANIEL LOCKHART

FEATuRES EDITION

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Everyone hates losing that extra hour of sleep and scientists have found that daylight saving Time may have disastrous effects on our health. The sudden change in ad-justing to DST disrupts our natural biological rhythm, and the effects can be deadly.

According to AOH, Health, there has been a five percent increase in heart attacks during the first few weeks of DST. The sleep depriva-tion has adverse effects on our cardiovascular system and make people more susceptible to attacks, some scientists say.

It has also been said that work productivity decreases as people adjust to the time change.

Some states, including Arizona and the Hawaiian Islands, as well as Puerto Rico and Guam do not practice DST, often confusing trav-elers.

Moreover, not all countries ob-serve daylight saving at the same day. Countries in the Middle East, for example, start on the last Sunday of March, while others start on the first Sunday of April.

Officials still do not agree on whether or not DST is beneficial. But despite the drawbacks, there is no doubting that most people are happy for the extra hours they get during the summer to relax and unwind.

Spring forward, fall way back

SPECIAL TO THE TICKER

BY JHANIEL LOCKHART

FEATURES EDITION

Last week, we all turned our clocks forward by one hour be-cause of Daylight Savings Time. This was a great day for Baruch students yet another reason to miss an hour of sleep. DST, which begins on the second Sunday of March and ends on the second Sunday of November when the clocks are then turned back, is used as a way to save energy as people take advantage of longer daylight hours.

The idea of DST is rumored to have begun when Benjamin Frank-lin joked that people should wake up earlier to save expensive can-dles. In fact, he authored the say-ing “Early to bed, and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.”

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It’s not the exams that you’ll remember in 20 years...

For one night... hundreds of students will come together and take a stand against cancer!

This night will culminate weeks of fundraising on behalf of the American Cancer Society.

Teams of students will walk around the gymnasium, enjoy musical entertainment and participate in athletic events.

They will eat, dance, laugh, play games and perhaps, shed a tear, as they celebrate those who have conquered cancer, remember those who have lost their battle, and fight back against this disease.

Join Us for the 5th Annual CUNY Relay for Life

Fri., April 3, 2009 @ 5 PM thru Sat., April 4 @ 8 AM

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The declining economy may be affecting Baruch students’ decisions about which majors to pursue. Though finance and accounting still top the list, many other fields of study are increasing in popularity as companies today are reaching for graduates with varying degrees to help rebuild their businesses.

Information obtained from the Center for Academic Advisement supports that in the Zicklin School of Business, finance is among the most popular as well as the CPA track. The CPA track is a bachelor’s/master’s program where students can pursue their degree in accounting in as little as five years.

Statistics show that computer information systems is becoming a top choice among students. Industrial/organizational psychology, management and marketing majors have grown in popularity as well.

Lancia Yan, an advisor at the Center for Academic Advisement, stated that certain majors in the Weissman School for Arts and Sciences are also on the rise. Among the most popular are community, communications, and psychology. There has also been an increase in the number of people who are majoring in journalism, which recently branched out from the English department.

Patricia Imbimbo, the director of the Starr Career Development Center, offered her advice about what students should do in pursuit of their choice. "Do not give up. " Pupils who choose majors other than finance and accounting often fail to attend internship and career fairs because they believe companies present at these venues would have little interest in them, she said.

However, many companies such as Morgan Stanley, Credit Suisse, AXA Advisors and Dale Carnegie Training, as well as others that were present at the February 2009 internship fair seek all majors. In fact, more companies are beginning to gain interest across all areas of studies.

"It gets affected by the fact that students don’t come," said Imbimbo.

The biggest recruiting usually happens in the fall, where the internship fair attracts more than 50 companies. Though companies are firing workers, other seats are created simultaneously. The biggest recruiting sector right now, according to Imbimbo, is government jobs. She encourages students to begin applying for internships, attending all possible fairs and visiting the Starr Career Development Center regularly to take advantage of its many opportunities and free services.

The center has recently launched two new groups to aid students through these difficult financial times. Career Connect meets Mondays from 1-2 p.m. to discuss various topics such as writing resumés; the Job Search group meets Wednesdays from 2-3 p.m. for recent alumni and graduating students.

Violetta Rafailova, an advertisement/marketing major in the Zicklin School of Business, is content with her choice of study. "Economically wise, it is not a stable job environment, but if you are good at something, you will succeed," she said. Rafailova believes that due to the recession, many companies will change their approaches to success and will need people to help market their product and expand their revenue.

Majors Broken Down

I/O Psychology
Description: Apply principles of psychology to personnel, administration, management, sales, and marketing problems.
Possible Careers: HR specialist, HR manager, senior research consultant

Journalism
Description: Gather, analyze and interpret facts from various sources/report and write news stories.
Possible Careers: editor, copy editor, reporter, news analyst, photojournalist.

Management
Description: Set goals, make and implement plans, and lead the organization towards the achievement of goals.
Possible Careers: operations manager, HR manager, sales/retail manager.

Marketing
Description: Conduct research and apply the essentials of psychology, sociology and economics to business problems.
Possible Careers: brand/product manager, sales manager, advertising manager.
The Kepler spacecraft had a successful launch on March 6.

Baruch students contribute $12 million in technology fees.

NASA recently launched the Kepler spacecraft on a mission to put into orbit the Kepler telescope. This is not another Hubble telescope, but rather a high-resolution video camera designed to study the night skies and photograph stars and galaxies under different light spectrums; it would eventually be used to detect Earth-like planets. The mission is named after astronomer Johannes Kepler, a 17th-century German astronomer who was the first to explain planetary motion.

The Kepler telescope will observe 100,000 stars in what scientists call the Cygnus-Lyra region of the Milky Way. The telescope will focus on this small corner of the galaxy for planets that could potentially contain life as it follows Earth's formation for three years. Scientists will not be able to see the actual planet, but by measuring tiny fluctuations in a star's brightness, scientists assume a planet is passing in front of it. The instrument is so precise that it can detect changes in brightness of 20 parts per million or 0.002 percent. This would be like looking at a fleck passing a cat's headlight from thousands of light-years away.

The Kepler telescope is a space-based optical telescope with a field of view of 100 square degrees, or 5.4 percent of the sky. It will have an overall area of 10,000 square feet, or a little larger than a football field. Scientists of the Kepler project expect the telescope to be able to find more than 100 Earth-like planets over the next five years, each with its own set of characteristics. Eventually, the telescope will be able to find and study Earth-like planets. The Kepler telescope will be able to detect Earth-like planets up to one for every sub-type star in our galaxy.

More than 300 exoplanets, or planets circling sun-like stars outside our solar system, have been discovered. Scientists expect to find planets that resemble gas giants like Jupiter, dry arid planets like Mars, frozen environments like that of Pluto and maybe planets like Earth. In an interview with CNN, Alan Boss, an astronomer with the Carnegie Institution who serves on the Kepler science council, said that most planets are "too hot to support life... they are steam worlds." Alan Boss is assuming that life requires temperatures above freezing and below the boiling point to be able to survive, but he doesn't take into account the possibility that some form of resilient life could have adapted to those conditions, prospered and died.

The telescope will also enable scientists to answer the question of whether life is widespread within our galaxy. Ed Weiler, NASA associate administrator, said to CNN, "This is a historical mission. It's not just a science mission. This telescope has the potential to fundamentally change humanity's view of itself. Yet, as William Borucki, science principal investigator for the Kepler mission, puts it, "We don't find ET, but we might find E.T.'s home."
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Imagine your childhood nanny on acid listening to Pink Floyd albums as she viewed the current adaptation of “Mary Poppins” at the New Amsterdam Theatre in Times Square. Dreary, gray London lends itself well to the mundane opening scene. With high expectations, after attending “The Lion King” musical, I was insurmountably let down.

“Mary Poppins” is based on P.L. Travers’ novel and was created by the Walt Disney classic film, “Mary Poppins,” and the musical was published in its original form in the late 1980s. Directed by Richard Eyre, this straightlaced nanny glides into the heart of the Theatre District attracting many young and old Disney enthusiasts.

Following the death of the Comedian, Edward Blake, the musical lands on stage in New York City after a successful run in London’s West End. Produced by the Disney Company and Cameron Mackintosh, with direction by Richard Eyre, this straightlaced nanny glides into the heart of the Theatre District attracting many young and old Disney enthusiasts.

Unfortunately, this kaleidoscope of fantasy is reduced to dancing statues and neon costumes on stage.

Choreographed by Matthew Bourne, the show is unrecognizable to old Disney enthusiasts. Miss Andrews is a new addition of fun. Mary Poppins flies around the stage, wielding her magical umbrella and gliding down the stairway banister. Bert also dances on the ceiling during the show-stealing performance Step in Time. However, the conclusion of this production is the most unsettling scene. The Banks children and Mary Poppins float into the stars on an oversized version of Mary’s umbrella while thechorus line dances in denim suits covered in sequins. Despite the fact that this production was a disappointment, it was a huge childhood fan of the flying and singing nanny. I still have great respect for Disney theater. The good intentions are present, though they may be overlooked to induce huge profit.

When something isn’t broken, there is no reason to spend millions of dollars to produce something entirely different under the same name.

Who watches the Watchmen

BY TIFFANY LYNCH
STAFF WRITER

After nearly two decades of hype surrounding the anticipated production of “Watchmen,” the movie finally shows its face on the silver screen. Directed by Zack Snyder, known for his work in 300, this science fiction film incorporates human-interest stories, intense violence, and conspiracy theories into the storyline.

“Watchmen” is based on a 12 part graphic novel written by Alan Moore and illustrated by artist Dave Gibbons. This epic series was published in its original form in the late 1980s. Since its publication, a movie version had been in the development stages. Consequently, Watchmen had been named impossible to film.

The movie begins in Edward Blake’s, high-rise apartment. As expected, a shadow appears outside of the door and a fantastical choreographed fight sequence ensues, ending in a glass-shattering fall to death. “It’s all a joke,” smirked the Comedian, as Edward Blake, before landing on the street below.

Dr. Manhattan. The Comedian is the best sequence of the entire movie, the opening superlong shot. According to Dylan’s “The Times They Are A-Changin’” provides perfect rhythm and insight into every character.

During the medley of the rise and fall of the Minutemen of the past, to the “Watchmen” of the present, you are taken to an upside down alternative history where “Nixon” is running for his third term as President, and the threat of a nuclear war looms heavily in the atmosphere. This Cold War era comic masterpiece was revolutionary for its time.

Word of the Comedian’s death spreads fast through the entire cast, in which the carousel horses move alone and Bert dances with penguins. Unfortunately, this kaleidoscope of fantasy is reduced to dancing statues and neon costumes on stage.

The highly anticipated film Watchmen lives up to its expectations at the box office.
Morrissey melds old and new for “Years”

BY KERRI JAREMA
ARTS EDITOR

When Morrissey, the legendary frontman of short lived but highly influential 80s band The Smiths, announced that he would be releasing his ninth solo album, fans and critics alike were grasping to hear the latest melancholy lyrics of unrequited love and a world gone to pot that were sure to fill “Years of Refusal.”

While the album certainly lives up to these expectations, with tracks like “It’s Not Your Birthday Anymore” and “You Were Good In Your Time”, whose titles suggest a coming put-down, it also surpasses them.

Listening through “Years of Refusal” just once reveals the strongest set of songs Morrissey has released in years, bringing his brilliant music back on the scene in a big way.

The opening track, “something is Squeezing My Skull,” already succeeds in bringing something new to the table, while still sounding pleasantly retro. The track plays like one of today’s young bands that find inspiration in old British pop punk and The Ramones, while also taking cues from The Smiths.

This track is an example of Morrissey’s tendency to lean towards hard guitar riffs and pounding drums in his newest music, suggesting that he wants to find inspiration in old British pop music, suggesting that he wants to succeed in bringing something brilliant music back on the scene in years, bringing his brilliant music back on the scene in a big way.

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THEME: MESSAGE
Lifestyles

By Alyssa Tropea Staff Writer

Misleading the American people, massive soybean producing companies have kept the dangers of soy's natural toxins a secret. Soybean, also known as edamame, has been used in Asian diets for thousands of years.

Products that are made from soybeans, such as milk, soy cheese, soy milk, miso and soy nuts, have become major ingredients in the American diet. According to youngwomenshelath.org, soy is high in protein, calcium, vitamins, but is low in saturated fats. However, SoyOnlineService.co.nz reveals that soybeans have naturally occurring compounds that are toxic to both humans and animals alike. HealingDaily.com states, “soybeans, as provided by nature, are not suitable for human consumption.” Furthermore, they are also being genetically modified, which adds more toxins to the bean.

When test rats were exposed to soybean levels of soybeans’ natural toxins, many cases resulted in pancreatic cancer. When they were exposed to moderate levels, the rats’ pancreas became more susceptible to cancer-causing agents. Of course, the argument at hand is whether or not infants should be fed soy products again.

Soy contains high amounts of antithyroid agents which can decrease or increase your thyroid hormone levels in adult females, which can potentially cause infertility as well as breast cancer. Soy also contains anti-thyroid agents which can cause thyroid cancer. For parents who give infants soy milk, SoyOnlineService.co.nz claims “soy infant formula is birth-control for babies.” They say babies fed soy milk have 13,000 to 22,000 more estrogen compounds than babies who are fed regular milk, which is like giving the baby 5 birth control pills daily. SoyOnlineService.co.nz also states that consumption of soy formula in infants has been linked to thyroid disease, which can decrease or increase your metabolism at dangerous levels. This makes it very clear that regular milk-based formula is safer to give to infants than soy-based formulas. Soy contains high amounts of aluminum, which is toxic to the nervous system and brains and can cause respiratory problems. Soy also increases the requirement for B12 and vitamin D. According to HealingDaily.com, soy also blocks important and necessary minerals, such as magnesium, calcium, iron and especially zinc.

It is important for anyone who substitutes milk with soy or consumes soy daily to make sure that they are getting the proper amount of vitamins and minerals and extra supplements may be needed. Soybeans are unhealthy to any age group. DietNet.nz, a site dedicated to quality nutrition and health information, states that consuming soy during mid-life years may lead to Alzheimer’s disease or poor memory later on in life. The site explains that soy can also be dangerous for the Earth itself because farming. The chemicals can harm or kill animals and insects and are unsafe for humans to ingest or even be around. The speculation is, if soy is bad for your health, why do Asian cultures have less heart related problems and even less cancer percentages? Mary G. Eising, who has a PhD in nutritional sciences, explains “soy is a condiment in Asian diets, not a staple!” For example, the small chucks of tofu put in miso soup is like mustard on a hot dog for us, enough for them to benefit from the edamame but not enough to hinder their health. Eising then continues, “twenty-five grams of soy protein per day, is the amount recommended by the FDA. By contrast, the typical Japanese diet contains one-third as much.” This clarifies that the key to the Japanese diet, and the outstanding health it provides, is moderation. Although we seem to overlook such proportions of soy in America, it seems apparent that the dangers of soy are valid and that the consumption of it should be monitored.

Many Americans now replace cow’s milk with soy milk, many vegetarians use tofu as a meat replacement and many people just prefer the taste of soy products to dairy. In very small increments, it appears that soy can be a nutritional food. However, the way we consume it now hinders our health dramatically. It is very important to pay attention to what mass soy producers are trying to hide from the American population and think twice before consuming soy products again.

Vegetarian food will make you forget meat

Curly’s Vegetarian Lunch
328 E 14th Street
(Between 1st and 2nd Ave)
212-598-9958
Subway: (1 to 1st Ave; N,Q,R,4,5,6 to Union Square)

BY MARTINA MICKO SIEGER STAFF WRITER

For those of us who are meat-eaters we would not usually consider going to a vegetarian restaurant, but after having a meal at Curly’s Vegetarian Lunch you’ll be coming back for more.

Curly’s is located just a few avenues from Union Square. Even though the term “vegetarian” might not sound appealing to the average meat eater, Curly’s will make you forget that you are having a meat-free meal. Judging from the outside, you don’t expect much from the small restaurant. But once inside, you feel right at home. The walls are covered with drawings that past customers have made while waiting for their food, which doesn’t take long.

The eatery serves breakfast, lunch and dinner; with your choice of dining in or taking out. Although it may be on the small side, it is great for small parties such as a date or a lunch with friends.

The waitress brings over paper and crayons to entertain you while you are waiting for your meal. You can also enjoy a fairly large pitcher of sangria, which is usually red or white wine mixed with fresh fruit juices.

For lunch, try something from the endless Curly’s Mexican Lunch menu, which uses organic beans and grains. If Mexican is not your thing, try the 2 Ingredient Salad, which truly contains 20 different ingredients.

For dinner, start off with a bowl of vegetarian chili ($4.50) or buffalo wings ($4.95). The spicy chili’s are big and somewhat satisfying, ranging from $5.95 to $8.95. You can add Curly’s famous curly fries or a fresh salad for $2.50 or sweet potato fries for $3.50. After our sandwiches, which were quite filling, I had to try the Vegan White Chocolate Raspberry Cheesecake. It was definitely worth it and was gone in 60 seconds. It is truly amazing how something without any animal products can taste so good. Even though the place was on the small side and all of the tables were full, the waitress was attentive and made everyone feel welcome. The food arrived fresh and quickly.

With its flavorful healthy food, Curly’s is the perfect place for lunch or dinner. When on the go and near Union Square, take a walk to Curly’s and grab a sandwich or burger to go, and you’ll be in for a treat.

Out of 5 stars
Food: ★★★★★ Service: ★★★★★ Atmosphere: ★★★★★ Price: $8 ($15-20)
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As spring slowly approaches, it’s that time of year for some good old-fashioned spring cleaning. But how do you get rid of those old clothes you don’t want? There are several options that not only clear up space at home but also benefit others. You can donate, sell or even swap your clothes for new ones.

Baruch students are lucky enough to be in close proximity to four thrift shops. Salvation Army and Goodwill are located on 23 St. between Second and Third Ave. You can donate clothing to both of these locations, which is also tax deductible.

Housing Works thrift shop, located on 23 St. between Third Ave. and Lexington Ave., accept high-end clothing donations. Proceeds from Housing Works go toward helping New York City residents who live with HIV and AIDS.

Unique Boutique thrift store is found on Third Ave., between 27th and 28th St. Not only can you donate clothes here but also houseware, books and jewelry. If donating isn’t your style, you can try selling your items online. Popular sites like eBay and Amazon make selling your unwanted clothes simple. However, an account is required to sell items on both of these sites and both sites take a small percentage from your profit if you sell your item.

To avoid this fee, you can try using Craigslist. No account is required to post a clothing listing but you will need a valid e-mail address so that you can be contacted if someone replies to your post. The tricky thing about posting on Craigslist is the risk of customers who fail to hold their end of the bargain.

Another option to getting rid of your old clothing is to swap your clothes for new ones. Buffalo Exchange, located at 333 E. 11 St., is a store where you can bring in clothes and trade them for another item.

Online swapping sites like swapstyle.com and rehashclothes.com make swapping convenient and easy. Members post pictures of the items they want to swap and if someone is interested, they will offer to trade with you. You then have the option to accept, deny or negotiate the request. Once a trade is established, all you pay for is the cost of shipping. While Swapstyle will cost you a $10 address verification fee, Rehash is free.

Donating, selling and swapping clothes solves the dilemma of having a pile of unwanted clothes sitting around in your house and it is also convenient and easy.
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The Bearcats racked up conference awards, but lost in the first round of nationals.
Passing of a friend

Ralph Sirianni, who worked as Baruch’s equipment manager for over 30 years, passed away last Tuesday at Lennox Hill hospital. He was 83.

After working at Queens College for a few years, Ralph began working at Baruch in 1978 and only retired last October. It was a job he loved and would have continued to do if he physically could have.

Baruch often tried to honor Ralph by inducting him in the Hall of Fame for his hard work, but he declined every time, saying he disliked those events. However, one could see his modesty and dedication so deep, it did not require acknowledgement.

Over his years with the college, Ralph touched the lives of countless students and staff members, not only as equipment manager, but also as a friend. The door to his office, tucked away near the varsity locker rooms, was always open and student athletes always found their way in for little chats with a man full of stories, yet eager to hear others.

The walls of his office were decorated with postcards of foreign places, quotes and cartoons, some of which were given by students to affectionately mock his occasional grumpiness and infamous dislike of handshakes. His tall, frail frame, crown of white hair and light blue sweater became staples of Baruch’s athletic department, as was his way of saying “Get outta here!” It was always followed by a soft chuckle.

Friends and family gathered last Friday to say a last goodbye to this great man. He will live on in their hearts for years to come.

-Mariane St-Maurice
Any coach’s dream

BY MARIANE ST-MAURICE
SPORTS EDITOR

The men’s volleyball team’s back-to-back wins against Hunter College on Tuesday, at home, and SUNY New Paltz on Thursday, in New Paltz, NY, prepared the Bearcats for their post-season run. Baruch successfully put the Hawks away in four sets (30-26, 30-26, 24-30, 30-24) in a close and exciting game for both teams and the hundreds of fans who showed up.

“It was very exciting, as we knew it would be,” said head coach Allen Gunther after the game. “Hunter is a small but strong team. It was a tough game; we wanted it in three.”

Kowalski and McKee each got over one of the first two sets, which were close, but Baruch had more control over the last two sets. “It was pretty intense,” said freshman Matt McKee.

McKee was satisfied with his team’s performance. “Everything we practiced over the last week, we did,” she said. “But it was too close for comfort.”

In fact, every exchange was a contest for both teams, and the officials had their work cut out for them, with a score of 30-24.

The fourth set started for the Bearcats as it had for the Hawks. As the crowd started thinning, Baruch kept scoring and made its way to victory in a nerve-racking set of exchanges, capped off by a strong kill by senior Danial Levent. (Levent) comes through every time. He is our go-to-baller,” said Gunther.

“Jared is a fantastic freshman to bring in,” said Gunther. “He’s consistent; he’s like a sponge. He just learns.”

McKee’s volleyball career began in the ninth grade, as he was eager to learn and improve his skills. “I wasn’t thinking of pursuing volleyball in college. I thought I’d do volleyball, but Baruch was more fun,” said McKee.

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“Not to want to sound cheesy, but he’s an awesome guy,” said Rivera of Mckee.

Despite being a freshman, McKee’s teammates and coach are impressed with his performance. “He’s a fantastic freshman to bring in,” said Gunther. “He’s consistent; he’s like a sponge. He just learns.”

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McKee is still undecided as to his goal of mine. “I can play in Europe,” he said. “It’s a long-term goal, the girls team offers him and the professors the opportunities that being on a club team, which, according to Gunther, makes a world of difference for a player. “Coming in with club experience, as a freshman, you can start,” she said. His volleyball skills might have gotten him on the Bearcats’ starting lineup, but McKee’s personality is what makes him a success off the court as well. “As a player, or just when we hang out, he’s one of the coolest guys I know,” said McKee’s teammate Gabriel Rivera.

In addition to being on the team and going to classes, McKee is adjusting to living away from home, in the heart of Manhattan. “He’s doing remarkably well for someone so young living on his own,” Gunther said.

McKee still goes home to West Hempstead for occasional weekends, but the college’s location in Manhattan is an incentive. He also appreciates the opportunities that being on a team offers him and the professors and Baruch’s students. “It fits me, my personality,” McKee said.

McKee is still undecided as to what his major will be. He is keeping his eye on other things as he slowly steers away from a business major. “Hopefully over the next four years I’ll develop my game more so I can play in Europe,” he said. “It’s a long-term goal.”

McKee is focused on getting the most out of his Baruch experience for now. “I think he’s happy with his decision [to come here],” said Gunther. “I’m thrilled with his decision.”

Softball debuts in error

BY JOSEPH CAFARELLI
SPORTS EDITOR

Baruch suffered three straight losses in Virginia Beach, Va., before winning their first game, 5-4, against Stevenson University at the Virginia Wesleyan Beach Blast that began on Friday, March 6.

Vianka Nieves opened the Baruch’s (3-0, 0-0 CUNY) eighth inning winning run against Stevenson, by placing second on second. She would advance to third on a Jaycee Roper before scoring the winning run in a throwing error by Stevenson’s centerfielder Stacey House.

“The [Stevenson] game, we had our starting line-up on the field, and I don’t think we had an error in the game,” said Negroni. “We have preached throughout practice that any error costs us a game. But then we got into the first one, and we won it.”

The game against Stevenson gave the team a clearer indication of where they stand against tough, out-of-conference competition as they defeated the College of Staten Island earlier in the week.

Baruch’s earlier games showed sloppy play in the field that led to some ugly scores against some of the better teams in Division-III, including 2008 National Champions runner-up Gettysburg College. However, head coach Jose Negroni feels as if the first three games were not an indication of the talent his 2009 squad possessed.

“The first three games, we had girls that were nervous... and playing out of position,” said Negroni.

Going into the second week, Negroni feels as if the team has learned a lot and is coming into the next few games with more confidence.

“We have improved on the openning weekend, we’ve learned ourselves this weekend, and will help us get to the championship game,” said Negroni. Both Nieves and Alix appear to be vital assets to the team, as their ability to play multiple positions is essential for a team carrying 11 players.

“Any coach’s dream,” said Gunther. “Not to want to sound cheesy, but he’s an awesome guy,” said Rivera of Mckee.
The men’s volleyball team defeated the Hunter College Hawks last Tuesday, earning the top seed of the conference. PAGE 27.