NAFTA PASSED:
CLINTON THE CAMPAIGNER PREVAILS

Joseph N. Smith

By a vote of 234-to-200, Congress passed the North American Free Trade Agreement that, when it becomes law, will turn North America into the largest free trade zone in the world. Many historians may cite as a decision that changed the way America conducts business with its neighbor to the north, Canada, and to the south, Mexico. The month of November was a pretty good month for President Bill Clinton. Both the Congress and Senate approved NAFTA and delivered the “Brady Bill.” Although there is already significant trade between America, Canada and Mexico, the trade agreement, when signed into law, will turn North America into the largest free trade zone in the world.

During his campaign for the White House, President Clinton had supported the free trade agreement. Two Democratic opponents, Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa and former Governor of California, Jerry Brown Jr., criticized such an agreement. They argued that it will take away many jobs from American workers and encourage big business to relocate in Mexico, where they will not have to deal with strict federal guidelines and labor laws that protect workers and the environment.

There were passionate defenders of the bill and, equally as passionate, were those opposed to it. So passionate were members of Congress that NAFTA managed to bring together people from the far right and far left.

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS

We, the members of The Bridge editorial board, would like to apologize for some of the outdated articles in this issue. The reason for the delay of this publication was because of a cosmetic investigation conducted by Dean Lugo Alvarez (Dean of Student Affairs), some Student Government members and the College Association, in an attempt to punish The Bridge newspaper for publishing an article written by Todd "One" Williams. The situation has been resolved for the moment. However, while we are able to publish, we will try our best to give you, the readers, more current and up to date stories in the future.

At this moment, we are still having some difficulties in trying to get this issue out to you. The office of the Dean of Student Affairs is demanding to see this publication before it goes to press. We feel that this is a form of censorship and is in violation of the First Amendment of the U.S. constitution. The first amendment states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press..." By demanding to review this issue before it is published, The Dean of Student Affairs is denying The Bridge the right to freedom of press.

If you feel that the Dean of Student Affairs is abusing her power by making such a demand write us a letter. It may be published in our next issue.

Sincerely, The Bridge Editorial Staff
NAFTA PASSED

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of the political spectrum. Republicans Newt Gingrich, the House Minority Whip from Georgia, and Jack Kemp, the former HUD Secretary in the Reagan administration and co-author of the Kemp-Roth tax bill, supported President Clinton. Appearing on a Sunday morning television news program, Mr. Kemp argued that a defeat of the bill would translate into a defeat of the presidency, resulting in a tremendous negative effect on how Japan and Germany view us. He said that to the world, America, the only remaining superpower, would have a lame duck president, thus making it virtually impossible for the President to get any concessions from Japan concerning some of Japan’s unfair trading practices toward America. President Clinton also had support from former presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter and Bush.

His opponents were quite formidable, to say the least. Lined up against him were key democratic leaders like House Majority Whip Richard A. Gephardt of Missouri, New York Representative Charles Range, as well as the labor movement AFL-CIO and the majority of Democrats in Congress, which is frightening, considering the House is controlled by Democrats and that labor supported him when he ran for the White House. So fierce was the lobbying that two years ago if any politician had suggested that NAFTA could put Rev. Jesse Jackson, Patrick J. Buchanan and Ross Perot in the same camp, they would have become the laughing stock of Washington, and their names would have been in the monologue, of every late night television talk show host. Perhaps drawing a larger television audience than ever, many Americans got to see their representatives in action. The emotions were high with representative after representative presenting strong arguments that may have changed for now, voters perception of politicians in general. The deciding factor in the outcome may have been the televised debate between Vice-President Al Gore and Ross Perot. The much anticipated debate proved Americans with little or no answers to many important questions. Questions such as, “How much money will be lost from tariff and who will carry that loss; “What kind of jobs will be created, and the average salary of those jobs, and most important, “What is the existing amount of trade between us and them and the projected increase in the next five to ten years?” Also, Mr. Perot seemed to have accepted the debate without agreeing to any rules that would have given both him and the Vice-President equal time to speak, without interruption. Like a well polished boxing champion administering a beating on his challenger, the Vice-President picked apart Ross Perot and his “facts.” At times, Ross Perot seemed a bit confused and desperate. He even unleashed a barrage of insults south of the border against the Mexican people. By all accounts, the defeat of the billionaire and his own political party seemed to be a defeat to those who opposed NAFTA. In the end, as the roll call was tallied, it was 102 of the 258 Democrats joined by 132 Republicans voting in support of the President. The bill passed with an astonishing 16 votes over what was needed for passage. The opposition drew only 156 Democrats and 43 Republicans.

Here’s a look at how representatives voted from three key states, New York, Texas and California, all with large economies and each a significant trading partner with either Canada or Mexico.

New York: Democrats 2 yes—16 no, Republicans 8 yes—5 no.
California: Democrats 14 yes— 15 no, Republicans 17 yes—5 no.
Texas: Democrats 15 yes—3 no, Republicans all 9 yes.

WLGC NEEDS MORE VARIETY

Danielle L. Casamayor

“We need variety in this college, not just one but many different styles of music” were just a few of the words expressed by Juan C. Sarakay. a day student here at LaGuardia Community College. This came in response to complaints from some LaGuardia students about WLGC our own in-house radio station. These students feel that the music currently being played by the Disc Jockey’s of WLGC is geared toward type of audience only, leaving everyone else out in the cold. Carol Ann Bischoff, one of WLGC Disc Jockey’s states “The station has plenty of current rap and reggae records but not one Pea Jam or Duran Duran record. This school is 40% Hispanic but rarely do you hear salsa or mucho ringue. It’s just not fair to us.”

WLGC has a very limited supply of music. Plans are being made to update the music collection, to have music that is acceptable by all the music lovers of LaGuardia. All people are different, therefore music tastes vary from person to person. The music played by WLGC needs to reflect the preferences of different people. Rap and reggae, as well as country, Hip Hop, Freesty Rock n’ Roll, Alternative and easy listening music need to be played. Each hour should be filled with a mix of each style of music.

Another WLGC Disc jockey, Dave Cupples, says that “I have asked many people sign a petition. Although they may not like Rock n’ Roll, many signed the petition because they want all types of music played.” Mike Bischoff went on to add, “To put it simply, the petition is the student’s way of speaking. This is the only way for us to be heard.”

The main reason for these student complaints is to get a more diverse selection of music played each hour. The only the play time of Rock n’ Roll music, but all other types as well.

The Bridge LaGuardia CC Vol #3

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Todd Williams .........News Editor
Anthony Bustamante...Sports Editor
Tony Severino.......Arts Editor
Carolyn Kent..........Managing Editor
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Fred Farías.............Photo Editor
Ani Nazaretian........Staff Writer
Sam Amoako..........Facult Advisor

LAGUARDIA STUDENTS
THE BRIDGE MEETINGS ARE IN ROOM E-204 EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 2:15 TO 3:15.

On October 13th, 1993, Elections were held for the editorial board of THE BRIDGE NEWSPAPER. The elections were held under the guidelines of “The Bridge Governing Document and were supervised by two members of Student Activities. The entire procedure was recorded on audio tape. The students cast secret ballots for the candidate of their choice.

At a later date a search was conducted by the Dean of Student Affairs, Ruth Lugo Alverez, for a faculty advisor for The Bridge. Prof. Sam Amoako from the Communications Department was ultimately selected and is currently serving as the advisor.

Furthermore, members of the editorial staff who had the opportunity to work with Prof. Jerry Frohnhoefer, former faculty advisor for THE BRIDGE, would like our readers to know that during his tenure Prof. Jerry Frohnhoefer was fair to us, and very professional. He retired from his position after a year because of other commitments, and we wish him the best.
Genetic Testing

Matthew Murphy

Is genetic testing right or wrong? Should the unborn be aborted if he/she is found to have an illness or handicap? These are questions that are extremely difficult for me to answer. I feel this way because eldest sister was born with a handicap, a hearing impairment. She is not completely deaf, in fact, she can hear quite well through the miracle of hearing aids. My sister is also able to speak extremely clearly, which is usually rare with hard-of-hearing people, and she is also able to read my lips. Her 28 years of life have been very difficult, not only because of her handicap, but also because of the way she was brought up by our parents. My two wonderful parents, and I do mean that sincerely, tended to "baby" my sister. They tried to keep her away from the outside world in fear that she might get hurt. Two other siblings and I feel that this method of raising her was wrong. She should have learned to survive on her own and not be dependent on others. Though this tremendous tragedy has set her back and has made life for her more difficult than her baby brother could imagine, she is one of the kindliest and most generous people I know.

So, if genetic testing was developed around the time my sister was born, and her hearing impairment was detected, my parents may have decided to consider abortion and I would be one sister short.

If an unborn was found to have a great handicap such as CF or Down Syndrome, then an abortion may be in order.

I feel that there is too much suffering involved with those diseases. I'm sure there are many people who are suffering from them and have turned out to be great people. And those are the types of people for whom I hold the utmost respect.

My previous statement, that an abortion may be in order to those fetuses who are found with CF or Down Syndrome, may be offensive to those who are found to have such a disease or their family.

In conclusion, genetic testing can be quite useful in producing perfect people, but who is to say what a perfect person is? Therefore, there is no such thing as perfect people, only perfect intentions.
A New Punishment For A New Society

by Anthony Reston

Our society is cursed. Each new generation faces more problems than the last. There are two major problems that we have to contend with. One is the continuing increase in violent crimes, specifically murder, that plague our society. The other is the increase in fatalities due to terminal diseases. Research shows that these particular problems are getting worse. Solutions must be found for these problems. As of yet, most attempts have been unsuccessful.

In introducing a new approach to dealing with murderous crimes this researcher has inadvertently stumbled across a way to help with the problem of finding cures for terminally ill patients. The idea involves getting new experimental drugs tested on murderers, instead of on animals. The current tests done on animals are quite lengthy. This idea would reduce the time it takes for the FDA to test and pass drugs that normally take much longer to review, which costs the taxpayer too much money for "dying" something that is inevitable for us all.

The death penalty is more expensive than we think. The cost in a Texas maximum prison for housing for 40 years is about $750,000 per single cell. By contrast, a New York State study estimated the cost per capital case to be about $2.1 million (Capital Punishment 1990). How can it be cheaper to keep someone in prison for 40 years than having them executed? Since the death penalty was re-instituted, there have been very few executions. Of the few performed, about 65 percent are done through lethal injection. The ever-popular electric chair was only used about 28 percent of the time. There are also hangings and firing squads, which only happen in a few states, accounting for practically all executions. These are some of the reasons why the death penalty is not an accurate deterrent against people committing murders.

Meanwhile terminal diseases are decimating our society. We are still susceptible to illness, even though we have so much sophisticated technology. No one is totally immune, yet most people don't seem worried about the seriousness of contracting a fatal disease. In the March 12, 1993 issue of New Scientist, an article explains how diseases like AIDS, cancer, and leukemia threaten everyone in our society today. We haven't come close enough to solving the problem. In a June 1990 issue of New Scientist, an article explains how it takes approximately 8 years of drug testing on animals before it is considered ready for "FDA trials." In the past, FDA trials have taken a long time to complete, while in the process, many people died waiting for the drug. In Science December 11, 1992, there is a story regarding the length of the FDA trials. In one section it states that "AIDS activists recently persuaded the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to modify its rule to give terminally ill patients broader access to experimental and unproved therapies." This seemed a great step for AIDS patients, but the FDA knew that the drugs might not be safe. In fact, what's happening to these patients is that they are becoming like "human guinea pigs." Rushing through the FDA's existing process is not the answer. We need to reduce time on experimentation by replacing animal testing with experimental drug testing using convicted murderers (sentenced to death) who would otherwise be executed.

Drug testing performed on animals is not an accurate enough method. In "Redundancy for the Laboratory Guinea Pig," an article out of New Scientist 3 May 1991, The Sixth International Conference on AIDS in January 1990 reported that "animals were injected with low doses of the live virus and were later found to be protected against the virus." Unfortunately, actual human infections occur through the skin of the genitals or other places, not through an injection. As a result, findings indicate that the human body responds differently from those of the animals tested. Thus it seemed logical that using humans in experimental drug testing would be more effective than testing on animals.

The fact is, innocent people are already being used in experimental drug testing. AIDS patients, for example, are some of the most visible people who are tested with experimental drugs. Other people, who are secretly being tested, included mentally ill patients in state psychiatric hospitals. This is revealed in a shocking headline on February 2, 1993 issue of the New York Newsday. This story reveals how patients in state psychiatric hospitals, including children, are being used as "human guinea pigs" in risky medical experiments. Furthermore "although many patients willingly signed up for the tests in hopes of personally benefiting from new treatments, dozens of others have unknowingly been given unproved, experimental drugs that have been known to cause strokes, heart attacks, convulsions and even death." This should not be happening to innocent people while we have convicted murderers waiting, in prisons, to be executed.

Currently our society spends billions of dollars on medical research in hopes of finding cures for terminal diseases. Two examples to show the magnitude of these expenses are described in AIDS and cancer reports. In New Scientist, June 12, 1990, a national Institute of Health report states that it is spending about $70 million on just one study aimed at cancer prevention. In the same magazine, a report by the Public Health Services projects AIDS-related medical care costs will range from $5 to $13 billion in 1992 alone.

As a feeling of helplessness begins to set in, the possibility of an innovative idea for
ON
TODD 'ONE' WILLIAMS
OPINION
by Ani Nazaryan
Staff Writer

This article is in response to Todd "One" Williams article, "Who is the real problem?" in the Opinion Section of The Bridge. I feel that prejudiced statements such as his article do not help relations between the races, either in LaGuardia, or in New York city. I have not personally felt the hateful words or actions of racism; however I can still feel the tension of this problem with many other cultures.

Many of my friends are of different ethnic backgrounds, and I see the pain in their faces when people make prejudiced remarks about them without even knowing them. For instance, I have a friend who is in an interracial relationship, and almost everyday people make hateful comments to the couple, because my friend is white and her boyfriend is from Pakistan. I feel that this is wrong and cruel. Just because a person has had bad experiences with a few people from a particular race, this does not give them the right to condemn the entire race.

We all know that racism is all around us and it cannot be stopped, as long as racist remarks are said in any form, about any race. Do not get me wrong; I am all for freedom of expression and against censorship. However, an article like the one Todd wrote is a setback for racial equality.

A NEW PUNISHMENT FOR A NEW SOCIETY
continued from pg 4

curbing violent crimes becomes more appealing. Changing the punishment for a capital crime from the death penalty to participation in medical experiments would create a new awareness and fear of the severity of committing murderous crimes. Similarly, we may also have found a quicker way of testing experimental drugs, which helps them become readily available sooner. I believe this is what we, as a society, need.

Tax payers would benefit from the new punishment by reducing the cost on executions and long prison stays. The convicted murderers would be sent to medical facilities capable of handling them. By converting animal housing into holding cells, conversion costs would be minimal for drug companies. Funding for this project would be divided between the government and private drug industries. This lessens the financial burden on everyone.

The money saved, makes available more money for useful and necessary programs such as education, gun control, job stimulus and cutting the deficit.

Finally, this idea would allow murderers to repay society for their crimes. Everyone dies, eventually. However, having convicted murderers in this sort of program could help us find cures for some horrible diseases that are killing many people in our society. Thinking that this idea is immoral or unethical, after all the information given, leaves us where we started; living in a society full of violence and sickness, where being good doesn’t always pay off.

This article involves much more than capital punishment. It shows that our society has a problem, and the problem is getting worse. Without radical moves on our part, we may be doomed to more treachery and agony for future generations to come. We need to do something soon. Too many innocent people are being tested with experimental drugs. Many of these helpless people are suffering, when they don’t deserve to. We spend so much money executing, detaining, and providing due process for appeals by convicted murderers, and why worry about the morality of it, while there are innocent people that are dying more painfully than they ever will.

I would like to remind you that many people in our society are suffering. If using murderers in and "immoral" or "ethical" way spares innocent people from being treated unfairly, then I say "do it." Killing people who still had something, still, to offer our society is a real tragedy, convicted murderers do not deserve to leave this world without repaying society for their deeds. Two wrongs don’t make a right, and killing someone who killed another doesn’t help our society. We must find a way for convicted murderers to give back the precious life they took. If using convicted murderers in experimental testing helps to find a cure which may save lives, then in some small way, they will be repaying us all for their horrendous deed.
US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CLINTON UNVEILS LOAN REFORM BILL TO AID STUDENTS AND TAXPAYERS

President Clinton announced that he will ask Congress to approve the Student Loan Reform Act, which would simplify the student loan system, make repayment easier, reduce interest rates for students and save taxpayers billions of dollars. The new bill would offer students the opportunity to repay loans on an income-contingent basis through EXCEL accounts. "With loan repayment based on income, more students will be able to pursue careers in critically needed, but low-paying, public service jobs without fear of being overwhelmed with debt," Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley said. The Student Loan Reform Act would also replace the current Federal Family Education Loan Program with a new Federal Direct Student Loan program. In this program, colleges and trade schools would use federal capital to make loans directly to students and their parents. An estimated $4.3 billion could be saved through fiscal year 1998 as a result of lower government borrowing rates and the elimination of lender subsidies.

"Students and taxpayers will benefit from a less expensive program," Riley said, "and students will enjoy lower interest rates, with simpler, more flexible repayment options. By cutting out middlemen and eliminating excessive profits, billions of dollars can be saved."

Riley said an orderly transition from guaranteed to direct loans would assure an adequate supply of loan capital for all eligible student and parent borrowers in the future. Schools that meet administrative requirements would originate loans, and the Department would contract with alternative originators to issue loans at eligible schools unable or unwilling to function as a loan processor.

Loan collection and servicing would also be performed by Department contractors selected through a competitive process. The Secretaries of Education and Treasury would develop a way to involve the Internal Revenue Service in student loan collections.

President Clinton also announced companion legislation to create a national service program that would allow students to repay loans through public service jobs.

KAPLAN NEWS:

Kaplan Educational Center, the leading test preparation company, has launched a public service information campaign to educate nursing students about the conversion of the registered nursing licensing exam (NCLEX-RN) to a computerized format after the February 1994. This is the first standardized exam to completely convert to a computer adaptive test. The NCLEX-RN is the nursing licensure exam taken by about 120,000 graduates of U.S. baccalaureate, associate degree and diploma nursing programs.

"We have observed a great deal of anxiety among nursing students who will be the first to take the NCLEX in this format," explained Cathy Mansell RN, MS, CS, Executive Director of Nursing Programs at Kaplan. "We're offering these informational seminars to students to share our expertise about the exam, to calm their fears, and answer their many questions."

Kaplan offers free information services in over 150 locations across the U.S. These include seminars, computerized diagnostic exams and a toll-free information hotline. Students can also view a demonstration videotape that explains the computerized procedure at any Kaplan center.

In response to the format change, Kaplan will be including a software program with their NCLEX preparation course as of January 1994. This will be an addition to the prep course, which includes live lessons, diagnostic testing with computer analyzed results, homestudy books, video and audio tape supplementary materials and workshops for students preparing the international licensure exam.

Kaplan experts are presenting free informational seminars across the country at local Kaplan centers, nursing schools and college campuses. Worried nursing students who have questions or concerns about the new format to the scoring procedure can call Kaplan's toll-free hotline, 1-800-KAP-TEST.

Kaplan is the nation's largest test prep organization and one of the largest private education companies in the country. With 135 permanent centers and 600 satellite locations in the U.S. and abroad, the company serves over 150,000 students annually for college and graduate admissions exams such as the SAT, ACT, GMAT, LSAT, and MCAT; professional licensing exams for medicine, nursing, dentistry, and accounting; and specialized exams for foreign students and professionals. Kaplan is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Washington Post Company, which also owns Newsweek magazine.

NEWS FROM SEARS

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE SEeks Outstanding
Fiorello H. LaGuardia College Women

LONG ISLAND CITY, NY— Sponsors of a national leadership conference to be held in Washington, D.C. Sears is seeking outstanding Fiorello H. LaGuardia women to participate in the 1994 "Women As Leaders" program. The two-week conference is scheduled for May 16-18.

The intensive program is designed to offer a select group of 200 college and university women an opportunity to sharpen leadership skills, examine their personal aspirations and explore the impact of women's leadership on society. They also will participate in a "Mentor for a Day" program, which allows students to observe a professional woman throughout a typical business day.

The conference is presented by The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars. Sears Merchandise Group is sponsoring the program for the second year, providing tuition and lodging for the 200 participants. Students are responsible only for travel and living expenses.

Honorary co-chairwomen of the 1994 conference are Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun (D., Ill.) and Rep. Susan Molinari (R., N.Y.). In addition, prominent women leaders will lecture the group on topics related to women in leadership roles.

Three women from each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will be chosen to participate in the program. An additional 44 students will be chosen on a national at-large basis. Criteria for selection include leadership on- and off-campus and the endorsement of the student's college or university president. In addition, students returning to campus after the program are required to address a campus or community organization on a leadership topic.

Women students may call (800) 486-8921 for information on availability of applications. Applications also are available in the Mainframe departments of Sears retail stores. Deadline for submitting applications is February 15.
WHY?

Todd one Williams
News Editor

December 15, 1993 I learned yet another important lesson. History should never repeat itself. On December 15, along with members of the Jewish club and faculty members of Laguardia Community College I visited the Holocausts Museum in Washington D.C. The bus trip which lasted over five hours caused motion sickness and irritation, but it was well worth the pain and temporary uncomfortability. There still exist those who feel the Holocaust never took place. I guess those individuals aren’t from this planet. As much as I wish it did not take place, it did. Well over 4.5 million Jews died in the Holocausts. Very few were lucky enough to escape with their lives. The Holocausts Museum has many archives. Everything from clothing worn by the Jewish prisoners and German soldiers to the train car the Jews were gathered in and the beds they slept in. From the pieces of tin used for eating what little food they had, to the passports used by most in other countries after successfully getting out of harms way, the Germans. To get a better idea and feeling of the Holocausts, there were plenty of pictures and film documenting this historical yet dramatic event. Everyone at some point in life, regardless of race, creed, color, or religion, if they have the time should visit the Holocausts Museum. In order to have a better future, the past must be learned and the mistakes made then must be avoided now.

ACTIVITIES AT NIGHT?

Anthony Bustamante
Sports Editor

I’ve been a night student here at LaGuardia for about a year now and I feel very alienated because of it. Whenever I came to school, I would be dashing from work to class then have to wait forty-five minutes or so until my next class started. During that time I was bored. I wanted to do something, but I had a hard time finding anything open, except the gym. However, when I asked what activities were available I was told that they had table tennis, fitness center and open gym for playing basketball or volleyball. Now this is good, except that there were hardly ever any night students there to enjoy it. I asked the gym attendans why there weren’t any team activities at night and he told me that there wasn’t enough student participation to make up two teams to play any sport. I was upset. How could it be, with all the students that attend LaGuardia at night, that we don’t have enough people to form any kind of sports activities in the evening? I feel that there has to be a serious lack of communication between the Student Activities department and the average night student. Granted, it must be hard for them to be able to reach all the “extended day” students, but that should not mean that the night students here at LaGuardia should suffer. This is why I am writing for The Bridge in the first place. I know who there are many students at night that would love to be able to do something fun after classes or even between classes. The next few articles I write will be geared toward informing the night students about some activities that are offered. However, I will not forget the majority of the student body, that is, the “day students,” when it comes to talking about what (sports) activities are offered here at LaGuardia. If there are any questions you may have, please feel free to write me. Letters can be left at The Bridge office in room M118 (door E). A staff member is usually there during the day. As of yet, I am the only night student on the staff but we encourage all students to write stories of interest. For night students who want to submit stories, The Bridge office will be open from 5-6pm and 7:30-8pm. Letters should have your name on them so that proper credit can be given to good ideas.

REBUILDING A NEW GYM

Anthony Bustamante
Sports Editor

Most people know that the LaGuardia Community College gym is located in the basement of the main building. However, how many people know what the time schedule is or what’s going on with the fitness center? Most students in the school don’t realize how much the gym offers now and will be offering in the future.

After speaking with a gym staff member, I found out that during the day, there are many different activities available; like basketball, indoor baseball, indoor football, volleyball and cricket, all of which are intramural sports. Unfortunately, when I arrived at the gym there was only one staff member on duty, which is one of the reasons that there are no intramural activities in the evening (after 6pm).

I interviewed Jane Corrales, the student activities program director, who told me that there are many things in the works for the students of our school. The main one is the renovation of the fitness center. Plans are in the works for new flooring and mirrors all around. The new equipment has arrived, ready for the completion of the fitness center located upstairs from the gymnasium. In the meantime, the fitness coordinator (Carol) recommends trying out the recently opened pool located on the 1st floor of the E building. Carol is in charge of the Poolside Movement Studio, which teaches various forms of aerobics exercises.

The biggest news I heard came from Jane Corrales herself. Jane tells me that she wants to implement intercollegiate teams here at LaGuardia. I thought that wasn’t possible, but it is. The main thing Jane needs is support from the students and, most of all, participation from the entire student body. Day and night students alike should try to become more involved in school activities. These activities are meant for us to take advantage of, not squander foolishly.

If you are interested in any other activities that have not been mentioned, please feel free to write to us at The Bridge or go downstairs to MB31 and ask for the student activities director. Jane Corrales encourages all students to submit suggestions on how to make things better for the school. Remember, if you’re not happy with the way the gym is running then say so. If you don’t, then things will never get better.
Panhellenic Socialist Movement Returns to Power Under Mr. Andreas Papandreou

The general elections held in Greece on October 10, 1993, resulted in the return to power of Panhellenic Socialist Movement leader, Mr. Andreas Papandreou, who headed the PASOK government from 1981 through 1989.

Winning a comfortable margin of more than seven percentage points, PASOK will now have 170 seats in the New Parliament against 111 held by the New Democracy party. A third party named Political Spring, formed by former Foreign Minister in Mr. Mitsotakis government, Mr. Antonis Samaras, received just under five percent of the votes and ten parliamentary seats. The Greek Communist Party, with 4.54 percent, won nine seats. No other party reached the qualifying minimum of three percent of the vote.

Papandreou pledges economic stability, development, social security

We added also, with regard to the position of the Turkish government: “I have also emphasized in this report the important role Turkey can and should play in helping to achieve objectives endorsed by the international community.”

**Greek Government Concurs with Secretary-General’s Report**

The Secretary-General expresses approval of the Turkish-Cypriot side, which has prevented all progress in the intercommunal talks and in achieving the acceptance of the confidence-building package.

The Secretary-General expresses his appreciation to the Turkish-Cypriot side for its lack of goodwill and cooperation, as well as for the disinformation campaigns concerning the confidence-building measures, in violation of everything that had been previously agreed and to which the Turkish-Cypriot side had committed itself.

The report further points out the responsibility of Turkey for finally putting an end to this unacceptable tactic of the Turkish Cypriots adding that if the efforts of the Secretary-General are not soon successful, he will ask the Security Council to consider alternative means to effect the implementation, at long last, of various decisions on the Cyprus issue.

The government is in full agreement with the Secretary-General’s report, and calls on the Turkish side finally to shoulder its responsibilities and give practical proof of a sincere move to achieve progress by maintaining the necessary efforts with those who have not responded today’s deadlock.

Greece, also, supports the Secretary-General’s opinion that the members of the Security Council should undertake the initiatives which would ensure the implementation of their decisions, since all efforts so far have not succeeded on account of the intransigence of the other side.

**U.S. State Department Official Sees Threat**

Crucial to Turkish-Cypriot intransigence and an appeal to the Ankara government to use its influence to change it was also expressed by a high-ranking U.S. State Department official in testimony to Congress on September 15.

Mr. Stephen A. Olson, Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, told the House Subcommittee on Europe Secretary and the Middle East: “Our hopes of progress in Cyprus have not yet been fulfilled... Unfortunately, Mr. Denktash, after promising to seek approval of the confidence-building measures by the Turkish Cypriots, did not do so and refused to return to the negotiations as he promised. Along with others, we are still working for approval of these confidence-building measures... and particularly urge the Turkish government to use all of its influence on the Turkish Cypriots. The Turkish Cypriot community must recognize that if they reject this proposal, which is viewed by the rest of the world as fair and constructive, they risk even greater isolation than they now face.”

**From: UN Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia**

**EMBARGO KILLS BABIES**


THE DIRECTOR OF THE CLINIC, DR. S. PETKOVIC, STRESS THAT THE CLINIC, IN WHICH ABOUT 180 BABIES ARE BORN EVERY DAY, HAS BEEN WORKING IN ABNORMAL CONDITIONS FOR A YEAR, THAT DRUGS, MEDICAL AND HYGIENE ITEMS AND HEATING OIL ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY, WHILE FOOD IS SUBSTANDARD.

NEVERTHELESS, DR. PETKOVIC WENT ON TO SAY: THE CLINIC HAS HANDLED THE SAME WORKLOAD AND THE SHORTAGES ARE SOMEWHAT MADE UP FOR BY HUMANITARIAN AID COMING THROUGH THE RED CROSS, SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, CARITAS, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COMPANIES AND INDIVIDUAL DONORS AND FROM SERBS IN THE DIASPORA.

DR. M. CVETKOVIC SAYS THAT PATIENTS WITH HIGH-RISK PREGNANCIES FROM ALL OVER SERBIA COME TO BELGRADE AND THAT AN INCREASING NUMBER OF CHILDREN DEVELOP ABNORMALITIES WHICH REMAIN UNDETECTED AND UNTREATED DUE TO FAULTY EQUIPMENT.

HE SAYS THAT THE ANOMALIES ON MOST OF 4,500 CHILDREN BORN WITH THEM COULD HAVE BEEN DETECTED AND TREATED IN MORE AUSPICIOUS CONDITIONS.

**WARNING THAT AN INCREASING NUMBER OF CHILDREN ARE BEING BORN WITH ANOMALIES, DR. CVETKOVIC SAYS THAT THE NUMBER OF MISCARRIAGES HAS INCREASED DUE TO THE LACK OF DRUGS, EXPENSIVE ANTIBIOTICS IN PARTICULAR.**

IN 1990, THE PERCENTAGE OF MISCARRIAGES WAS 7.9, WHILE LAST YEAR IT ROSE TO 9.8 PERCENT.

IN 1992, 105 STILLBORN BABIES WERE BORN AT THE CLINIC, WHILE THIS YEAR THIS NUMBER FELL TO 79, SAYS DR. P. MOMCILOV. “THIS IS DECIEVING,” ADDS DR. MOMCILOV, “SINCE THE PREGNATAL MORTALITY RATE AND THE MORTALITY OF INFANTS IN THE FIRST WEEK OF LIFE HAVE INCREASED SO THAT WE ARE NO LONGER A DEVELOPING BUT AN UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRY.”

**Dr. M. Lopicic Says That**

OUT OF 5,438 BABIES BORN AT THE CLINIC THIS YEAR, 560 WERE UNDERWEIGHT, INCLUDING 32 INFANTS BELOW 1000 GRAMMS.

DR. LOPICIC SAYS THAT THE ANALYSIS

continued on page 9
The lack of lab solutions is particularly painful," said Dr. G. Kokai, pathologist at the clinic.

The doctors used yesterday's visit of journalists to thank all donors and humanitarian organizations for their assistance in the conditions of sanctions, but also to say that humanitarian shipments are not always usable. For example, bacteria were found in the milk imported from Finland and given as a gift by Unprofor to the clinic, so that the sanitary inspector prohibited its use.

Doctors find particularly galling the blockade in the professional field. Their foreign colleagues understand them and invite them to meetings and seminars, but the governments of their countries refuse to issue them visas. Professional magazines are not getting through either. Dr. S. Petkovic, therefore, calls all that accompanies the sanctions and affects his patients' 'jusit manus."

My patients would be much better if gentlemen from the west declared war on them, for all this would then end sooner and we could work peacefully ever after," said Dr. Petkovic.

ARMENIA:

NAGORNO-KARABAKH LEADERSHIP DENIES ALLEGATIONS OF DEFEATS

(From Embassy of the Republic of Armenia)

Despite every effort by the international community to find a peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, Azerbaijan has rejected the Russian mediation plan and CSCE initiative and, beginning mid-December 1993, launched an unprecedented large-scale offensive along the entire front-line with Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Azeri offensive has been accompanied by allegations of major atrocities by the Azeri army, which have been repeated in some international press agencies. The leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh has categorically denied the reports of major military defeats said to be suffered by the Karabakh army. According to Stepanakert, currently heavy battles are taking place in the northern part of the Kelbadjar region, in the Mardakert region, and around the town of Fizouli.

The most critical situation is at the front-line in northern Kelbadjar, where position fighting without any strategically significant advancement by the Azeri troops has been reported. Yesterday, the Azeri forces once again attempted to break through the Mardakert battle line to have access to the Sarsang reservoir for ultimate advancement toward Kelbajar. The Karabakh army repelled the attack, resulting in heavy losses for the Azerbaijani in manpower and military equipment.

Around Fizouli the only activity has been the exchange of artillery fire and Azeri air force reconnaissance flights.

The Armenian government once again reconfirms that there can be no military solution to the Azerbaijani-Karabakh conflict. It remains committed to the peaceful resolution of the problem, despite the escalation of hostilities undertaken by Azerbaijan, and has not given up its attempts to invite the Azerbaijani authorities to the negotiating table.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry has reported that the Russian Foreign Minister's Special Envoy Vladimir Kazimirov is expected to arrive in Yerevan in a few days. The first official visit to the region of the newly-appointed Chairman of the CSCE Minsk group Jan Eliason is scheduled for mid-February 1994.
A visit from an Alumna
by Joseph N. Smith

I returned to my office to find this charming woman sitting patiently waiting for me. "Are you Joseph? I am Christina North," she said. We talked for a while and she agreed to an interview at a later date.

Ms. North, a former student at LaGuardia Community College, turned out to be a very fascinating woman that had quite a lot to say. She has done a lot of civic work in her community of Long Island City, and, among other accomplishments she is the author of several books. Some of the civic work she did in her community included getting law enforcement and people in her neighborhood to keep prostitutes from walking the streets of her community plying their trade. Ms. North also showed me some letters and Christmas cards she received from former Presidents of the United States, as well as a recent letter she received from the former Army Chief of Staff, General Collen Powell.

Letters

Jerry Frohnhoefer respond to
The New York Times

As the former faculty advisor of the Bridge, LaGuardia Community College's student newspaper, I have to take exception to Mr. Seth Faison's news article "Panel to Oversee LaGuardia College Paper," appearing in your paper October 19th, 1993.

I spoke today (Oct, 20) to Ms. Denise Shaw as to the section quoted which states that, "...Denise Shaw, spokesperson for LaGuardia, said last night that Mr. Frohnhoefer had read the article before it was published, but said it was unclear why he had not scrutinized it more closely." She alleges her words were taken out of context. She told me that her statement had to do with grammatical errors contained in the paper and not with the contents of the Todd "one" Williams's op-ed articles.

It appears from the manner of your reporter's view I neglected to "scrutinize" the article. I scrutinized each and every article, make comments, and discussed comments with each writer for this issue and all other issues I was advisor for. That's my responsibility as an advisor.

Who is telling it like it is, I'll never know. However, your reporter failed to act according to acceptable journalistic standards on a news article when he failed to contact me. He has a responsibility to interview all parties concerned. Obviously he didn't.

The Times and other media reporting the story makes the false assumption that the general public knows the nature and character of college newspapers and the roles of participants. First of all a college student newspaper is a STUDENT NEWSPAPER, not an organizational paper of the college. It is paid for out of student activity funds, not from tuition or grants. Since it is the students' paper the students annually elect the editorial board and select the advisor. The editorial board ALONE makes the decision as to which articles appear in the paper. By ethical standards and journalistic codes the advisor is "...not a censor, nor a copywriter, nor a rewrite person, nor an editorial writer....He advises and teaches these skills, but after giving guidance and the best possible judgment defends and observes totally the right of the staff to make the final decisions." (Taken from "Ethics and Responsibilities of Advising College Student Publications-2nd edition p.2 Columbia Scholastic Press Association.)

Articles from time to time may appear distasteful to readers, and may not seem to be politically correct. However, as the First Amendment dictates FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS are of paramount importance, especially in light of modern communications and technology. I still fully support my colleagues at The Bridge and the need for a truly student newspaper. Its only when painful issues are brought forward, laid on the table, and rationally discussed can substantive human progress and understanding be achieved, especially in circles of higher education.

The Williams articles are op-ed articles are the opinions of the writer. By attempting to silence Mr. Williams, no one's interest is served. To bottle up anger through repressive and suppressive means can only lead to destructive and irrational outcomes that threaten personal, social, and communal well being. Haven't we seen enough Crown Heights, Washington Heights, and South Central LA riots?

The public media has chosen to be a catalyst of the problem. The Bridge has chosen to take a constructive path. The lead article of the Bridge was a reprint of a news release sent to all colleges by the Anti-Defamation League, entitled, "Us and Them" on American Campuses...ADL Gives Ways to Combat Increasing Bigotry and Separatism. The theme was presented at the 80th Anniversary Celebration of the ADL held in Washington D.C.

The conference warns against a "bogus multiculturalism". There is a need for all of us to reopen dialogue and recreate an American community, especially on our campuses, that respects the rights and dignity of each and all.

In my opinion this article of the NY Times by omission and commission seems to foster divisiveness and strife, rather than an open and honest commitment to healing the current and deep chasms that divide us. It opts for political correctness and contradicts its own existence based on First Amendment principles. It avers to "grout think" politicians than free speech. This is an enigma to me.

New York City faced a similar crisis in
Dear Dr. Bowen:

It was with such disappointment that I read the above newsletter. Busy with my school assignments, I’d no chance to read it.

This past Sunday, I got a phone call from a friend, asking me if I’d read an article in the New York Post on CUNY’s Anti-Semitism. I got the newspaper, and to my surprise, the article was referring to LaGuardia’s newsletter, which I had at home.

I was surprised by this chutzpah! How could LaGuardia allow a newsletter to carry its name and let such an article be published? The article, which was very poorly written, was factually inaccurate and filled with classic Nazi lies. Unbelievable!

Rather than make bad politics and create adversity and hatred between races, this “student” should spend his time studying about his own race, as I was doing when I was contacted by my friend. Then he would be able to better write his political article. He showed a complete lack of knowledge of the subject! Because he never spent his spare time reading books that would help him to get educated on this subject.

If he thinks that the Jews immigrated in the U.S after the Second World War, he is very wrong! We were here long before, and some of us were here helping Black people to survive the struggles of the Underground Railroad, bringing them from slavery to freedom during the Civil War. If Mr. Williams would read articles written about it he would find some interesting relations between the Jewish people helping the Blacks, such as “Touro Synagogue, America’s oldest Jewish house of worship, used its quarters as a station on the Underground Railroad.”

All that Mr. Williams did was hurt his colleagues, for no reason. I believe that he wasn’t thinking of Mayor Dinkins at all when he was writing his article. You cannot try to help a politician by hurting the politicians. His article was full of hate. A real shame.

What brought me to this college, besides the interesting programs that it offers, is that it is a school for minorities, one of which I consider myself. I’m a Sephardic Jew (Portuguese origin) by my mother’s side, first generation born in Brazil, daughter of immigrants, and I consider myself a very dedicated Jew. I brought up two children on my own, providing them the best attention and education. I appreciate total respect for my ancestors, myself, my family, and my own people—the People of the Land of Israel.

On October 6, I was helping to build LaGuardia’s Succah for the Succot Festival with the Jewish Students Club. Not only that, but at the last moment I helped the Jewish Interest Association to sponsor a lecture and I contacted a Rabbi for that. We mad sure that all the school’s faculty would get our invitation. I personally delivered them. We make an event, we extend it to everyone, and we don’t boycott any race.

The article that this student wrote, violates completely the principles of the Constitution of this country. Journalistically, aside from the moral question, the editor of the newsletter should never have allowed any article so completely wrong factually to be published. It was a disrespectful and racist document authorized to be published by this school where I am a tuition paying student. I am not under any scholarship. I pay this school to learn in a healthy academic environment. I don’t want fear for my own security, to feel that I’m surrounded by an unfriendly and hostile environment created by hatemongers with their own political agenda. Can you imagine if a Jewish writer had written something like this about African-Americans?

Finally, I think that if Laguardia doesn’t want to have a bad reputation, the college should make Mr. Williams apologize to the entire student body and people of New York City for this serious mistake.

Sincerely,
Debra Ferreira Rodrigues

---

Dear Editor:

I am a retired teacher at Archbishop Molloy High School. The school hired me to teach a course on the need for tolerance. I used to teach this course in a New York public high school until I retired.

My personal commitment to the task is largely due to the fact, that in a world filled with hate I had the good fortune to be warned about the Nazis by a Christian German; saved from the Nazis by a Polish Catholic; supported during an antisemitic attack by an African-American lady; helped to come to terms with my past by an American Lutheran; and finally empowered by a Catholic principal to make a difference in the lives of Catholic youths who are neighbors of your school.

I work hard and diligently to expose prejudice, bigotry, and hatred for the damage they do. I try to make clear the evil of stereotypical thinking, how misleading it is, and how damaging to the thinker and those he/she is thinking about.

I am dismayed by the attached article. My students and I would like to at least give expression to our outrage. We hope that in your midst is someone with the vision and courage of the principal of this school, who is willing to tackle the problem and excise the cancer that is apparent here. We hope that someone in your school will take responsibility of protecting the political environment from further pollution.

Yours truly,
Sally Frishberg
Teacher of Need for Tolerance
ARCHBISHOP MOLLOY HIGH SCHOOL

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TO ADVERTISE IN THE BRIDGE
CALL (718) 482-5189
FAX (718)482-5199
The Caribbean Students Club Strut Their Stuff
A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF
BANGLADESH.

by Shokh A. Sarwar (Asam)

The Bangladesh Club of LaGuardia campus (CUNY) was founded in 1989 by Bangladeshi students. It was not an active club until 1991. In 1991, members of the Bangladesh Club organized themselves and formed a new committee. Since then, Bangladesh students have become more interested in club activities, and more and more students are joining the club. In 1991, the club had its first successful cultural program. The members of the Bangladesh Club were not only active in the club, but also joined other organizations in LaGuardia, such as Student Government election, and one of them sat on the Executive Board. In the same academic year, another member of the Bangladesh Club won the Student Government election and held a position on the Executive Board. In 1992, the Bangladesh Club had its second cultural show presented by its new committee. The club grew larger than ever with hundreds of active members. In spring 1993, the club had an off-campus picnic, and it was the first club picnic in the history of LaGuardia. Today, the club and its members are well known within the LaGuardia college community. Today, we are more than a club. We are a help center for Bangladeshi students and others, a place to talk with students, a place to stand side by side and share each other happiness and sorrow. The Bangladesh club is an organization to introduce our heritage and culture to others.
The Haitian Club
Cultural Event
THE PAKISTAN STUDENTS CLUB
SALAM-O-ALAYKUM
LaGuardia Community College

Multi-Cultural Appreciation Week '94

May 24th-26th, 1994

TUESDAY, MAY 24th

"Day of Respect" and Cultural Art Exhibit
2pm-4pm & 5pm-7pm • "E"-Atrium
Free Refreshments

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25th

"Springfest '94"
Faculty/Staff Talent Showcase
2pm-7pm • "E"-Atrium & Cobblestone Courtyard
Free Food and Entertainment!

THURSDAY, MAY 26th

"International Dance/Food Festival"
2pm-7pm • "E"-Atrium & Cobblestone Courtyard
Featuring Performances by the following clubs and organizations:
- African, Barrios Unidos, Colombian, Dominican, Haitian, Health Careers, Indian, Jewish, Mexican, Nazarene, Pakistani & other guest artists!

Sponsored by:
- The Office of the President
- The Student Activities Department/Division of Student Affairs
- The 3rd World Faculty and Staff Association

For further information please contact Student Activities, M115
Dear Editor:

I recently read the article in The New York Post by Scott McDonell concerning an article that appeared in your school newspaper. The article was written by a black student and contained anti-semitic and uninfomed material. The grammar and spelling were also a disgrace to the education system. What also amazes me is that you being the editor failed to at least correct the grammar and spelling let alone allow such an article to run in a taxpayer supported school. To run this article at all would at least demand that it be accompanied by a parallel article disputing it.

Of course, such an article is easily dismissed by intelligent and well informed minds, but people such as the article's author are easily won over. This article only serves to further racism and anti-semitism. Students at your school and readers of its newspapers should be informed of the truth. First, six million Jews died under Hitler, not 4.5 as the author believes. Second, your author is thinking about the film The Liberators when he discusses an all black unit liberating concentration camps. This film was a black unit liberating concentration camps. This film was a gross exaggeration of the facts. The liberation of the camps happened after the war. This film was a black unit liberating concentration camps. This film was a gross exaggeration of the facts. The liberation of the camps happened after the war. The film The Liberators was a black unit liberating concentration camps. This film was a gross exaggeration of the facts. The liberation of the camps happened after the war. The film The Liberators was a black unit liberating concentration camps. This film was a gross exaggeration of the facts. The liberation of the camps happened after the war. The film The Liberators was a black unit liberating concentration camps. This film was a gross exaggeration of the facts. The liberation of the camps happened after the war.

The author continues by discussing the death of the supportes of the Civil Rights Movement. The murder of three people fighting for black lives. The author goes on to say that the Jews (guilty? Everyone in Jesus's ministry were guilty) were responsible for the murder of six million Jews. This is your responsibility to either refuse to run such articles or to accompany these type of articles with the truth.

Regretfully yours,

Robert Hoffman

To the College Community

Statement of the LaGuardia Chapter of the P.S.C.

1. We are profoundly and unalterably opposed to the anti-semitism of the article - "Who's the Real Problem?" in the recent issue of The Bridge. We deeply regret the pain of our Jewish sisters and brothers and of all people of good will at LaGuardia. We are solidly committed to combat anti-semitic attitudes and behavior.

2. We strongly support the full allocation of resources which will provide The Bridge with faculty advisors trained and experienced in the field of journalism, and available for full time supervision.

3. We strongly support the various ongoing activities by Campus community organizations to overcome anti-semitism, sexism, racism, homophobia, and processes which foster a climate favorable to hate and hostility.

4. The issues raised by The Bridge article and by other issues of exclusion, disrespected and real or implied violence need to be confronted at length and in depth. This statement obviously does not do this. No one expression does this adequately. But we are dedicated to the continuing process of dialogue and, if necessary, confrontation. A union is an organization of solidarity and struggle. We are determined to overcome divisiveness and to deal directly with these painful issues. We rely on strength and wisdom of all our members. Just like a tree that's planted by the waters, we shall not be moved.

MEMORANDUM TO THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY

FROM: Social Science Department

As members of the Social Science Department of LaGuardia Community College, we are deeply offended by the blatant expression of falsehood and bigotry expressed in the recently distributed student newsletter. The article is a slanderous misrepresentation of the historic relations between the Black and Jewish communities in New York City and United States.

This unfortunate incident provides us with an opportunity to redouble our efforts to promote a broader understanding of freedom, equality, justice and unity. We call on the college community to dedicate itself to the spirit of brotherhood, sisterhood and mutual respect among all races, religions and ethnicities. We urge all members of our institution to open a dialogue in and out of our classrooms on the dangers of prejudice to us all.

ANTI-SEMITISM AT LAGUARDIA

or Have you heard of Mr. "one" Williams?

Chris Sulawski

There always exist simple answers to complex questions, and they are usually wrong. The "opinion" article written by Mr. "one" Williams that was published in our own school paper "the Bridge" is a perfect example of this. Apparently, Mr. Williams, in his self-righteous indignation over the criticism of the Dinkins and defend the ex-mayor from "unwarranted" attack. After reading the article I feel both angry and sorry for this misguided student. I am not writing to file the character of Mr. Williams. I am hoping that picking apart his overzealous and simplistic conclusions will be enough to point out the error of his opinions.

Let us move to the ideas presented by Mr. "one" Williams in his article. First, we have the notion that the Jewish community hates Mr. Dinkins because he is an African-American. He totally disregards those of the community who supported Mayor Dinkins in his mayoral campaign. Second, we have the idea that others blame him for the Crown Heights riot. The answer should be "Why shouldn't they? The Dinkins administration failed to recognize the explosive potential of the mob and Mr. Dinkins himself took his time in admitting his mistake. The "best" and first black mayor of the city shouldn't be held responsible for this error? Why not? It broke the fragile relationship which existed between the two groups and caused hardship to the open-minded members sitting in both camps. They were the ones who had to pay in order to keep the fanatics from jumping at everyone's throat. Their anger has nothing to do with Mr. Dinkins' race, but is centered on his failure to act.

It thoroughly fascinates me that Mr. Williams' next argument tries to throw guilt at the Jewish community. He raises the contention that because an African-American unit rescued Jewish prisoners from a concentration camp, people have the right to harbor ill will. It thoroughly fascinates me that Mr. Williams' next argument tries to throw guilt at the Jewish community. He raises the contention that because an African-American unit rescued Jewish prisoners from a concentration camp, people have the right to harbor ill will. It thoroughly fascinates me that Mr. Williams' next argument tries to throw guilt at the Jewish community. He raises the contention that because an African-American unit rescued Jewish prisoners from a concentration camp, people have the right to harbor ill will.

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The claim that the Jews are ungrateful and only cry and blame Mr. Dinkins and the Afro-American community for their problems is ridiculous. The recent unseating of the mayor in favor of Mr. Giuliani clearly demonstrates that the Jewish community, as well as other groups in New York City, know how to respond to problems. We do not need to riot. We have become dissatisfied with the performance of Mr. Dinkins and we voted him out of office. I hope that this fact makes you realize that it took more than the Jewish community to accomplish this feat. It certainly proves that a great number of New Yorkers were dissatisfied and that we can not afford to hide our dissatisfaction just because you or other Afro-Americans spout another opinion. “One” is enough.

To all those who are reading this, and I hope it includes Mr. “One” Williams, un foolish and ignorant attacks upon any group should not be allowed in our school paper. How can we have lost all sense of standards? Have we then become so bowed by political correctness that we automatically become mute when such a senseless attack occurs? Mr. Williams, you have made a mistake by writing this “opinion.” You have not only damaged yourself publicly, but have also succeeded in offending Black, Jewish, White, Hispanic and Asian individuals who study and work in this college and strive to create a tolerant and accepting atmosphere of racial equality. I call on these people to protest this article by joining together. We do not need Mr. “one” Williams spouting another opinion. “One” is enough. Mr. Williams may cloak himself with his first Amendment right to free speech, but this action will not clear him of anti-semitism presented in the article. The Ku Klux Klan involves their right to free speech on a regular basis, but it does not make them any less bigoted. We should at least require “The Bridge” to run a retraction, preferably written by Mr. “One” Williams himself. Only after this can his place at the paper be viewed as possibly legitimate. Another alternative would be to run this article alongside Mr. Williams’s original opinion column before reconsidering his staff position. Unusually, I do not believe that our institution possesses the intestinal fortitude, i.e. guts, to do this.

P.S Hate Sin not Sinners

To the Editors ...

Todd Williams’s article entitled, “Who’s the real problem?” is a confused distortion of history and reality intended to inflame opinion against the Jewish people. It relies on the traditional tactics of Anti-semites to brand an entire religious and national group. As such, its appearance in the September 1993 issue of the student newsletter at LaGuardia has served to demean that publication and diminish the entire college community. I am of the firm belief that the most effective way to combat racism in any of its vile guises is by responding to falsehoods with facts. Toward that end, please consider the following:

* While most Jews did not support David Dinkins for Mayor in the last election, he did receive a greater percentage of the Jewish vote than of the white vote in general. Singling out Jews in this respect is therefore suspect.

* The statement that Jews don’t own the United States but yet some act as if they do,” evokes the myth of an international conspiracy of Jewish financiers and bankers, used as a justification by the Nazis and other Anti-semites for violent acts against Jews.

* There is a worldwide consensus that six million Jews perished in World War II, not 4.5 million as reported by Mr. Williams. The problem with an undercount is that it represents movement toward the revisionist position that the Holocaust never happened.

* Regrettably, the participation of an all-black army unit in the liberation of concentration camps has been proven to be a hoax, causing the Public Broadcast System to dissociate itself from the documentary that aired about these events.

* To conclude, as does Mr. Williams, that Jews have done nothing for Black people ignores Jewish participation in support for the Civil Rights Movement.

Let’s not forget that Black civil rights worker Chaney shares unmarked grave in Mississippi with Jewish co-workers Goodman and Schwerner.

* There is a very strong precedent between the author’s statement that the “Jews” should thank God that they didn’t die in Hitler’s death camps,” and the Anti-semites curse that Hitler should have finished the job, particularly when it is used in an attempt to suggest that Jews alone should be politically disenfranchised.

* While some Jews may have participated in the evil business of slavery, the slave trade was clearly not inspired or controlled by Jewish people. To suggest otherwise, as both the author and Leonard Jeffries have done, is to intentionally attempt to create animosity between Jews and African Americans.

* The accusation of complicity in the crucifixion of Jesus Christ was the flash point for launching pogroms against the Jewish people for centuries in Europe. Despite Vatican absolution, Mr. Williams raises this charge once again to dehumanize his targets.

* While first amendment rights and traditions of academic freedom protect the privilege of individuals to voice their thoughts no matter how racially inflammatory or divisive, these safeguards do not direct public institutions to air such reprehensible views under their auspices, using public funds to do so. That both the editorial board of The Bridge and the administration at LaGuardia have failed to make this critically important distinction is the most disheartening aspect of this entire affair. I trust that it is not too late to redress the insult, injury and injustice to all who work and study at the College.

Sincerely,

Eric Nadelstern
Principal
International High School

FORELLO R. LAUGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ASSOCIATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1993 (with comparative totals for 1992)

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*Footnote: All excesses of expenses over revenues have been approved from the fund balance by the Board of Directors of the Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College Association, Inc.
AMERICANS THINK INTELLIGENT ALIEN LIFE COULD BE COMING HERE, SAYS NATIONAL POLL

by Beverly Wilder

Los Angeles — Is there intelligent life on other worlds? Does it resemble the cuddly, tear-shaped creature of Steven Spielberg's "ET," or maybe the 9-foot-tall, gas-breathing Psychlos of L. Ron Hubbard's "Battlefield Earth?" And if they decide to visit Earth, will they come as friends or foes?

A nationwide poll of nearly 1,500 people — including a number of leading astronomers and astrophysicists — conducted by the nationally syndicated television show Dateline: USA found that more than 70 percent of those surveyed believe there is intelligent life elsewhere in the universe, perhaps even in our own Milky Way galaxy.

Opinion was evenly divided on whether the aliens would be hostile or loveable if they came here, but nearly 80 percent were convinced that alien technology would be more advanced than ours: it would have to be to permit them to cross millions of light years of space.

Sixty-five percent of the Dateline: USA respondents felt that we'd be conquered or annihilated if an alien race invaded Earth, while 25 percent were sure we would ultimately defeat the invaders, no matter how technologically superior they were. Ten percent had no opinion or felt they "wouldn't be around" to find out how such a confrontation turned out.

Producers of the cable television show said the national survey was inspired by three current developments: the $100 million NASA/SETI (Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence) project; the new edition of Hubbard's international science fiction best-seller "Battlefield Earth;" and the release of the film "Fire in the Sky," depicting Travis Walton's account of his abduction by alien beings.

Dr. Yoji Kondo, astrophysicist at Goddard Space Labs, told Dateline: USA that we "can't assume that the thinking processes of another intelligent species on another planet revolving around an alien sun in some distant galaxy would be similar to ours. If they are technologically advanced, we can't be sure they'd even think it worthwhile to attack and plunder a chemical wasteland." 

Astronomer and Physicist Kevin J. Anderson says that, despite the current view of biologists, "who is to say that totally alien forms of life — not based on our carbon-cycle — cannot be born in a sea of magentic fields on the surface of a star, or that civilizations of carbon-based life 'similar' to ours could not develop under oceans, flying high in clouds, or burrowing underground?"

Virtually all of the people surveyed agreed that alien beings from other worlds will not "look like us." Opinions on extra-terrestrial shapes and sizes varied widely from tear-or pear-shaped creatures and furred, taloned giants to winged lizards and intelligent lightforms.

Album review: "Core"

by Stone Temple Pilots

by Aki Nogareyan

Staff Reporter

"Core" — the Stone Temple Pilots debut album (Atlantic Records) which was released in September of 1992 is a must buy for fans of alternative music. The album has already gone triple platinum and after spending sixty-eight weeks on Billboard's top ten; it is currently holding a position of number sixty-two.

"Plush," the second single off the album has just one them a Grammy as well as conquering TV and radio waves.

This talented San Diego band consists of Scott Weiland — vocalist, Eric Kretz on drums, Dean DeLeo — guitarist, and younger brother Roben on bass. The highlights of the album that make it so powerfully moving are Weiland's varied vocal abilities and the efficacious playing of the instruments. The lyrics and music have been contributed by all the band members. The overall style of the album is about pain, anger, confusion, indifference, and passion. For example, "Sex Type Thing" is a song about rape. "Creep" is a stunning ballad, and "No Memory" is a beautiful instrumental piece played by Dean DeLeo.

Now that I have given you a little flavor of this amazingly talented quartet I advise you all to go out and purchase it! You will not regret it!
Toy-Run ’93
by Carolyn Kent
Managing Editor

The Independent Bikers for "Toys for Tots" held their annual Toy Run for the children of the Bernard Fineson Developmental Center in Howard Beach on Sunday, December 5, demonstrating the true Christmas spirit.

An estimated 400 bikers gathered at Glenn's Bar in Richmond Hill, approximately 3,600 less than last year's Toy Run. This was due to poor weather conditions. But the weather didn't dampen the bikers' spirits. At one o'clock onward they rode to see the "kids" at the center.

The Bernard Fineson Developmental Center has an estimated 100 residents, some of whom are stricken with autism and down syndrome. The residents are mostly children who need the love and attention that the bikers give them during the holiday season.

The Toy Run was established 13 years ago. It is organized by the Independent Bikers who hold numerous fund raisers for the "kids". There are other contributors to their cause as well as many volunteers who sell Toys for Tots T-shirts, bumper stickers, raffle tickets, and mugs.

The bikers don't only volunteer during the Christmas, they continue throughout the year. They give gifts during Easter, bring the "kids" to the circus, hold barbecues during the summer, and help out with Special Olympics.

The bikers have also built a sun shelter equipped with wheelchair ramps, bathrooms, barbecue grills, and picnic tables. They also donated two above ground swimming pools, electric wheelchairs and hospital beds, exercise equipment, jukeboxes, pinball machines, and pool tables.

On Sunday, December 12, the bikers will be holding the Toy Run again because of the small number of donations.

Mrs. Doubtfire
by Tony Severino

Mrs. Doubtfire, starring Robin Williams and Sally Field, is a story about an unemployed impressionist named Daniel Hillard (Williams) who does nothing more than lounge about the house. This is Miranda Hillard's (Field's) reason for divorcing Daniel. Together, Daniel and Miranda have had three children. The oldest is a girl roughly twelve to thirteen years old, the second child is a boy about a year younger than his sister, the third child is a five year old (who reminded me of Drew Barrymore as she was in the all-time favorite E.T.). Upon his divorce, the judge ruled that in order for joint custody to be established, Daniel must find a suitable home, and he must get and keep a job all within a period of three months.

Daniel, having no choice in the matter, does as the judge demands; even though Daniel doesn't like the idea. After finding a place to live, Daniel spends Saturday with his children. Miranda comes over to pick up the kids while they are eating dinner. Miranda was in a rush to get back to her place to hire a nanny. Daniel saw the ad for the newspaper, and managed to change the phone number and address so that no one would call. After that, he started calling using different voices as applicants for the job. He made sure that each "applicant" was not suitable for the job. Later, for his final call, he created his role of Mrs. Doubtfire.

After getting the job as Mrs. Doubtfire, he earns the trust of the children and Miranda. Along the way, Miranda runs into an old friend named Stewart (Pierce Brosnan). She starts dating him, and on each family outing they go on with Stewart, Mrs. Doubtfire has been invited. Daniel later makes friends with the owner of the film studio where he now works. This friendship allows him to have a dinner meeting regarding a new show idea he has to increase the ratings for the studio. After the appointment was made, he finds that Miranda's birthday party is to be held at the same time as the appointment. He then plays a dual role at two different tables.

In my opinion, this movie was extremely funny and very well directed. For an actor with a dual role, Robin Williams performed well. The costuming and make-up for Mrs. Doubtfire was done exceptionally well. I truly recommend this movie for anyone who enjoys comedy, and especially for families.

USE IT OR LOOSE IT !!!!!
REMEMBER USING A CONDOM CAN NOT ONLY SAVE YOUR LIFE, BUT YOUR PARTNER'S.

CONVENTIONAL INSTITUTIONALIZE MARRIAGE AND ABSTENTION ARE TWO WAYS TO FIGHT AGAINST AIDS.
POETRY IN MOTION

What do I do?

Todd Williams

You are always on my mind
You are in all my thoughts
Wishing I could see you again
So I can hold you in my arms
It was love at first sight For you and for me
Even though there was denial
It was very clear to see
I have not heard from you for days
It seems like an eternity
If the day comes That we are together again
I will have no reason to live
And my life shall come to an end.

Division of Happiness

Ariana Casillo

As I look at the sea a vision appears before my eyes
It is one of peace and tranquility
As I listen to the wave kiss the shore I realize it
A symbol of life and I'm just a soul waiting to die
We are born into life with nothing
And the only way to build is up.
When we find happiness we grasp it
With selfishness thinking we can
Achieve but in reality as we can
Seek down how to reach
Higher we burn out and disappear
Yet in my last hour of darkness While fear takes over my body
And even stronger power is left behind
And that is happiness: something fear can only dwell upon

.-To Be-

Maeve C. Kellum

Should I try,
To associate my self with the popular crew?
Just to be accepted,
Eat and Sleep, Love and Hate
the things that they do
and try not to be rejected
Must I wear many false faces
and use colloquial terms
Just to be accepted
or clone myself, in their appearance
change my shirt, change my pants
.....change my inner-derm?
and try not to be rejected
Here I am,
the Forlorn Hope
and I will not,
attempt to quench my thirst
Above all
for me to be accepted, I must accept ME first

Stranger I Know

Matthew Murphy

Darkened by nightfall
With only stars to produce shadows
Whispers no longer heard
And no longer felt
You are the stranger that I know
But only for that fraction in time.
We glance up and down as
We come together
But not at the vision of life.
Climax hits
Finally our visions of
Life piece at one another
It's a loss for all
As our strides take us
To where we go
And soon I'll forget
The stranger that I know

I Wonder

Ashlyn Dennis

I wonder why the grass is green,
and why the wind is never seen.
Who taught the birds to build a nest,
and taught the trees to take a rest.
Or when the moon isn't quite round.
Where can the missing but be found?
Who paints the rainbow in the sky
and who hangs the fluffy clouds so high.
Do you suppose that someone would tell me if they knew?

HOW WOULD LIVE BE WITHOUT YOU?

Yvesn Ully Dorfeuille

Snow falling with no
destination
Would be my life without you.
A bird without liberty would be
My life without you.
When you touch me I tremble like a baby
When you hold me I become the woman you
Have been waiting for.
Even if I did not know you
I would search for a man just like you
If I did not know you.
I would be happy, but true happiness
That I feel now I owe to you.
Take my hand, for my life is yours
Yours until the last hours
Take my hand, for infinity
And I'll assure you of my love
If I did not know you
I would call out for you through the wind.
If I did not know you
I would wait for you through all seasons through it all.
BASKIN ROBBINS LOVER
by Lynn Tinkel
She's twice divorced, mere twenty seven
This gal's mind set is shot
Julia examines her wreckage
Observes - no white nurse's cap
To crown those auburn tresses
Another suitor looming upon horizon
Of her life
Shock waves - Julia removes grays
Pulls out stack of candidate business cards
Hungry paper shredder consumes them
This suitor's flavor is Rocky Road
Pensive Julia opts for The Baskin Robin's approach
Preferring her gents in twenty eight flavors.

BROTHE...
Joseph N. Smith
Editor-in-Chief

In a match that featured the number and number
ber two women players in tennis, Steffi Graf and
Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario showed just why they
were considered the best in the world.

Before the finals, though, it was the upset
artist of the tournament; Mary Pierce of France
who had the crowd going. She won her first match
against the popular Gabriela Sabatini, and contin­
ued her hot streak by eliminating perennial favorite
Martina Navratilova before finally loosing to the
number two seed, Aranax Sanchez-Vicario.

The first game of the championship began
with Steffi Graf serving, and at love -30 she double­
faulted. After winning the next two points, she hit
a backhand slice up the line that drew an error from
Sanchez. Like she was in no mood to play five sets .
She broke Sanchez three times to go up 5-0. Sanchez managed
to hold serve, once saving herself from being
banged as Graf won the final set with a booming
serve and deep crosscourt shot off a short Sanchez
return .

It lead to head meetings between the two.
Steffi leads 20-5, and with the win she earned
$250,000 dollars that propelled her career earnings
to over thirteen million dollars. She has also earned
more prize money this year than any other player,
man or woman.

The Good Girls

Recently, I went to the Penn Relays held on
April 21-24, 1993. The Penn Relays, for those of
you who don’t know, is a track and field meet of
relays only. Every year the Penn Relays is held at
the Penn State University Athletic field, and every
year the best elementary, jr.high, high school, and
college athletes from all over the United States and
even the world compete in this four day event.

The number one girls track team in the
nation was there, but because their application was
put in late they were disqualified and could not
compete. It is a pity, because these four beautiful,
intelligent, African American sisters
were selected to the All American Team, Ayanna
Reece (junior, 16 years old) runs the 400m hurdles
in the impressive time of 63.2 seconds and the 400m
in 58.0; Tamika Grizzle (sophomore 15 years old)
runs the 400m in 56.0 and the 800 in 2:12; Melonie
Barrow (sophomore 14 years old) runs the 200m in
26.14 (the fastest time in the nation by freshman)
and the 400m in $9.0; Kanika Williams (sophomore
14 years old) runs the 200m in 27.3 and the 400m
in 60.61.

Under the guidance of the one-time track & field
athlete, Dr. James Phelps, these girls are taking the
track scene by storm. They have won every
highschool track meet any team could win. Some of
their victories include: Borough, City, State and
National Champions for indoors and outdoors, and a
recent first place record-breaking victory in the
Millrose games at Madison Square Garden this
year. These young women all attend George Wash­
ington, a highschool where Blacks make up only
9% of the population. Hispanics make up 90% and
Asians make up 1%. Even with their incredible
ability, because of their African heritage and the
fact that the majority of Blacks in the school is un­
low, these girls get absolutely no respect. Not from
the teachers, students, other teams in the school, not
even from the principal . Throughout the whole
season, Dr. Phelps has paid for everything out of his
own pocket. The school did not give him one red
cent to help out with expenses. From the uniforms,
sneakers, spikes, tights, hotel rooms for when they
went out of state, food, equipment and many others.
The girls track team is the best team the school has
had in years, yet they are considering cutting the
team because they don’t have the money. They claim
they don’t have the money, yet they had the money to
start a brand new girls softball team with brand new
equipment and uniforms. Might I add, not one girl
on the softball team is Black and they only won two
games last season. Still, they are going to be around
next year and the year after that. Also, they have a
football team that only won 4 games in the last 3
years. The boys' track team has not won a major
track & field meet since John F. Kennedy was
president, but the school has enough money to pay
for them to go to the Penn Relays while there is not
even enough to pay for the girls track team, which is ten
times better. They have enough to pay for the boys’
transportation but not for the girls’. Might I add that the
boys’ track coach is white and the girls track coach is
Black. Dr. Phelps is the first and only Black head coach,
in George Washington High School history, he is also
the most successful one. I asked these girls,
"Why run for a school that does not even want you?"
Their response made me proud. "We don’t run for
this school, we run for ourselves." A final note: It has been said that Blacks are only good
in sports and dumb in school. Whoever said that is the
dumb one. All four of these average B and better
students will definitely be going to college when they
graduate from high school.

The case of the 4 GWHS track stars is in my mind one of blatant racism and sexism. Those who disagree with this
discrimination can voice their opinion to the GWHS
Principals at 549 Audubon Avenue New York, NY 10040.
The New York City Marathon

Andres Espinosa from Mexico won the New York City Marathon, in a time of 2:10:04 (Photo by Fred Farias)

Fred Farias
Photo Editor

The New York City Marathon is the foremost marathon in the world. Winning the New York City Marathon is a monumental feat, after all, many of the great ones, like Greta Weitz, Jomoh Ecanga, Alberto Salazar, and Ibrahim Hussein have all won here. So on Sunday, November 14, 1993 the sporting world focused its attention on New York City.

After a little more than two hours, Andres Espinosa of Mexico, crossed the finish line ahead of the pack clocking a time of 2:11:04, winning his first New York Marathon and placing himself among a special elite group of past winners. The second place runner was an American, Bob Kempainen who finished 1 minute behind the winner in a time of 2:11:03. The women's winner was Uta Pippig from Germany, in a time of 2:26:24. There is no special category for handicapped runners, however the first handicapped person to finish the Marathon was Piotr Purzycky from Poland, a time of 4:42:43.

The Road Runners Club has sponsored this event for the past 24 years. This year they decided to push the Marathon back a week so the warm weather would not be a factor in the race. However, even with the Marathon pushed back, Mother Nature would not cooperate. The weather was unusually warm during the race which caused many runners to become dehydrated. Two runners who finished the race needed medical attention from volunteers, in the post race area, for severe dehydration. The runners were treated and then taken by helicopter to a nearby hospital.

There were thousands of volunteers lining the Marathon route handing out water and cheering on the runners. This year, unlike others in the past, volunteers handed out recyclable cups. The runners would use the recyclable cups and then dispose of them in special receptacles next to the water stations. The volunteers are a special part of the Marathon who work behind the scenes. The Marathon would be hard to pull off without all the help given by volunteers.

If you would like to participate in future marathons you should call The New York Road Runners Club Volunteers Office. You will be sent an application so you can participate as a volunteer in future New York City Marathons. The telephone number is (212) 423-2223. Come out and join the runners, and help them in their quest.

New York City is one of the biggest cities in the world, you live in it so be a part of the city, and get involved in what goes on. The New York City Marathon is a good place to start. Don't be a voyeur; take part in what New York City has to offer.

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