LaGuardia to expand facilities

CUTAWAY OF WHAT THE C Building will look like in the future. A new atrium will be installed, as well as three escalators. The whole building will be home to many more departments, including English and Humanities. The E Building will be the exclusive home to Mathematics and natural science departments.

For more, turn to page 2.

Tutoring labs missing students’ outreach

BY ISARAEL MORENO

Are there enough tutors at LaGuardia? It depends on which tutoring lab you go to and the number of people attending the lab.

The current coordinator of the Mathematics Lab, Dr. Doumbia Ladji, said about 3300 students a week go into the lab for help during a 12 week session. That is a staggering number considering that during the past Fall I session the lab operated with only 10 tutors and this Spring II session the number was reduced to 6. Additionally, these tutors work at different hour intervals that often reduce help to where there can only be three to just one tutor available. What is needed, as the former coordinator of the lab Dr. Rudi Meangerg simply states, “It’s funding, it’s the money; there is no difficulty in hiring people to work here.”

This is further confirmed by Ladji who said, “Sometimes we have to cut their time (tutors), because we can’t pay them.” The school’s administration funds the lab according to the demand that it gets listed via students’ signatures. The listed demand has afforded the Math Lab its current number of tutors and has caused the wane of its service. Frequently tutors work with students for a few minutes and then they must turn their attention to other waiting students creating a taxing and challenging working environment.

CONTINUED ON P. 3

LaGuardia’s Study Hall left unsung

BY ANDRE MAFFIOLETI

LaGuardia’s Study Hall, located in room M159B, has been irregularly open throughout the Spring semester, and has been little visited regardless of cheerful advertisement, brand new computers and, as of last month, new furniture.

The Hall is located in the end of small passageway, not easily spotted but even more rarely searched for. According to results of a survey conducted by this reporter, in which the students were asked about their use of the Hall.

CONTINUED ON P. 4
LaGuardia to expand, buy new building

BY ALEKSANDR SIDOROV

LaGuardia is facing a crisis: a population crisis and the problem is growing. To address the issue, LaGuardia will grow.

The college currently resides in four separate buildings - E, M, C and L, which makes up the issue, LaGuardia will grow.

The L Building, which is leased, M, C and L, which makes up the issue, LaGuardia will grow. To address the problem is growing. To address the issue, LaGuardia will grow.

The college currently resides in four separate buildings - E, M, C and L, which makes up the issue, LaGuardia will grow. To address the issue, LaGuardia will grow.

It is projected that the college will need at least an additional 420,000 square feet. The L Building, which is leased, does not have enough space to expand. In fact, the Middle College High School residing in the building has considered to move to another location, if LaGuardia doesn't find more room.

As a result, LaGuardia requested and was granted $55 Million that was promised by State legislature to buy a building would be bought, the library will be relocated there and will be larger than it currently is. The new library is planned to be community-friendly and have a street entrance, which would enable the library to be open when the campus is not. In place of the library, math and science facilities could be placed, which would follow LaGuardia's plans to have the E-Building as a math and science building. Student Life has also expressed interest in that building.

The library itself was finished in early 90s and was designed for only 4,000 students. However, LaGuardia's population has tripled since then and that's not counting the 28,000 students who are non-credit. The result: unsatisfied, frustrated students waiting on long lines. LaGuardia is also planning to move its bookstore to the fifth and sixth floors. With the college renovating the building, Gluck will most likely move to another location, while LICBDC will probably stay and help develop businesses in Long Island City.

C Building renovation plans call for at least three pairs of elevators to be built in three sections - first to third floors, third to fifth and fifth to ninth. Three more elevators will be built by converting them from cargo to passenger. That's in addition to the current elevators, which will be overhauled. As with most of the projects that are currently under way, it will take a long time to complete. The addition and the overhaul of the elevators will take about three years to complete. The entire fourth floor will open its doors in 2007. Once it is complete, that will be occupied by Accounting and Managerial Studies (AMS) and the Social Sciences department.

The floor house six classrooms, including a lab. LaGuardia will open the remaining C Building floors facility by floor. English department will be moved to the fifth and sixth floors and the Humanities department will be moved to the seventh floor. Most of the building is undergoing construction and cleaning. The C Building has the most classroom space near the core of the building, which also allows for more space.

Long Island City is undergoing unprecedented growth, due to its proximity to Midtown. As a result, prices in Long Island City have skyrocketed. Across from the C Building, a luxury loft complex is being built, while a hotel is under construction across from LaGuardia's LaGuardia's LaGuardia's LaGuardia's E Building. So the sooner LaGuardia acts, the better.

CONTINUED ON P. 3
LaGuardia's Study Hall left unsung

STUDY HALL AS IT LOOKED in Spring 2006.
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

majority of the students interviewed, many of them with more than two semesters at LaGuardia, were not even aware there was a Study Hall anywhere in the campus.

Information acquired from the SGA relates that the Hall has been closed in the month of July and most of August due to staff vacations and more recently this past week due to a lack of interns to operate the Hall and the addition of new furniture. Luis Merchant, SGA's adviser, depicts the Hall as "a work in progress." Mr. Merchant, when reached for inquiry, gave a quick "hit-and-run" interview, in which he explained that the Study Hall, open for about two years, still does not have a consistent staff, and its role at LaGuardia is still undefined.

Among other assertions, Mr. Merchant said that the intention is to transform the Hall into a student-occupied workshop and lecture Hall, primarily run by interns and aided by a hired security staff, and under supervision of the SGA. Mr. Merchant's plans also include actively involving Phi Theta Kappa in the student program for the Hall and a budget proposal for advertising.

When asked if he considered the Hall a successful endeavor, Mr. Merchant again denoted it "a work in progress." Although many plans have been made within its two years of existence, few concrete steps have been taken.

The Hall remained closed for most of the spring semester, and no security has been hired; advertising remains on hold, and the Hall still borrows staff from the SGA. The operation hours remain undefined, and popularity is low: the official log of the Hall showed less than 20 users from May to early June, a period of final examinations, when a Study Hall would have been of great use. As of now, there's an estimate of ten thousand dollars or more, amid brand new computers and furniture left unused behind the locked steel door of the Hall.

However, Mr. Merchant is optimistic. He expects the fall semester and early 2007 to be a defining moment that will solidify the Hall's role as a student-college alliance and strengthen LaGuardia's commitment to the physical and intellectual well being of its undergraduates, providing an accessible, resourceful space where they will be able to attend lectures and workshops, carry out research, or simply unwind after a weary day of classes.

Recently, a phone line between the Hall and the SGA offices was installed, which allows Alan Scribner, SGA's current secretary, to multitask in between keeping the Hall open and taking care of SGA affairs. Its one more step towards the completion of the Study Hall agenda. But until then, it shall continue to be addressed as "a work in progress."

LaGuardia to expand
CONTINUED FROM P. 2

However, one thing remains up in the air: the money. The College's plan is only in its preliminary stages and has not received the money yet. The plan to buy a building will take some time - the C Building alone will take another few years to renovate.

LaGuardia is looking to get rid of the I Building when the lease expires in another two to three years and the administration is not sure if they will renew the contract. "If the money isn't received, the L Building will probably be kept," Elliot said.

President Gal Mellow said that it would be a shame if the New York State Legislature would not approve the budget for LaGuardia, because the administration has been working really hard to get the expansion that LaGuardia really needs. However, she added it's unlikely that LaGuardia won't get the money.

It is also unknown which building LaGuardia will buy. Mr. Elliot said the College is looking in the neighborhood, but did not specify exactly where.

Elliot also said that Center 4, which is where the two parking lots are located, to the west of the C Building, will be demolished and an athletic field will be built. Since the area is on an incline, it permits for a multi-story parking lot to be built underneath, the field.

But LaGuardia has no plans of merging the athletic facilities in the M Building and the athletic field, although both will be open to the public.

That is good news to LaGuardia and may yet bring another thing LaGuardia needs: a sports team.
Tutoring labs don’t meet students’ needs

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

worked at the lab for ten years feels the stress of his job that doesn’t have enough staff to meet the needs of students. The students, in turn, visit the lab less because of long wait times. Pictured, a tutor is helping a student.

MATHEMATICS TUTORING LAB IS ONE OF a few tutoring labs that doesn’t have enough staff to meet the needs of students. The students, in turn, visit the lab less because of long wait times. Pictured, a tutor is helping a student.

THE ENGLISH WRITING CENTER has received a mixed reaction from students. While it is well-staffed, with 16 to 18 tutors during Spring II, some students say more needs to be done.

Improve on their writing skills. But, in contrast with the math lab, the Writing Center on Spring session II had 16 to 18 tutors per day, and on each day around 90 to 120 students go there. The Center’s resources provide tutors to see 3 or fewer students per session. Eisenstadt’s response on whether there were enough tutors was, “We would like to have tutors to see each student individually. Although, that’s financially impossible, the administration has done their best to support us.”

The evidence of that support prompted Ladji to check on what the Writing Center does differently to get it. He points out the information sheet that students need to fill to get tutoring and how the students’ teachers can know who went there for assistance. Ladji says, “Here it’s very difficult to get every student who comes here to sign their name. I have asked for them to wear their student IDs, nobody wants to wear them. I see the need for it because the lab is one of the best in CUNY and even students from other schools come here for help.”

With the limited number of tutors and the Fall semester approaching, Ladji says “We want to organize and plan things but we don’t have the people to work with. Students need to be supported, a lot of them work, and they come here for help. We want our students to be happy with us.”

Telecoms to limit internet access

BY KEN JOBE
COMPUTER CLUB PRESIDENT

The great civilizations of the world have generally been considered as belonging to certain technological stages of evolution or ages. The Stone Age, the Iron Age, the Industrial Age for example, should sound familiar to those that have taken a world history class. It has often been the case, that the individuals and societies that have developed their technical expertise with their particular age’s resource were able to grow wealthy, powerful and influential. Whereas those that did not do the same were simply left out, marginalized, and exploited.

The world has now entered the 21st century and is in the midst of the Information Age. The “digital divide” is the term used to describe the lack of access to information technology some communities are experiencing, a divide that will become even wider if certain legislation is passed in the US Senate.

One of the founding principles of the internet and the web is the guarantee of equal access to the information they both provided. The vast majority of people who have their own radio/cd shows not the means to distribute it to millions of people throughout the globe. However, the website of a stay-at-home mom is not treated any less than the site of a multinational corporation. The internet could change the Communications Opportunity and Promotions and Enhancements Act (COPE) is voted into law by the US Senate.

Verizon, AT&T and other telecoms would then have the power to decide what users can and cannot access. The telecoms would be able to limit user’s access to certain sites. They would also be able to block access to websites completely and/or demand extra fees for access.

This would effectively destroy the principles upon which the internet and the web were based on. It would be Verizon, not the user, that will determine whether MySpace or e-Harmony is accessible for meeting interesting people. It would be AT&T that would control whether or not the user can play online games such as City of Heroes. It would be the telecoms that choose if and what users can watch on YouTube.

This would be a major disaster for internet entrepreneurs that have e-commerce businesses. This COPE Act already has passed in the House of Representatives. It will be voted on in the Senate once they return from summer vacation. Those that want a free and fair internet need to make their voices heard. Contact your senators today and let telecom reps like Verizon know where you stand.

What does the Student Government do?

BY Student GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Student Government Association (SGA) is the access to execute, or perform, student necessities in the most beneficial manner. LaGuardia Community College is one of the most diverse colleges in the world which is reflected in its title, “The World’s Community College.” Due to the importance of our college as part of such an enormous community, we have the opportunity to help, guide, and lead our surrounding students in a responsible, decent and dignified manner.

By believing in this truth, the Student Government Association has taken their offices, commencing July 2006. One of our Student Government’s first and foremost duties is to represent and to act as the voice of the student body before administration, faculty, student organizations and the general college community. Another duty is to ensure student welfare.

One other important aspect of the Student Government is to maintain academic freedom and students’ rights. How far we may enlarge and extend our student activities is also one responsibility. These are just a few of our responsibilities.

As a government elected by majority voice, our job is to defend students in all their concerns, needs, and benefits. The SGA, with the power of the Student Government Constitution, will work under the rules and regulations for the benefits and full support of the student body. Keeping in mind, we are the Student Government’s Association of LaGuardia Community College, intent to work with students, clubs and organizations, faculty and administration to make this college fertile and universal.

This article was brought to you by the Computer Club. If your club wants to write, contact us: bridgenewspaper@gmail.com

The Bridge asked students the same question. Turn to page 12 for their answers!
New SGA elected

BY BLANCA CHAVARRIA
AND WALTER TWAChW

Being a college student, there are just some things that are a necessity. For example, a library that is well run, being able to have access to a computer when you are in need of one, a place to study if the library itself is too crowded, counselors to help you during times where you're confused on what to do regarding dropping or adding classes and graduation courses, and of course financial aid is a definite must. If you want to participate in school activities such as a club, you look forward to gathering together with a well-liked supervisor and other students who share the same interest. That's what the Student Government Association (SGA) of LaGuardia Community College are trying to get accomplished.

The truth is, there are times where students see that LaGuardia is not all there. Students on self-created boards such as Students United, LaGuardian Intercessors, and Voices Of Students got together on April 26 to discuss issues that truly need more attention. Student Life facilitated the event at the Poolside Cafe.

One of the things that were mentioned often is that these boards cannot do everything on their own. They will do the best that they can in regards to making certain issues heard and resolved, but that they need the students to get involved as well.

Students United stated that some of the things they want to address in the school are issues regarding students having problems with finding a computer to work on, places to study incase the library is too crowded, and clubs being underrepresented, which I've seen personally take its toll. With the issue of clubs being underrepresented, Thelma Fernandes of Students United stated, "If you're not seen, you're not known," which makes sense. It's true LaGuardia holds club fairs, but there are students who want to start clubs after the club fair is done, and most of the time, they don't survive long enough to get certified. To help this not happen any longer, Virginia Ramirez, who is also from Students United, stated, "We will help clubs promote, and coordinate better. What could also help is if we have more events to advertise."

There are students at LaGuardia that have at one point experienced issues with tuition. The state has been talking about hiking up the tuition, along with how many credits a CUNY student should need to be considered a full-time student. The state wants to increase the amount of credits from 12 to 15.

One student on the board suggested that they can do it, "Get in touch with as many CUNY advisors as possible and bring them the demands from not just LaGuardia, but from other CUNY schools as well." There are some that don't want to focus on the tuition hikes but more on why it's happening and where the extra money is going.

Ahmed Adil of the LaGuardian Intercessors stated, "What most students including myself would want to know in regards to paying more tuition is, with the extra money, are we getting something to better the school or is the extra cash going into someone's pocket? I think students have a right to know if the money that is paying for their education is being put to good use."

Another issue that can use attention is when students feel they received a grade that they do not deserve, which in turn can manipulate their grade point average. In the event that you should fall victim to this unfortunate circumstance, speak to your professor and ask why you received a grade that was possibly undeserved.

One student on the board suggested, "The professor should look at the student's history and then, along with the professor, come to a resolution."

Out with the old in with the new

THE OLD SGA PACKED their bags and left on June 30. From left: Kutub Thakur, Vice President, Yihan "Michelle" Leng, secretary, Justin Pastor, Judicial Review, Aleksandra Martinovic, Treasurer, David Reyes, Political Focus, Alexandra Pyak, President. Alexandra Pyak became the president after James Rivera (left corner) quit for an unknown reason.

THE NEW SGA CAME in with 11 new people, who were elected in May. SGA changes its staff every year, with terms starting in July and ending in June of the next year. SGA's office manager and mentors stay from year to year. This year, only David Reyes was reelected, but to another position.

From left to right: (Foreground) Hossain Shifuddin (Academic Affairs), David Reyes, (Foreign Affairs), Abu Jbarin Alam (Treasurer), Virginia Ramirez (Program & Events), Seung-Hee Joo (Public Relations), Ashis Kumar Gupta (President), Ivan Ortega (Secretary), Ying Lin (Political Focus), Luis Merchant (Mentor), Background left to right: Md. H. Khan (Vice President), Nadim Hussain (Judicial Review), Ahmed Adil (Club & Ethnic Affairs), Malik "D-Block" Bestman (Informational Services), Allen Scribner (Office Manager). Neither Mr. Scribner's or Mr. Merchant's positions are elected by students.

Elections were held May 8th to May 11th. The official list of the candidate positions broke into three categories, Student Government, College Senate, and Student/Faculty Review Board and carried 60 names for 39 unique positions, but only 33 unique individuals. So the challenge is to see if each candidate gets at least one position and to see if there were any write-in votes to help share the responsibilities.

To run for a position, the candidates must first meet minimum grade point requirements, attend the review board, and sign a declaration of candidacy, no later than March 27 (as was the case this year), to serve in an elected position. The incentives in this election were ice cream bars. Judging from the few ice cream bars that were left, the elections were a success.

Irene Sosa, Student Life Coordinator, confirmed that the elections had the highest turnout ever. However, as it often happens, everyone who ran for College Senate, won, which showed that not enough students actually got into the election process.
Immigrants rise up against stricter immigration laws. Marches were held in New York, Illinois, California, and numerous other states in an attempt to support the pro-immigration movement. Activists and American citizens, human rights political leaders, and criminal classification and stricter immigration laws, have in effect this year in support of undocumented immigrants in the United States running from deportation, criminal classification and stricter immigration laws. Latin American immigrants are the fastest growing minority group in the United States. As a result, their participation in the American economy has made immigration reform an endless battle.

The protest sparked after reform to an already existing law, HR4437 were made. (Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control). According to the United States House of Representatives HR4437 was passed on last year on Dec. 16 by a vote of 239 to 182. Government officials claim the reforms were forced in order to impose national security. Federal legislation will impose stricter policies on undocumented immigrants. In addition, anyone involved in the aid of illegal immigrants will be penalized with fines and criminal charges. Illegal aliens who cross the border illegally will be classified as felons.

"These immigration protests are good and I think a lot of people are involved. I also heard there was going to be a sweep that would deport many people and that’s pretty scary,” said Mauricio Quintero.

Many who support illegal immigrants are legal residents and family members of undocumented aliens. They fear the rampant of mass deportation would separate families.

Numerous families seek help from borders who have appealed with congress in attempt to legalize the status of illegal immigrants already present in the United States.

Undocumented immigrants look forward to a law which will change their illegal status to legal. In order for this to occur, a senate bill supporting amnesty provisions must be in affect. Additionally, illegal immigrants are not waiting for positive minimal changes in their status. A clear example was the May 1 national boycott. One million protestors nationwide chanted, "si se puede", meaning, "Yes we can." The boycott was referred to as, "A day without immigrants." People where encouraged not to purchase anything, skip school and work in an attempt to support amnesty reformations and fight against strict immigration reforms. The boycott was a demonstration to show the effects immigrants have on the American economy and how much the United States depend on immigrant labor.

According to Immigration.com, Senate votes to pass S.2611, the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2006. By a vote of 62-36, the measure passed the Senate and now goes to senate for further process. S.2611 include the elimination of backlogs, relief for miners, foreign students, and H1Visa Ugenta Reform. However, S.2611 is still a Senate Bill. A bill is also known as a legislative proposal before Congress. The process includes a passing of the bill through the House and Senate and then is signed by the president in order to become a law.

The breakdown of the senate is 90% Democrats supporting and 59% of Republicans opposing. This bill was introduced this year on April 17 and passes for stricter border security but also offers many choices and opportunities for undocumented immigrants living in the United States.

Circle K sponsors March of Dimes

BY LILIANNE SHAW

LaGuardia’s student club, Circle K, is committed to providing acts of service within the community. Circle K is the collegiate level of the renowned international fellowship of The Kiwanis Club. It’s prime mission being to specifically benefit children and youth.

Over the fall semester of 2006, it organized the St. John’s Book Drive with Phi Theta Kappa, which has with the full support of students, staff and faculty was wildly successful. This spring it endeavored to participate in some more hands on events.

On April 30, a group comprising of both present and past members undertook the March of Dimes, a fundraising walk to benefit and support research and programs for premature born babies. According to WalkAmerica, prematurity is considered a growing crisis that now affects half a million babies in the U.S. every year. Some of those babies die, (while) others face lifelong disability.

It was a beautiful morning and the energy of being with so many other like-minded people was truly inspiring! Thousands of people congregated at New York’s Lincoln Center, armed with precaution tall cups of coffee. There were groups of representatives from schools, corporations, hospitals, churches, Police and Fire Departments, as well as families and individuals.

Every part of society was awake and present. Walking through Central Park and down Lexington Avenue was quite a magnificent sight, especially in being so infrequent that the city streets are closed off to traffic.

Perhaps the most memorable occasion that this event provided for this writer was during the collection of sponsorship. I got to meet and talk with a great diversity of people both at school and the neighborhood surrounding LaGuardia. Everyone individual and collective generosity just astounded me! In fact, when one man pulled out a crisp twenty dollar bill I tried to insist that he take one of the little “励志” stickers that I had as a token of his gesture but he surprised me when he said, “Generosity is giving because you care, not because you want recognition.”

Well I was stumped, and of course he refused the sticker. So perhaps it is in the experiences of meeting and talking with strangers others that we somehow grow our own humility in this ever challenging, ever cynical world that we live in.

If you wish to learn more about Circle K and their current activities, please feel free to contact the Club President, Elizabeth Rodriguez at: elizabethardiazgomez@yahoo.com.

Lillianne Shaw is a freshman at LaGuardia and Circle K Club Editor.
We Will Never Forget

BY JONATHAN GRAYNOR

Five years have passed since one of the worst tragedies in our nation's history occurred. We all remember where we were when we heard, or we were in the line of fire. Enough time has passed to view the events of 9/11. Many of us may have read my previous article on the war in Iraq and discovered that I am a Republican. But for such a terrible tragedy all political agendas will have to be put aside so we can solemnly remember 9/11 and all of the innocent victims and brave heroes who risked and/or lost their lives five years ago.

For many people, what may occur most in their minds when they think about 9/11 is the crashing of the buildings, the filling of the buildings, and so on and so forth. But as well as the aforementioned events of 9/11, the unity seen among fellow citizens of this world, especially in the nation, should have also left an impression in our minds. Our differences were a thing of the past, and we all grieved as one.

Artificial Embryo Twining: Steps from the Genetic Science Center

In nature, twins occur just after fertilization of an egg cell by a sperm cell. In rare cases, when one twin dies, the other might explain why new ties are not united.

Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer

Somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT) uses a different approach than artificial embryo twinning, but it produces the same result: an exact clone, or genetic copy, of an adult female sheep. Dolly, the sheep, was the first mammal to be cloned from a somatic cell.

SCNT involves the transfer of an egg cell from an adult female sheep. The egg cell's nucleus is removed and replaced with the nucleus from the somatic cell. The resulting synthetic egg cell is then implanted into an surrogate mother, where they are carried to term and delivered. The lamb, Dolly, was an exact genetic replica of the adult female sheep that donated the somatic cell nuclei to the egg. She was the first-ever mammal to be cloned from an adult somatic cell.

How does SCNT differ from the natural way of making an embryo?

The fertilization of an egg by a sperm and the SCNT-cloning method both result in the same thing: a dividing ball of cells, called an embryo. So what exactly is the difference between these methods?

An embryo is composed of cells that contain two complete sets of chromosomes. The difference between fertilization and SCNT lies in where those two sets originated.

In fertilization, the sperm and egg both contain one set of chromosomes. When the sperm and egg join, the resulting zygote ends up with two sets - one from the father (sperm) and one from the mother (egg).

During SCNT, the egg cell's single set of chromosomes is removed. It is replaced by the nucleus from a somatic cell, which already contains two complete sets of chromosomes. Therefore, in the resulting embryo, both sets of chromosomes come from the somatic cell.

Clone America

BY BETTY BENITEZ

Vietnam has agreed to a trade pact with the United States. This may surface as a future membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO).

It is possible for Vietnam and The United States to forget the past and reconcile? After endless battles between both countries lasting twenty years, both countries are transforming war into relations.

Recently in downtown Hanoi, (Hanoi) the first U.S fast food site was constructed. Streets were filled with advertising banners, which defined a more modern American influence for traditional Vietnamese society.

The chain of American fast food industry is soon to grow; however, it is hard to assume American and Vietnamese ties can be united.

One can only ask what happened to history, pain, loss, and memories of the Vietnam War?

The reasoning behind American companies in Vietnam can only make sense because the population born after 1975 have no recollection of the war. This might explain why new ties are being formed.

The new generation tries their best not to dwell in the past. Similarly American veterans find they visiting Vietnam while also talking to former enemies, such as the Viet Cong (VC).
Global warming: it's getting hot in here

BY TIFFANY SPRINGER

Global warming: it's been a pretty hot topic lately, and I mean this literally as well as figuratively speaking. You roll your eyes, "What's your point?" Before I go any further let me explain exactly what it is.

Global warming is defined as "an increase in the average temperature of the earth's atmosphere, especially as sustained increase sufficient enough to cause climatic change." Think of that film "The Day After Tomorrow" (2004).

According to the U.S. EPA, "Energy from the sun drives the earth's weather and climate. Atmospheric gases (water vapor, carbon dioxide and other gases) trap some of the energy from the sun creating a natural "greenhouse house effect." A greenhouse is the big glass shelter where you keep plants.

The EPA states, "This plays a big role in how everything is the way it is today, without this system the weather could be much colder. Its keeping the earth at an average temperature of 68°F." And that "problems arise when the greenhouse effect enhanced by human-generated emissions of greenhouse gases."

As a scientist put simply it in it's HBO documentary called "Too Hot Not to Handle," "When you add punk into the atmosphere, blocking some of the energy exchange between the Earth and space, it traps heat near the Earth's surface."

For us fellow New Yorkers signs of global warming would be heat waves and periods of unusually warm weather, as illustrated on climatechange.org. In April, The New York Times mentioned that "this past March, 206 acres of Staten Island park and beaches were lost to flames... global warming is bringing drier weather and increased winds in the Northeast." They explain that in such incidents "high winds can superheat already dry grass... preserving the landscape." The result? "the smallest brush fire... a city-devouring inferno."

Sounds like the Apocalypse! But as mankind, we can take little steps that can make a difference. Even if you still don't buy into the global warming equals mass destruction theories our media has focused on lately, at least you could be doing something good for the environment.

1. Unplug all household appliances not in use for a long period of time like: the TV, video/DVD player, microwave, coffee maker, computer, etc. Clicking off doesn't really mean it's off.
2. Stop smoking! Cigarettes contain chemicals that could be found in household/drafters or bombs, oh cetera (but that's a whole other article). There's enough air pollution, and you'll save a lot of money--you do the math.
3. Carpool or take public transportation. Not a bad idea, since gas prices have been increasing like a mother, pardon the language.

That's just a few things. For more, check out stopglobalwarming.org and click "take action," or google "preventing global warming."

TROPICAL STORM CHRIS NEAR PUERTO RICO on Aug. 2. It is predicted that a hurricane will make it to New York waters, due to unusually high ocean temperatures.

Shuttle Update

BY ALEKSANDR SIDOROV

The shuttle is back and apparently better. After a 12-day mission of the Discovery (STS-121), NASA plans to launch the space shuttle Atlantis in early September. NASA rejoiced the mission a success and announced it will start building the $100 Billion International Space Station (ISS), starting with the next launch, which will be in late August. The crew will add a new module, Columbus, to be added. Columbus was built by the European Space Agency and transported from Florida to Germany in June.

NASA says there will be one more launch in December after the August launch, which will add up to three launches during 2006.

Afica: Islamist militias and warlords continue fighting

BY BETTY BENITEZ

Somali capital, Mogadishu looked like a war zone, as thousands of Somalis flee their homes. Warlords and Islamist militias battle for control, causing bloodshed, which killed 120 people.

Battles between groups were sparked by warlords' alliance accusing Islamist militias of shooting at the civilian population to incite fear.

However, the Somali people accuse the United States of forming an alliance with warlords, making the situation worse and never ending. The belief in American alliance has driven violent attacks throughout the Mogadishu area. There are no signs of agreements between groups, thus causing numerous deaths amongst civilians, killed by crowds.

Bolivia: Resources belong to the state - explains Evo Morales

BY BETTY BENITEZ

President of Bolivia Evo Morales has ordered soldiers to protect natural resources, such as gas fields against foreign companies. He threatened to evict all foreign companies if they do not hand over their entire chain of production to Bolivia's control.

President Morales who is the first indigenous president gives six months for all foreign companies to leave Bolivia Companies such as Exxon Mobil Corp, Britain's B.P.

Brazil's Petroleum Brasileiro and Spanish Argentina Repsol will have to hand over full control to the state.

According to the associated press Morales expressed his thoughts on foreign corporations in a speech from San Alberto petroleum field in southern Bolivia. "The time has come, the awarded day a historic day in which Bolivia retakes absolute control of our natural resources. "The looting by the foreign companies has ended."

President Evo Morales.

This is the most number of space shuttle launches NASA since 2002, when it launched five space shuttles.

After the Columbia disaster, Russian Soyuz space capsules sent astronauts and crewmen to the International Space Station, while Russian Progress ships. But in this tim, this too, will change. ESA is planning its Automated Transfer Vehicle (ATV) to become active sometime next year. With Kliper, Soyuz's replacement ship canceled, ATV and NASA's new Crew Exploration Vehicle (CEV) seem the only options to replace the shuttle, which will be retired in 2010.

At the time of printing, it wasn't clear if NASA would launch the shuttle exactly on that date, but did delay it due to the tropical storm Enrro. NASA started preparations to roll the shuttle into the Vehicle Assembly Building.

The Americas: Colombia eases regulations on abortion

BY BETTY BENITEZ

Anti-abortion laws were a moral strength practiced in Colombia. Colombia's president, Alvaro Uribe is a roman catholic leader, which classifies abortion as an immoral act.

However, Colombia's constitutional courts have partially agreed to legalize abortion. Certain rules apply towards the abortion processes. Regulations: only entail rape, mother's health issues, and incest to be legal reasons to abort. Some say this is a start to women rights in Colombia.

Nevertheless Latin American is the predominant religion, which is why decisions on abortion are based on morality and not public health. According to BBC News, It is estimated about 400,000 clandestine abortions are carried out in Colombia each year.

El Salvador and Chile are the only Latin American countries that banned abortion. No excuses, no exceptions.
Middle East crisis: when will it end?

BY ALEKSANDR Sidorov

You can hear it everywhere: the Middle East crisis is heating up. There is a lot of attention being drawn to the conflict partly because that's where World War III might begin.

This conflict might evolve into something more painful and more concerning than World War III, but it might be too late to stop the conflict from getting out of control.

Let's consider one of the solutions to this conflict, and maybe the most obvious one, is to give Palestinians what they want: remove the Jewish population from Israel and have that nation cease to exist. Urban life in New York City is very prestigious but due to the city's elaborate lifestyles the population is very condensed. The outer boulevards of the city are new areas, which are desirable amongst the wealthy population. However, this causes major pressure on rents and entire prices of low-income communities. Gentrification causes earlier residents who are usually poorer to be displaced by high-income residents.

Gentrification in New York City and its outer boroughs have been affecting the working class tremendously. Landlords, the real estate, and banks all play a role in gentrification. Urban neighborhoods are the primary targets for new developments because they have seen profit. As a New York resident, I ask myself: what happens when wealthier people in urban districts displace the populations who cannot afford the pressure of higher expenses?

The many issues, which come along with gentrification are: displacement, racism, demographic, urban landscapes, cultural, economic stratification, Section 8 and the law. Let me just break down gentrification:

Displacement: Displacement is when the color composition changes over time. The process of displacement occurs to the low-income and working class residents who cannot afford high rent taxes. As the rent and housing prices reach unaffordable levels to people with lower incomes, people with lower incomes can no longer move into the neighborhood. Displacement can also occur when a specific group is pushed out of the community. A neighborhood of a particular ethnic culture can be completely destroyed.

Racial and economic stratification: The process of gentrification has developed conflicts of racial and economic stratification. One factor in the process is in which pre-dominantly white wealthy newcomers move into poorer neighborhoods of minority populations. Newcomers are then responsible for reducing violence, improving the way of living, and increasing the neighborhoods infrastructure, and economic value.

This theory can only imply that minorities bring about new class communities contribute to the negative affect of a neighborhood and in order for that neighborhood to improve newcomers are needed. Another factor of racism is how ethnic minorities and wealthy residents, which are pre-dominantly white, do not wish to exist together.

Demographic: The increase of income amongst different ethnic groups will change by residents of high-income. Also, wealthy families will replace the reduction of household size; young single couples will substitute decline of racial minorities, and low-income families.

Land use: Community booster (dil), supermarkets, clothing shops, and restaurants will change accordingly in order to cater to the new populations. Family business will be substituted for more desirable and funer shopping businesses. Declines will also be witnessed industriously. Lofts, condos, and skyscrapers will replace housing units.

Section 8 contracts: A Section 8 contract is a voucher given to provide public housing aid to low-income families. These contracts are given under the Housing Unit Development (HUD). Under Section 8 tenants pay a certain amount of rent in relation to their income and the HUD makes up the difference of the remaining rent rate. Tenants lease must be renewed every two years through the process of reapplying and apartment inspections. However, due to great instances some landlords are refusing to renew Section 8 Contracts. Landlords argue that housing aid prevents profit growth, which can be obtained by wealthier residents willing to pay higher rents.

Real Estate Markets: Real estate gain through gentrification because property values will become higher and more desirable for wealthier residents and newcomers. Real estate will increase along with rising rents becoming more desirable (condos), and luxury housing. The success of real estate will contribute to landlords renovating buildings and apartments, making them attractive to essentially raise rent. As rent rise landlords realize the benefits of attracting high-income tenants. Real estate becomes more profitable and community values rise.

Culture: Different ethnic minority groups define the community's established culture, however this would also change through the standard of living. For example, the social structure of a gentrified neighborhood will be noticed in the public (citizen will be different), the character of the areas (music, language, behavior, urban-traditions, and landscapes). The landscape of a Hispanic community is very strong and traditional. The community character is made by merengue and salsa music (Caribbean music), diffused with the more urban sound of hip-hop. The English language is mostly spoken by theawn; nevertheless Spanish is the dominant language.

The deflation of this opinion piece is that the effects of gentrification are complex. Many people do not oppose the process of gentrification and argue that it is positive. The reduction in crime, booming economy, and new investments for infrastructure are all reasons as a driving force for gentrification. But, what good is the notion of gentrification if populations, which are already established inhabitants, become marginalized economically and socially?

Significance:

As an anthropologist and journalist I think it is important to show empirical research on the social structure of urban society. The living conditions of modern day has inflicted emotions and physical pressure on the lives of society. Gentrification is one of many issues contributing to the growing economic gap between the rich and the poor.

This opinion piece is very valuable to me because I am part of the working-class community. Secondly, I live in the Long Island City. However by gentrifying communities, destroying Section 8 contracts, and raising rent it seems impossible to survive. New York does not only benefit from the high real estate residents but also from the taxes and labor of the working class. Thus, the notion that wealthier residents better the economical structure is a double standard.

There is another solution to this problem. If we achieve a lasting peace in the Middle East (without using weapons), that just might be one of humanities greatest achievements.
Do you know what the job of the Student Government Association is?

"To meet the needs of the student body."
- Marissa

"No, I have no idea"
- Alexandra

"To help organizations organize things... [Or] something like that."
- Samrah

"No. I am not that informed"
- Randy

BY CHRISTINA RAMLAL
Do you remember where you were and what you were doing on September 11, 2001?

"I was in Hong Kong at the time it happened."
- Matt
Chinese

"I was in my country and I was shocked!"
- Anna
Polish

"I was actually in Georgia in high school when I heard about it on the news. I called my parents to make sure they were alright."
- Chuck
American

"I remember I was in my high school library studying for a test with a bunch of friends and I got a call from my sister who was at Baruch College and she told me what has transpired."
- Jenny
American

"I was in training at John Jay. They let us go and I walked across the bridge and came to work here, at LaGuardia."
- Sgt. Gleason

"I was in the military service."
- Doyoung
South Korean

BY CAROLINE ALARCON
THE WICKER MAN
Who made it: Neil LaBute
Who's in it: Nicholas Cage, Ellen Burstyn
What's it about: Sheriff investigating a young girl's disappearance discovers a neo-pagan community, complete with ritual sacrifices and freaky sexual practices.
Is it Worth it?: I'm not a big fan of remakes, especially when the original was done really well. It's one thing to go back and visit the characters and story through new eyes, another to think you need to do it again. I admit I feel Li is at his best when he works with historical material instead of pseudo-urban grunge like what I mentioned and some others he did here in the U.S., which still make me love this film. And there are the fight scenes, which are always the main reason to watch a martial arts film, especially when done by Jet Li.

THE GUARDIAN
Who made it: Andrew Davis
Who's in it: Kevin Costner, Ashton Kutcher
What's it about: Troubled young Coast Guard recruit meets troubled old Coast Guard instructor. Includes male bonding and obligatory life-changing decisions.
Is it Worth it?: It's got the cast: there's a lot of good people in this, more than I could list. If it doesn't get too preachy it can be a nice break from the blockbusters and slasher films, if you need one.

JACKASS NUMBER TWO
Who made it: Jeff Tremaine
Who's in it: Johnny Knoxville
What's it about: Johnny Knoxville and said idiots hurt themselves and each other. Again.
Is it Worth it?: Only if seeing other people in pain brings a little joy into your bleak, miserable life.

JET LI'S FEARLESS
Who made it: Yuen Wo Ping
Who's in it: Jet Li
What's it about: Huo Yuanjia was one of the greatest Chinese martial artists of the 20th century, overcoming personal tragedy and ruthless competition to be recognized as a true champion. Based on true events.
Is it Worth it?: This is Jet Li's last martial arts film, and he teams up with the director from "Unleashed" again for this. I admit I feel Li is at his best when he works with historical material instead of pseudo-urban grunge like what I mentioned and some others he did here in the U.S., which still make me love this film. And there are the fight scenes, which are always the main reason to watch a martial arts film, especially when done by Jet Li.

THE GRUDGE 2
Who made it: Takashi Shimizu
Who's in it: Sarah Michelle Gellar, Jennifer Beals, that creepy freakin' little kid who grows
What's it about: The sister of Gellar's character, attempts to unlock the mystery of the 'rage force' that haunts a group of people before it kills them.
Is it Worth it?: I find the original Japanese version creepier, even if I do have to pay attention to the subtitles. It's about the atmosphere that was originally created. You can't always duplicate that. I dunno; you decide.

MAN OF THE YEAR
Who made it: Barry Levinson
Who's in it: Robin Williams, Christopher Walken, Lewis Black
What's it about: Late-night talk show host runs for president as a goof and wins. What now?
Is it Worth it?: I think so. The whole idea of the people voting for someone solely because they like him better than any of the qualified candidates is funny, if understandable (the Electoral College would disappoint America once again). What's going to be even funnier are the mistakes he'll make in office, and how they'll be covered up or corrected. Plus, Christopher Walken AND Lewis Black on top of Robin Williams? This I've gotta see.

THE PRESTIGE
Who made it: Christopher Nolan
Who's in it: Hugh Jackman, Christian Bale, Michael Caine, Andy Serkis
What's it about: Wolverine fights Batman, while Alfred gives Smeegel a bath. Not really (I wish).
Actually, it's about two rival magicians in turn-of-the-century England who will stop at nothing, even murder, to bring off the greatest trick of all. But what if "The Prestige" isn't really a trick?
Is it Worth it?: Maybe. These things have a tendency to either be good or bad. I was kind of iffy on "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen", but that was more because they butchered Moore's characters than the production values. (See, the story was from a great comic book by Alan Moore that got turned into a

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CONTINUED FROM P. 10

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Nov. 22nd

DECK THE HALLS

Who made it: John Whittles

What's it About?: From the first film goes to Oxford, bringing his knowledge of-partying to the stack-up Wesleyan student body.

Is it Worth it?: Did they really need to make it a 'Van Wilder' movie. If they really going to have Wilder in it? Penn is funny on his own. Seems like the producers were scared no one would know or care. Anyway, it's an overseas college romp flick, so you pretty much know what to expect.

Dec. 8th

APOCALYPTO

Who made it: Crazy McBison

Who's in it: Nobody you'd know.

What's it About?: At the end of the Mayan empire, a young human sacrifice has his fate instead of following tradition.

Is it Worth it?: I'll hunch: I'm pretty sure this thing would have tanked on its own merits anyway before Mel's meltdown, due to the obscure material and likely limited release. It's a period piece, from a period so far removed from anything the average moviegoer knows even a little about that you'll be sitting there going hug?!

Plus, its historical accuracy has already been questioned a few times in the media which, unlike 'The Passion' can't be forgiven because of the religious heavey. And unlike in 'The Passion', the subtitles just come off as pretentious. Personally, I'd rather see the street tape from LA.

THE HOLIDAY

Who made it: Nancy Meyers

What's it About?: Two women in-between relationships - one from England, one from the U.S. - trade homes during the holidays and fall in love with local men.

Is it Worth it?: What I saw was sort of funny, sort of sappy. The English woman coming to L.A. was farer than Kate Winslet in England, in my opinion. Definitely a date movie.

Dec. 21st

DREAMGIRLS

Who made it: Bill Condon

Who's in it: Beyoncé Knowles, Jamie Foxx, Eddie Murphy

What's it About?: Based on the hit Broadway show, three Chicago girls calling themselves the Dreamettes rise to the top of the business, with a lot of good and bad times on the way. The best parts revolve around the girls, how they change, who leaves, and where they end up. Lots of great songs too, many you'll think were done elsewhere first but weren't - this is where they came from. Why do you think 'And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going' is so popular at the Apollo?

Is it Worth it?: 'Chicago' was a hit on screen, 'Rent' bombed. I guess we're due for another winner, and at least this one was adapted from a truly great show in the first place (I'm not Posse bashing here, girls).

STAFF PICKS

Invincible, Jerry Bruckheimer's Man of the Year, Happy Feet and Dreamgirls. The rest you take your chances with.
C-grade ideas, B-budget movies, A-1 entertainment

BY ANDRE MAFFIOLETTI

Horrible experiments are being commissioned from an office in Manhattan. Such experiments span the globe and meddle with stem cell technologies, genetic research, and biological weaponry, to name a few subjects. The results have been disastrous in several cases, resulting in irreversible environmental damage, natural disasters, and a death toll ranging in the hundreds. One of the last incidents, entitled Mansuro, claimed the lives of several G.I.s in Iraq.

Still, every Saturday night more and more viewers flock together to witness the newest Sci-Fi Pictures original installment. Initiated in 2002, the franchise fills a prime time slot on the Sci-Fi Channel. Its audience continues to increase ever since its first airing, and it amounts to a growing slice of subculture fandom, which has found its B-movies a low-budget, Roger Corman-based haven.

The devious concept is the spawn of three renegade members of the ... scheduled and unscripted department at Sci-Fi, Ray Cannella, along with Thomas Vaglio and Chris Regnini, fed up with the incompetence of independent filmmakers and the overabundant attempts they were forced to purchase as fillers to the channel's daily schedule.

Determined to dirty their hands in the clandestine world of creature-flicks and Schlock-Fi movies, Cannella and his cohorts in the New York Sci-Fi offices, they dreamt-up some simple concepts to govern the flicks they intended to roll-out, one of which was a sci-fi president Bonnie Haimer to host the bill – whether she was drugged or not have never been clarified – and with the goon tight, their subversive little scheme was put into practice. The result: Puny and unadulterated cosmic-creature-catastrophe fun!

The Sci-Fi pictures originals became quickly a fan favorite; mainly horror and sci-fi oriented, they appealed to freedom with classic elements from 50's and 60's monster movies, adding fast-paced action, twisted humor and incorporating mainstream themes and issues. Mansuro nods at the war in Iraq; Manversus talks about medical experiments with humans; Hurricanebags taps into stem cell research.

The Sci-Fi originals appeal to a very distinct but loyal group. They're mindless fun to weary people who just want to lay down on the couch and relax after a dragging week, put their brains on the back burner. One doesn't have to watch the show to enjoy it, then we can mention Derek Hough as a dedicated member of the fandom, which has found in its sci-fi franchise a star show at the Hayden Planetarium.

Cosmic Collision takes you through our universe in a journey that talks about our universe being born through collisions, which occur in space, and the whole complex is huge, so wear comfortable clothing. If you compare price-quality of the show, it doesn't really hold up to the standards. You might as well watch a special on the Discovery or National Geographic Channel.

Cosmic Collision is now playing at the Hayden Planetarium, which is located at the American Museum of Natural History at 79 Central Park West. To get there, take the B or C train to E 79th Street or B,D,F trains to W 79th Street. The museum is open daily 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Showtimes happen every 30 minutes between 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Homosexuality in and out of the Locker Room

BY ALEKSANDR SIDOROV

In today's society, we live amongst people of different nationalities and religions. In competition, there are also battles between people of different backgrounds. Hakem Olaussen and Patrick Ewing, from Larry Bird versus Magic Johnson, along with Joe Montana in the Super Bowl, and John Elway versus the Cleveland Browns defense in the final 2 minutes of a playoff game. If you want to get racially charged about it, then we can mention Derek Jeter. But in any aspect you get the drift.

However, there are instances where the genre is transcended and put on the back burner. One example of this case was the announcement of a NSYNC band member coming out of the closet. Yeah, it's not a matter to be brought up in a sports article, but it shows something that transcends the boundaries of sports and entertainment and it gets me the perfect platform to bring up an unfair treatment that is given to homosexuals and transgendered persons in sports. For example, in October 2005, WNBA All Star and future Hall of Famer, Sheryl Swoopes, came out of the closet, and admitted to the country that she was a lesbian.

This was met with much fanfare and adoration. But if this same announcement was made by a quarterback in the NFL, he would be exiled from the game. He would never be able to play in the league again. Because of his sexual orientation (Matthew Shepard?), the number of male athletes that have come out of the closet while they were playing remains at one, with Glenn Robinson, who died in 1996 of AIDS. This is because of the potential to be blacklisted by the league and teammates. Discrimination in the locker rooms is a big part of this contradiction between prejudices, because it is only seen in a jockey riding the gay guy and then they refuse to ride with him, then in a training camp, the back pack gets a little too tight, or the bin on the field are a little too hard on the knees. Punishment like that usually takes a toll on the player's psyche and their effectiveness in the game, forcing them to retire early.

I believe that it is time for our country to grow up and get rid of this silly act of discrimination against someone who is of a different sexual orientation than you. It is time for the nation to be open minded like the women that participate in different sporting events.

We, as a nation, need to adjust with the times and put this behind us. If we don't, we run the risk of our country reverting to its pre-civil rights days, when people of a darker complexion couldn't get a break in this country. Only this time, the people of homogeneous alliance are the ones that are discriminated against. Then we are forced to sit and listen to a city or a public official lie to us about how much our country has changed. But really, have we?
Fallen sports icons

BY ALEXANDER IRISH

In sports, we cheer for our heroes and the one that we pick to carry the torch once those guys are gone. Emmitt Smith for Walter Payton, Roger Clemens for the Nolan Ryan, and that list could continue forever in major American sports, dating back to that sports inception in the American landscape. But for every Good and Able body success that Sports gives us, there are the ones that the sport has chewed up and spit out, like yesterday’s trash gone bad two weeks ago. Now makes the perfect time to talk about the fallen sports figures that were at one time or another the most talked about for the great things they did for their sport. I will name the top 5 in the 3 main American sports, Major League Baseball, the National Football League, and the National Basketball Association.

MLB:
1. Joe Camel: At one time, he was baseball's best bat. But now, he is a hired rat for Congress. He also wrote a book in which he named some of the most elite steroid users.
2. Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa: Both shared the MVP award in 1998, after their "impressive" season of hitting 70 and 66 home runs, respectively. Now they have seemingly disappeared from the face of the earth with the grand jury testimonies. Sosa saying that he didn't understand the language of English very well, despite enjoying a 17 yr. Major League career, and being among a fan and reporter favorite in the city of Chicago. While McGwire said that he would not incriminate himself or any other former teammates that he played with in his career.
3. Dwight Gooden and Darryl Strawberry: Both were seen as future Hall of Famers, until drug use wrecked their careers and turned them into shells of themselves.

NFL
5. O.J. Simpson: Famous for being one of the best running backs in NFL history, and being the only suspect in the famous murder trial, which showed how divided our country really was.
4. Bo Jackson: Heisman trophy winner, whose career never really took off, due to a hip injury that never healed properly.
3. Maurice Clarett: Former Ohio State star running back, whose life has quickly spiraled out of control, leading to multiple arrests and a recent exam that questions his mental health.
2. Brian Bosworth: A Over-hyped super bum. Bosworth's greatest play is the one in which he is steam rolled by a healthy Brian Jordan in the remake of "The Longest Yard" getting steam rolled by 70 yr. Burt Reynolds.
1. The Atlanta Falcons: In the 1991 NFL Draft, they drafted a young man named Brett Favre. He would later become one of the best players in NFL history, after the Falcons traded him away for virtually nothing to the Green Bay Packers. It took them another 10 years to find another quarterback with Game Breaking abilities, Michael Vick.

NBA
5. Kwame Brown: Um...there isn't anything worthy I can say about this guy. He's a 6'11 guy that can't play in the NBA. Maybe he should have gone to college and learned a skill.
4. Grant Hill: A former all star and simple, they are the worst team in the league.
3. The New York Knicks: Plain and simple, they are the worst team in the league.
2. Len Bias: The link between Larry Bird and the current Boston Celtic franchise player Paul Pierce was found dead in his dorm room in 1986, after he overdosed on cocaine. He was the first player to receive the "Next Michael Jordan" label. Bias is a sad example of the effects of drugs on the human body.
1. The Portland Trailblazers: In 1984, they drafted a young man named Sam Bowie. The next pick was a young man named Michael Jordan. After that, a young "Round Mound of Rebound" Charles Barkley was drafted. Do I have to say anymore?

The Strokes or Love

BY ALEXANDER IRISH

This is my casting call
Last night is my opening act
The Strokes or Love, don't make me choose.
I might lose, what a feeling
What an imagination.
Hesitation, mixed with contemplation
Equals a feeling of envy in this mixed up nation.
I'll try anything once, but my heart is in a cage.
Born 1985, you left me bloodlessly
Patient on the stage.
If I were you in the summer, I would have asked you out
Without a doubt. These feeling inside would have come out.
But make me choose, The Strokes or love, not exactly.
Not me but perhaps, I actually had a chance with Ashley,
Who... my angel that pats my car on weekends.
And runs this electric cityscape
with our lives as gases.
Ask me anything; in 15 minutes,
you, my fear of sleep leaves me killing lies.
Now off topic, I find you easy to talk with.
But the cup of soma makes me
To be in this position
I'm trying my luck.

Somewhere, New York City cops
Will tell you the difference between love and hate.
But on the flipside, my ex was at my hip side, like a cell phone.
I call you not a lot, but sometimes, when I'm in the mood.
I should have asked you out on 5-25-05.
I would have, without a doubt, still be there.
Instead of from a far, now I know.
I will never know you, or howl you.

The agony takes over, I feel helpless and cry.
This world ever misses me, if I decide
to die?
It's a Dog World with British accents

BY ANDRE MAFFIOLETTI

Forget everything you know about werewolves. Never mind the silver bullets, the full-moon howls, the eerie countryside, and whatever. You're not going to need it. Everything you know about Dog Soldiers, Neil Marshall's directorial debut, is what's supposed to scare you up front. It's a clever, slyly frightening horror movie, and you'll be thinking about it for weeks after you see it.

The cast is led by a superb Kevin McKidd (of Transporting fame) as a bloodthirsty, werewolf-hunting mercenary, and Emma Cleasby as one of the best werewolf movies you'll ever see. The chemistry between the two is off the charts, and you'll find yourself thinking about them for days after the movie is over.

The story centers around a group of British soldiers who are sent to a Scottish wilderness to train for a special forces unit. During their training, they come across a pack of werewolves who have been hunting for decades, and they must fight to survive.

The special effects are top-notch, with realistic CGI and stunning visuals that will have you on the edge of your seat. The action is non-stop, with intense fight scenes and terrifying encounters with the werewolves.

Overall, Dog Soldiers is a horror movie that is both thrilling and thought-provoking. It's a must-see for anyone who loves a good horror film, and it's guaranteed to give you nightmares for weeks to come.

Night out on LIC

BY CAROLINE MARCON

1. Long Island City Water Taxi Beach

There's a very interesting and little-known attraction: it's just around the corner! It's the New York Water Taxi Beach, and it's located in Long Island City between Upper Avenue and 2nd Street. Approaching the beach, you will have a view of the entire Eastern side of Manhattan.

It's set up in a beautiful park where people go swimming and relax. If you're looking for a quiet spot, this is the place to be. The beach is open from 4 pm on weekdays and 12 pm on weekends, and it closes when business slows down around 2 pm.

2. PS 1 MoMA

Located in Long Island City, 22-25 Jackson Ave at 46th Ave

The PS.1 is indeed a school shaped building turned into a Museum of Contemporary Art. It has three floors filled with exquisite modern art. The museum hours are Thursday-Monday from 12 pm to 6 pm. Admission is optional, so go there today.

3. The Noguchi Museum

Located in Long Island City, 9-01 39th Road (Verrazano Blvd)

This place is for sculpture lovers! Works of Isamu Noguchi (1904-1988) are must-sees for any art lover. You may want to check out Marshall's new movie, The Descendants, opening in theaters August 4th.

Look out for our next issue coming October 16