

THE GOTHIC TIMES

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October 14, 2010

Moody's Husband Pleads Not Guilty to Charge of Helping Steal \$420,000 from NJCU

By Felix Alarcon

The husband of a former New Jersey City University employee has pleaded not guilty in federal court on accusations of helping his wife steal more than \$420,000 from the Student Government Organization.

Alexander Moody, 51, of Jersey City was charged with conspiracy, aiding, and abetting funds from NJCU's Student Government.

The arraignments were held separately because of a temporary restraining order against Moody that his wife had taken out.

Shaunette Ruffin-Moody, 48, of Jersey City, a former long-time university employee is charged with conspiracy and theft from an organization that receives federal benefits.

The charges allege that Moody used his wife's job at the SGO of-

fice, located in the Gilligan Student Union Building to steal \$424,880.97 of student fees that supported the organization's funds. Ruffin-Moody was the manager and bookkeeper for the SGO.

Three other Jersey City residents were charged in aiding the Moodys alleged heist that involved 219 checks written out to Arsenio Willy, 21; Curtis Shearer, 22; and Kimberly Jackson, 38 – using some forged checks. The three Jersey City residents are not students and don't have connections to the university.

The SGO's annual budget is \$600,000 and is largely funded from student fees. A portion of the SGO's budget goes to university athletics, student functions and events.

Moody's trial is scheduled for Nov. 9.



www.NJ.com

Alex Moody



www.NJ.com

Shaunette Ruffin-Moody



Photo by Nadya Alvarado

GSUB underground parking lot.

NJCU Students Face Parking Woes

By Nadya Alvarado

New Jersey City University students face parking issues concerning congestion, parking availability, and safety.

Students are complaining about the congestion and delays they experience due to the lack of parking spaces in our lots.

Despite NJCU's efforts on the West Side Campus project that would create more parking, students are still angry.

"The parking lots start to get packed around 4:30 pm and then really full at 7pm," said Alicia Byrne, 28, senior, Early childhood Education.

"It's horrible to find parking at that time. I had to circle for hours to get a parking space," said Byrne.

Public parking spaces that are metered don't ease congestion because students still

wait for the limited spaces in front of the campus on Kennedy Blvd. The side streets Culver and Audubon don't offer relief because they require residential permits and non-residents can face fines and boots on their wheels.

"First of all, you can't park in lot #3 because it gets full quickly, especially the time to wait for a space is ridiculous," Moatasem Basuoni, 25, junior, Education and Literature major.

"The school should really consider building or expanding the parking lots because it's affecting our arrival time to class. Besides being charged \$6 for those without the gothic card, we still roam the lots for hours," said Basuoni.

Aside from the lack of space in our 2 parking lots, students would like the

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Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrated at NJCU

By Nadya Alvarado

New Jersey City University is celebrating Hispanic Heritage month in October with various events lined up to educate the campus community about Hispanic culture.

"NJCU should definitely celebrate Hispanic heritage month because we are a Hispanic serving institution. Also, it informs and educates others of our cultures and beliefs," said Maria Gomez, sophomore, president of Federacion de Estudiantes Latino Americanos (FELA).

FELA and other clubs on campus, such as CHOICES and Council of Hispanic Affairs (CHA), are working on supporting Hispanic heritage month by bringing the NJCU community together.

"To those who do not know that we celebrate Hispanic heritage month, I welcome them to join FELA and take part in a whole academic year of celebrations of our culture in order for them to learn something new," said Gomez.

During the months of October and November, NJCU will observe Hispanic Heritage Month with four entertaining and educa-



www.buzztab.com

tional events.

The exhibition "Is Dora the Explorer an Illegal Immigrant?" will be taking place in the Michael Gilligan Student Union Gallery, room 102, starting October 13.

"It's a staple event at NJCU that we started," said Hugo Morales, Director of the Marketing Depart-

"What students get from being involved in our events is the opportunity of coming together, regardless of their nationality or cultures and enjoying the folkloric dances, the traditional food, and overall just having a good time as they learn something new."

—Hugo Morales

Director of Marketing Department, NJCU

ment.

This topic will focus on informing students better on the topic of immigration and its laws.

The learning continues on October 20th when the Woman's health department, SGO, and FELA team up to demonstrate NJCU students the effects of Domestic violence. The students will be wearing ripped clothes and will be having bloody faces throughout the day. The program aims to inform the campus community about Latinas suffering from domestic violence.

To show the NJCU community that Hispanic heritage is not only celebrated in one month, FELA is continuing their events until November.

On November 1st, the Day of

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NEWS

NJCU Student Interns at the Guggenheim

By Rabiah Bhatti

Laura Krapacher, 25, NJCU photography major, has been selected as an intern at the Guggenheim Museum in New York as an art handler.

Krapacher was raised in Wharton, New Jersey. “It was a like small town, blue collar town, most people don’t leave it,” Krapacher said.

She is of Argentinean and Peruvian descent. Krapacher’s parents, Luis and Charo Krapacher, have motivated her by moral support throughout her academic career.

“I thank my parents, especially my dad because he pushed me to be educated and my mother taught me not to go with the flow. My parents are both immigrants and from them I learned how to work really hard,” Krapacher said.

She began her college education at the County College of Morris and is now attending New Jersey City University as a senior. Previously while she attended the County College of Morris she worked for the newspaper’s Worcester Magazine and the Worcester Business Journal.

“I worked crappy jobs like Macy’s and every summer I fixed bicycles for the stores Marty’s Reliable Cycle, Toga Bikes, Diamond Cycle and Al’s Cycle Solution to help pay for my school. I did anything I could to not take out loans,” Krapacher said.



www.pices.eu

The Guggenheim Museum in New York City

While attending New Jersey City University she worked with Peruvian Art Specialist Dora Espinoza in New York as a freelance curator and Professor Yoshimoto Midori of the Art Department in the Harold B. Lemmerman Gallery located in Hepburn Hall room 323. Krapacher learned about her fondness for art handling by working with both Espinoza and Midori.

“I lost interest [in photojournalism] and became more interested in galleries. I use to hang shows

with Dora Espinoza everywhere. We did two shows at the United Nations and one in Washington,” said Krapacher.

While working in the Lemmerman Gallery, Krapacher said she filled out applications for every museum in New York City. It was not until the last week of the Spring 2010 semester that her application was accepted by the Guggenheim and started her internship May 2010.

“I feel like all the hard work I’ve

done has really paid off. I never imagined working for Guggenheim. I love being a part of a group that helps others enjoy art and makes art available to the general public,” said Krapacher.

Krapacher says that the Guggenheim has opened up a new world to her.

“I take the artwork work off the idles and unpack the new artwork and hang it up. There are a lot of safety measures, I lift crates that are a lot bigger than me and I

learned to follow the protocol to how a museum functions,” Krapacher said of her internship with Guggenheim.

The Guggenheim is a tough job that requires a lot of caution and attention but is a rewarding experience.

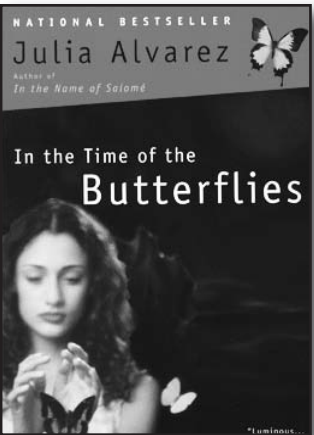
“A lot of stress is put on me at the Guggenheim. At NJCU I didn’t have to worry about trucks and crates. A lot of trust was put into me and there is no room for error. I felt like a part of a special group of people who get to work to hold these special works and are trusted with them. I also get to have an important piece of history in my hands,” Krapacher said, “The best part is that I don’t have to see the works of art in books. Every piece of art shows what a culture values at that point of time and I get to see and be a part of it firsthand. My second week working there I got a hold of a couple of Picasos.”

Krapacher said the art handling intern position requires her to come in when the Guggenheim needs her to work and the times they do not have work for her she has to look elsewhere for work.

“I’m down in the trenches. It’s not like a desk job. I like working with my hands and I like the people I work with because they show me how things are done and continue to be helpful. I love it. It’s like I won the lottery,” said Krapacher.

Must-Read Books During Hispanic Heritage Month

By Jose Ortiz



In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez

It is November 25, 1960, and three beautiful sisters have been found near their wrecked Jeep at the bottom of a 150-foot cliff on the north coast of the Dominican Republic. The official state newspaper reports their deaths as accidental. It does not mention that a fourth sister lives. Nor does it explain that the sisters were among the leading opponents of Gen. Rafael Leonidas Trujillo’s dictatorship. It doesn’t have to. Everybody knows of Las Mariposas—“The Butterflies.”

In this extraordinary novel, the voices of all four sisters—Minerva, Patria, Maria Teresa, and the survivor, Dedé—speak across the decades to tell their own stories, from hair ribbons and secret crushes to gunrunning and prison torture, and to describe the everyday horrors of life under Trujillo’s rule. Through the art and magic of Julia Alvarez’s imagination, the martyred Butterflies live again in this novel of courage and love, and the human cost of political oppression.

Mexican-White Boy by Matt de la Peña

Danny's tall and skinny. Even though he’s not built, his arms are long enough to give his pitch a power so fierce any college scout would sign him on the spot. Ninety-five mile per hour fastball, but the boy’s not even on a team. Every time he gets up on the mound he loses it. But at his private school they don’t expect much from him, Danny’s half Mexican. And growing up in San Diego means everyone else knows exactly who he is before they find out he can’t speak Spanish, and before they realize his mom has blond hair and blue eyes. And that’s why he’s spending the summer with his dad’s family. To find himself, he might just have to face the demons he refuses to see right in front of his face.



The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

On the tenth anniversary of its initial publication – the greatly admired and bestselling book about a young girl growing up in the Latino section of Chicago. Sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes deeply joyous, this novel depicts a new American landscape through its multiple characters.



One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel García Márquez

“One of the 20th century's enduring works, One Hundred Years of Solitude is a widely beloved and acclaimed novel known throughout the world, and the ultimate achievement in a Nobel Prize-winning career.

“The novel tells the story of the rise and fall of the mythical town of Macondo through the history of the Buendía family. It is a rich and brilliant chronicle of life and death, and “the tragicomedy of humankind. In the noble, ridiculous, beautiful, and tawdry story of the Buendía family, one sees all of humanity, just as in the history, myths, growth, and decay of Macondo, one sees all of Latin America.

“Love and lust, war and revolution, riches and poverty, youth and senility – the variety of life, the endlessness of death, the search for peace and truth -- these universal themes dominate the novel. Whether he is describing an affair of passion or the voracity of capitalism and the corruption of government, Gabriel García Márquez always writes with the simplicity, ease, and purity that are the mark of a master.

“Alternately reverential and comical, One Hundred Years of Solitude weaves the political, personal, and spiritual to bring a new consciousness to storytelling. Translated into dozens of languages, this stunning work is no less than an accounting of the history of the human race.”



Broken Paradise by Cecilia Samartin

“Cuba, 1956: Cousins Nora and Alicia are accustomed to living among Havana's privileged class — but their lavish dinners, days at the beach, and extravagant dances come to an end after Castro's rise to power. Food becomes scarce, religion is forbidden, and disease runs rampant. Although Alicia stays behind while Nora emigrates to the United States, both of their identities are challenged as they try to adapt to the changes forced upon them.

“As the situation in Cuba deteriorates, Alicia is beset by bad fortune, while Nora — whose heart is still in Cuba — painfully assimilates into middle-class U.S.



culture. Letters between the cousins track their lives until Alicia's situation becomes so difficult that Nora is forced to return and help. But what she finds in Cuba is like nothing she ever imagined.

“Told with wrenching insight into the tender balance between the hope and grief that shapes the immigrant heart, Broken Paradise is an extraordinarily powerful novel about passion, love, and the heart's yearning for home.”

Hispanic Heritage Month

Continued from page 1

the Dead is celebrated with a reception in GSUB, art gallery room 102.

“We have been doing this for so long. It’s celebrated throughout Latin America, but is embraced in Mexico a little bit more,” said Morales.

“It’s a fun event and at the same time it conveys a lot of history and customs that are normally not seen,” said Morales.

On November 19th, Puerto Rican discovery day will be organized to highlight the Puerto Rican culture.

“The event is usually some kind of historical substance as

well as entertainment,” said Morales.

“What students get from being involved in our events is the opportunity of coming together, regardless of their nationality or cultures and enjoying the folkloric dances, the traditional food, and overall just having a good time as they learn something new. One thing that we do offer is the opportunity of sharing time with administrators like Dr. Melendez, since most of our events are well attended by faculty and staff that constantly support us,” said Gomez

“Even though our budget has been cut, we plan to continue our program the same, but be humble with it,” said Morales.

NEWS

WORD ON CAMPUS:

Interviews & Photographs by Jose Ortiz and Jan Aguilos

What do you think of the Midterm Elections?

Monir Khilla, 22,
Political Science,
Jersey City

I hope that the Tea Party wins and that [the Republicans] take control and the House and the Senate. [I hope] to have a proper check in our government instead of Democrats just passing bills whenever they want. I think we should restore the country to its Constitutional foundation.



Marco Baus, 23,
Finance,
Union City

There's a downside for Democrats because, apparently, Republicans are going to take over. Any decision Obama would like to make won't be approved by the Republicans if they win. I don't like the sarcasm that the [campaign] advertisement that both parties have on TV.



Veronica Garcia, 22,
Criminal Justice,
Franklin Park, NJ

I haven't really heard about it.



David Gonzalez, 20,
Accounting,
Jersey City

If the Republicans are able to win most seats in the House or Senate, then Obama will have a hard time passing laws.



Dr. Fran Moran,
Associate Professor
of Political Science

I think the Democrats will hold on to the Senate and the House.



Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory, 21,
English and Biology,
Garfield, NJ

It's complicated because I'm independent."

Parking Woes

Continued from page 1

school to provide more security.

"We need more security at night, it gets really dark, especially down here in the parking lot," said Andrea Samms, 40, junior, nursing.

"This is my fourth week attending this school and I haven't seen any patrol cars," said Samms concerned.

Students have expressed valid concerns about safety since recent crimes have occurred near campus.

"We have two security patrol cars patrolling the premises, lots and buildings," said Alvin Agir, NJCU's Parking and Transportation Coordinator.

Members of the Department of Public Safety advised there are safety in numbers so, if possible, travel with a friend (buddy) to locations on and off campus during hours of darkness or rarely traveled walkways.

"I believe it is not right that on top of paying tuition, which is hard enough already, we pay every time we enter the parking lot I find there is no space to park. It creates more stress on the students," said Basuoni.

Date: Tues. Oct. 19/2010

Time: 10pm - 12pm

**Fashion Night**

**Where
GSUB
Multipurpose
Room**

Come and join us.

Show us how **creative**
you can be.

Don't be the **trend**
make the **trend**

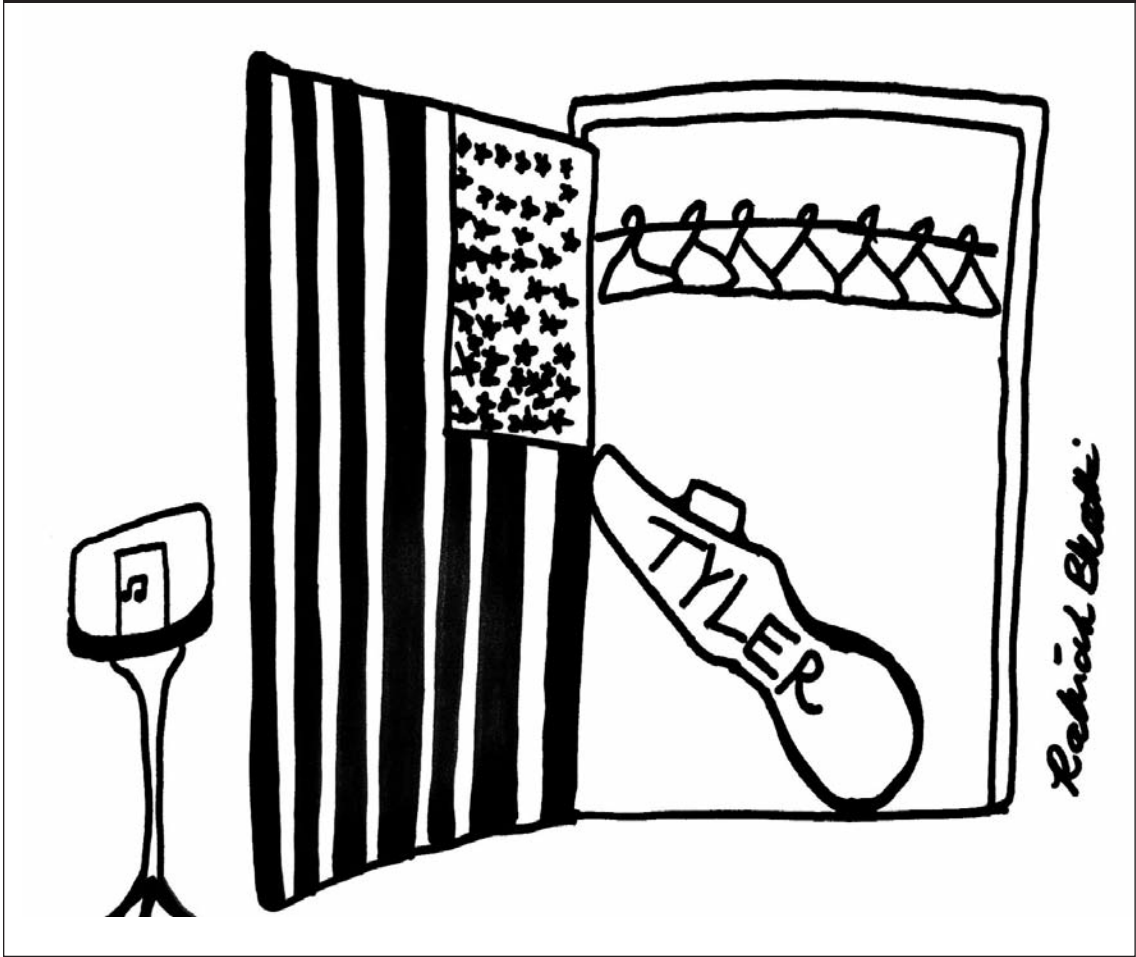
**Think Outside
of the
Box**

**WITH THE COLLABORATION
OF THE FASHION CLUB**



EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL CARTOON By Rabiah Bhatti



EDITORIAL

The Moments of Silence for Tyler Clementi

How many lives will be lost until it matters?

Tyler Clementi’s life came to a sudden halt after he was broadcasted having sex with another man in his dorm room by a secret webcam. A few days later he would leap off the George Washington Bridge.

Clementi was an 18-year-old freshman at Rutgers, a talented violinist with a promising life, and he was gay.

It was not the only the death that took place in September related to sexual orientation. Others from Indiana, California, and Rhode Island met the same fate, pushed over the edge.

Clementi was aggressively and cruelly outed on the internet for those to watch him as a spectacle. He was denied the basic respect that others are given. He was dehumanized on the internet – a place that goes beyond the dorm room, the Rutgers campus, and essentially leads to the world.

Rutgers President McCormick released a statement, which noted: "This tragedy and the events surrounding it have raised critical questions about the climate of our

“This tragedy and the events surrounding it have raised critical questions about the climate of our campuses.”

—Dr. Richard L. McCormick
President of Rutgers University

campuses." There aren’t enough things being done to prevent this tragedy from happening again and this extends much further than the climate of our campuses.

Institutional support is not strong enough on a national, local, and university level. There must exist a safe place that caters to the community – that encompasses all. There needs to be a place where other gay students can turn too. We can look at our own community, here at NJCU for places to turn and ask is there a place?

Denying the rights of gay people creates a climate of intolerance and hate. By doing this we are allowing inequality and reverting back to America’s hazy, embarrassing history of prejudice and

exploitation. If we’ve come so far, then why are we denying our fellow Americans the simple rights to wed or to serve in the military and fight for said rights that all of us enjoy?

Gay people deserve to be treated equally and have the rights that everyone else is entitled too. The outing of Clementi was not made in jest. Someone else decided to forcefully push him out of the closet. Legislation, religion, and our culture that denies the same rights to gay people are the ones that create the closet. They create an unsafe place, a confinement where gays must struggle to live two lives. Our society preaches about civility and decency, elevating us higher than the other oppressive regimes we wage war on but we’re no better if we target those that are different.

Clementi would have performed last weekend at Rutgers with the Rutgers Symphony Orchestra and his beautiful music emanating from his violin would’ve been heard. Now, all we can hear is silence and heartbreak. Candles will be lit and moments of silence will take place but let’s hope that this tragedy in the words of Clementi’s parents, “serve as a call for compassion, empathy and human dignity”. Let’s hope that he isn’t just another statistic for the growing rate of gay related suicide.

THE GOTHIC TIMES

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Letters to the Editor can also be sent to gothictimes@njcu.edu. All letters must be typed and include full name, age, major/occupation, class year, and hometown. A letter submission does not guarantee publication. *The Gothic Times* looks forward to hearing from you.

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This paper is printed on recycled content newspaper.

EDITORIAL

An attempt at transparency

During a meeting last month on September 3, 2010 in the Multipurpose room with an approximate capacity of 100, in the Gilligan Student Building at New Jersey City University, students and administrators gathered to address the theft of \$420,000 from the Student Government Association.

The meeting was held on a Friday for active NJCU students that are enrolled with a minimum of one credit. There was a checkpoint for student identifications and cameras or recording devices were not permitted within the walls of the meeting room. Despite the numerous e-mails and press releases concerning the theft, students hadn’t been notified via their student e-mail accounts about the meeting.

Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Melendez, who was responsible for setting up the forum and taking questions, stood at the podium and addressed a group of angry students, albeit a small group. Melendez had said that originally the meeting was for SGO members only but was expanded to include all students.

The SGO members sat near the podium with their sections cordoned off from the rest of the students. After Melendez addressed the students of the situation it was their turn to take to the microphone.

The consensus was anger from the students. Many had said that the administrators had not listened to their complaints concerning Mrs. Ruffin-Moody. Students

asked whether they could trust their administrators anymore.

A month has passed and it seems that the all too terrible dust of corruption and theft has settled. The university succeeded in controlling any P.R. damage from spiraling out of control and considering that the news broke a week before school began, many students are

Many had said that the administrators had not listened to their complaints concerning Mrs. Ruffin-Moody. Students asked whether they could trust their administrators anymore.

still unaware of one of the darkest moments in NJCU history.

The responsibility of accountability rests not only in the administration but in the students and SGO members. Cronyism is something that they must steer away from. It is simple to fall in that trap, despite certain positions offering tuition reimbursements which can create an interest of conflict. Their commitment and duty rests not in the hands of their employers but in the students – the same students that elected them to their positions.

New Jersey City University

“Tyler Clementi Candle Light Vigil”

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2010
6:00-7:00PM

The Guarini Library Front Steps, Main Plaza
2039 Kennedy Boulevard, Jersey City, NJ
(Rain Venue: Gilligan Student Union Building 1st fl)

Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi, 18, took his own life on 09/22 after a secret broadcast of his private life.

For further information contact the Office of Campus Life at (201) 200-3585 or email mcormick@njcu.edu

Flyer for NJCU candlelight vigil held in memory of Tyler Clementi.

METRO

NJCU student shot and killed

By Jan Aguilos

Jorge L. Cuadra, a 24-year-old English major at New Jersey City University, was shot during what was reported as a robbery by the Jersey Journal early September 4th. Cuadra died from his injuries on September 6th.

Two young men from Jersey City, Larry Austin, 18, and Salaam Desmond Reevey, 21, were charged with Cuadra's murder. The Jersey City Police Department and the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office did not offer details on the homicide.

The incident occurred at 1:45 a.m. on a Saturday after Cuadra left a Pine Street party, reportedly thrown by NJCU students, with friends Anibal Mesa and Salim Lakchiri.

Professor Christopher Wessman, full time faculty in the English Department, had taught Jorge L. Cuadra in a Creative Writing class.

"It was such a senseless thing," Wessman described Cuadra's murder. "It affects all of us [in the faculty] when something like this happens."

Wessman described his former student as "sweet" and "smart." He remembers the poetry that he would share with everyone in class.

Cuadra loved literature and writing. He also taught himself how to play guitar and even played in bands with his friends. "[NJCU is] missing a major tal-



Photo by Jorge L. Cuadra

A picture of Jorge L. Cuadra from his Facebook account.

ent at this school," Nastassja Torres, an Economics and Finance double major, attested. Torres also attended the same Creative Writing class taught by Christopher Wessman.

"Some people did it just to do it," Torres explained about writing in the class, "but everything he wrote, there was something to it."

Cuadra graduated from Dickinson High School in 2005. He worked in Liberty Science Center and had been attending NJCU until he decided to join the U.S. Navy. The Jersey Journal reported that he was set to leave for Basic Training on September 22.

"He just wanted to make a difference in the world," Steve

Gavrielatos, a senior and English literature major, explained about Cuadra's interest in the Navy. "That's also why he donated his organs. People were saved by his organs."

Gavrielatos, who played in a band with Cuadra, stressed his deceased friend's magnanimity.

"Jorge was the type of person who never saw the bad side in anyone," Gavrielatos added. "He always acted beneficently." Sean Hinkle, a 23-year-old NJCU 2010 graduate from Harrison, concurred.

"He was a jokester," Hinkle, who earned a bachelor's in Psychology, stated. "Whenever I was with him, I was either smiling or laughing."



Photo by Jan Aguilos

Doorstep of Hudson Pride Connections Center; Executive Director Nancy Caamaño (inset)

NJCU's Connection to Hudson Pride

By Jan Aguilos

Hudson Pride Connections Center operates as a non-profit organization based in Jersey City, headquartered in a late 19th century house at 32 Jones Street, a block away from the Journal Square Transportation Center. It has had ties to New Jersey University since the 1990s.

The organization was founded in 1993, formerly named as Jersey City Connections, to provide social services and outreach to those in the local LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) community afflicted by HIV and AIDS. Since then the 501 (c) (3) non-profit – which gets tax exemption – has expanded its mission to provide services and facilitate support groups for gay youth, transgender community, and those suffering from substance abuse.

Nancy Caamaño, a 2005 NJCU alumna with a degree in Business Management, serves as the current Executive Director.

"My job is to operate the center, manage all of our grants, supervise all of our staff and raise the money necessary to keep the center's doors open," Caamaño said via email.

Caamaño started her work at Hudson Pride Connections during college and volunteered for YouthConnect, a support group aimed at LGBT youth ages 13 to 19.

"During my time with the group I noticed that there was a disconnect between LGBT youth and LGBT adults in the community," said Caamaño, "So I did some research and designed an LGBT specific mentoring program for LGBT youth in the community."

Keith Little, 24, Psychology major at NJCU who isn't registered this semester, took part in the youth mentoring program when he first started going to Hudson Pride Connections at 19 years old.

Little described the organization as a "safe haven" for LGBT

youth. "That Center gives them the freedom to just be themselves," he added.

"In my time with HPC I realized that I loved the work," Caamaño affirmed. "A full-time position became available; I applied and decided to take it on."

Dr. David Blackmore of the English department taught Caamaño during her time at NJCU and recounted the beginning of her involvement with the Center.

"She was a Business major who didn't know what to do with her life. Then she took 'Lesbian and Gay Literature' and started volunteering over there [HPC] and realized she wanted to work in community service," Blackmore said.

Blackmore stressed that many NJCU students started interning at the Center through the help of the Cooperative Education Program in Vodka Hall.

"It's so hard for most NJCU students to find time to do volunteer work so at least if you're doing a Co-op you're getting credit out of your volunteer work. For a lot of people, that's one way to get involved."

For the current semester, Dr. Blackmore plans on taking his "Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies" to the Center for a visit and assessment on how it can best serve college age students. His class will also do a survey of NJCU students and inquire about what Hudson Pride should offer to attract more people from the campus.

Currently, the Hudson Pride Connections Center is going through reconstruction, with the Executive Director and Board of Directors deciding that the 19th century house needs to become environmentally-friendly. Dr. Allan De Fina, Dean of the Deborah Cannon Partridge Wolfe College of Education, serves on the Board of Directors and David Bimbi, NJCU alum with a Psychology degree, serves as the President of the Board.

Liberty State Park, an Urban Oasis

By Joseph Rivera

Ernest Albesene, 62, had been searching for a place to enjoy his hobby of flying kites. A friend of his informed him of such a place: "Liberty State Park."

Ever since then he has been flying on a field between "The Bridge of Nations" monument and a playground. With the 30 years experience he has of flying kites, Albesene noted the park as the best place to fly kites in New Jersey.

"All new, relatively new," Albesene said about the recently added playground to LSP. The main purpose of the playground was to make the park more family friendly. Since then, more families have been coming to the park, which is open between the times of 6 am to 10pm Mon- Fri.

Alongside him is his friend Barbara Albert, 58, another LSP supporter.

"I love the park!" she said with a smile. Albert has a special fondness for the Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal in Liberty State Park, which she calls "an old legacy to the park." The Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal was developed in the 1880s by the Central Railroad of New Jersey (CRRNJ) but closed down in 1967.

Another main attraction LSP features is Liberty Science Center (LSC). Families and students go there to gain information and study in the field of science. Ad-



Photos by Joseph Rivera

Liberty State Park on a Saturday in September.

ditionally, NJCU students volunteer and work there. After that many roads and paths are found across the vast open fields of fading green plant life.

Joggers and bikers keep a daily routine of coursing through all the paths in the park. Local patron Andy, 43, found LSP three months earlier on Google Maps. Since then he continues a weekly act of jogging around the park. "It's a big, big open space," Andy said. When asked

what his favorite part of the park was, he answered, "Its view of Manhattan."

While on the tidy waterfront, a visitor of the park can see behind The Statue of Liberty and Manhattan's World Trade Center – even Battery Park.

Liberty State Park's patrons remain loyal. As Barbara Albert said, "It first started as weeds and twigs and a dream." Dream fulfilled.

LIFESTYLE

New School Year, New Relationships: *The Do's and Don'ts for a Healthy Relationship*

By Ally

When the new school year begins we all have a lot in mind, especially new incoming freshmen. What will we wear? What will our professors be like? Will I have class with anyone I know? And especially the one question most newbie's think "I wonder how many hot girls/guys will be in my class?" Take a deep breath, ladies and gentleman, stay calm, everything you need to know to start and keep a healthy relationship is in your hands right now.

College is a gateway to freedom (for some) and these are the years when people begin to experiment. You want to have fun but keep in mind; relationships in high school are different than in college.

The Do's and Don'ts to a healthy relationship.

DO - Learn from your past mistakes! We all remember that one heartbreak that nearly killed us. Really think about what happened and what could have changed it. However, I am not at all encouraging to dwell in the past, if you know where your mistakes lead you, learn from them and do not repeat them.

DON'T - Talk about past relationships with your current love interest. They do not need to know about everything you have done in the past. You might not be jealous but if you know too much, you might think about it too much.

DO - Communicate! I cannot stress this enough! If you cannot communicate with each other the relationship is doomed. When arguing you should be able to talk things out even if it means leaving each other alone for a few hours or days to cool off.

DON'T - Follow the crowd. You might have friends who are getting married or having children, this doesn't mean you are being left behind. Keep a comfortable pace and never rush into a huge commitment when you know you are not ready. Rushing into bigger things can actually destroy a relationship.

DO - Have your own life. Don't forget about your hobbies, family and friends. School is usually first to take the back burner when someone special is clouding your mind. It is not fair to you to let this happen.

DON'T - Become co-dependent. No one wants to date someone who they feel must be baby-sat.

DO - Respect yourself. If things your significant other is doing make you feel uncom-

fortable, let them know. Jokes can cross the line of respect and they aren't jokes anymore if they hurt your feelings. If they care about you, they will listen and ease up.

DON'T - Become too aggressive. Play fighting is cute once in a while, but too much of it can become too real. Ladies, I am going to direct this especially to you. You may think

slapping your men across the face is dramatic or fun, but it's really disrespect perhaps gives men the leeway to putting their hands on you as well.

Men, learn your strength; a small poke can actually leave a bruise.

Domestic violence is never the answer and can leave more than scars, for more information you can go to <http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/family/fam-06.htm>. If you or someone you know is being abused, you can call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1800-799-SAFE (7233). They will help you and everything is confidential.

DO - Have fun. Lighten up! Remember, no one wants to be around someone moody. Go to different places, eat out someplace nice or for those in economical problems, stay in, rent movies, and enjoy quality time together.

DON'T - Play games. Ladies, I'm speaking to you, flirting with his friends won't catch his attention, it simply makes you look bad. The whole "I'm not going to call, she/he should call to apologize" rule is out. If you're wrong, you're wrong. Don't let some stupid rule that "society" has created get in the way of someone you may actually regret losing.

DO - Protect yourself. No matter how healthy or attractive they might look, "looks can be deceiving." If you are unsure of where you can get information about a healthy sex life you can go to the Health and Wellness Center, which is located in Vodra 107. Their hours are 8:30-4:30 Monday through Friday and their number is 201-200-3456. The Health and Wellness Center offers locations of free clinics and more information for a healthy sex life (oh, and FYI, they also provide condoms, so there should be no excuses!). The Health and Wellness Center also provides excellent counseling in either groups or one on one sessions with topics ranging from family, relationships and substance abuse.

DON'T - Ever give someone the benefit of the doubt when it comes to your health. PERIOD.



The Best of Two Worlds, a Diner and Pancake Factory at the Brownstone

By Danielle Miksza

Downtown Jersey City is full of cozy eateries such as the Brownstone Diner, which is located on the corner of Jersey Avenue and Grand Street. The diner is home to the tastiest pancakes and their "colossal" omelets that come stuffed with anything from three cheeses to turkey and jalapenos. Brownstone's famous pancakes earned it the nickname "The Pancake Factory." The diner has had customers come from all over the world such as Canada and the Netherlands to try their pancakes.

If you are not in the mood for breakfast you should try the tasty wraps or juicy burgers like the Mulberry burger that comes filled with fresh red peppers and melted mozzarella cheese. Brownstone's other specialty is the Moussaka. The Pancake Factory brings a taste of Greece right to Jersey City with this lasagna-like dish that contains eggplant and potatoes in place of pasta.

"Waiting for excellent food and service to ultimately achieve that satisfying feeling of fullness at the end of the meal? Sure!" said NJCU media arts major Adrienne Pamintuan when asked if the food is worth waiting for on line.

Phenomenal food is not the only reason people flock to the Brownstone Diner it is also because of the restaurant's warm atmosphere like its cherry compote that tops its buttermilks.

"It's the most comfortable place a person can eat. Brownstone really hits home when it comes to being sophisticated without being stuck up," Pamintuan said.

Once you walk through the doors you become a member of the Brownstone family because the staff makes you feel at home.



Photos by Danielle Miksza

The Brownstone Diner and Pancake Factory brings small town appeal to our fair city.

Aside from the mouth-watering dishes, you see smiles everywhere you look. Grabbing a bite at the Pancake Factory is more than just an excuse to skip cooking dinner it is like sharing a meal with the family.

The Bournias family of the Brownstone diner makes everyone feel at home. It's not hard to see why they've been in the restaurant business for 46 years. Brownstone's goal is to keep getting better and to do so over the years it has gone through several renovations. The diner will undergo an expansion in another year, which will include an un-

derground parking facility. There may be one or two changes to the story-book sized menu as well but a sure thing the Brownstone family has is its creativity.

The Brownstone Diner & Pancake Factory

**HOURS: EVERYDAY
6AM - 11PM**

**Coner of Jersey Ave.
and Grand Street
426 Jersey Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07302**

201.433.0471

Let Light Rain Down On Me: *Appreciate the Little Things*

By Stephanie Del Valle

I used to work in an old, small retail pharmacy where there was barely any room to fit two people behind the counter. My boss's primary language was sarcasm. The pharmacy was either extremely hectic or exceedingly slow and to top it off, we had to deal with sick and grumpy customers. Not exactly the best job I have had.

But one day it was different. A woman walked in wearing a bright yellow shirt with a hat to hide her head. Her light makeup was perfectly in place and her outfit was screaming to lie on the beach. The woman wore a smile that could lift anyone's day. She handed me her prescription (as a clerk it gives me access to the patient's information), so I was well aware of her condition.

By her exterior, anyone could tell how fragile she was, but her personality hid it all. She was only in the pharmacy for a few minutes, but this ordinary moment helped me discover that happiness is not difficult to obtain.



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People are often consumed in hardships and the stresses of life that they drown themselves within them. Our society has been brainwashed into believing that happiness is materialistic and can be had through extraordinary measures. For example, a new promotion, a long vacation, or a huge party can be vital enough to make one happy, but they seem to last for short a period.

We subconsciously ignore the seemingly little nothings in our

everyday lives that can greatly impact our attitudes. It was amazing to acknowledge what a simple smile can do to my day. The simplest things in our lives can last a few minutes, and if we can learn to appreciate these few minutes every day, we can gradually improve ourselves and our lives. Even though my life is hectic with having two jobs and six classes, I still find the most joy in eating the best cheesecake, watching my baby sister smile or having a good conversation with a friend.

Many students worry about paying their bills on time, while rushing to classes and juggling a full time job which can take a toll on their physical and emotional state. As long as one has a few minutes of you time, getting through the chaos seems possible.

It should not take an illness or the pity to appreciate our lives. Our lives should not seem exhilarating when we chase what we cannot have; when our enjoyment is staring at us right in the face. Our lives can be just as we want it to be because the ordinary can be extraordinary.

ENTERTAINMENT

FILM

Clearbluetuesday's Behind the Scenes

By Ruth Britto

On Tuesday, September 7 NJCU faculty and students assisted in the screening of the film *Clearbluetuesday* at the Margaret Williams Theatre. The musical was produced by NJCU Media Arts alumnus '73, Al Parinello who dreamed of becoming a successful media professional.

"I started looking at the camera work on television and was fascinated by it, when I was a teen I used to take the number 63 New York City bus alone. When all my friends were playing I used to get on the bus and spend 35 cents to get to New York City and looked for live television shows," said Parinello.

Parinello learned about the media business by going to New York and watching the productions of the television shows.

"When I was a teenager I was writing letters to ABC, CBS and NBC telling them what was wrong with their program," said Parinello.

Parinello explained how great his experience in NJCU was and how Frank Capone, founding director of NJCU's Cooperative Education Program, helped him recognize his goals while in school.

Parinello remembers how help-



www.movieweb.com

Al Parinello, Producer, NJCU Elizabeth Lucas, Director, Cassandra Kubinski, Actress

ful Frank Capone and NJCU were to him. Parinello believes that NJCU's Frank Capone Career Development center helps students enter their professional field by doing internships that will train and help them to enter the professional world.

Elizabeth Lucas, director of *Clearbluetuesday*, attended the screening at NJCU. It was Lucas's idea to write a musical about 9/11 that would send a message of relief and transformation.

"The biggest difference is that this movie is created through improvisation. The eleven actors developed their own characters



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that shaped the story," said Lucas.

Cassandra Kubinski, who played the role of Sam in the film, came to the screening. Sam is a girl who is looking to find herself and her dreams in New York after the terri-

ble 9/11 events.

"Sam is very ambitious and aggressive but she needs to learn to be herself," said Kubinski.

Clearbluetuesday is an original movie that shows the world how we all have a second opportunity to lift ourselves and reach our dreams after the devastation left by 9/11.

MOVIE REVIEW

'Easy A' Makes the Grade

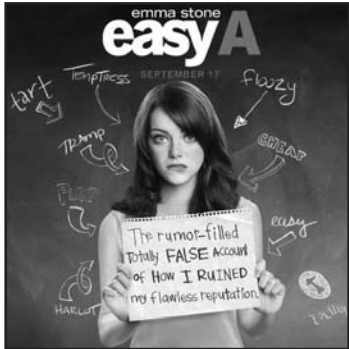
By Jose E. Ortiz

Will Gluck's, *Easy A* takes the idea of teen comedy to new height with witty comments, surprising events and whacky characters. When looking back to original teen comedies, the characters are usually clueless, the drama is more exaggerated than necessary and are told from the audience's point of view. With *Easy A* the characters are more active and open to the situation at hand.

The story tells of a young lady named Olive Penderghast (Emma Stone), who is described as a shadow of herself. During the course of the film we see how Olive takes the rumors to new heights to the point where it all gets out of hand. While all the mayhem starts to take over there is also a love story being told.

Easy A is unique because it revolves around the topic of sex. In original teen comedies such as John Hughes's, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, we get a situation that is completely random and overly exaggerates skipping school and pretending to be sick. *Easy A* however, brings sex in high school and takes it to a level no teen comedy has ever gone before.

We also get a nearly perfect cast such as Lisa Kudrow who plays Phoebe Buffay in the television series "Friends." We also have a marvelous performance from Alyson Michalka who is better known as Keely Teslow in the Disney Channel original series *Phil of the Future*. Other cast



www.movieweb.com

Here is what critics had to say about "Easy A":

"...a high school romp that turns a stale genre upside down with sly wit and sharp satire." — Kirk Honeycutt, *Hollywood Reporter*
"As affecting as it is funny, there is nothing easy about what "Easy A" achieves." — Alynda Wheat, *People*

members include Amanda Bynes, Thomas Haden Church, Dan Byrd, and Penn Badgley.

"What I liked about the movie was the insults and the drama between the characters. I like the fact that they gave an insight to those who might not know what *The Scarlet Letter* is," said Ethan Finver from East Stroudsburg Senior High School-North, in East Stroudsburg PA.

"It was a funny movie that even adults would like.[It] shows how rumors can spread and how they can impact someone's life," said John Phraner also from East Stroudsburg Senior High School-North.

"Easy A" is a movie worth the trip to the movies. Emma Stone delivers her best performance and the characters are to die for!

MOVIE REVIEW

'Waiting for Superman' Amid the Educational Chaos

By Dylan Jones-Busch

Despite all the money and reform put into the education department, the U.S's education system is still moving at an unwavering pace. According to "Waiting for Superman", a documentary directed by Davis Guggenheim, the same man behind the movies "The Inconvenient Truth" and "It Might Get Loud", Guggenheim delivers a much broader perspective on how the education system has not evolved since the 1970's.

Unlike "The Inconvenient Truth" that focuses on Al Gore and global warming, "Waiting for Superman" concentrates on the young students and the threats to their education system. The interviewees include the students and their parents, Geoffrey Canada the CEO of Harlem's Children Zone, Michelle Rhee the chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools system in Washington D.C, Bill Strickland the CEO of Manchester Bidwell Corporation and David Levin and Mike Feinberg the founders of the Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP); who all discuss the deterioration of the American Education system.

The interviews with the families are truly heartbreaking because they hope to achieve sufficient education and aspire to go to college but have such a slim chance to obtain both. Aside from



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the interviews, the film asserts its claims by presenting statistics and animations that reflect the topic of the film leaving the audience dumbstruck and outraged.

Overall, there could not have been a more timely chosen film such as "Waiting for Superman". Guggenheim once again presents us with another revolution-provoking movie that will leave us enraged and appalled. It forces us to question whether our government is making a difference for our children's lives or forcing them to cope with an unproductive and chaotic system. A complete must see for those who want to know the extent of our educational department's folly. Plus when you buy a ticket for the movie, you will also be given a \$15 gift code that you can give to the classroom of your choice. The film will only be shown in select theatres for a limited time.

MUSIC

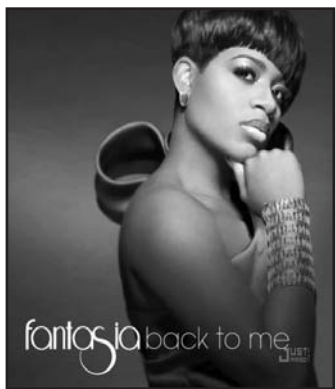
Fantasia Makes a Comeback

By Orianna Sweeney

Fantasia Barrino stole the hearts of millions of Americans when she won the television series American Idol in 2004. Since then, the southern soul singer has risen to fame. She has conquered the world of Broadway starring as Celie in the musical *The Color Purple*, which is produced by talk show host, Oprah Winfrey. In 2004, Barrino released her debut album, *Free Yourself*, which is certified Platinum by the RIAA. This album also earned her four Grammy nominations in 2006.

She continued her success in 2006 when she released her sophomore album, *Fantasia*. This album featured the number one R&B hit "When I See U" and the album was certified Gold. She received three Grammy nominations in 2008. Now in her third studio album, *Back to Me*, was released on August 24, 2010 and is number one on the R&B charts. The first single, "Bittersweet" has pushed her album to number two on the Billboard charts.

This High Point, North Carolina, southern belle has opened up her life in her autobiography, *Life Is Not a Fairy Tale*, which was later turned into a film on Lifetime Television network. The movie premiered on August 19, 2006 and ever since remains one of the films to have the highest ratings. In her autobiography and film, Barrino exposes her real self. She explores the trials and tribulations she over-



Photos by XXX

came which include being teased as a child, being raped, illiterate, and pregnant at a young age. Some criticized her for dropping out of school especially when she was in the singing competition on American Idol. Barrino did not let the media keep her from being successful. Four years later and she now has her own reality television show on VH1 titled *Fantasia for Real* that premiered on January 11, 2010.

However, with all of the fame and accomplishments, Barrino has struggled to remain content. She carried the burden of supporting her family, losing her relationship with her father, tumors on her vocal chords, and finding love. Nearly two weeks before her album, *Back to Me*, was set to be released Barrino attempted to commit suicide by overdosing on aspirins and sleeping pills.

"This was no accident" says Barrino on the VH1 special *Behind the Music* which aired the day her album was released.

"I didn't have any fight in me. I didn't care about anything. I

just wanted out. I just sat in the closet and looked at the mirror and took all the pills in the bottle. I wanted to go to sleep and just be at peace. I knew exactly what I was doing. You can't accidentally take a whole bottle of pills," said Barrino.

When the singer awoke in the hospital it was her nurse that enlightened her. She reminded Barrino that her destiny has yet to be fulfilled and that she has a daughter that is relying on her.

Students on campus seem to have arrived at different conclusions. "I think it was for publicity for her new album because the following week she was performing live on daytime television shows," said Samille Ganges, 27, Musical Theater Major.

In contrast Ariona Gadsden, 22, Criminal Justice Major says, "I think she was taking the easy way out. I'm glad she survived because now she knows what she tried to do was foolish. She needs to learn to handle her business like a woman. I'm looking forward to what's going to happen next in her career. I pray that her faith in God will be her support to getting back to herself."

Barrino's third album, *Back to Me* is a success. Everyone seems to like "Bittersweet," "Collard Greens & Cornbread," "Teach Me," and "Move On Me." Barrino has definitely rekindling the essence of her first album, *Free Yourself* but with a soulful edge.

ARTS

NJCU HIDDEN ARTIST

Marco Nader Saad

By Rabiah Bhatti

Marco Nader Saad, 24, born in Cairo, Egypt and raised in Bayonne is a non-matriculated student at NJCU aspiring to do his Masters in Mathematics. Saad is an artist that draws the connection between art and math and sees his world through each of them.

“Art has definitely played a role in my life,” said Saad, “I started to draw when I was two years old. I was very observant always looking at objects from different angles all the details would be stuck in my head. Whatever was in my imagination I’d bring to life.”

Marco Saad’s muse for his artistic endeavors was his father.

“My talents were set off by my father. When I use to watch my father he had a lot of artwork lying around the house and I use to ask him can you draw this can you draw that?” said Saad.

Not only is Marco Saad an artist that draws his imagination but also sings as well. Saad sings religious songs that embody his faith, Christianity.

“I was imitating voices and sounds or animals and characters. I had really flexible vocals and a very good ear that helped in embellishing my little talents when I was little,” said Saad.

Saad explains that he learned to like math over the years because he had a rough time with it when he was younger.

“Math in my childhood was traumatizing and I really hated it. I was always able to memorize everything and anything. Whether it’d be a serious of numbers or a serious of sounds,” said Saad

Marco Saad holds both art and math in the highest esteems and through each he sees the world around him from a different perspective.

“Art is a triangular connection between me god and others. I believe god is an artist and math is logic. I believe it’s essential to living in general. It’s not just a bunch of numbers you try to figure out, it’s more like an ability to either analyze a problem or build up towards your goal,” explained Marco Saad.

Surprisingly, Marco Saad’s eyesight is weak and has trouble hearing from one ear. Saad be-



Art by Marco Nader Saad

lieves these weaknesses to be influential in his excelling in his talents such as drawing and singing.

“My strongest senses are my weakest. MY eyesight is very weak, when it’s put to its full potential it can see more clear than your average man. I can barely hear out of one ear yet I was able to hear the distinction of each and every sound around me. Whatever weakness that you have within you it’s usually compensated with a far greater talent,” said Marco Saad.

Saad’s strong conviction to his religious beliefs plays a huge role in his depiction of art and what it means to him to be an artist.

“I think it ‘the ability to be similar to god [not to say that I am God or anything] and by being an artist you get not only the ability to create and analyze something you also have the nature to be compassionate towards others,” said Saad, “you’re sensitivity towards others it’s more of a mind, body and soul type thing. All is free, everything that god has given you it’s used in your artistic talent,” he added.

Most of his artwork focuses on religious themes because Saad



believes that his faith is one of his strongest inspirations.

“I use a lot of religious themes. I believe that my talents are god given and they should only be directed and used for God and also to share with the world instead of burying it in worldly affairs, that is using it for the glory of God and not for the world,” said Saad.

Saad believes that one of reasons why he is motivated to draw and sing is that it helps keep him well grounded.

“For one it keeps my sanity whether it’d be music or drawing it keeps me leveled. I get more inspired by other artists, I look at their work and I see the beauty in their work and the artist and it inspires me to do better, to be better not just in art also the way I deal with people,” said Marco Saad.

The young mathematician and artist bridges the gap between art and math by meshing the two into each other in his life.

Saad perceives his world through images and numbers and builds a relationship between the two subjects.

“Math, I’ve been told by Dr. Riggs, Chairperson of the Mathematics Department, is like see-

ing a big picture and look at the details,” said Saad, “art is a big picture in mind and you either start by that big picture, you make sketches. For example portraits you draw certain shapes to make the outline of the portrait and then you focus gradually on the details and it’s the same exact thing with math.”

While pursuing a masters in Math Saad says that he fits art in to his life by utilizing art in math when he does his homework. He stated that he gives his school work and artwork both time in his life and with both he aspires for perfection.

“You have to set priorities and you have to choose which is more suitable than the other. For me math is more suitable because it’s my bread and water. Art is a hobby, it could be used professionally but that’s already taken care of with math and plus, I use art for the sake of humanity and for the love of God,” stated Marco when asked about how he balances math and art in his life.

Marco Saad explains that math and art have allowed him to become the person he is today and feels that they have made him a better person as well.

“Both math and art have manifested a lot in me for who I am today and I wish to be soon. I guess art with being more observant in life in general being more compassionate and humanistic and spiritual and math brought out logic it’s how I solve life’s problems,” explains Marco Saad.

Marco’s deep connection to Christianity inspired him to remake images that have been done by other artists and at the same time has honed his talent of drawing.

“You can’t be successful without anyone helping you and opening doors for you. I could not have had this talent without saying no one helped me and I can’t say my pieces are original because lots of them are re-creations,” said Saad.

Marco Nader Saad is going to pursue a teaching career and perhaps one day in the future when he retires would like to be an interior designer.

“Don’t take your abilities for granted because they might be precious to someone else and if they’re precious to someone else then they are definitely precious,” stated Marco N. Saad to help encourage other artists.

Art Exhibition Listings On/Off Campus

The Nike Missile Cozy Project by Elizabeth Demaray

The Harold B. Lemmerman Gallery, 2039 Kennedy Blvd. Hepburn Hall, room 323, Jersey City, NJ
Sept. 30 – November 4, 2010
Artist’s Talk:
Saturday, Oct. 2, 2 p.m.,
www.elizabethdemaray.com

Shifting the Gaze: Painting and Feminism

Jewish Museum, 1109 Fifth Ave., nr. 92nd St. NYC (212-423-3200)
Through Jan. 30
\$12, \$10 seniors, \$7.50 students, children under 12 free.
www.thejewishmuseum.org/site/pages/calendar_main.php

The World of Khubilai Khan: Chinese Art in the Yuan Dynasty

Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Ave. at 82nd St., New York
Sept. 28, 2010–Jan. 2, 2011
The Tisch Galleries, 2nd floor
Recommended admission for adults, \$20; \$15 seniors; \$10 students; children younger than 12 admitted free. For more information, call (212) 535-7710 or visit metmuseum.org.

MizAmerica by Hector Canonge

The Visual Arts Gallery, New Jersey City University, 100 Culver Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
Sept. 30 – Nov. 4, 2010.
Artist’s Talk: Thursday, October 21, 7 p.m. (Visual Arts Gallery B08) www.hectorcanonge.net

ARTS

Taylor Sterling:

NJCU Alumnus Works at Marvel Comics

By Rabiah Bhatti

Taylor James Sterling, 27 of Passaic, New Jersey is an NJCU alumnus who is currently interning at Marvel Comics. Sterling graduated in Spring 10' with a BA in Fine Arts with a concentration in Illustration and has previously held his own art exhibitions on campus that featured glimpses of his debut comic book, Okemus. Currently the artist is working in the grand company with hopes to work his way into the heart of the comic book industry.

Q: What are some of your early achievements as an artist?

A: I was part of developing a curriculum for the high school's animation class and in freshman year of high school I illustrated the school newspaper and did comic strips.

Q: What are some of your favorite artists and why?

A: Some of my favorite artists are the following:

From comic books: Adam Hughes, Michael Turner and Ivan Reis, in Fine Arts it's Norman Rockwell, Paul Gauguin and Georges Braque and one of my favorite Classic Illustrators would be Howard Pyle. What appeals to me, as I mentioned before, is that all three of the comic book artists have very distinct methods of storytelling, understanding of color and design. Their work inspires me to push the boundaries of my creativity. All of the Fine Artists I mentioned had radical choices of subject matter and expressed new ideas when it comes to creating artwork. Classical Illustrators are important to me because they lay the foundation for comic book artists by helping them understand how things are supposed to be done and how things are supposed to look, its inspired art from their minds.

Q: What advice would you give to other art students who are trying to make it through the challenges of being an artist?

A: My only advice to any artist would be to work very hard and have patience and do not stop what you love doing.

Q: What appeals to you about Illustration?

A: The Dedication put into the work as well as in abstract illustration, you see a lot of greatness in the work, for example, the dynamic characters, the stories and beauty.

Q: How did you go about interning at Marvel Comics Inc.?

A: Honestly I wanted to intern at Marvel from the beginning. During one of my first meetings with Dr. Dennis Dittrich, Assistant Professor of the Art Department, I asked him if whether it would be possible to be able to intern at a company like Marvel Comics and his response was "Yeah. We could do that!" Then, I applied online because I really wanted to get practical experience with the comic book industry to further my own skills and knowledge. When it comes to interning I didn't get the first internship they called me for. They called me back after a week regarding another position they had available, which was a Publishing Service Intern position.

Q: How did you feel when you obtained the internship at Marvel?

A: It was easier than I had expected—I wasn't sure if I'd get the internship—it was like a shot in the dark

Q: What is your internship at Marvel Comics Inc. entail?

A: I do a lot of pre-production comic book pages before they reach a colorist or letterer. I also size pages for print on occasion I also substitute inking duties which deal with cleaning and tightening up comic book page. The tasks I do rely specifically on my knowledge of illustration design technique.

Q: Is the work experience with Marvel Comics satisfying?



Photo courtesy of Taylor Sterling

A: Yes! I'm very happy. The stuff I do there, it's fun for me, and it doesn't even feel like a job.

Q: What was the first internship you had with Marvel and what is your position now? What is the difference between both internships?

A: The first position I interned as was a Publishing Service Intern now I'm working as a Design Production Intern. The first position I had was more clerical and had to do more with technical aspect. Now, my position as a Design Production Intern, deals specifically with the artistic knowledge of the comic book medium and programs such as Photoshop Illustrator and In Design.

Q: What are some of your inspirations for your work?

A: I was inspired by all others such as Japanese animation because I'm a big fan of the stories and movies such as Dragon Ball

Z. I did Martial Arts from age 12 to 25; any action related mediums inspire my work.

Q: What can you say about NJCU's Art program?

A: It's one of the best kept secrets in the state.

Q: Any art classes that have inspired you as an artist in any way?

A: I learned in Illustration 1 in Dennis Dittrich's class and he opened up the world for me and opened my eyes to many different types of illustration.

Q: What were some hardships you faced as an art student and artist?

A: It was time because when I started at NJCU I was working full time during the day to pay for school and attending class full time at night. It was always a challenge to do my work efficiently.

Q: What do you find most appealing about comic books and

what are some of your all time favorite comic books?

A: What appeals to me about comic books are the stories, the action, the characters and the world within the stories. Some of my favorite Comic books are The Dark Knight Returns and Kingdom Come.

Q: How can you relate to comic books?

A: The reason why the medium resonates with me so much is because I always enjoyed telling stories and creating art work and with comic books I'm able to do both.

Q: What are your future plans?

A: My future plan is to have a job at Marvel as an illustrator or designer and have a flourishing independent comic book of my own.

To see more of Taylor Sterling's art work visit: <http://dar-til.deviantart.com/>.

POETRY CORNER

Impromptu Thoughts

By Shanta Ledbetter, 24, Journalism Major, Jersey City

Something that I have yet to find
Calls to me in distant time
I try to grasp this familiar unknown
But it remains untouchable and leaves me alone
I was prone to be the one to put my heart on the knife
While these souls fade in and out of my life
Wreck less nights with prophetic dreams
Are the only things that are promised to me
Dare I share the torment that only mine eye doth see?
With thoughts of to be or not to be...
Life cries to hear all of my woes
Those once friends become my foes
I never chose to embark on this painstaking journey
My fate is forever locked through the realms of infamy
Walking blind with open eyes while stumbling along the way
Shall I ever recover? That I cannot say...

"In honor of Tyler Clementi"

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



"MizAMERICA" is a solo exhibition by artist Hector Canonge. Inspired by his weekly visits to the local Miss America Dinner, his experiences of living in the United States, and his observations about the idiosyncrasies of war, Canonge, explores the myths of beauty, identity and patriotism in relation to popular American culture.

From Sept. 30 – Nov. 4, 2010 at The Visual Arts Gallery, New Jersey City University, 100 Culver Avenue, Jersey City, NJ

Artist's Talk: Thursday, October 21, 7 p.m. (Visual Arts Gallery B08)

SPORTS

NJCU Men's Golf Take Their First Swing

By Alberto Arias

The Gothic Knights men's golf team officially began their inaugural season this Fall 2010. The Varsity sport will be lead by assistant baseball coach Charlie Auletto.

"Our goals are to build this program basically from the bottom and get on the map. In the near future we would like to get into a conference if the school wants to move on," said Auletto.

First year coach, Auletto, remains optimistic that this program can gain more support and assemble a competitive golf team.

Golf is played on a course with 9 or 18 holes. A golf course starts with the first shot from the teeing ground and there are several obstacles such as out of bounds, sand bunkers, water hazards, and the rough. These dictate which club the golfer will use. The golfer has several clubs, like the hybrid club, woods, irons, and putters to strike the golf ball. The objective is to make the ball in the flagged hole with the least amount of swings. The golfer with the least points is declared winner of the match.

The men's golf team hold there practices in the 18-hole Weequahic Park Golf

Course facility located in Newark. Usually practice can be held in a driving range but it is

not an actual course that has several obstacles.

"A driving range is not like the real thing, I make sure they are on the course working on their irons and putters on the green, hills, rough and bunker," said Coach Auletto.

Many golfers agree that putting is fifty percent mental and fifty percent technique. "It's like any other sport you need tunnel vision to have concentration, form, and strength with the right club to have a great shot," said Auletto.

Being a baseball player and coach golf coach Auletto says "Baseball does not help because the baseball swing is from 3 to 9 o'clock and the golf swing is from 6 to 12."

He stresses the importance of the swing to his 8-man roster team, seven of them being freshmen.

The Gothic Knights made there collegiate debut on September 17th. They participated in the Golden Eagle Invitational and placed 7th out of 7, despite competing against division I schools. Schools like the 1st place Manhattan College, who are fully funded and have a recruitment program that helps achieve success.

The invitational was held in Spring Lake Golf Club which is located in Long Island, NY. The NCAA rules allow for five golfers

to compete. Each player only has 14 clubs and is allowed 12 golf balls.

Freshmen Joe O'hara from Parlin, NJ scored a two par with a 102 score and Freshmen Konrad Okonko from Jersey City shot three par with a score of 118. The individual winners shot an even par score of 72.

Golf is an expensive sport and Hall of Fame golfers like Juan 'Chi Chi' Rodriguez and Lee 'Buck' Trevino came from underdeveloped golf programs. Inner city schools do not have as much access to courses and scholarships for golf.

"Golf is not introduced to the inner city kids. It would be great to have local schools encouraging golf in their school programs and make golf a strong part of the school's athletic program," said Auletto.

The inner city has limited courses and very little financial support to successfully run a golf program. Although NJCU does not fund the golf balls and golf clubs it does fund accessories, uniforms, transportation, meals and access to golf courses said Auletto.

"The golf game is evolving and with the right direction and dedication we can make advancements" said Auletto.



Charlie Auletto

New Jersey has several municipal local golf courses. Each golf course has its unique design and different dimensions to cater the average golfer.



- **Overpeck golf course, Teaneck.**
www.golflink.com
- **The Bayonne Golf club** is minutes away from the University.
www.bayonnegolfclub.com/
- **Hendricks field golf course**
www.essex-countynj.org
- **Sussex County** has award winning golf courses and is a resort/golf club. These include the plush Ballyowen, Black Bear, Cascades, Crystal Springs, Great Gorge, Minerals and Wild Turkey Golf Clubs.
www.crystalgolfresort.com

New York Golf Course Locations

- **Spring Lake Golf club**, Long Island.
<http://springlakegolfclub.com/>
- **Van Cortlandt Golf Course** Bronx, NY
- **Pelham/Split Rock Golf Course** Bronx, NY
www.golfinnyc.com/bronx_golf_courses
- **Dyker Beach Golf Course** Brooklyn, NY
- **Marine Park Golf Course** Brooklyn, NY
www.golfinnyc.com/brooklyn_golf_courses
- **Clearview Park Golf Course** Bayside, Queens, <http://queensbuzz.com/queens-golf-courses---public-golf-courses-in-clearview-douglaston-forest-park-kissena-cms-402>
- **Silver Lake Golf Course** Staten Island, NY
www.silverlakegolf.com/
- **South Shore Golf Course** Staten Island, NY.
www.golfinnyc.com/staten_island_golf_courses



Wednesday, December 8, 2010



Research

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SPORTS

NJCU Women's Soccer Enters a New Era of Success

By Kelsey O'Donnell

Women's soccer at NJCU has spent the last few years building its club to compete with other teams and it has made great progression. Coach Rob Bielan started the season looking for girls who were focused and in top shape.

"We had 43 girls come to try out and we looked for a strong 20," Beilan said.

Beilan runs drills at practice to work on ball control, speed, and passing abilities to keep the girls' skills sharp. Health is always an issue, so I asked him of any concerns about the depth of his team and he said, "We have 11 great players on the field and 9 great players on the bench."

Some offensive players to look out for are strikers Junior Jennifer Albuja, Junior Julia Caseres, and sophomore midfielder Ashley Cunha. In her first two seasons, Albuja combined for 56 goals scored. She moves the ball well and has great passing abilities. Cunha scored 20 goals last season. She shows leadership skills on the field and has great communication and command; two very important qualities to have on any team.

A prolific finisher, Caseres had 30 goals scored last season. I haven't seen a player get to the goal as well as Caseres. She rarely misses the opportunity to take the shot when inside the box.

"Julia is the hardest working player in college soccer right now. She can balance soccer and academics and excels in both. She is the epitome of the student athlete," said Beilan.



2010 Liberty Cup Champions

Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

A defensive player to look out for is Junior Captain Erica Buonacquista. Being a former defensive player myself, you have to have the ability and the stamina to cover your side of the field and back-up teammates' coverage. Buonacquista excels in this. She is the backbone of the NJCU women's soccer defense.

In the program's 15 year history the women's soccer team has won only two cups: last year's Rutgers Cup and this year's Liberty Cup. This is a sign that the program is improving.

NJCU recently hosted the Liberty Cup at Robert L. McNulty Memorial Soccer Field on September 10th and 11th. Our women's team

outscored their opponents (Mount Saint Mary and SUNY Old Westbury) 11-1. In the cup final, Caseres scored four goals. Cunha had two assists and two goals scored. Albuja and Gabrielle Clarke each contributed with a goal.

The cup was presented to the team captains: Buonacquista, Junior Nicole Sarica, and Junior Katlin Vargo. Caseres was awarded most valuable player of the tournament. She was well-deserving of the award. Caseres seemed unstoppable combining seven goals for both games. Albuja, Cunha, Sarica, and Buonacquista were all honored to the All-Cup team.

"It was a nice win [today]," said

Beilan. When I asked about moving forward with the rest of the season, he said, "We started slow and we're still building. These girls are competitive and honing their skills for the NJAC. Our goal is to win four NJAC games and to get to the playoffs."

So far the team has beaten Ramapo, who was a very tough competitor in the NJAC. The win against Ramapo is another sign that the program is improving.

NJCU women's soccer has come a long way in the past 15 years. Their main focus is to look forward without taking any steps back. Having a team that is strong, focused, and in top shape leads to success.

Q&A WITH Coach Rob Bielan

Q: What do your practice mostly consist of?

A: Our practices mostly consist of conditioning and stretching. We work on a lot of possession and personal skills. It's like a teacher's lesson plan; we are looking to "breed efficiency."



Robert Bielan
Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

Q: What are your goals for the season?

A: Short Term- to just keep everyone healthy and playing at peak performance.

Long Term- to make it to the NJAC tournament for the first time in NJCU history.

Q: Do you think you have a chance at the NJAC tournament?

A: Yes!

Q: What is different about this squad?

A: The people who came in to preseason this year are fit and ready to play. In practice there is positive and good energy. Everyone gets along well. Every one of the players wants a starting spot. All the women are high quality, great caliber athletes. There are no politics or clicks. These women represent the program and school well. Of course, we had to break a couple eggs to make the perfect omelet.

Q: What is the most challenging obstacle to overcome?

A: There are no obstacles. We have a plan, and we are going to stick to it.

Q: Do you feel confident in the team?

A: Yes, very confident.

Q: Do you plan to continue coaching the next couple of years?

A: This program was in the brink on extinction. I was the 13th coach in 15 years. I brought in better assistant coaches and better caliber athletes to be able to become on par with the rest of the NJAC teams. We are no longer settling for the 7th rank. I am not going anywhere. "If I quit, I teach the kids it is easy to quit."

Strong Team Chemistry Increases Hope for Playoff Berth

By Carolina Garcia

The NJCU's women soccer team will be tough competitors for these New Jersey athletic conference teams. The conference which is better known as the NJACs was established in 1985. The New Jersey State Athletic Conference (all men's conference) merged with their corresponding institutions in the Jersey Athletic Conference (all women's conference).

The conference is comprised of 10 competitive institutions that include Kean University, Montclair University, Rowan University, Ramapo College, Rutgers-Camden University, Rutgers-Newark University, Richard Stockton College, The College of New Jersey, William

Paterson University, and last but not least New Jersey City University.

After falling short previous seasons, they are determined to practice harder and rely on their strong team chemistry to carry them into the NJAC playoffs. Head Coach Rob Bielan has done a great job turning this program around and getting some serious recruits. This year's team is no longer going to be a cakewalk during conference play. Every one of these players is looking for a starting spot and will leave their heart out on the field.

The team was assigned preseason summer workout plans. Those who came into the season not physically fit unfortunately got cut. Captain Nicole Sarica



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

(Left to right) Katlin Vargo, Erica Buonacquista, Nicole Sarica with Alice De Fazio and Robert Bielan

said that "this guarantees that your strongest players are out there." Their main goal is to

make it to the NJAC playoffs for the first time ever in program history.

The Gothic Times is looking for a few good sports writers.

Contact Sports Editor, Alberto Arias, at gothictimes@njcu.edu.