

THE GOTHIC TIMES

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Gourmet Dining: NJCU's New Head Chef

By Monir Khilla

Gourmet Dining, a New Jersey based food servicing company, is the new food service provider for the New Jersey City University community. Students, faculty and staff will notice a change in food options.

Gourmet Dining currently services 22 locations in the New York / New Jersey Metro region (including many NJ universities), serving to a client base of 90,000 customers while servicing on average 400 catered events a day.

Julianne Aiello, Director of Marketing and Sustainability, said "Each of the three dining locations will be different this year, as new items will be offered."

"GSUB [Gilligan Student Union Building] has new dining stations including our 'Leaves & Grains,' 'Wok It Up,' as well as a Brick Oven Pizzeria, and Smoothie Bar," said Aiello.

Though there will be many new food stations and options on campus, returning students will notice many familiar faces from the previous school year.

Aiello noted that, "Gourmet Dining's attention to each customer will be evident to you [the community], as well. We are pleased to be working with over 90% of the employees who had been previously working in the dining service at NJCU."

Though there were many factors contributing to the selection of Gourmet Dining as the new food service provider, what helped set them apart from the other companies was "The edible, organic garden." Gourmet



Photos by Joseph Rivera

Gourmet Dining's chefs find local ingredients by farming their own plots, right here in Jersey City. Growing their own veggies and herbs is a hot trend in the food industry. This is an effort toward sustainability and, simply, better meals.

Dining is currently working to plant and maintain a vegetable garden on the patio of GSUB. They will be using the harvested fruits, vegetables, and herbs for use in the kitchen and for feature local meals.

Aiello highlighted that "This Fall will include themed programming and events in the GSUB cafe, new combo meals, and interactive events with the dietitian each month. We will also feature monthly community

theme specials, where we offer a discounted lunch meal and invite everyone in the community to join."

There will also be changes coming to Vodra Hall in the next couple of years. "Your new dining stations at Vodra Dining Hall will be a made-to-order grill, a salad shop and fresh Gourmet Grab & Go options. We're also looking forward to completing a

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Check Out New ATM

By Angela Giddings

"Oh snap – there is a new Bank of America machine," Chantel Rivera, 20, business management major, hollered immediately as she opened the second set of glass doors into Vodra Hall. "Now you can deposit checks on this one? What? Before I had to go all the way to Hudson Mall."

This new ATM addition is more fitting for the NJCU community. In addition to being able to now deposit checks, the patron can deposit them in multiples without the hassle of needing deposit envelope.

After you have inserted and swiftly removed your card you are prompted to a screen that allows you to choose between seven languages. English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French are among these options, as well as other languages. Just in case you have made an undesirable selection the next screen asks if you are sure. Your selection is saved and remembered



google images

A new Bank of America ATM machine at NJCU.

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President Hernandez to Step Down in 2012

By GT Staff

NJCU President Carlos Hernandez has announced he will resign from his position after this academic year. His retirement will be effective July 1, 2012.

Hernandez' announcement appeared to catch the university community by surprise. His long career at NJCU has seen him serve as provost, vice president for academic affairs, and faculty member in the department of psychology.

In another development at press time, Hernandez has found himself involved in a trial in Trenton regarding a promotions dispute. In the trial last week, it was reportedly disclosed in an affidavit that



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**NJCU President
Carlos Hernandez**

he was never awarded a master's degree, despite apparently having completed the required coursework. Hernandez earned his Ph.D. from the City University of New York.

The Gothic Times will continue to cover the impact of both of these developments.

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NEWS

New Transit Buses Equipped with GPS

By Rafal Rogoza

Waiting anxiously for a late bus may be a thing of the past for commuting students.

According to a news release, the NJ Transit Board of Directors has announced they are installing smart bus technology on all state

"I think it would help out a lot. It's a hassle. We have to wait here for a long time. The buses are coming but you don't know when. I think it would make things much better."

—Tasia Eenas
Education major

wide buses. Clever Devices Ltd. of Plainview, NY has been awarded a \$22 million contract to equip NJ Transit buses with intelligent GPS capabilities.

With the goal of improving services, smart bus technology



Photo by Joseph Rivera

NJCU student's riders board the commuter bus at the Kenndey Blvd stop.

will allow a commuter to use the internet on any mobile device to know the real time location of a bus and when it's expected to arrive at a specific stop.

"By equipping the entire NJ Transit bus fleet with smart bus technology, we are laying the foundation for providing real-time bus service information to our customers," said NJ Transit

Executive Director James Weinstein. "Smart bus technology will drive improvements like 'Next Bus' signage at key locations and new customer information tools on the web, such as maps that display graphic representations of buses as they move across the system."

Installations are expected to be completed on 1,145 new buses

by the end of 2012. The remainder of NJ Transit's fleet of buses should be ready by 2013.

"There is a website that commuters can access to download an app, it's already available," said Robert Dukes, Clever Devices Ltd.'s Vice President of Sales, in an interview with *The Gothic Times*. "Commuters can subscribe to the online service to

get live information and receive text messages with updates about their bus's location," said Dukes.

It has not been determined when smart buses will be operational in Jersey City. According to Courtney Carol, media relations person for NJ Transit, the implementation of smart buses is still in an early stage of development.

"I think it would help out a lot. It's a hassle. We have to wait here for a long time. The buses are coming but you don't know when. I think it would make things much better," said Tasia Eenas, 19, education major from Camden, NJ, when asked about her thoughts on the new smart buses as she waited for the No. 10 bus on Kennedy Blvd.

Not all commuting students were as optimistic though. When asked if she was looking forward to the new buses Malgorzata Brzakalska-Smith, 27, a political science major from Jersey City said, "No, because behind every smart bus is a stupid person. There are people behind the technology that provide the services. It's the linking of responsibilities from one person to the next. If one person breaks the link nothing will work."

Former students can't afford school

By Rafal Rogoza

Not all continuing students from the previous year were able to return this fall as they struggled to pay for tuition. The high costs of a college education and misunderstandings about the financial aid process has forced some former students to forego the fall semester.

"I have no one helping me with my education. It's just me," said Justice Keith Little, a 25 year old Jersey City native who studied psychology at NJCU last year. Little could not return to school and continue to pursue his degree because he could not afford his bill.

"Last year I was not fully covered. I received \$5,000 in financial aid. I ended up having to pay most of my bill out of my pocket, which left me with a balance that I'm still paying off," said Little.

Little was not allowed to register for classes this fall until he could pay his remaining balance. To make matters worse, his financial aid award for this academic year was not enough to cover all of the costs.

"Financial aid told me I couldn't apply for another grant. I was denied a couple of loans. Once I saw what I was getting, I realized it wasn't enough to cover everything," said Little, "so I decided that I couldn't return to school."

Dylan Jonem-Busch, a 19 year old music major from New York, was unable to return to school because of similar circumstances.

Jonem-Busch fully paid his tuition last year out of his savings. This year he only had enough to cover half the bill so he applied for financial aid. He was surprised to find out that he was ineligible for any state assistance.

"I only needed half the money," said Jonem-Busch, "I'm annoyed because I wanted to study more."

Stories of students struggling to pay for school can be heard all

over campus. When students on campus were asked if they knew of former students who could not return to school because of financial reasons many students spoke of their friends. Some told personal stories of how they had to take a semester off because they could not afford it.

Denise Rivera, a 21 year old studying criminal justice from Newark, is now back in school after taking the spring semester off.

"I was receiving some financial aid but I had to take out loans," said Rivera. "I didn't get the loan approved on time and because of my unpaid balance my classes got dropped."

Feliz Gutierrez-Caufield and Patricia Albers from the financial aid

"Once I saw what I was getting, I realized it wasn't enough to cover everything, so I decided that I couldn't return to school."

—Justice Keith Little
Former student

department sat down to an interview with *The Gothic Times* to discuss the complexities of paying for college.

When asked about Jonem-Busch's denial of financial aid Albers said, "He didn't get tuition aid grants because he is an out of state student."

What about Little's case? Both Albers and Gutierrez-Caufield were confused as to why Little was denied a student loan and offered to help him personally to straighten out the situation and help Little come back to school.

"Federal Stafford loans are not based on your credit, they're guaranteed to a point," said Gutierrez-Caufield.

Rivera's case could have been

avoided if she would have been able to meet the obligations of her bill on time.

Both representatives from the financial aid department stressed the importance for students to pay attention to deadlines. Filing financial aid paperwork late can have serious financial ramifications for a student needing extra funds.

"It is important to remember that the state has a deadline for students who received a TAG award the prior year. Let's say you received a TAG grant last year and you didn't complete your financial aid form on June 1 you would have lost it. I spoke to a student who lost \$3,019 a semester because he forgot to fill out his financial aid form. He got TAG last year which was a big help and he filed his FAFSA in August and lost it," said Albers.

According to Albers and Gutierrez-Caufield, students should always file their financial aid forms by the April 15th deadline and then follow up with the financial aid office. Help with filling out financial aid is available at the financial aid office and information is available on NJCU's financial aid website.

Students also need to be aware of HESSA's deadline of November 15 for filing additional required information. Failure to do so may lead to a loss of TAG grants for both the fall and spring semester, Albers said.

"Students could go online at www.hessa.org and then click on report additional information for the state. They'll ask about driver's licenses, earned income credit, social security benefits, and veteran's benefits," Albers said.

As for Little, he is expecting to return for the spring semester. Currently he is working two jobs to raise money for school.

"The reason I decided to work full time was because I knew no one is going to help me pay for college but me," said Little.

Gothic Knight radio show at NJCU

By Jose Ortiz & Monir Khilla

Not many people know that New Jersey City University (NJCU) has its own radio station, WGKR. The Gothic Times recently spoke to Justin Browning, 20, Media Arts major from Sayreville. Browning is the Assistant General Manager at the radio station. Browning talked about the radio station and what's being planned out for the future. The Gothic Knight Radio Station is an excellent way for many musicians and poets to get on the air and to have their work heard.

Question: What is WGKR all about? Tell me about the shows.

Answer: WGKR is a student run radio station here at NJCU that provides music as well as shows that currently broadcasts on the internet. We have talk shows that vary in subjects to allow students to express themselves and speak on whatever topic is at hand and reach out to anyone with access to the internet [who is] willing to listen. Also, WGKR DJs for some of the events that take place on campus when people from other organizations reach out to us.

Q: Do you play music written and performed by NJCU students?

A: Yes, we do play music written and performed by NJCU students but only with their consent and to adhere to all copyright laws.

Q: What are the standards to having your music played on there radio? (Do they have to donate any amount of money, set up studio time, bring their own equipment, etc?)

A: WGKR does not ask for anything in return for playing NJCU student's music on the air during a radio show but it is suggested that the artist speak to the radio show's hosts to arrange an on air interview to introduce the song as well as give them a promotion opportunity.

Q: How long does it take to get an artist's music on air?

A: It takes at least one week to get someone's music on the air to give show hosts time to work the song or artist, interview or all three into their show outline.

Q: As far as music, what genre is the main theme for the radio?

A: The majority of the music played on WGKR is hip hop although music of almost all genres is in our music library and is played throughout the day.

Q: I walk into GSUB all the time and notice that it is always bare. Aside from people having their conversations, there isn't any music unless someone randomly plays the guitar. Why doesn't the school radio play music in GSUB during the day?

A: I was told the reason we can't play music throughout GSUB is due to a wiring issue throughout the whole building. Until it is affordable to rewire the building playing music in GSUB can't happen.

Ed. note: At press time the radio station's link was down and they were fixing the problem.

NEWS

Constitution Day 2011

By Joseph Rivera

In observance of the national tragedy of “9/11,” some professors on September 15, 2011 discussed the Constitution during the event known as “Constitution Day.”

For five years running New Jersey City University has been hosting “Constitution Day” in an effort to educate people on the U.S. Constitution. “Constitution Day” was originally on September 17 and called “Citizenship Day.” Later on, a federal law established the day, during which all school institutions celebrate and spread common knowledge of the Constitution.

A short video entitled “We the people” shares the life lessons and opinions of citizens affected by 9/11. It also to makes citizen aware of the “Preamble,” the first part of the Constitution, which begins with “We the people”.

The sessions followed up with a brief interactive quiz, containing questions asked on the Citizenship Exam – the same exam immigrants must pass in order to earn their citizenship.

Joseph Frost, 19, Zoology Major, Jersey City appreciated the political science practice. “Could use a reality check on people who don’t know [about the presentations]”.

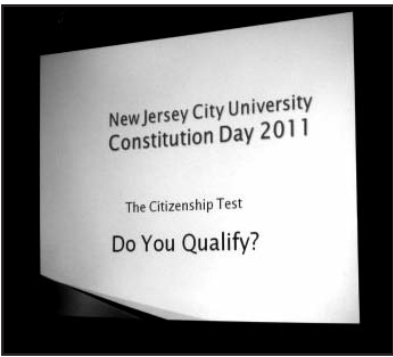
One of the main spokesmen of the event for several years was Professor Joseph Moskowitz of the political science department. He shared that he and other professors enjoy hosting the event. “We like doing these events by interacting with the students” he said. When asked what would he change in the Constitution he would add one thing: an “Equal Rights Amendment”.

It should be “written in a way that would be inclusive of the full range of gender preferences. I would also change the second amendment so it would limit the right to bear arms,” Moskowitz said.

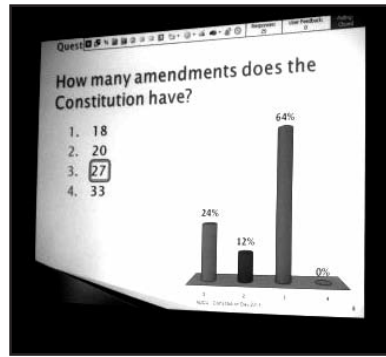
“Constitution Day” will always take place on campus every year in memorial to not only “9/11” but to the founding fathers who created the U.S. Constitution to build a system so citizens can achieve the American Dream.



We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.



Slide show of questions



Photos by Joseph Rivera

EDITORIAL

Admit it, you don't care

Every year students protest on campus. They complain about tuition increases, about budget cuts, and blame politicians. They speak up then proceed to do the unspeakable: nothing.

Year after year, and election after election, students take to the streets crying over the rising cost of education; however, the general consensus seems to be that “Politics isn’t for me.” This is not a solution to the problem. Rather, if anything, they give politicians and leaders permission to beat us like dead horses with tuition hikes.

We, as students, have a rare opportunity to meet with Tom DeGise, our county executive; Robert Menendez, one of our U.S. Senators; and someone from the mayor’s office, possibly Jeremiah Healy himself, all within this semester. We have to take this opportunity to let our voices be heard.

Who cares if we protest on campus for an entire day? No one really listens and, frankly, not many people really care.

Protesting will do very little because the administrative on campus hold no power to tuition hikes. This upcoming week there is an opportunity to make real change. It’s not the actual goal, but, it will be the stepping-stone to success. On Monday October 3 until Thursday October 6 from 11:30am - 2:30pm there will be a Voter Registration Drive in the Gilligan Student Union Building (GSUB).

If students want to take their education back from the grips of greedy governors, then they have to get out there and vote. We have the lowest voter turnout for every major election (18-24 year olds).

If you want to fix a problem and make a real long-term difference on your campus, then go out and vote, but most importantly, please, stop &@#%ing and do something about it!

New ATM

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at all Bank of America touch screen ATMs.

With two side panels to deter identity thieves and a mirror atop large enough for three women to apply make-up at the same time or just to see who is behind you, this machine makes the user feel secure.

There is a second option for students and faculty looking to do some banking, Liberty Savings Federal Credit Union. This ATM has a surcharge of only \$1.50 (BOA surcharge is over \$2.00) and offers four language options, one of them Dutch.

One advantage this ATM has over Bank of America is that it offers a free membership to the Credit Union as long as the user is affiliated with Hudson County. Although this machine does not have the same safety bells and whistles it isn’t any less safe to use.

Directly in front of the main Public Safety desk, with the Public Safety office to the left and an officer sitting to the right of machines’, their location is very secure.

Gourmet Dining

Continued from page 1

major renovation of Vodra Hall during the Summer of 2012,” said Aiello.

Vodra Hall is planned to become a buffet-style dining hall with more options available to students, as well as a “Make Your Own” cooking stations for students.

What do students think of Gourmet Dining?

Ariel Rodriguez, 18, Business major from Bayonne, said, “The food tastes good, but the price is too damn high.”

Compared to last year Rodriguez said, “There isn’t enough variety in the cafeteria, I want something new. Whatever gets

this place moving with more food!”

Dashawn Simms, 22, an Undecided major from Jersey City said, “The food’s a little different, but better tasting. The prices went up, though.”

Staphanie Loor, 23, Sociology major from Hoboken, said that “Last year it was cheaper and there was a wider selection.”

Loor did note, however, that “The food tastes better and is more well-prepared.”

Corey Wright, 20, Education major from Jersey City disagreed saying that “There’s the same selection and the food tastes the same, as well. All I see is Subway and Chicken.”

Fall Calendar

September 29

Glow in the Dark Party, Multipurpose Room 9:00pm-1:00am

October 2

MS Bike Tour, Englewood Boat Basin 7:00am-12:00pm

October 3

SGO Meeting, Multipurpose Room 3:00pm-5:00pm

October 6

Meet the Greeks, Multipurpose Room 6:30-9:30

October 7-8

1:00pm – 1:00pm (24 hours) Location TBA

October 16

Breast Cancer Walk at Lincoln Park, Jersey City, NJ 8:00am-12:00pm

October 22

Open House, GSUB

October 23

Movie Night, Vodra Hall 8:00pm

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Art Tribute to 9/11

By James Vezos

To benefit the remembrance of 9/11, NJCU presented "Afterwards & Forwards: A Ten-Year 9/11 Reflective Art Exhibition." Artists such as Herb Rosenberg, Ben Jones, Yoko Ono, Jose Rodeiro, and Ultra Violet displayed pieces that commemorate and honor those lost in the tragedy.

Upon first entering the art building, your attention is drawn to a tree that seems to have prayers, and dreams written all over it. As a piece of interactive art, Yoko Ono created the "Wish Tree" (1981), after the killing of her husband John Lennon. The tree has been reproduced, and spread throughout the world, reaching over 1 million wishes.

Former NJCU Art Professor, and social activist for peace, Ben Jones' work titled "Embrace, Envision, Empower" took its place on the gallery wall. The huge painting of the fish reminds us of the importance of peace and love. In reference to his work Ben Jones said, "It's my belief that if we're to have Peace, it must be integrated in our daily lives, especially our home." The wallpaper motif was used to revive the embedded ties we have with one another.

The work consists of African symbols depicting the need to save and conserve the environment. Jones goes on to say, "You can't truthfully say you love

Peace and not show respect for nature." He invites us to view the connections we have in the world, unfortunately along with all the acts of evil, to obtain the power of purpose and harmony.

Working with artists such as Salvador Dali and Andy Warhol, the international best-selling writer for her memoir "Famous For Fifteen Minutes: My Years with Andy Warhol," Ultra Violet displayed her piece "IX XI" (911), in tribute for all those who lost their lives on that horrific day.

"I seek inspiration every minute. As an artist, I have a responsibility toward America" Ultra Violet goes on saying, "My artistic mission is to uplift, to nourish, to guide, and to heal."

The gallery also exhibits pieces on loan from the National September 11 Memorial & Museum. On display is Werner Pfeiffer's artist's book, "Out of the Sky-9/11 a Tribute," and Milton Rosa-Ortiz's "Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil."

Herb Rosenberg, NJCU professor and chair of the art department, showed his work titled, "The Night Baghdad Exploded in Jersey City." This eight foot by four foot aluminum panel reminds us of the terror that stuck Bagdad post 9/11.

For so long art has been a bridge that connects what could be seen with what has been overlooked. While taking the time to find yourself in a piece



(left) "IX XI" (911)



Photos by Joseph Rivera

(right) Ben Jones Embrace Envision Empower

of art, you come across the true beauty of what makes you human. You realize you are not on this planet alone, and that the trials and tribulations that break you down will force us to rise up

and overcome.

This commemoration would not have been made possible without the support of President Dr. Carlos Hernandez, and coordination from the gallery director Midori

Yoshimoto. Their dedication has left a lasting impression in all those who observed the art, took time to reflect, and pay tribute to the sacrifices made on 9/11, and those who continue to do so.

Reviews and previews of video games

By Chance Cerbone

Video games are quite arguably the most efficient time killing machines known to man. With that in mind, here are a few helpful paths that you can take to kill the most time possible.

To start off, there's a rumor about Xbox making a bundle package with the Kinect around the holiday season. Another gadget that has recently been put out on the market is the Razer Hydra, a motion sensor for PC. Finally, PC Gamers can use motion sensor technology. The down side? The \$139.99 platform has roughly 145 titles compatible with it and it's wired to a base platform which connects to the computer. If it doesn't sell well, there's a high possibility of it being scrapped. The last in our toys list is the Cyborg gaming ambiance lights. It may seem a little weird to have lights when your gaming, but you can use these lights for any movies, or games, and they have over 16 million different colors, at \$99.99 it makes it worth the while.

Our cult favorite, *GoldenEye 007* is coming out with a remake: *GoldenEye 077 Reloaded* launches September 30 for the PS3 and 360, with move support. This time around the AI has gotten a little bit of a revamping so it won't feel like you're just beating up on them. Bringing back the couch gaming, it comes with 4 player split-screen and a 16 man multiplayer.

Alice: Madness Returns is by far one of the most bizarre games I've been able to get my hands on. This game is rated M for a reason: it's dark, gory, and ruins any childhood memories you had of this show. This game is already released,

and is out for PC, Xbox360, and PS3.

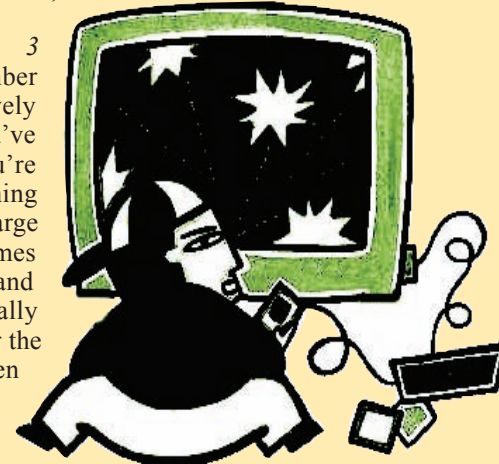
Gears of War 3 dropped on September 20, and is exclusively on Xbox 360. If you've seen the trailer, you're probably assuming you've seen a large amount of the games cinematic portion, and that you can basically fill in the blanks for the storyline. Not even close, everything in the first trailer they released is in Act 1.

So you're not even scratching the surface on the story arc. This time around Marcus and his gang are fighting more on a losing battle. Trying to find cover and ammo is an actual struggle this time, giving the game a more exciting aspect.

Deus Ex: Human Revolution launched August 23, and is an outstanding game based on the ability to change the games dynamic based on how you act. Your "Augments" that you acquire throughout the game determine how your character can be upgraded. There's also a nice mixture between sneaking in and hacking a person's computer or you can just see through the wall to check how many people are in there, and then go in guns ablaze. The choice is yours, and there's way more than what I named as a middle ground. This game is for Xbox 360, PS3, and PC.

Speaking of being able to change the game based on how you act, *Guild Wars 2*, which is TBA in 2011, has some of the most breath-taking scenery and character customization I've ever seen. The amount of customization brings the total possible different number of play-through over 1,000.

After doing the generic char-



acter creation that everyone is at least semi-familiar with, the game has personality questions, that shape how the game characters will react to you, giving you a different experience for every person. They have more follow-up questions that will become available every couple of levels.

Also the level up system is different from what everyone expects it to be. Its not just a "go here do this go here do that" type of quest chain. The game has dynamic and ever changing actions that are happening in the game. There's level and character based scenarios that happen at random, and the difficulty varies depending upon how many people are there. Meaning the boss would gain extra hit points, and do more damage, the more people that showed up.

The game uses an old way-point system, to make traveling at lower levels much less soul crushing. They also made most classes a mix through, so you don't have to invite that guy that's a jerk, just because he's a tank; now mostly anyone can fill that role.

OPERA REVIEW

'La Boheme'

By Jan Aguilos

I've never been to an opera before, so I didn't know what to expect as I was walking into the Westside Theater to watch NJCU's production of *La Boheme* by Giacomo Puccini. The place was packed with eagerly anticipating audience members, waiting to see this classic, sung in Italian although set in 19th Century Paris.

When you first enter the darkened performance area, you see large panels of post-impressionist paintings, many by Henri Toulouse-Latrec, covering the stage. The paintings, depicting the kind of romance, night life, and lazy afternoons you think of when you think of old Paris, brighten up the place and immediately put you in the milieu of the four men that the opera starts off with.

The panels open up and we see Rodolfo, portrayed by undergrad Kendall Bass, a poet freezing in the cramped apartment with Marcello, portrayed by adjunct faculty member Duane McDevitt, a painter.

Their friends Shaunard, portrayed by Freshman Alex Maldonado, and Colline, portrayed by alumnum Steven Derek Brown, join in the misery of living in an unheated apartment during the winter.

Luckily, Shaunard was there with food after getting a plum job assignment, which he tries to tell his fellow bohemians about, but he is roundly ignored

as the other men devour their food.

Unfortunately, the landlord rushes into the crib asking for the rent, but the rascally men get him drunk enough for them to force persuade him out of the apartment. Most of the men leave, but Rodolfo stays to finish an article that he's been writing. Naturally, a beautiful woman walks in and interrupts his work. Her name is Mimi, portrayed by student Chivonne Perkins, and Rodolfo is completely infatuated with her; he repeatedly touches her hand and sings to her with the kind of love that can seem to be only expressed in music.

Soon enough Rodolfo buys her a bonnet and the couple goes to a local café to join the fellas and they eat and are merry as expected, until Musetta, portrayed by seasoned performer Katelyn Spinosa, walks in. She's actually a former flame of Marcello, who isn't happy that he walks in with a rich gentleman carrying gifts he bought her. The tension between them is palpable, with the passive-aggressive push and pull that former lovers go through. Eventually, the two reconcile over song and they're a couple again - for now.

The opera is much like the paintings that were on the panels covering the stage before the performance started, it's colorful and bright, expressing different emotions. I don't want to ruin the ending, but I will say

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OPINION / ADVICE



Illustration by Armando Sultan

THE GOTHIC TIMES

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GSUB, 2039 Kennedy Blvd, Room 301
 Jersey City, NJ 07305
 201-200-3575
 gothictimes@gmail.com

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from any member of the campus community. Editors reserve the right to edit for space. Please address all correspondence to Editor of *The Gothic Times* in GSUB, 2039 Kennedy Blvd, Room 301. We cannot guarantee the return of any submissions. If you wish to have the letter returned, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

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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Governor Christie's \$55 Million Disruption

By Jan Aguilos

You may have seen New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's mug on the cover of the *New York Times Magazine* cheekily tagged as "The Disruptor." He lectured during the May 2011 Seton Hall Commencement that students should be "disruptors," people "willing to challenge the status quo."

That's an overly generous description of what the governor does. When Christie cuts Fiscal Year 2012 budget proposal by \$900 million, cutting funding for multiple programs, that's not challenging the status quo, that's malpractice in governance. And the part of the malpractice that hurts my fellow college students the most is the \$55 million in cuts of tuition grants, which

serve mostly low-income students.

The New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities has called Christie's \$55 million cut from tuition grants a "setback for college opportunity and affordability."

Even a Task Force led by former Governor Thomas H. Kean and formed by an executive order directly from Christie recommended more funding to higher education.

So Christie cuts \$55 million in tuition grants over the objections of higher ed advocates and dismissive of the counsel by the task force that was created under his administration. That's not challenging the status quo, that's challenging the facts.

Needs based-student assistance has long been an advantage for turning New Jerseyans

into some of the most highly-educated Americans, with 38% of our adults ages 25 to 64 have at least a bachelor's degree. That relatively high national figure will be threatened if Christie's cuts to higher education go even deeper. We're still going through a slow economic recovery in which many adults who lose their jobs go back to school knowing that they have to be as highly educated as possible in order to be competitive in an increasingly cut-throat job market.

The New Jersey Commission on Higher Education points out 2007 figures that suggested that there is a \$25,000 gap in median earnings between a high school diploma and a bachelor's degree in our state. That's the third highest gap of all the states in the nation!

Now our governor wants to

make the path of higher education more perilous for low-income students. That is harmful to many of the students at NJCU who qualify as such. New Jersey City University currently has a 6 percent four-year graduation rate; do we need to make graduating college more challenging by not providing needs-based assistance to low-income students? It wouldn't be right to.

The Federal Reserve estimated in 2008 that with every one-percent increase in college degrees that a region has, there is a 2.3 percent increase in that region.

It is bad economic strategy to price out low-income college students, especially at a time when job rates are barely budgeting. Attaining a successful post-secondary education is more important than ever, but Christie

would prefer to ignore low-income students and continue placating his high-income contributors.

New Jersey is third in the nation when it comes to millionaires per capita, but Christie wouldn't dare implement policies that would negatively affect them. He'd rather place financial burdens on the people who can give out less campaign contributions to him.

Governor Christie's policies on higher education have hit more sour notes than his rendition of Bruce Springsteen's "Badlands," but many college students across the state, and especially in NJCU's campus community, have not heard of his financial evisceration of low-income students. We need to change that – we need to disrupt that ignorance.

LIFESTYLE

Dating the younger guy

By Ally

When young women dream of their future boyfriend they envision a handsome, successful, witty, man who may be slightly older than them. Society okays an older man dating a young woman: it's acceptable. But what happens when a woman becomes attracted to younger man? Should she let the handsome, successful, and witty man pass her by if he's younger than her?

Dating a younger man can be fun and exciting but, it can also carry stress. No one should ever judge a book by its cover, but if you're debating on going out with a young guy, you might want to do some "homework."

According to BeyondJane.com there are some perks. Younger men enjoy going out and experiencing life and many women can

enjoy that. "Many older men have been there and done that," says BeyondJane, so this can cause some tension. While older men have experienced the town and want to stay in, women will want to go out and have fun.

Age is not something women take lightly. Well, not so much age but the age marks. When women date younger man it can give them a sense of flattery. Women feel attractive and sexier knowing a younger guy is scoping her out; she feels desirable so this definitely can add a bounce in her step.

Sex is always a great thing to have in a relationship (aside from other aspects of it). "They enjoy experimenting and love making is never dull," according to BeyondJane. Younger men aim to please. They see they're with an older woman so they feel

challenged to show off their peacock feathers. With all the energy younger men can have their stamina comes great in this department.

With pros come the cons.

Maturity is a big thing with younger guys and older women. "Many young guys don't yet understand the concept of saving for the future or the importance of a job with benefits," argues BeyondJane, "the younger man lives in the now, often with little thought of the future." Being spontaneous can be fun, but there has to be a line drawn or else you might find yourself supporting a child rather than living with your man. Be careful with nagging. No man wants to feel



www.datingseniormen.com

May-December romance of Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher has made dating a younger guy something to think about.

like he is living with his mommy, if they do, there's your red flag: RUN!!

Children will come up in the relationship. Young guys will argue they don't want children until they are settled and can afford the lifestyle, but if you're bunking up with an old woman, chances are, children may be

running through her head already. If you guys aren't on the same page, you either have to comprise or, let it go. Of course, this is a huge factor for ladies to keep in mind if they want to date someone younger. "It's not fair to start a relationship, only to know in the end it will not work," BeyondJane advises.

Dating younger guys can be a new and fun experience; you always remain honest, not only with him, but with yourself. Don't lead him on when you know you're going to break his heart because he just wasn't "mature" enough. Who knows, some young men can be everything a girl's looking for. Being open minded is always advised.

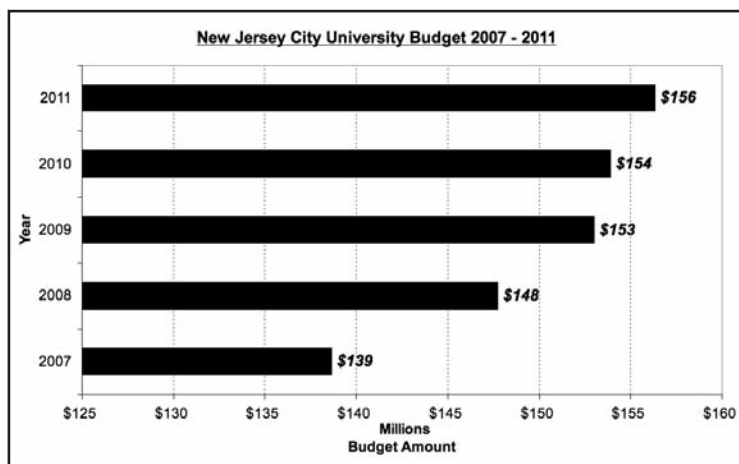
FEATURES

Understanding NJCU's Budget: A Gothic Times Guide

By Rafal Rogoza

This semester *The Gothic Times* will be writing a series of articles focusing on NJCU's budget. Our goal is to give students a look at how the university generates money and how it is spent. We hope by explaining the budget costs, student will have a better understanding of the financial complexities of operating an university and why the costs of higher education are rising.

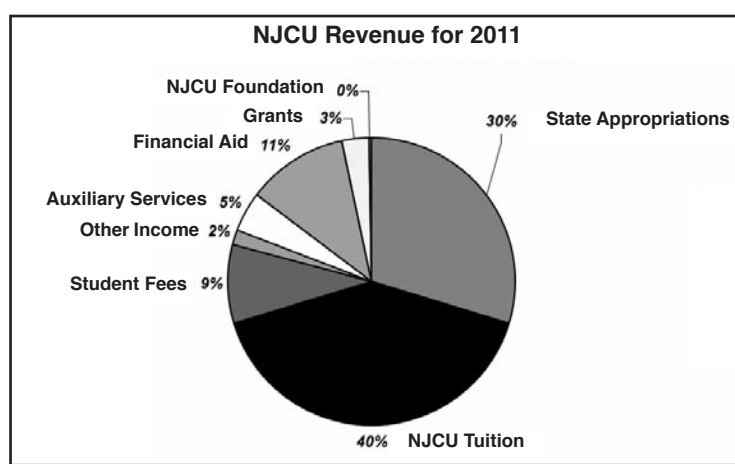
With the assistance of Arron Aska, the Vice President for Administration and Finance, *The Gothic Times* has attained the NJCU budget summaries from 2007 through 2011. Each summary includes details about the university's revenue and expenses. We'll be printing the information available accompa-



nied with in depth articles about such topics as funding of various university divisions, revenue from tuition, and state appropriations.

The Gothic Times would like to

thank Arron Aska and Suzanne Cascone for their hard work and cooperation. We look forward to working with NJCU's administrative staff in the upcoming weeks and months.



The Gothic Times Staff

The Gothic Times believes that transparency at a public institution such a NJCU is important. Students have a right to know how their tuition and tax money is spent. We encourage our read-

ers to submit any questions they may have about the budget, we will try our best to answer them through our research. *The Gothic Times* can be reached at gothic-times@gmail.com.

The Addams Family: A Musical to See Before You Die

By: Elizabeth Ackerley

If you were asked who America's creepiest and kookiest family is, which would you say? You may respond that your own family is craziest of all and cannot be topped, but there's one far more deliciously atrocious: The Addams Family! They have come to be an icon of our culture. In fact, the first thing that may come to mind when hearing the Addams name, is the famous and very catchy "da na na na na, snap, snap" theme song. The Addams live in a gloomy mansion with a cemetery in the backyard. They celebrate the scary, the unusual, and the downright strange. How can any other family compare? They have been delighting and simultaneously scaring the American public with their frightful and unusual antics since 1938. Cartoonist Charles Addams created beloved characters Gomez, Morticia, Uncle Fester, Wednesday, Pugsley, Grandmama, and Lurch in his featured drawings in *The New Yorker*. Later, the Addams clan appeared in a mid-1960s television show which began the start of many remakes and animated television series. There are also three movies starring the dreadful family, "The Addams Family", "Addams Family Values", and "Addams Family Reunion", with yet another movie in the works. The latest Addams adventure is a Broadway musical based on the family that premiered in New York City in April 2010.

The musical takes place while Wednesday (the daughter of Gomez and Morticia) has done the unthinkable: she has fallen in love with Lucas Beineke, a "normal" boy from Ohio who is visiting New York with his family. Under much protest from both parties, Lucas and his parents, Mal and Alice, are invited to the Addams mansion, located in Central Park, for dinner. Wednesday, overwhelmed with her new feelings, does not feel quite like herself. Things she once enjoyed are no longer fun, like torturing her younger brother daily. Upon the arrival of the Beinekes,

Wednesday instructs her unusual clan to act "normal" for just one night, as Lucas does the same with his family. Chaos ensues as the two families clash in their tastes and ideals.

The main concern for Gomez and Morticia is the "disgusting" behavior their daughter is displaying. For the first time in eighteen years, she has changed her clothing from her usual dark hues, to a bright yellow dress. To everyone's dismay, Lucas and Wednesday announce that they gathered everyone together for dinner to announce they want to get married. As dinner comes to a close, things get weird as Pugsley, jealous of Lucas because he is afraid his sister will no longer torture him like she used to, plans to give his sister a potion obtained from Grandma that will bring out Wednesday's "dark nature" once again. However, somebody else drinks the potion accidentally and the night takes a turn for the worse. All the action of the story picks up from here.

The Addams Family on Broadway is a devilishly fantastic musical comedy that can keep you laughing throughout the duration of the show (two hours and thirty minutes). Ancient Grandma, played by the incredibly talented actress Jackie Hoffman, delivers hilarious jokes and is undoubtedly the crowd's favorite character. Other characters cranking out laughs are the butler, Lurch, who mostly grunts as his form of communication and the iconic Uncle Fester, who isn't as intelligent as the rest of his family, but just as loveable and wacky. The show in itself offers plenty of laughs just because of what the strange family considers very normal in their own little world.

Other incredible aspects of the show are its design and music. From the ghoulishly fabulous costumes and make-up to the incredibly dark, intriguing sets, it is a wonderful work of art dying to be enjoyed. The songs supporting the action are beautifully written, composed, and performed by the talented cast. The musical is told through twenty-one songs that are superb in a very creepy, but

delightful way. "When You're an Addams" opens up the show and salutes all the bizarre and eccentric things about being a member of the Addams clan. What is most interesting is that during the song, all the dead Addams ancestors rise from their graves in the cemetery to join in on all the action. "Pulled" is a song sung by Wednesday where she explores things she now enjoys because of her new love for Lucas such as "Puppy dogs with droopy faces, unicorns with dancing mice, sunrise in open spaces, Disney World, I think I'll go there twice". Another notable song in the stage show is "Crazier Than You", where Wednesday and Lucas fight about which person is more crazy and daring.

Overall, seeing the show is a wonderful experience that should be added to your bucket list. The box office offers what they call "student rush". Bring over your NJCU ID card to the theater beginning at 10am (12pm on Sundays) for one \$36.50 ticket. This offer is valid for all performances except Saturday evenings. Your best bet to obtain student tickets is to arrive early. Anywhere from an hour and a half to two hours early would suffice as student tickets are limited. If you want a discount, but want to avoid the student rush line, check out broadwaybox.com. This website offers legitimate discounts for many Broadway shows. Currently, there is a coupon code valid for 50% off regular priced tickets that will expire at the end of October that can be brought to the box office when purchasing tickets. Full price tickets can also be purchased at the box office or at Ticketmaster.com. Full price ranges from about \$60-\$130. Visit for show times and other great info and the box office and theater at 205 West 46th Street (between Broadway and 8th Avenue) in New York City. The Addams Family will close on December 31, 2011 with superstar Brooke Shields starring as Morticia after 725 performances on Broadway. Go see it before you regret it for the rest of your miserable life.

What can Mack Do do for you?

By Haneen Salem

New Jersey City University's new Student Government Organization (SGO) is being lead by dedicated and hardworking individuals such as Mack Do, the Vice President of Activities. His campaign slogan in Spring 2010 was dedicated to putting the campus on the map through the activities committee.

The role of the VP of Activities is to facilitate and coordinate events for the whole school. When asked why Mack ran for the office he said, "Being in a fraternity (Psi Sigma Phi) helped me realize that I was born to put together events. I stepped up to SGO because I wanted to use my skills on a bigger scale to impact the school."

Mack takes his job very seriously and has worked on numerous events in his short time in office. Some of the major events Mack has organ-

ized were the Official SGO Welcome: Ice Cream Social, the NJCU Cookout, and most recently the NASCAR Virtual Reality display, with the Glow in the Dark party tomorrow at 9 PM in MPR B.



facebook.com

Mack Do is the SGO VP of Activities

According to Mack the hardest part of an otherwise fun and rewarding job is trying to keep everyone happy and stepping up and speaking out. Mack reaffirmed "VP of Activities has a difficult task at hand. It's easy for everyone to criticize, but once you step up and help we can bring diversity to the school and bring the events to the students."

Mack has a lot planned for the upcoming semester. A major event he mentioned planning is the Step Stool Show, which he organized for the Greek life in order to unify the school and bring about a sense of school spirit. Mack has dedicated himself to making this year very eventful.

OPERA REVIEW

'La Boheme'

Continued from page 4

that there is a tragedy at the center of the opera.

After the end of the performance, you realize how many talented students and faculty we have on our campus community. If the performance of *La Boheme* is indicative of future productions, then students need to

run to the Westside Theater whenever there's a performance.

It was a great night of entertainment and I'm looking forward to more of them. There are around 80 cultural and artistic events on campus and we need to take advantage of the opportunities to experience great art.

SPORTS

Too cool for school?

By Alex Johanesen

Raucous athletes perched at a cafeteria table begin to gather their belongings to start their journey to the next class, except a couple. The few that remain have class undoubtedly, just as the rest of their peers do. However, class is not what they feel like doing that day. Instead, the stragglers continue to talk and gossip. Perhaps flirt with the table next to them. Cell phones are out and text messages flying. Meanwhile, their professors take attendance and only an empty, hollow sound fills the room they should be in, after their names are called.

Predictably, every year a number of NJCU student-athletes fail to make the grades required to participate in their sport, thus deeming them ineligible. Two factors are behind this: the Grade Point Average and/or the number of credits attempted by the person, though the two usually go hand in hand.

According to Ken Heaton, Assistant Athletic Director of Athletics and Compliance Officer, of the approximately 180 athletes at NJCU, less than a dozen are outright ineligible this year. However, 15 are forced to use their New Jersey Athletic

Conference (NJAC) Waiver, which allows the athletes a one-time pass to play during their season if they can't maintain the obligatory GPA or number of credits. NJCU requires a 1.60 GPA after a minimum of 13 credits attempted, a 1.75 after 24 credits attempted, 1.80 following 48 credits attempted, and a 2.00 once 72 credit hours have been attempted for student-athletes to participate. If the player has not met these standards and does not qualify for academic probation at NJCU, he or she may utilize his or her waiver.

The biggest culprit of student-athlete failure is his or her lack of attendance.

"The biggest thing is class attendance," Arnold Jeter, Coordinator of Athletic Academic Advisement and Retention, confirms, adding, "they've got to understand they've got to work hard. It's also time management. It's discipline. They're reluctant to seek help—a part of it is pride."

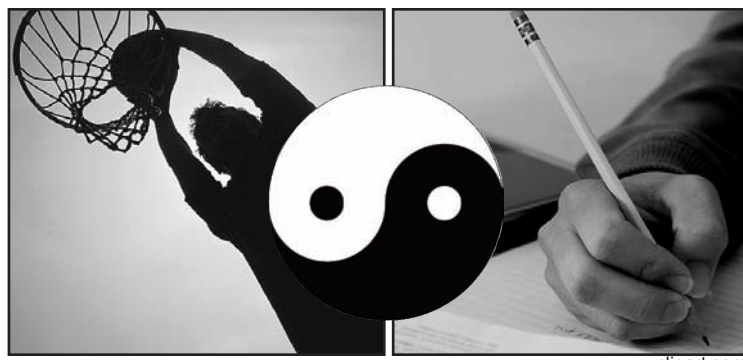
Surprisingly, it's not the freshmen most coaches have to worry about either.

"The first two semesters are usually pretty good. I would say moving from sophomore to junior year causes the most difficulty. That's when we see more individuals not making it," Heaton explains.

Already there are four retention counselors in charge of overseeing academics, assigned to approximately thirty student-athletes each.

"We've found out that when people are involved you develop a relationship and we'll do better," Jeter said.

Even a new program has been implemented to attain student-athlete success in the classroom. The Academic Athletic Retention Program, dubbed AARP, was intro-



Playing college level sports is the holy grail for alot of aspiring athletes. The reality is, to remain eligible to play takes fortitude, time management and academic support in their classes.

duced this Fall 2011. It entails a tutorial program, mandatory study hall, the hiring of tutors, collaboration with the Center for Student Success and all other services the university has.

"Every student-athlete starting Fall 2011 is required to be in AARP. It's all about putting them in a position to achieve possibilities. But we're not here to hand hold. They're either in it or they're not," stated Alice DeFazio, NJCU's Athletic Director, who went on to say, "They're students first and foremost. We strive for academic success. Success in the class-

room translates to success on the field of play."

The goal of the athletic department is to step in as soon as possible.

"An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure," Jeter said. "I don't want to wait until you're failing. I need to know now."

AARP will hopefully eliminate these problems before they begin by helping student-athletes establish better priorities and assisting them when they really are struggling.

But what about those who refuse the help, ignore the warnings, and don't consider the consequences? Keith Williams, the starting point guard of the men's basketball team, did not meet the academic standards. The 22 year-old Jersey City resident and business management major from Jersey City, can't say his academic practices were always for the best.

In 2008 and 2009 he found himself ineligible to play for the men's basketball team because he was short credits, so instead of leading the Gothic Knights to victory as the point guard he found himself as another fan in the crowd.

"It was a learning experience. I wanted to play. I know I could have been a factor in games," Williams stated.

Rather than sitting out for a third year, Williams forced himself to become better academically.

"I got everything together and took enough Summer I and II classes," he said.

But let his experience serve as a warning to others. There are consequences for not putting the student aspect of student-athlete first. If he had not gotten his credits to where they needed to be, he could have missed out on one of the most memorable collegiate experiences of his life.

Instead, he was eligible for the

2010-2011 men's basketball season and the team captured the NJAC title.

"It felt great winning especially from sitting out two years then coming back to win the NJACs," he said.

The second-team All-NJAC player could have been watching from the sidelines, but instead, he made a difference and successfully helped the team. Any ineligible student-athlete risks missing out on an experience like this.

Now he hopes to contend for the New Jersey Athletic Conference title once again in 2011-2012.

Yet, everyone doesn't have to learn their lesson first to then achieve good academic standing. The 2010 recipient of the NJCU Academic Achievement Award was volleyball player Kenny Lisk. Lisk, a 21 year-old Chemistry and Secondary Education major from Old Bridge, had the highest GPA of any male athlete for the year, at 3.81. He doesn't happen to just be a good student, although he admits he doesn't do anything out of the ordinary.

"I put going to class as a top priority, because missing a single class in college, especially those that are 3 hours or more, can really put you in a deep hole. Other than that, it's all about time management. I just try to divide up my time out of class by putting as much time as possible in to those classes that I am either not too strong in or just not understanding as well as the others," Lisk explains.

Lisk admits being frustrated watching teammates not prioritize their academics.

"I remember as a freshman I envisioned the few of us staying together all four years and being captains our senior year. But, due to academics, I am the only one remaining on the roster from that recruiting class," Lisk said.

Many other sports have similar situations so it's easy to agree that if the student-athletes did better as students, they would be better as athletes.

"If we don't retain juniors and seniors, we lack stability and leadership upperclassmen provide," DeFazio asserts. "My happiest moment is working at graduation and watching student-athletes get their diplomas."

All student-athletes have to do is consider why they are at New Jersey City University. They attend a university to gain a higher education. They truly play in Division III athletics for the love of the game. Without eligibility however, the love of the game will have to come from someone sitting on the sidelines. And when everyone realizes that, the problem of athletes failing will be solved.

Walter Avans

Continued from page 8

WA: A lot of the returning players were happy because they knew I was trying to break it and they've been trying to help me.

ER: Any upcoming game you're looking forward to?

WA: Our first NJAC vs. William Patterson. All the conference games are big. It's one of the toughest conferences in the United States.

ER: Are there any certain schools the team wants to beat?

WA: Montclair State... we always want to beat them. They're one of our biggest rivals. Rutgers-Newark [they're] also is a big rival. Coach actually played for Ramapo so that's a personal game that he wants to win.

ER: What are your goals for this season?

WA: It's my last year so hopefully we win something. I hope we make it to the playoffs in the NJAC and make it far. If we win the NJAC then we go to the NCAA Tournament and make it far there.

ER: What is your training routine like?

WA: I've been training almost all summer and even before the summer. I've been running for 90 minutes. I eat healthy and rest.

ER: What do you do on your spare time?

WA: I play PlayStation and hang out with my friends.

ER: What is your favorite sport besides soccer?

WA: Football.

ER: What is your favorite non-soccer team?

WA: New York Giants

ER: What is your favorite soccer team?

WA: River Plate from Argentina.

ER: Who is your favorite soccer player?

WA: Carlos Tevez from Argentina and Manchester City. I like the way he plays, it's more like my style. But out of all-time, I have to say Diego Maradona.

ER: What are your plans after graduation?

WA: I want to see if I make it somewhere professionally. I probably have to make some videos and send it out to different places. I use to play for the Red Bulls so maybe I can go back.

I asked him about his dream team and he gave me his lineup. It includes players from the past, present, his brother, and even his dad:

Goalkeeper: Ubaldo Fillol (Argentina; 1978 World Cup winner)

Sweeper: Walter Avans (this dad)

Stopper: Carles Puyol (Spain; FC Barcelona)

Right Back: Dani Alves (Brazil; FC Barcelona)

Left Back: Juan Pablo Sorin (Argentina; Captain of the 2006 World Cup national team)

Defensive Midfielder: Javier Mascherano (Argentina; FC Barcelona)

Left Midfielder: Diego Maradona (Argentina; 1986 World Cup winner)

Right Midfielder: Wesley Sneijder (Netherlands; Inter Milan)

Attacking Midfielder: Gabriel Avans (NJCU; Jr., 20 of Roselle Park, NJ)

Forward: Walter Avans

Forward: Lionel Messi (Argentina; FC Barcelona)

Brittany Hoffman

Continued from page 8

"I deal with the pressure by staying focused with the task at hand. When I step on the field I forget about everything else," explains Hoffman. "If I let up a goal I have to let it go right then because if I don't, that nagging disappointment and anger can destroy me."

Being a firefighter has strengthened Hoffman's game, just as being a goalkeeper originally helped her as a firefighter.

"I have been a keeper longer than I have been a firefighter so I'd say being a keeper set me up mentally and also taught me the importance of team work but firefighting has taught the real importance of mental toughness because of the more intense pressure you are under," stated Hoffman.

And yet, through the mental hardiness and obvious knack for the game, she is still a newcomer and striving to learn more. She finds inspiration from her teammates and captains, Nicole Sarica and Erica Buonacquista.

"It's a lot of fun because I have a great defense in front of me and the team as a whole is really fun to be a part of," said Hoffman. "I love the intensity everyone has and also, how close we all are."

NJCU's women's soccer team has been nothing but

successful. The team has begun the season without hesitation, leaving only wins in its wake.

"We have a strong team that I believe can overcome many obstacles, so I believe we will make it to NJAC playoffs," stated Hoffman.

This hardly seems out of reach, especially with the leadership of the upperclassmen, the raw talent of the team, and the driven rookie goalkeeper.

"Brittany Hoffman is the best keeper I have had in my six years as head coach, hands down. She has all the attributes of a good keeper and the potential to be even better," expressed Coach Robert Bielan, head coach of the women's soccer team.

It is easy to say Hoffman will be an asset for NJCU. But praises are not enough for the rookie, who wants to capture her potential.

"I want to keep improving as a keeper and make it to the NJAC playoffs every year," said Hoffman.

And after her four years of NJCU soccer are up, Hoffman does not see herself tending goal on the highest level. She has no hopes of playing after college at all. Instead, she wishes to be part of a different team, a team that saves lives rather than goals: a firefighter.

SPORTS

Basketball Coach Marc Brown: D3 Hoops Coach of the Year

By Alberto Arias

Coach Marc Brown has brought a winning tradition to the New Jersey City University men's basketball program. Fourth year coach, Brown was recognized for his leadership on and off the court after being selected as the 2011 D3hoops.com Atlantic Regional Men's Basketball Coach of the Year for the first time in his career. Under his guidance the Gothic Knights won an extraordinary 12th New Jersey Athletic Conference championship for the first time since 2004. He also guided them to a berth into the NCAA Division III Tournament.

"Winning the award is great! Individual accolades are not what it's about. It's a team thing but I feel honored as a coach. It just shows the kind of season we had and appreciate the fact that my colleagues think highly of me, to vote for me," said Coach Brown.

After not making the playoffs the first three seasons the Gothic Knights seemed to be headed to another disappointing season. Having nine new transfer players and after losing key players, starter power forward Isaiah Johnson and sixth man, Dashawn Eagle to academics in the third week of January things seemed to be taking a turn for the worst.

The Knights started off to a miserable 3-6 start for the 2010-2011 campaign and all those losses were by a combined 16 points. People began to doubt the basketball programs leadership and potential until Brown summoned his team's competitive spirit. He did not make any changes on his coaching method, it was attributed to his players meeting his challenge and playing at an elite level. The team chemistry began to gel and players grew accustomed to each others game on the basketball court.

Coach's Brown philosophy on basketball is "Defense wins games." The defensive minded coach drilled his team to ball at a high level on both ends of the court. They rallied under those demands by winning 16 of their last 20 games. NJCU limited oppo-



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

Coach Brown

nents to 63.0 points per game while scoring 75.0 points per game, which were both 3rd in the conference. Their defense was one of the best, as they led the conference in opponent's field goal percentage (.395), blocked shots (4.6), turnover margin (+5.72) and steals per game (11.7).

"They showed me a lot of heart, in the beginning things weren't going well. They could have easily have given up and losing two of your top players they could have thrown the season away. But they didn't, they stepped it up and I'm proud of them for that," said Brown.

They finished off strong by bulldozing their way through the conference and winning the thrilling NJAC championship game against Montclair State (72-67) on February, 25th.

"It feels great to win the NJAC. Honestly I felt relief to win in it at home in front of a big crowd it meant a lot to the program (assistant coaches Chris Brown, Jonathan Greene, Dennis Leonard). To me personally, winning it on the court named after my father (Charles Brown Court) was a big deal."

The academia aspect of Brown's players is of relative importance to him.

"The key is to maintain the guys we have now and make sure the guys are doing well academically and keeping their priorities straight," said Brown.

After losing the 2010-11 All-

NJAC shooting guard, Dashawn Barrino, they will have to replace 13 points per game from one of their floor generals. Returning seniors Taquan Abdullah and second team all NJAC point guard Keith Williams will provide the leadership this upcoming season.

"There are a couple of pieces we need to add. We have our eyes on some bigs and we're really looking to recruit size. We don't need a lot with the experience coming back but we want to plug in a few spots," said Coach Brown.

The pressure of being the top team or "Dark Horse" team of the league is challenging but Coach Brown embraced these expectations. He knows that his team had the talent but his motivation, fundamentally sound defense, and tedious attention to detail made his them an intimidating force. The D3 Coach of the Year is deserving of his accolades and his team's performance is a true testament to those accomplishments. Brown will expect his team to leave their blood, sweat, and tears on the hardwood this upcoming season.

"I would like to thank the students and faculty on that great night. A lot of school spirit was shown that night and it meant a lot to me, my family, and the men's basketball program. Hopefully we'll do it again, said Brown."

The NJCU Gothic Knights will open up their season on November 11 at the Messiah College Tournament.

Bend it like Walter

By Edgar Rivas, Jr.

#9 Walter Avans

Position: Forward
HT/WT: 5'7"/140 lbs.
School: Union Catholic

2010 Statistics

Gms. Played/Gms. Started: 18/15
Shots Taken: 47
Minutes Played: 1,121
Shot %: .213
Goals: 10
Yellow Cards/Red Cards: 2/0
Assists: 2
Hat-Tricks: 2
Points: 22
Fouls Committed: 17



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

Senior Walter Avans
from Roselle Park, NJ

Hall-of-Famers Jose Casais, Andrew Onyewuenyi, Alex Schuster. Before the Gothic Knights 12-1 victory over Medgar Evers on Sept. 4 these 3 men were single-game scoring record holders. After the victory, Walter Avans surpassed all three of them, setting the single-game record with 5 goals and 10 points in 34 minutes.

"I've known Walter for eight years. To be honest I was ecstatic. It couldn't have been done by a better guy," said teammate Manny Lojo, 21, Clark, NJ.

He erased a record that stood for 36-37 years. For his astounding achievement, he was named NJCU "Athlete of the Week" for the week of Sept. 1-4.

"He's the backbone of the team. He's a finisher, aggressive, a leader. The way he plays is how the rest of the team wants to play," said Lojo.

I conducted an interview with Walter Avans to talk about the record-setting game and a few other things:

Edgar Rivas: How does it feel setting the record?

Walter Avans: I've been trying to set the record since last year but I couldn't get it. Last year I tied the record, I had 4 goals. It was something I wanted to break.

ER: Did you find out that you set the record instantly or later on?

WA: [Team] We all knew.

ER: How did the team react to this achievement?

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Worthy of mention

Rookie Brittany Hoffman

By Alex Johanesen

A rookie with fire in her eyes, wearing the number zero, stands as the last line of defense for the New Jersey City University women's soccer team, a team that is now 7-0, and they love it. Brittany Hoffman is one of the six talented freshmen recruited for the 2011 season and already, she is making her mark.

The 18 year-old fire science major hails from McMurray, Pennsylvania with a 2010 high school State Championship already to her name and All-Conference accolades to back it up.

It would be incredibly hard for someone to have doubts of the humble goalkeeper's likely future success. She is a volunteer firefighter at Peters Township Fire Department, has competed in a Firefighter Combat Challenge and already holds a full Presidential academic scholarship to attend NJCU. Intelligence, toughness, and talent seem to be her qualities.

Despite initially being nervous about coming to NJCU, she has thrived alongside her teammates. The very first week of the season she became NJCU's first goalkeeper ever to be the NJAC (New Jersey Athletic Conference) Rookie of the



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Brittany Hoffman

Week.

"It was surprising. I really didn't expect the award," said Hoffman.

On September 7 Brittany Hoffman broke the school record for consecutive scoreless minutes. The previous record was held for 16 years before she increased the shutout margin to 365:22. Adding to that, she is the first player at NJCU with three uninterrupted shutouts.

"I don't see that record as being my individual record. That is a defensive record that is shared by the defense as a whole," stated Hoffman.

If she can conquer fires and save lives, it is evident Hoffman can't be intimidated by her rookie role.

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Women's Volleyball

Tue. 10/4/2011	College of New Rochelle, Jersey City, NJ	7 p.m.
Thu. 10/6/2011	Richard Stockton College, Jersey City, NJ	7 p.m.
Thu. 10/13/2011	Montclair State University, Jersey City, NJ	7 p.m.
Sat. 10/15/2011	Hunter College, Jersey City, NJ	10 a.m.
Sat. 10/15/2011	Delaware Valley College, Jersey City, NJ	2 p.m.
Thu. 10/27/2011	Rowan University, Jersey City, NJ	7 p.m.

Women's Soccer

Sat. 10/1/2011	Richard Stockton College, Jersey City, NJ	1 p.m.
Tue. 10/4/2011	John Jay College, Jersey City, NJ	3:30 p.m.
Wed. 10/12/2011	Rutgers-Newark, Jersey City, NJ	3:30 p.m.
Wed. 10/26/2011	Rutgers University-Camden, Jersey City, NJ	3:30 p.m.

Men's Soccer

Mon. 10/3/2011	College of Staten Island, Jersey City, NJ	4 p.m.
Sat. 10/15/2011	Montclair State University, Jersey City, NJ	12 p.m.
Mon. 10/17/2011	Lehman College, Jersey City, NJ	4 p.m.
Wed. 10/19/2011	Ramapo College, Jersey City, NJ	4 p.m.
Sat. 10/22/2011	The College of New Jersey, Jersey City, NJ	1 p.m.