

# A Call to Arms

## Should School Security Carry Guns on Campus?

By Candice Pepe

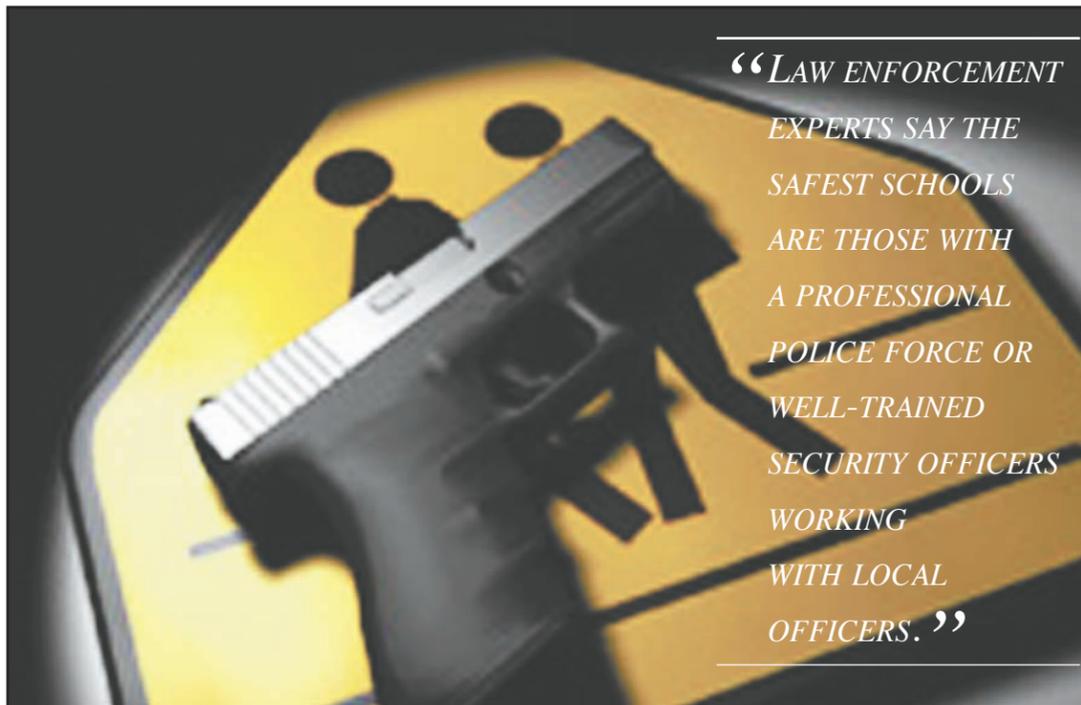
New Jersey City University is a gun-free campus, meaning no one has the right to carry a firearm, not even campus security. Do guns on campus make a school safer than one without?

John Mooney from the Star Ledger has reported, "At Rutgers there's a police force of more than 50 certified armed officers and 35 unarmed security officers. At Montclair State University, the force consists of 33 certified officers."

"I came from Hudson County Community College and as you enter the building the guards ask to show your I.D.," said Sandra Sing, 41, a management major from Jersey City. "Here anybody can walk in, students or non-students."

"Outsiders appearing on campus may be requested by University authorities to supply identification and their reasons for coming on campus," states the Gothic Guide Student Handbook.

"Although a requirement of IDs would help control who comes in and out of the buildings, it certainly cannot prevent a harmful situation if one should occur," said Diana Dillinger, 22, an accounting major from Jersey City.



www.google.com

"As with any public place, I would suggest students and faculty to become more aware of their surroundings and to report any suspicious activity instead of keeping track of everyone through constant ID checks."

"I don't like guns, but basically if someone came in here, for example what happened in Virginia or Illinois, I feel that the

guards should have guns on them to protect the students," said Sing.

Bret Schulte reported in the U.S. News & World Report, "Law enforcement experts say the safest schools are those with a professional police force or well-trained security officers working with local officers."

In the case of an intruder on campus, public safety would no-

**"LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERTS SAY THE SAFEST SCHOOLS ARE THOSE WITH A PROFESSIONAL POLICE FORCE OR WELL-TRAINED SECURITY OFFICERS WORKING WITH LOCAL OFFICERS."**

### Gothic Times Wins Three

On March 17, the results of the 2007 Better College Newspaper contest, presented by New Jersey Collegiate Press Association, were announced.

The Gothic Times received three awards in three different categories. Cristina Villaflor won second place for Photography, Vincenzo Capone won honorable mention for Arts and Entertainment writing, and Vanessa Cubillo won honorable mention for Opinion writing.

The awards will be presented at a spring conference in the Trenton Marriott on April 10.

make them feel safer," said Dillinger.

NJCU in many aspects is highly equipped when it comes to security. There are several booths with nested security guards, over 300 emergency telephones strategically placed all around campus, and the new automated Gothic Alert System.

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# Record High Numbers for NSLS

By Patricia Ann Beninati

The National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) Sigma Alpha Pi chapter at New Jersey City University kicked off its fourth season with an all-time, record-high number of member students.

"We are currently over 144 student members strong and growing, many students have returned to double their requirements, and received the 'National Excellence in Leadership Award,'" said Sarah Ambrose, an NSLS NJCU Chapter Co-Chair Advisor.

The National Society of Leadership and Success is a nationwide organization dedicated to creating long-term positive change in a college student's life. Every semester a group of NJCU students are invited to join by receiving an invitation letter in the mail. If they did not receive the letter to join in, then interested students must be nominated by two faculty members on campus.

The NSLS program is focused on arming students with leader-

ship training and skills to create a positive change in their lives. "The program motivates students to take action and set goals," said Ambrose.

The NJCU NSLS chapter is supported by Co-Chair Advisors Sarah Ambrose and Feliz Gutierrez.

"The purpose of The National Society of Leadership and Success is to help students to find the root of who they are, what they want and how to achieve it. This program is about the students as individual, and Sarah and I are just the messengers," said Gutierrez. "The positive feedback that we have received is not only from the students but from NJCU faculty and staff that are supporting the program as well. We believe in the NSLS and we are as advisors, experiencing the commitment and determination that is needed to achieve your goals."

NSLS is a network of motivated and high achieving students, who come together to help each other attain success with the support of some of the nations lead-

ing speakers.

"I see wonderful growth at the NJCU chapter, and many times I do not get to visit campuses, but I was at the recent NJCU induction ceremony, and I saw the chapter being run well. As the national president, I'm excited to see the transformation and the degree to which they are getting involved," said Gary Tuerack, President of NSLS. "Today, the chapter is growing and going well beyond what is required. I'm thrilled and excited that student members are making a positive impact on their lives."

Initially, students are invited in as registered pending members and must partake in seven live mandatory videoconferences per academic year with a peer coaching team called, Success Networking Team (SNT).

"The SNT Teams provide members with resilience to develop their talents and attain goals," said Trent A. Rhodes, an NJCU graduate student.

After paying a \$65 lifetime membership fee and meeting the

minimum requirements, students become full fledged members of the Society, receiving official certification at the end of the semester at the induction ceremony.

"I'm so excited to be a part of this group because all of the returning members are so enthusiastic," said Dalal Naoum, 18, a student from North Bergen, New Jersey.

Society members will also be eligible for monthly, annual awards, scholarships, have total access to leadership materials, benefit from focused training, speakers, coaches, job banks, social events, and network with other students.

"I'm sure that this program is going to help me to improve my self-confidence, to grow as a professional, and as a person," said, Ingrid Chilito, 25, a senior majoring in business administration in travel and tourism Management.

Both Ambrose and Gutierrez remain quite optimistic that the Society will continue to enjoy its ro-

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# NEWS

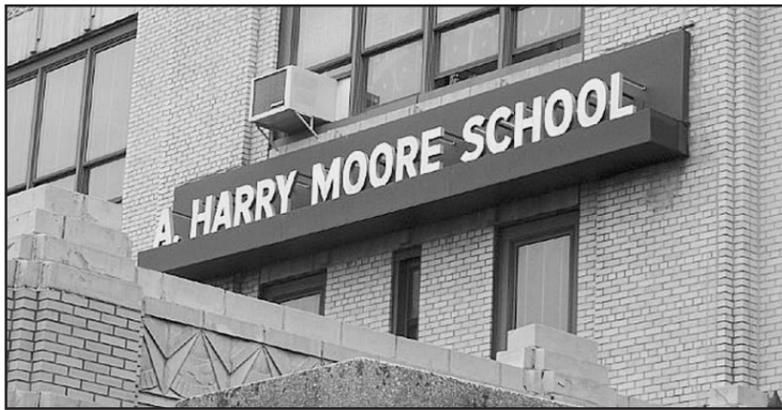
## A closer look at A. Harry Moore School

By Samuel Matos

**A** Harry Moore School, located on 2078 Kennedy Boulevard, has been educating disabled students since April 18, 1921.

The school is named after Arthur Harry Moore, the 39th Governor of New Jersey, who served in the governorship from January 19, 1926 to January 15, 1929.

Since its inauguration, A. Harry Moore School or A. Harry Moore Laboratory School has offered programs that focus on



A. Harry Moore School

the academic and therapeutic aspect of the student. The range of disability is broken down into four classifications: Preschool Disabled, Learning Disabled, Language Disabled and Multiple Disabled. About 190 students, from ages 3-21 are currently enrolled at the school.

A. Harry Moore School shares a collaborative relationship with NJCU's Education Department. "A. Harry Moore School serves as a demonstration school," said Dr. Ivan Banks, Dean of College of Education. "And provides a place where

students can get hands on teaching experience working with disabled children."

The demonstration aspect of the school signifies that aspiring teachers are given the opportunity to intern at A. Harry Moore School.

The school, which operates under the guidance of NJCU's Education department, is overseen by Dr. Banks.

"The principal of the school reports to me," said Dr. Banks. "Administratively I oversee the school."

Perhaps some aspiring teachers would not choose to intern at A. Harry Moore School. But according to Dr. Banks, those individuals would lose out on much needed experience.

"If it were up to me," said Dr. Banks. "Every education student would intern at A. Harry Moore School. This is an important experience, to be sensitive to the needs of children."

A. Harry Moore School's philosophy is to be "committed to the education of children with disabilities, empowering them to become contributing and productive members of society."

According to Dr. Banks, the students at A. Harry Moore School face difficult challenges, but with the school's help, many will become independent adults.

"Most students move on to college," said Dr. Banks. "Others do not. The school provides programs that help students become independent, others will never be totally independent."

Any student interested in learning more about A. Harry Moore School can visit the school's website at [www.njcu.edu/dept/ahmoore/](http://www.njcu.edu/dept/ahmoore/).

## Academic Program Festival

By Denise Gibson

**W**ould you like to learn more about what our campus has to offer? NJCU students are welcome to attend the Academic Program Festival. The festival will feature live entertainment, how to choose a major workshop, academic information, poetry reading, silk-screening of T-shirts, caricatures and more.

Rosa Perez, assistant to the Dean of Arts and Sciences, organized this program with the support of her office staff to "Allow students to gain information about the different departments and to showcase some of our students and faculty."

Students will get a chance to find out about what the arts and sciences departments have to offer.

"I hope to find out what type of job opportunities my major offers," said Shamel Dingle, a sociology major from Jersey City.

Perez hopes for students, especially undeclared major students, to benefit fully from this event since all the information is in one convenient spot.

"It's like an academic foundation fair," Perez said.

She described the occasion as a "great opportunity to walk through and meet with different departments."

"This will be a chance to network and possibly grab a snack on my way to class," Dingle said.

The event will be held on Wednesday, April 16 at the John Raines Plaza, the area between Hepburn Hall and the Guarini library. The rain date is Wednesday, April 23 in the same location.

**NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY**  
**ACADEMIC PROGRAM Festival**  
 Live Entertainment  
 How to Choose a Major Workshop  
 Academic Information Fair  
 Poetry Reading  
 Silk-Screening of T-Shirts  
 Caricatures and more  
**Wednesday**  
**April 16, 2008**  
**John Raines Plaza**  
 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
 Rain Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2008  
 Between Hepburn Hall & the Frank J. Guarini Library  
 Sponsored by the William J. Maxwell College of Arts and Sciences



## Word on Campus

Photos and interviews by Santo Sanabria

### How do you stay focused in spring?



Irene Prudente, 22  
 Cliffwood, NJ  
 MAJOR :  
 Accelerated BSN

**O**rganization! Everything has to be set into a schedule. You also have to zone out all the unnecessary stuff. You'll get everything done eventually.



Maurice Ward, 22  
 Willingboro, NJ  
 MAJOR :  
 Business Marketing

**J**ust stay focused and organized. Everything has to be time managed. Community service is even good.



Victor DelValle  
 Alumnus  
 MAJOR: Marketing  
 Event Scheduler for  
 Campus Life

**I** look forward to outdoor events and the interaction with students.



Edison Bilbao, 20  
 Cartaret, NJ  
 MAJOR :  
 Marketing

**M**y main strategy to focus is to always keep my head on my goals which is hopefully to graduate! Being able to do my homework early and study is a must. It is hard to be able to do many things in spring especially because I play soccer and in school everyday. But, as with everything, it takes hard work and the results will come.



Tiffany McQueary  
 Jersey City, NJ  
 MAJOR :  
 Psychology  
 SGO Executive  
 Vice President

**I**n the spring semester I manage time efficiently. I make sure I make time for myself, and my school work. Everyone has to find their own balance. Sometimes this is hard to do but it's not impossible.



Calii, 19  
 MAJOR :  
 Criminal  
 Justice

**I** keep focused by maintaining a routine and planning. If I throw off my routine everything is off track. It gets hard because it's near the end of the school year and the weather gets better but as long as I keep my routine consistent and plan in advance I usually stay focused and keep on track.



Christian Acuna, 20  
 Harrison, NJ  
 MAJOR :  
 Criminal Justice

**B**y keeping everything organized. Usually by having an agenda and writing every homework and test I have to do in the future. And I always keep on track of it by going through the agenda at least twice a day. Sometimes I also have a reminder on my phone that alerts me when I have homework, exams and etc.

# NEWS



Photo from [http://current.com/items/87669641\\_more\\_guns\\_less\\_problems\\_on\\_campus](http://current.com/items/87669641_more_guns_less_problems_on_campus)

**Is the answer to school shootings such as Va. Tech, Columbine, etc. to allow concealed weapons on campus?**

## A Call to Arms

*Continued from page 1*

"If something happened I know there's nothing stopping it. But I'm not worried that something will happen," said Martin Telewiak, 24, a finance major from Bayonne.

There's not only an argument stewing throughout the country of having more security officials carrying guns, but for students to carry weapons for defense, too.

Students for Concealed Carry on Campus (SCCC) is an organization that supports the idea of licensed students being allowed to bring their concealed guns to school because it would not only exercise their right to carry, but also increase safety.

"Declaring a college campus a

'gun free zone' may make some people feel safer, but as the April 16, 2007, massacre at Virginia Tech and the February 14, 2008, massacre at Northern Illinois University illustrated, feeling safe is not the same as being safe. Denying licensed individuals the means to defend themselves on college campuses turns institutions of higher learning into supermarkets for would-be rapists and mass murderers," states SCCC's website, [www.concealed-campus.com](http://www.concealed-campus.com).

"I myself wouldn't feel safe of another person my age or younger carrying a concealed weapon around school all because he has a clean criminal record," said Telewiak.

"Utah allows permit holders to carry guns on campuses of its nine public universities," report-

ed Marisol Bello from USA Today. Some Colorado colleges also allow it. There are ten other states with legislation pending in hopes to reverse the ban of guns at school.

"Concealed Carry Laws reduce mass public shootings. Criminals are more afraid of confronting a potential victim with a gun than they are of the police and reassures that concealed handgun license holders carry for defense of life only. They do not act like the police and actively seek out a shooter," claims the SCCC.

"I feel safe. We still got to be students, we still got to live in America and we still got to go to class. We don't need a hundred cops and security guards all over the place," said Marcelo Ona, 28, an undeclared undergraduate from Jersey City.

## NSLS Keeps Growing

*Continued from page 1*

bust growth.

"Many students look forward to the weekly meetings; NSLS helps you put an end to procrastination," said Christina Conti, a student majoring in media arts and elementary education.

One student, Arnaldo Mesian, 26, majoring in professional security studies, said he was inspired to be a leader and join the US Marines after September 11, 2007.

"Being part of the NSLS Society will help me improve my interpersonal communicational skills and establish friendships that may prove to be beneficial in the near future," said Mesian.

The mission of NSLS is to assist individuals to create the lives they desire by helping them discover what they truly want to do, and giving the support, and the tools

to achieve it.

"It is such a relief to be able to share your challenges, receive positive feedback, suggestions, encouragement and have your peers consistently hold you accountable to the finish line," said Asheenia Johnson, a student from Jersey City majoring in economics.

The Society was founded in 2001, and began with 16 chapters. Today, NSLS has well over 20,000 members in 100 chapters.

The Society provides recommendation letters to assist in helping graduates secure a job that they choose. The Society acknowledges that students who take full advantage of what it has to offer will be more desirable to potential employers after graduation.

For more information on National Society of Leadership and Success go to: [www.leadership-society.com/njcu](http://www.leadership-society.com/njcu).



Photo by Santo Sanabria

**From left to right: Dr. John Melendez, Sarah Ambrose, Feliz Gutierrez and Carmen Panlilio.**

## NJCU Adjunct Arrested In Internet Underage Sex Sting

By Marlen Gonzalez

Leonardo Zayas, a 35-year-old New Jersey City University adjunct faculty member was arrested on Monday, March 31. The Jersey City man was charged with attempted sexual assault, luring, attempted endangering the welfare of a child and attempted criminal sexual contact, announced Bergen County Prosecutor John Molinelli.

The arrest came from an investigation by the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office, Computer Crimes Task Force. Zayas engaged in conversations via the Internet, with what he believed was a 14-year-old girl. During the course of those conversations Zayas initiated sexually explicit dialog.

Zayas masturbated and transmitted those images via his web camera, and Zayas also instructed what he believed to be a 14-year-old female to masturbate. Additionally, Zayas requested to meet the presumed 14-year-old-girl for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity. He was arrested without incident at the prearranged meeting location.



Photo by Bergen County Municipal Court

**Leonardo Zayas, an NJCU adjunct faculty member, was arrested after an investigation by the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office Computer Crimes Unit.**

Zayas taught the Computer Science class "Business Application Micro I" which meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Adjunct Dawn Niles will be taking over the class for the remainder of the semester.

"My [first] thoughts were about the students," said Professor Jean-Claude Ngatchou,

chairman of the Computer Science Department. "How this will affect my students – that was my main concern. I didn't want it to impact the progress of the students."

An adjunct is an instructor who does not have a permanent position at the academic institution. Zayas has been an adjunct faculty member since 2001. He was hired on a part-time basis and did not work every semester according to Ellen Wayman-Gordon, NJCU's Director of Public Information.

"I hate that it had to happen to our university, but it did," said Maurice Washington, 23, a criminal justice major from Orlando, Florida who also serves as the Student Government Organization President. "I hope that negative actions of this [kind] don't affect our university on a larger scale"

Prosecutor Molinelli urges anyone whose child spoke with anyone using the screen name "leozayas1972@yahoo.com" to contact the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office Computer Crimes Unit.

*Additional reporting done by Denise Gibson.*



NJCU'S  
SALSA Y SABOR  
DANCE CLUB  
(ESTABLISHED FALL 2007)

**SALSA ON 1 SALSA ON 2  
MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS**

**3:00 – 5:00**

**FRIES HALL BASEMENT  
DANCE STUDIO**

**JOIN THE HOTTEST CLUB ON CAMPUS!  
LEARN TO DANCE & PERFORM WITH US  
NO PARTNER NECESSARY**

**CONTACT : XAVIER ATENCIO – PRESIDENT  
[XAVMED14@AOL.COM](mailto:XAVMED14@AOL.COM)**

**BETTY GERENA  
PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER  
ADVISOR**

# ADVICE

## William Shakespeare Fever or Nightmare

By Mabel Montero

William Shakespeare is considered, by many, as one of the best English poets and great dramatists of all times. Others consider Shakespeare to be outdated, and boring. Regardless, William Shakespeare, 444 years after he was born, is still remembered.

There are many different opinions of Shakespeare's work. Shakespeare's plays like *Hamlet* and *Romeo and Juliet* are the most read literary works of the world, according to [kirjasto.sci.fi/shakespeare.htm](http://kirjasto.sci.fi/shakespeare.htm).

Some NJCU students enjoy when some teachers propose reading Shakespeare because his work is "timeless." Other students dread coming to class when they know they will be reading one of Shakespeare's works.

"I like most of his plays, but some of them, like *Macbeth*, put me to sleep. Its hard to understand

him sometimes, but like my professor says, if he would have wrote it in plain, regular English, it wouldn't be famous 400 years later," said a 22-year-old Business major.

Teachers are not trying to annoy students by forcing them into literature that is almost 430 years old. They are simply trying to educate and show different aspects of literature. What better way to understand literature than by knowing its history?

Shakespeare wrote many different plays and tons of sonnets. Even today, his authorship is questioned. Some people even believe he did not write many of his plays. They give credit to Christopher Marlowe, another great poet and writer.

"I hate talking about this, because it causes arguments but the truth is, Shakespeare was a fake; he stole all his work from Marlowe," said an angry Education major.



[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

According to [kirjasto.sci.fi/shakespeare.htm](http://kirjasto.sci.fi/shakespeare.htm), Shakespeare was born into a humble family. His mother was the daughter of a landowner and his father was a glover, wood dealer and butcher. It also says that when Shake-

speare began to work with his father, and killed calves, he would make a speech after it died.

It's not about loving Shakespeare, it's about understanding who he was, and why he's important.



Photo courtesy of [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

## William Shakespeare Facts

from <http://absoluteshakespeare.com/trivia/facts/facts.htm>.

1. Shakespeare, one of literature's greatest figures, never attended university.
2. Of the 154 sonnets or poems the playwright penned, his first 26 were said to be directed to an aristocratic young man who did not want to marry.
3. The famous playwright died in 1616 at the age of 52. He wrote on average 1.5 plays a year since he first started in 1589. His last play *The Two Noble Kinsmen* is reckoned to have been written in 1613 when he was 49 years old.
4. William never published any of his plays. We read his plays today only because his fellow actors, John Hemminges and Henry Condell, posthumously recorded his work as a dedication to their fellow actor in 1623, publishing 36 of William's plays. This collection, known as *The First Folio* is the source from which all published Shakespeare books are derived and is an important proof that he authored his plays.

## Who's heard of Earth Day?

By Mabel Montero

Earth Day is meant to inspire awareness and appreciation of the Earth's environment. Earth day is celebrated yearly every April 22.

According to Wikipedia.org, John McConnell founded Earth Day in 1969. Some people even use the entire week to celebrate by doing something positive for the planet.

Since this is an important day, why is it that many NJCU students don't know about it? Six out of thirty students are aware of Earth Day, the rest have no idea

there was a day to celebrate the environment, the air we breathe, and nature.

According to [epa.gov](http://epa.gov), "Through the combined efforts of the U.S. government, grassroots organizations, and citizens like you, what started as a day of national environmental recognition has evolved into a world-wide campaign to protect our global environment."

Here are some ideas of things you can do on Earth Day, April 22, 2008. For more information, or to view different ideas, you can visit [www.state.nj.us/dep/seeds/earthday/things.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/seeds/earthday/things.htm).

• **Participate in a local environmental education or Earth Day experience.**

Visit a new or nearby nature center, science center, park, cooperative extension office, museum or conservation district office.

• **Get your hands dirty!** Participate in a river cleanup, pick up litter or plant a flower garden.

• **Enjoy nature!** Sit and rest in the woods or along a stream.

• **Protect water quality!** Clean up after pets. Test wells annually for bacteria and nutrients. Don't dump used oil, paint, coolants or other chemicals into the ground.

• **Use products that produce less waste and pollution.** Substitute water-based products whenever possible when buying paints and household cleaners. Or, switch from chemical-type cleaners to natural products like soap and water.

• **Recycle!** Purchase products that contain recycled-content materials as often as possible.

• **Save energy!** Turn off unneeded lights and appliances. Replace standard light bulbs with energy efficient fluorescents to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.



• **Use your car less and take good care of it.** Keep the car tuned and leak-free, and get it inspected regularly. Keep tires properly inflated and dispose of used motor oil and cooling fluids at designated recycling centers. Try using mass transit, carpooling, walking or riding a bike as often as possible.

• **Conserve water!** Install flow restrictors on all faucets and use low-flow shower devices. Do not let the water run wastefully when washing anything. Water the lawn in the early morning or late afternoon.



[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

## Ask Mabel

By Mabel Montero

## Ready for Summer?

With the summer around the corner all students are getting ready to show off their abs. Here are two helpful tips from [www.absexerciseadvice.com](http://www.absexerciseadvice.com) so you can have perfect abs to show off all summer.

### The Captain's Chair: The #1 Best Ab Exercise

This ab exercise is often overlooked. It is an advanced abdominal exercise therefore it is very important that you keep your lower back stable. Do not arch your back during this exercise. If you can't do it correctly, then you shouldn't do it at all.

Stand on a chair and grip the handles to stabilize your upper body. Press your back against the pad and slowly lift knees towards your chest. Again make sure to keep your lower back firmly in place – otherwise you won't be strengthening your abs, but your hip muscles. You should also feel the tightening and burning in your abs after a few reps.

If you don't you're probably not doing the exercise properly.

### The Bicycle Maneuver: The #2 Best Ab Exercise

Good news! No special equipment is needed for this top notch ab exercise. You need to lie on the floor. If you can afford to invest in an exercise mat that would be the best option. However, you can also use a towel or lay on your carpeted floor.

While lying on your back, press your lower back to the floor. Place your hands beside your head, bring your knees to 45-degree angle (halfway between straight up toward the ceiling and level with the floor) & begin a pedal motion by touching opposite elbow to opposite knee, alternating each side.

You will definitely feel the tightening and burning in your abs with this exercise! Start with repetitions of 10-20 at first.

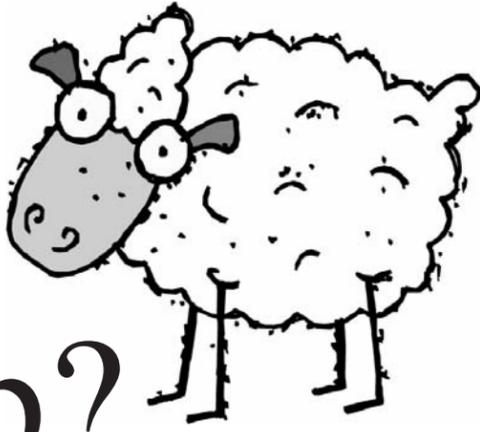


MABEL MONTERO  
Advice Editor

# EDITORIAL

## The Herd Mentality:

# Are You A Sheep?



By Michael Sorrentino

*\*Herd Instinct: A mentality characterized by a lack of individuality, causing people to think and act like the general population.*

A small army of camera wielding paparazzi swarmed the black Mercedes sedan as a news helicopter captured the scene and transmitted it live to its gossip ravenous audience. Inside the now immobile sedan was the attractive, super-famous female pop-star, looking far less annoyed at the photographic fusillade than the nobodies jammed behind her as the traffic light changed from red, to green, and back to red again. Was she on her way to her latest stint in rehab, escaping from her most recent psych-ward holiday, or both? Was it Britney, Lindsey, or perhaps Paris? Most importantly, why the hell do you care?

A Hollywood celebrity accidentally kills himself with prescription drugs and the story is given full network coverage, but the posthumous awarding one of the military's highest decorations, the Silver Star, to a 25-year-old Marine private who died heroically serving his country is treated as a mere human interest story if any attention is paid at all. You can name the actor, but the name Sean Stokes is one you've probably never heard before.

Putting aside one's political leanings or personal feelings about war, it is fair to question the news media's sense of priority. There was a time in the not too distant past that supermarket gossip tabloids were not taken seriously or thought of as real journalism. One could argue that so called legitimate news outlets are increasingly taking on the appearance of the tabloids and becoming ever more sensationalist and gossip oriented.

*\*\*Brainwashing: 1 : a forcible indoctrination to induce someone*

*to give up basic political, social, or religious beliefs and attitudes and to accept contrasting regimented ideas 2 : persuasion by propaganda or salesmanship*

The general term media can be broken down to print, visual and audio mediums. Each time you read something in a newspaper or magazine, hear it on the radio, or see it on television, you are a customer of the media company, and a potential consumer of its advertisers' goods and services (or ideas, opinions, political agenda).

The media's purpose is to sell you something, or condition your

ture example is the film, *The Matrix*. In one scene near the beginning of the story, just before Neo is freed from a machine-induced false reality, Morpheus explains to him, "Like everyone else, you were born into a prison, a prison that you cannot smell or touch, a prison for your mind."

In much the same way, the modern mass media has you caught in its own version of *The Matrix*. You are constantly assaulted with subliminal images and commands, installing unwanted adware into the software of your brain, telling you what to buy, how to think, what to watch, what to believe and even what is beautiful.

The days of giving the people what they want have been replaced by selling the people what we tell them they want. This can be seen whether you're being sold a product, a political agenda or religious dogma. So, how do you take Morpheus' advice and free your mind?

*\*\*Introspection: A reflective looking inward: an examination of one's own thoughts and feelings.*

Much contemplation and introspection goes into separating from the herd. It isn't always easy or pain free to mindfully sift through all of the information that bombards you everyday; to separate that which you believe to be valuable for your life from the worthless or potentially hazardous.

Using another example from *The Matrix*, perhaps you're more like Cypher, the character whose mind is so conditioned that he prefers the cushy bliss of ignorance over the challenges of real life. For too many of us, it's easier to just take the blue pill and go back to sheep...make that sleep.

*\*http://financial-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/*

*\*\*http://www.merriam-webster.com/*

*"The herd is made up of those of us that have allowed the mass media to influence our everyday lives..."*

mind to be a potential buyer. It doesn't matter if it is an idea or product being sold, it has to be attractively packaged and marketed in a way that will make you want to spend money on it, and sometimes, make you want to be it.

Have you seen a musical performance or movie recently? One could come away with the idea that only very attractive young people have artistic talent. A good looking celebrity is more likely to attract your attention when they appear in that car or make-up commercial.

*\*\*Sheep: 1: a timid defenseless creature, 2: a timid docile person; especially : one easily influenced or led*

The term Sheep has been used by people of various ideologies to describe those under the influence of the herd mentality and often to belittle those with opposing views. The herd is made up of those of us that have allowed the mass media to influence our everyday lives, even to the point of how we view ourselves.

An easily identifiable pop-cul-

## THE GOTHIC TIMES

### 2007-2008 Editorial Board Members

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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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This paper is printed on recycled content newspaper.

## Well Worth the Trouble

### The Life of a Single Mom

By Monique Redman

The alarm sounds at 6 a.m. signaling the day is about to begin. I have to get up this early because I have to make sure I shower, iron my clothes as well as the kid's clothes, dress, and try to watch "Good Day New York" - before I wake up my children. With the added pressure of an 8-month-belly, I need a little more time than usual to get myself together before awaking the children.

My children are not easy to wake up. I always wake Zykeim, my 8-year-old son up first because he moves the slowest. I'm grateful that he's of age where I don't have to do much for him in the morning except iron his clothes. I tend to take it a step further and lotion his face or brush his hair, and make sure he's dressed properly, before I wake my 3-year-old son, Damon Jr.

I dress DJ (Damon) while he's asleep, and wait awhile before I wake him to wash his face, brush his teeth, and eat breakfast. It's hard to get him up in the morning because he detests the morning. After what seems like an eternity, I finally get him up and we're on our way out the door.

After dropping the kids off at school and daycare, I head to campus at NJCU to work on my assignments. Since I'm due to give birth to my third child (IT'S A GIRL!) in March, I'm only carrying 10 credits this semester as opposed to my usual 12 credits. After my assignments are done, I'm finished for the day until 7 p.m. when class begins.

I have to pick my children up from school, make sure homework is completed and dinner is

eaten, before I leave for class. Class usually lasts until 9 p.m. After class I pick up my children and head home to Carlstadt, NJ.

As you can see I never have a dull moment. I'm constantly tired, I have a family, work and school to juggle, and keep in mind I'm eight months pregnant. Life for me isn't easy. There have been many days when I felt like giving up, just working full-time, and forgetting about school because I need to be home more with my children.

After these thoughts, I look at my children and I know there is no way I could stop. I want my

*"There have been many days when I felt like giving up, just working full-time, and forgetting about school..."*

children to have a better life with better opportunities than I had as a child. It has been a very long journey for me, but I know that in order to make it to the top, you have to start from the bottom and work your way up.

I'm reminded of these words that I'm sure Dr. Falcone speaks to every one of his students. He tells us no matter what happens in your life, whether your house burns down, you lose your job, or whatever unfortunate circumstance comes your way, never stop going to school. In the long run, it will all be worth it.

There are many students who don't even have half the burdens that I bear and complain about not being able to make it. I challenge them to take a walk in my shoes for not even a day, but for four hours out of the day, and then ask yourself that same question.

I may be a single parent, a single pregnant parent, with a lot to juggle, but I know if I keep going, great rewards are in store for me and my family at the end.



# OPINION

## Prices for Books Taken Way Out of Con- 'text'

By Anthony Keazwezka

For NJCU students, money is hard to come by more often than not. To be successful in any class a text book is needed. The question is, if the texts are needed and students have to buy them, why are the prices in the bookstore so outrageous?

Some text books, which are the size of a drivers manual, can have a price tag of anywhere from \$100 or more.

Don't get me wrong, the books are useful and helpful in passing the course, but do they have to cost an arm and a leg?

When you get the syllabus from a professor and you notice you need one book maybe two and you figure it won't hurt your pockets much, but you end up leaving the bookstore with your receipt in hand and mouth agape.

The only thing that puts a positive spin on the price in the end of the semester, the consumer can get 50 percent back on the price of the book, or so it says.

Is it really fair to spend over \$100 on a book at the bookstore

and get maybe \$20 back in return?

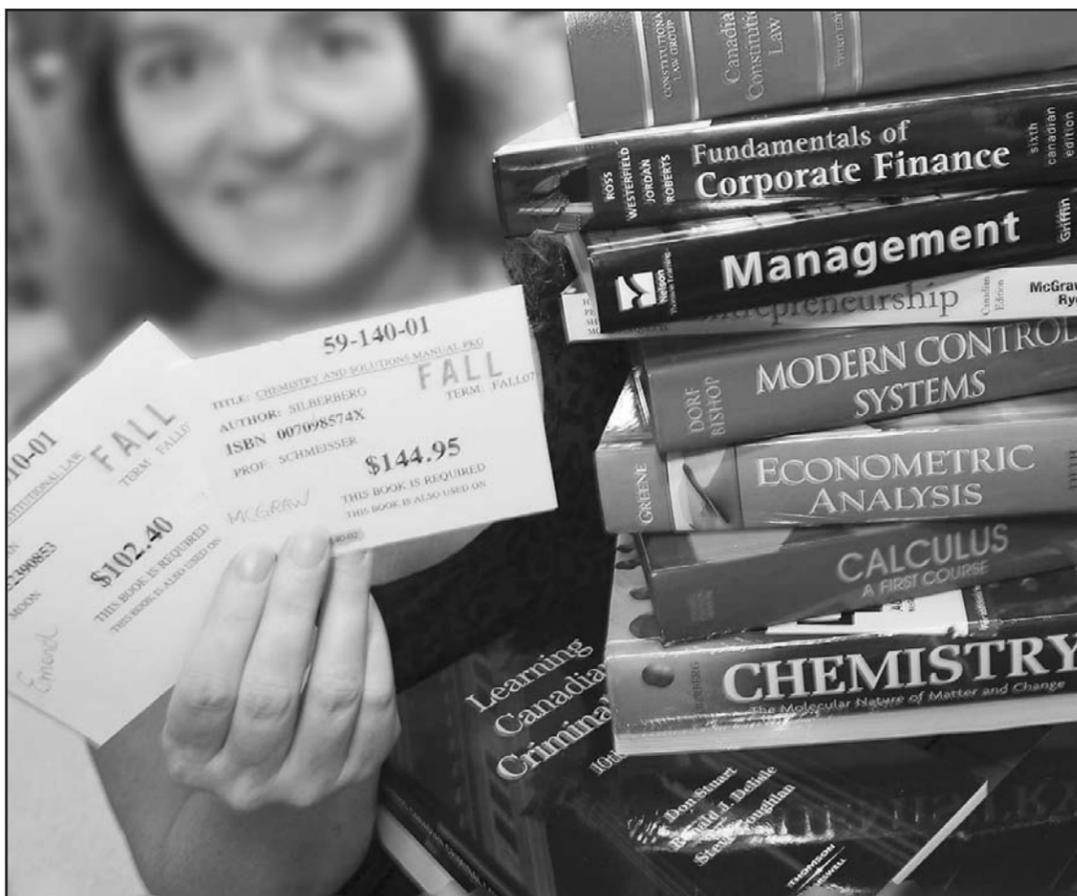
This might be the reason many students find it easier and more cost efficient to buy their text books online rather than in the bookstore. Not only will the price be less expensive, but if they choose to sell it back or even sell it to another student they can get more cash back for their purchase.

If you miss out on the used books in the bookstore (which is still kind of high), the new texts will seem like a waste of money, and more times than not, the book will remain on the shelf.

Some professors urge their students to get the text book and half way through the semester, the book is seen as an impulse purchase that could have stayed in the store. The amount of material covered in the text doesn't compare with how much money was spent on it.

The money that you cough up for the text book should equal out with the information you actually learn from the book.

If the text is needed, make the price more affordable.



www.clipart.com

## NJCU: The Best Kept Secret

By Synady Laurent

For decades, New Jersey City University has been called "the best kept secret," an entity with an exceptional motto: "Enter to learn, exit to serve."

NJCU's motto has a clear objective which has helped many accomplish goals that are beyond belief; a promise that was kept.

I have always wondered why a prestigious university such as NJCU had to be the best kept secret. I am delighted with the education I have received during my tenure at NJCU, and I would

not trade it for anything.

However, we are living in the communication era where a school such as NJCU, a devoted entity that vowed since 1929 to serve its community with integrity, should not be the best kept secret.

As marketing major, I feel that the school has failed to create a statewide and national awareness by marketing itself properly. New Jersey City University is a business. The primary goal of any business is to provide goods and services while implementing a strategic plan to communicate its

values to the customers. Failure to keep a competitive edge in the higher learning market by marketing the university appropriately can limit its potential growth. New Jersey City University has very strong assets (abundance in academic, cultural, social resources, and its location), and the school should market them.

Although The College of Professional Studies had one of the most innovative marketing campaigns last year for the opening of the Masters of Science in Accounting and Finance programs at Harborside Financial Center,

there is still more to be done.

The administrative staff at New Jersey City University should keep in mind that some of the most successful businesses that succeed in creating a strong brand image never stop scanning the environment in which they operate.

Being proud of my alma mater, I promise to use one of the most effective forms of advertisement, word of mouth marketing, to inspire others to take part in this experience; a priceless learning journey at New Jersey City University.



CHRISTIE AVILA

### Come to the Celebration of Journalism

What:  
*The Gothic Times* Annual  
Celebration

When:  
April 24, 12-2 p.m.

Where:  
The Gothic Lounge,  
Hepburn Hall, Room # 202

The entire campus is welcome to come.  
Stay for the free food!

## Perfectly Uncool

By Monique Redman

Every morning I tune in to watch Fox5 for the daily weather report. If I wanted to just see the weather, I happen to know what time Mike Woods actually gives the forecast. I'll admit that I happen to like watching "Good Day New York." So after learning what the forecast will be for the next five days, I stay tuned in to see what the news is for the day.

Like every other station the two newscasters, Jody and Ron, and the rest of the gang go on to tell the latest news updates from all over the world. Whether it's breaking news or just plain old news, I find out just what's going on in the world.

Every morning for some time now Fox 5 has had this segment entitled "Cool or Uncool." This segment, along with "Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader," kept my attention for quite some time. That is until it began to get a little outrageous to me.

Let me say in the wise words of

Dr. Broderick, "journalists report the news – they aren't the news." News is news and not the reporter's opinion on the news.

The latest Cool or Uncool segment, which really startled me, was the question of whether new Gov. David Patterson should step down due to his past infidelities and drug abuse. When I heard this question I actually thought I would vomit.

Not only does Fox 5 poll their audience, they also ask the other reporters on the show to comment as well. Talk about being nosy.

Is this what America has resulted to? Are we that nosy that we have to dissect each and every little detail in every public figure's or celebrity's life?

Am I imagining things or is the land we live in called America the land of the free? Well, I must ask just how free we are.

Why should Gov. David Patterson be put in the position to disclose every little detail about his and his wife's personal lives to prevent the snooping of some unhappy person exposing him to the

public? Have we forgotten that we are all human beings? Why are we so quick to pass judgment upon someone else as if we live without sin? As the saying goes, "you shouldn't throw stones if you live in a glass house," and as the bible says "let he who is without sin cast the first stone."

I have learned to stop asking myself why we Americans are loathed by other countries a long time ago. We live our lives worried about Cindy, Bob, Joe, and Mandy instead of minding our own business. There isn't a soul on this earth who has a perfect life. If there is a perfect human on this earth then something is definitely wrong with that person.

We as humans shouldn't be expected to live perfectly without making any mistakes. How do we learn life's lessons without making mistakes that are meant for us to make? Maybe if we all learned to mind our business and stop trying to make others conform to America's beliefs, morals, religions, etc, the world may be a better place after all.

# OPINION

## Sadly, Spitzer Disappoints His Family and New Yorkers

By Christie Avila

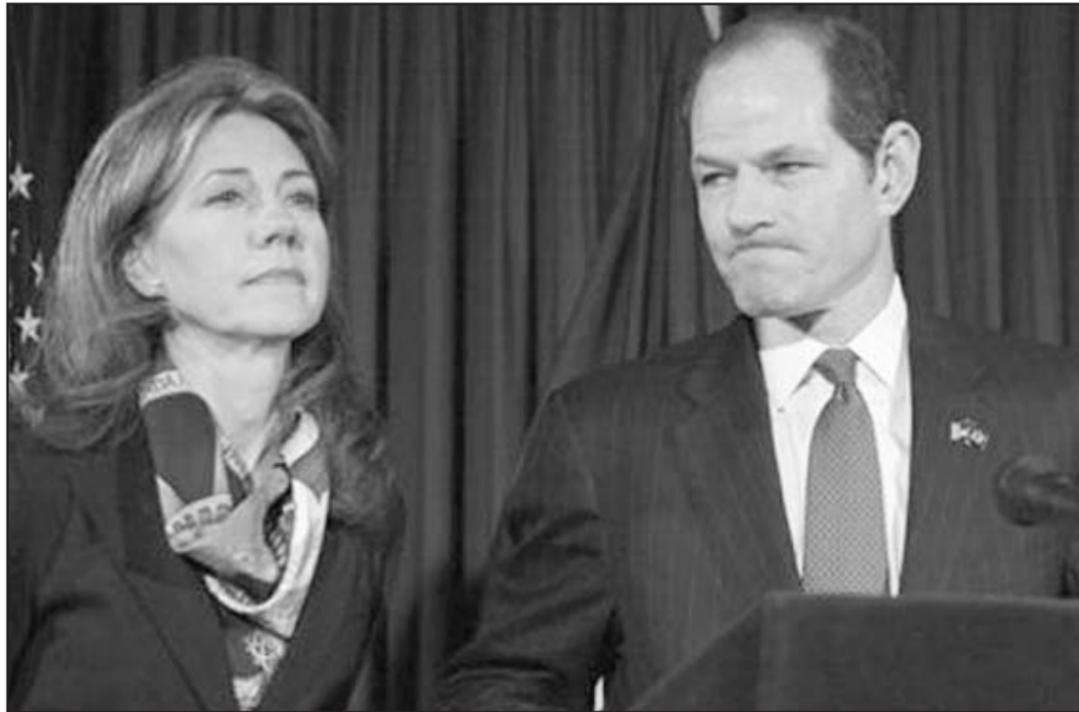
When ex-New York Governor Eliot Spitzer announced his resignation on March 12, 2008, people could only imagine what his wife Silda was feeling as she remained by his side the entire time. She stayed by his side during his public apology, as well as his resignation.

It takes a really strong woman to face the world while her own is crumbling. It is not to say that her husband is her world, but he is certainly a major part of her "world" and family structure.

Headlines were flooded with his link to Ashley Youmans, a 22-year-old high-priced call girl, earlier last month. Along with suspicious transfers of money, FBI determined that payments were made to a company called QAT, which is a prostitution operation operating under the name of the Emperor's Club.

Spitzer met and arranged for Ashley who was identified as "Kristen" to meet with him in Washington, D.C. at the Mayflower Hotel, room 871, and Spitzer was identified in a federal complaint as "Client 9."

How could Spitzer pay \$4300 on the Eve of Valentine's to engage in a tryst with a prostitute? He should have been home with



Ex-New York Governor Eliot Spitzer and his wife Silda at his side as he announced his resignation on March 12, 2008, because he was caught with high-priced hooker by a Federal Investigation operation.

Brendan McDermid/Reuters

his wife, the one who stood by him in the past and continues to through his failings.

All he can do now is say sorry for the pain he caused her and for disappointing those who once looked up to him. "I have acted in a way that violates my obligations to my family and violates

my, or any, sense of right and wrong," said Spitzer during his public apology. "I apologize first and most importantly to my family. I apologize to the public to whom I promised better."

Many can feel sympathy for a woman like Silda who was caught in the middle of such a

shocking scandal.

During his resignation he apologized again and again. "I am deeply sorry that I did not live up to what was expected of me. To every New Yorker and to all those who believed in what I tried to stand for, I sincerely apologize," said the governor.

He did not seem the least bit remorseful during both public speeches. It is like the lyrics to Rhianna's song, "Take a Bow." "Don't tell me you're sorry, cuz you're not/baby when I know you're only sorry you got caught."

It is definitely, one thing to say you're sorry, and it is another to mean it.

So far Spitzer has not been charged with a crime, but the investigation is still ongoing. By resigning, he didn't seem to take much responsibility for his involvement with the prostitution ring. He just walked away from the consequences of his actions. The punishment should fit the crime and his resignation did not do any justice.

At least, good news is in order. On Monday, March 17, Lieutenant Governor David Paterson became New York's first black governor. Hopefully, he will serve as a better example to the people of New York and work on more important and pressing issues.

Paterson may be legally blind, but that does not necessarily mean he will be blinded by the needs of others. We can only hope he will not be blinded by his own selfish needs as Spitzer was when he lost the trust of the people, especially those who are close and dear to him.

### April 2008 SGO Activities

<b>Thursday, April 10</b>	Spring Festival 2008: Both outdoors and indoors – GSUB First Floor, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. SGO ELECTIONS: Voting Booth GSUB 125 (ALL DAY) Vote for SGO NEW LEADERS. FELA Luncheon: Gothic Lounge at 4 p.m.
<b>Monday, April 14</b>	Greek Senate: "History of Greeks" Gothic Lounge at 7 p.m.-10 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, April 15</b>	Greek Senate: "Silent Cry" Gothic Lounge at 8 p.m.- 10 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, April 16</b>	Greek Senate: "The Game of Life" (Time and Location): TBA Academic Program Festival: Outdoors from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Haitian Students: The Spiritual Side of Haiti: Youth Praise and Worship, Time and Location: TBA
<b>Thursday, April 17</b>	Greek Senate: "Stroll Competition" Show GSUB Lobby at 8 p.m.
<b>Saturday, April 19</b>	SGO Spring Formal: "A Knight in Hollywood" at Pines Manor (Tickets are \$20 per person and \$35 per couple) NJCU ID Required to purchase tickets. For more info, call 201-200-3591 or 201-200-3585. Tickets are limited.
<b>Monday, April 21</b>	SGO Meeting @ 3pm GSUB 125 Lambda Tau Omega: Are you on the right track for Graduation Workshop GSUB 129 at 7 p.m. -10 p.m. Salsa Y Sabor: Social and Performance Fries Hall (Dance Studio) 3-5 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, April 22</b>	Salsa Y Sabor: "Salsa Lecture" Ingales Reciting Hall (First Floor of Rossey Building) at 2 p.m.-3 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, April 23</b>	Diversity Strides BBQ: Visual Arts Garden at 12pm -3pm (Rain date: April 30th) Gothic Knight Steppers: Stepping for a cause. GSUB Lobby from 7 p.m.- 10 p.m.
<b>Thursday, April 24</b>	The African Diaspora (HAS, BFS, ASO, CSA): Unity Banquet, GSUB 129 at 6 p.m.- 9 p.m. SGO Light Party: End of the year bash before finals. Open to only NJCU Students JMAC Gym 9 p.m.-12:30 p.m.
<b>Saturday, April 26</b>	NJCU Open House: Greeting in Margaret Williams Theater, and Fair at the JMAC gym 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
<b>Monday, April 28</b>	SGO Meeting @ 3pm GSUB 125
<b>Wednesday, April 30</b>	Lambda Tau Omega: Healthy Lifestyle Workshop GSUB 129 at 7 p.m.- 10 p.m.
<b>Thursday, May 1</b>	Fashion Show: GSUB Lobby 6 p.m.- 10 p.m.
<b>Saturday, May 3</b>	Senior Class Reception: at the Landmark Route 17. For more information about tickets please call 201-200-3591. Tickets are limited.
<b>Sunday, May 4</b>	Diversity Strides Walk-A-Thon: Liberty State Park (South Field) Jersey City, Registration at 12 p.m.
<b>Monday, May 5</b>	SGO Banquet and Award Ceremony: GSUB 125 3 p.m.-5 p.m.

### PROYECTO SCIENCE JOB OPPORTUNITY

Are you making \$15 per hour this summer?

You can work with middle school kids AND get paid \$15 per hour.

**Requirements:** Physics I or II, Computer Science Majors with experience in Java Programming and HTML

Proyecto Science (PS): is a six-week summer program which focuses on advancement in mathematics, sciences, computer science and technology for select middle and high school students. PS offers its participants intensive courses in algebra and geometry; pre-calculus, calculus, and probability and statistics; biology, physics, and chemistry; computer science, logic and set theory, finite mathematics and website development.

**PROYECTO SCIENCE PLACE AND TIME :**

The summer 2008 session of Proyecto Science will be held at New Jersey City University (NJCU) from June 30 to August 7, Monday-Thursday, 9 am to 5 pm (\*). On select Fridays, Engineering Days will be held at the participating districts.

**Call 201-200-2307 for more information**



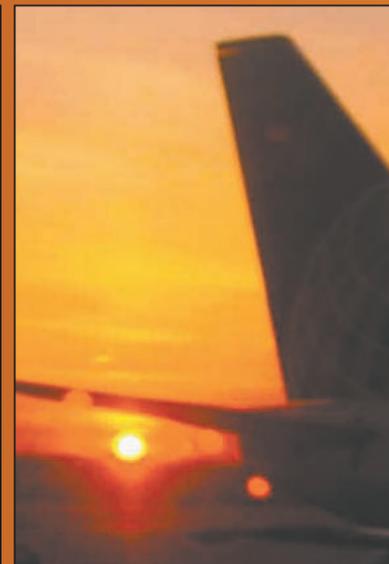
**O**n February 28, three members of *The Gothic Times* staff, Marlen Gonzalez, Mabel Montero, and Erica Molina, traveled to San Francisco, California for the 24th Annual Associated Collegiate Press National College Newspaper Convention.



# San Francisco



*Photography by Erica Molina*



# ARTS

## SGO Officially Recognizes ADA

By Rossana Villaflor

The Art & Design Association (ADA) of New Jersey City University is proud to announce its official recognition as part of the Student Government Organization of NJCU as of Monday, March 3rd.

The ADA seeks to provide both professional and social opportunities to its members. This is an organization in which NJCU artists from various specializations can come together to be exactly what they are: artists. We are here to strengthen the NJCU art community and establish positive relationships and networks with the rest of the NJCU campus and with other institutions and art organizations.

The ADA stands firmly on the belief that there is more to be gained from individual artists and designers acting as a community. The NJCU Art Department is very fortunate to be in a developing and growing arts district in Jersey City, and to be only minutes away from Manhattan, with a plethora of art and art history from all over the world.

The current ADA executive board members are: Rossana Villaflor, President; Lizette Louis, Vice-President; Kelly Cuenca, Secretary; Emil Komosinski, Treasurer/Ambassador; Miguel Prada, Public Relations. The ADA is advised by Professor Brian Gustafson.

The ADA congratulates the newly elected executive board members for the Fall 2008-Spring 2009 academic year: Lizette Louis, President; Madelyne Dela Rama, Vice-President; Kelly Cuenca, Secretary; Nicole Contreras, Treasurer; Narcisso Espiritu, Ambassador; Rossana Villaflor, Public Relations; Christie Schneider, Public Relations Assistant.

Having had a very rich history in NJCU, a number of the NJCU faculty and staff who now are involved in the arts on campus were affiliated with ADA, formerly known as the Art Association. The

current executive board members aim to continue a legacy of artistic development, representation and service, as well as to create traditions for new generations of artists in NJCU.

The ADA thanks the NJCU Art Department faculty and staff for their unwavering support, cooperation and assistance in all of the ADA events during this school year. The ADA would like to recognize and thank all its participating members who contributed artwork and assistance, and our Advisor Brian Gustafson and executive board members this school year for all their hard work and dedication. Special thanks to: Daniel Morte for the media coverage of the ADA events; Willa Goldthwaite for media coverage in the Arts Section of the Gothic Times; Ella Rue on collaborative art projects and competitions; Sergio Villamizar for co-coordinating and arranging the Diversity Stride BBQ; gaia studios for a didactic workshop on Arts Organization; Professor Dennis Dittrich for his workshop on preparing for the business world in graphic design, and whose dedication to his students and career earned him the NJCU Students Choice Award; Nicole Contreras & Integrity Consultants for managing the ADA Holiday Toy Drive; NBK for bringing to the NJCU Art Department an unprecedented fundraising event, incorporating all the artistic elements of the underground world of real Hip Hop during the ADA Spring 2008 Kick-Off.

The ADA extends our gratitude to the NJCU Student Government Organization for recognizing the proficiency, service and professionalism that the ADA contributed and continues to offer to the NJCU community.

For more information on how to become a member of the Art & Design Association, please send an email to: [njcuartndesign@yahoo.com](mailto:njcuartndesign@yahoo.com). For upcoming events, join the Art & Design Association in the NJCU group on [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).



[www.banksy.co.uk](http://www.banksy.co.uk)

Street art by British artist Banksy, unknown location.

## Street Art: Love It or Leave It Alone

By Ivan Petrovsky

Street art has been around most populated cities for many years and has also touched the wildest places on our planet. To try to trace its origins, one might have to look all the way back to cave paintings. That was the first recorded work that didn't belong to any institution.

The concept of street artists demonstrating their craftsmanship and celebrating their individuality is unique because they do it for the public eye and they do it for free. Art should be free – just like clean water. Street art, unlike fine art, cannot be a rich collector's possession but rather eye candy for everyday pedestrians of all walks of life.

What happens in the minds of street artists? They may be lacking other means of communication and this is a way to reach out to the community. The message in art could be in the aesthetics, or it could get political, involving social issues, poking fun at human nature.

Anything can be said anonymously. Writing on bathroom walls, for example, has proven to be a method of communication to a large audience. Mainstream cultures have been dominating these

so-called subcultures such as graffiti, and many in the court of law have abused the word itself. Graffiti has mainly been associated with gang activity.

The stereotypical understanding of street art isn't close to the reality of its message and the artists, because they are artists. Many things can be labeled as graffiti but grouping them all together is like saying rock and hip-hop are the same. Yes, it is all music, but there are so many types.

After meeting many street artists, I have come to a realiza-

tion that these individuals seem to be more concerned with their communities' situations than any law enforcement is.

Street artists are different because they assemble their work in a public place without getting paid for it. All they get is a reaction, if anything. They must do it for some other reason.

For some maybe it is for the fame – just to get their name up. For others, maybe the point is to get a message across. Or maybe it is just meant to spread artistic inspiration.



[www.digischool.nl](http://www.digischool.nl)

Spray paint can be used to create abstract art.

## Arts Events Calendar April 2008

### Emission Complete

Rebecca Feranec:  
MFA Exhibition  
Harold B. Lemmerman Gallery, Hepburn Hall  
Opening Reception: April 30th  
6:00 – 8:30 pm

### JC Friday Clearance Party

KWALITY: Recent works  
by Joe Waks  
58 Gallery  
Saturday April 5th

### Jersey City Museum

INTRODUCING: Why Paint Now? April 3rd 7pm

Art Talk with Xenobia Bailey  
April 18th 2pm

Barbara Bickart:  
we call it the river...  
Film Screening and Reception  
April 20th 1pm

SPRAWL Panel  
April 27th 2pm

I Love Jersey City: Open Call for  
Submissions from Jersey City Museum  
Deadline: June 6, 2008.

Opening reception: Thursday,  
July 24, 2008.

What does Jersey City mean to you? Please send printed 4 x 6 inch images in any color, in horizontal or vertical format to be compiled and installed on a museum wall in order to create a large-scale collage. Images will be on display at the Jersey City Museum  
June 25 - September 14, 2008.  
201-413-0303  
350 Montgomery St  
[www.jerseycitymuseum.org/](http://www.jerseycitymuseum.org/)

### The First Annual "Everything Jersey City" Festival

11:00 am to 6:00 pm. Fun for the whole family!  
For details, updates and sponsorship information, visit  
[www.centralavesid.org](http://www.centralavesid.org).

### 3-Day "All Points West" Music & Arts Festival at Liberty State Park

Radiohead will headline on Friday & Saturday, August 8 & 9; Jack Johnson headlines on Sunday, August 10.

Other performers include Underworld, Kings of Leon, Rodrigo y Gabriela, Cat Power, The Roots, The New Pornographers, Youssou N'Dour, Animal Collective, Andrew Bird, Michael Franti & Spearhead, Metric, CSS, Girl Talk, Chromeo, The Go! Team, Amadou & Mariam, The Black Angels, Sia, The Felice Brothers, K'Naan, Jason Isbell, Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, Alberta Cross, The Virgins, Black Kids, Mates of State, Duffy, Forro in the Dark, Nicole Atkins, Juana Molina, Little Brother, Rogue Wave, Neil Halstead and Your Vegas.

Tickets are \$89 for single days, \$258 for a three-day pass. Tickets go on sale Feb. 29 at noon via [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com). Some proceeds will benefit Friends of Liberty State Park, a volunteer open-space advocacy organization.

<http://www.apwfestival.com>

## BFA Senior Exhibitions 2008 Are Here!

All exhibitions will be held in the Visual Arts Building Gallery at 100 Culver Avenue. Receptions will take place on Mondays from 5:00 – 7:30 pm.

Artists are scheduled as follows:

April 14 – April 18: John Paul Gorgoroso & Olson Jean Louis  
April 21 – April 25: Ivan Petrovsky & Pedro Lopes  
April 28 – May 2: Saul Perez & Geraldine Gaines  
May 5 – May 9: Shenelle Cuttings & Ciro Romero  
May 12 – May 16: Emil Komosinski & Ana Sullivan

## ARTS

## Recent Workshops Benefit NJCU Art Students

By Willa Goldthwaite

"I've Got Talent: Now What? Small Galleries," a professional workshop and seminar for artists, was held in the auditorium of NJCU's Visual Arts Building on Tuesday, March 4th. It was the last of a series of three free workshops cosponsored by the Hudson County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs and Tourism Development (HCOCA), the Jersey City Museum, and New Jersey City University. It was a treat to have the last workshop at our university. The intended audience was artists at all levels, including professionals, emerging artists, as well as students. The main goal of the HCOCA is to reach out to artists and help to build careers for them. Meredith Lippman represented the HCOCA, who reports to the New Jersey Council on the Arts. The four panelists were all distinguished gallery directors. Midori Yoshimoto, Ph.D., Gallery Director and Assistant Professor of Art History at NJCU, moderated the panel.

The first panelist to speak was Jeanne Brasile from the Walsh Gallery at Seton Hall University in South Orange. She graduated from the Museum Studies program at SHU. Brasile gained twelve years of experience working in several galleries. Although she has worked in galleries at other universities such as Ramapo College of New Jersey and Montclair State University, she finds the Walsh Gallery to be unique. For example, the gallery must be sensitive to the local culture of a Roman Catholic university. Brasile also spoke about some challenges she faced when hanging works in a space that was dominated by lots of windows, without much wall space. Fortunately, clouds can have a silver lining. As Brasile explained, although the windows leave less wall space, they draw people into the gallery.

Since the Walsh Gallery is within the Walsh Library, Brasile reports to the Dean of the Library. They hold hands-on workshops with students, kids, and senior citizens. She also teaches students how to curate. Most important of all, Brasile stressed the significance of the artist. "Directors and curators need artists." So guys-hang in there and don't give up!

Pamela Talese, another panelist, is currently the Director of Special Projects and a member of the Publicity Team at Atlantic Gallery. She described how cooperative galleries are run in today's world. Atlantic Gallery is



Photo by John-Paul Gorgoroso

Panelists sit in front of slides of Rupert Ravens Contemporary.

one of ten cooperative galleries in New York City. A cooperative gallery is a democracy, run by its own artist members. There are no paid positions, only volunteer work, and everyone rotates positions and assists each other. The gallery provides the artists with the tools needed to show their work. In return, the artists pay dues at their monthly meetings. Each artist exhibits his or her work every two years. The mission of such a gallery is to push boundaries and raise general awareness. An example of this approach would be their Small Miracles Shows, from which 10 percent of all profits are distributed to different charities.

On a different note, Jessica Porter, the third panelist, introduced the debut of her new website for a web-based gallery called Raandesk Gallery. A web-based gallery has no permanent physical space, so Porter forms partnerships with different businesses to show artwork in their space, then curates using her own collective of artists. Porter currently works exclusively with twenty-seven artists. Their works may be displayed anywhere from bars and restaurants to real estate show rooms to partially furnished condos. The benefit of working this way, she says, is that it gives the artists a unique opportunity to show their work and provides an interesting chance to work with new spaces. It is also good publicity for both sides of the deal. At the same time, the curator is sometimes forced to censor what is shown, due to the sensitivity of the public eye relative to the taste of the contributor.

Rupert Ravens Gallery, unlike

the others, does not really qualify as a small gallery at 30,000 square feet spanned over three full floors. Located at 85 Market Street in the heart of Newark, it is the largest gallery in New Jersey, and is actually the third largest gallery in the tri-state area. Rupert Ravens started out as an artist himself. After becoming a member of the Newark Art Council Consult, he curated one of the biggest shows in the history of the Newark art scene called "Newark Between Us," which led to him receiving the gallery space as a gift. "And it all just happened naturally from there," said Ravens. His goal is to put New Jersey artists on the global map. He likes to show colorful, soulful, meaningful work. Ravens' advice to emerging artists is to "be authentic." Be proud to be a New Jersey artist. Stop claiming the 'New York Metro Area' and step out of the shadow of New York. Always have a portfolio ready and network, network, network! "New Jersey is ready for a Renaissance," he claims.

After the four panelists had spoken, the floor opened up for questions from the audience. At this point, the panelists got to talk to us about the curatorial side of the gallery as well as the artists' side. They each spoke about the different ways that they look for new artists, and about building relationships, building careers, and remaining loyal. The panelists went on to describe their terms of pricing and commission, and it became apparent that each gallery holds different standards. Rupert Ravens takes a 50 percent commission because they have a full sales staff while Raandesk takes 40 percent, Walsh takes 20 percent

and Atlantic only 10 percent, because the artists sell their own work. Meredith Lippman explained, "The gallery is your representative because sometimes, as artists, we are not our own best representatives." The panelists answered one student's question about pricing works. To fairly

raise one's prices, the work must be valid and must have an exhibition history. One must not mind raising prices because it also determines the value of the work. Excellent documentation is critical when submitting proposals. A good submission will include ten current consistent images with all works labeled. Digital images on CD as well as printed with a range of broad shots and detail shots along with explanations are ideal. A brochure or a business card with an image is also a good idea. It is important to document works sold, and to invite buyers to other exhibitions once you start showing.

It was very educational for students to hear about exhibition policies and curatorial philosophies of local gallery directors. The NJCU faculty's efforts to bring workshops, art talks, and other educational experiences to the art department has definitely affected the minds of the young artists-in-the-making this past semester. Thank you Midori!

<http://www.visithudson.org>  
<http://www.atlanticgallery.org>  
<http://library.shu.edu/gallery/>  
<http://raandeskgallery.com/>  
<http://www.rupetravens.net/>



www.njcu.edu/dept/art/

The Visual Arts Building

WILLA GOLDTHWAITE  
Arts EditorCAMPUS VIOLENCE  
POSTER PROJECT

The shootings on the campuses of Northern Illinois University and Louisiana Technical College earlier this year and the tragedy at Virginia Tech University last April brought a shocking reminder of how an ordinary, daily event can turn into tragedy. This tragedy illuminates, however, the generous human impulse to want to help those who have suffered loss. In response to this tragedy, the University & College Designers Association is orchestrating a poster project. UCDA is asking members, designers, and students to design a poster that reflects some aspect of campus violence—the shock of the event itself, the heroism of the survivors, or the importance of crisis preparedness.



## HOW TO ENTER

1. Download and complete entry form at [ucda.com/posterproject.lasso](http://ucda.com/posterproject.lasso)
2. Posters should be no larger than 12" x 18" at 300 dpi
3. Email your poster file and entry form to [info@ucda.com](mailto:info@ucda.com)
4. Entries are limited to two per person. You do not need to be a UCDA member to contribute a poster.
5. All entries are due by Friday, May 2, 2008
6. Posters will be featured in Designer magazine and on the UCDA website
7. Each one-of-a-kind poster will be printed and be available through an online auction. All proceeds benefit the February 14 Student Scholarship Fund.

UCDA

UCDA.COM / POSTERPROJECT.LASSO

# ENTERTAINMENT

## MOVIE REVIEW

# 10,000 BC

By Leanne Aciz

The thought provoking quote “Only time can teach us what is truth and what is legend,” creates an idea of uncertainty and so begins the movie called *10,000 BC*. This movie revolves around the journey of D’Leh and his father-figure mentor Tick Tock as they venture out on a hike in order to save local civilians and friends from the “four legged demons” who have captured people from their village in order to use them as slaves.

During their journey they become friendly with African tribes, who have also been victimized by the four legged demons, due to D’Leh’s ability to communicate with a saber-tooth tiger, whom he helped when it was about to drown to death. This tribe aids in their quest to fight the four legged demons, who escape on Viking-type boats in the river, which infuriates D’Leh who wants to save his beloved Evolet.

I, along with the friends I went to see the movie with, was annoyed that there was a love story involved in a movie that claimed to be educational and informational about the history of the world.

As a skeptic, I am prone to point out that it is hard to believe that our ancestors, the Vikings, and hunters, would speak Standard American English centuries before this language was even constructed. While it may be true that the director used English as the dominant language in this movie (excluding the “four legged demons” who spoke their own language) in order for viewers to understand, it may have been more useful to use sub-titles or something to that approach.



www.movieweb.com

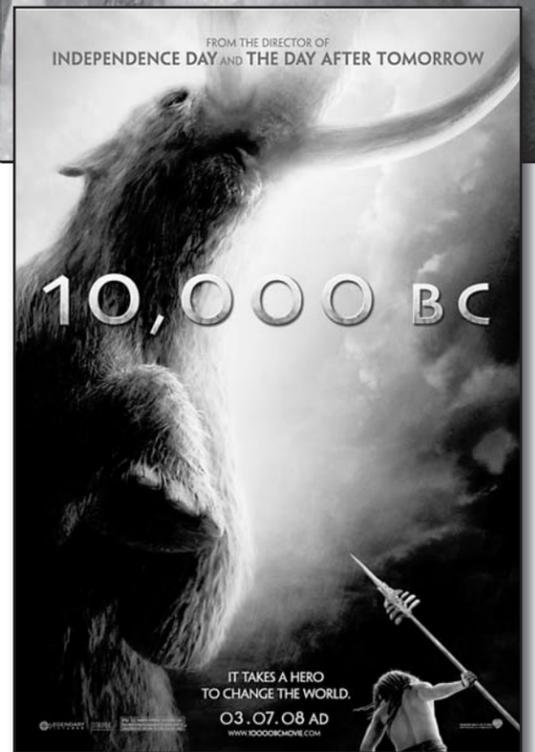
Another weakness of this movie is the extravagant appearance of the characters: messy, matted dreadlocks and yellow paint carelessly stuck to their faces. It seems as though the costume designer and makeup artist went overboard with trying to correlate prehistoric looks into a modern day made movie.

One of the movies strengths are the special effects that are unbelievably convincing and incredibly thought-out. For example, in a scene when the mammoths are rushing down a slope, each mammoth moves in different directions, never copying the other. This scene gives viewers the idea that the movie isn’t all computer graphics (for the most part, concerning the animals, it is) and provides viewers with an idea of how

it might be to view living prehistoric animals.

The ending might be the only scene in the movie where I was genuinely impressed, yet not surprised, at how the underdog becomes a hero. Steven Strait as D’Leh and his uncanny resemblance to a caveman gives this movie a more realistic view. Overall, the movie works regarding its educational outlook, and gives viewers an idea on why the pyramids in Egypt were left unfinished.

If you’re looking for a fast-paced, educational movie that will give you an idea of how the world was before “it came to be,” then check this out. However, if you’re in the mood for an enjoyable, action-packed flick, keep on moving.



## MOVIE REVIEW

# DOOMSDAY

By Mary Paone

When the trailer for *Doomsday* hit theaters and on television sets, I’m sure you thought to yourself, “great, just what we need another zombie movie.” Well, that couldn’t be farther from the truth. There are no zombies or zombie like creatures in *Doomsday*. This movie is about a virus known as the Reaper virus, which kills its victims instead of turning them into zombies like other movies.

The beginning of the movie is set in Scotland, where the Reaper virus begins its deadly onslaught. We see people fighting to get away from the hot zone and the British government doing nothing to help them. So many events are set in motion from a single misfire on a soldier’s behalf, killing an infected just trying to seek medical attention.

Then turmoil erupts. In what seems to be a random event, a mother and child (who was injured by a stray bullet) team runs towards the helicopter that is leaving, filled with soldiers who are so desperate to get away. Begging for them to take her child, a single soldier agrees to give up his seat for the toddler.

Jump about 10 decades into the future in England, in the year

2035. After the way England turned its back on Scotland, the whole world turned its back on England. England now has no hope. The economy has plummeted and there seems to be no help on the way. On a random drug raid, police find something that they never thought possible. They find a hot zone. The Reaper virus is back, and it seems to be back with a vengeance.

Enter a special military team put together by England to go back into the hot zone in Glasgow, Scotland and find a cure. Satellite images seem to show that there are survivors from the Reaper virus that wiped out Scotland. This is where the real fun begins.

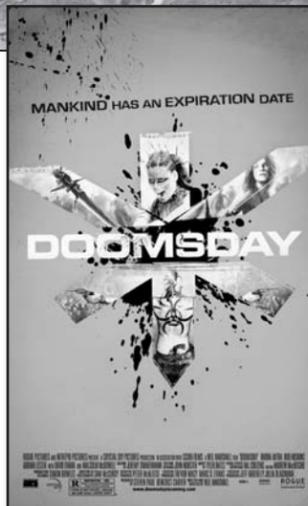
The city streets are filled with wild savages who have no problem killing living people. The countryside is reminiscent of the old gladiator days in Rome, two completely different worlds inside one country. There is bound to be some sort of conflict. The military teams encounter both, and it becomes a fight for their survival, a fight to get back to the wall that separates England and Scotland.

The actions scenes are incredible, and somewhat stomach turning at the same time. Blood and action have become everyday things to these people, but for us,

these actions aren’t in our wildest dreams.

Towards the end of the movie, there is a car chase between the muscle cars of the 1970s and a brand new Bentley. If that doesn’t make for a car chase to die to see, then I don’t know what will.

Eden Sinclair, played by Rhona Mitra, is the heroine of the movie. Many of you may not have even heard of Mitra unless you watched “The Practice,” or more recently, “Boston Legal” and “Nip/Tuck.” The role seemed as if it was made for her. Her acting ability seems to grow with every new role she takes. I just hope she doesn’t turn into Milla Jovovich, who is offered only these crazy heroine



www.movieweb.com

roles in zombie movies and your classic futuristic tales of which really make no sense.

Released on March 14, 2008, the film has only grossed about \$5M. But this movie was never meant to be big blockbuster horror flick. There was no push by the movie studios and their marketing teams, so \$5M

is a lot in the few short days it has been released.

Personally, I say see the movie. But you won’t die if you wait for it to come out on DVD. It’s a good movie, but not a great movie. I enjoyed it, and hopefully you will too.



ANGELITO YAMBAO, JR.  
Entertainment Editor

# ENTERTAINMENT

## And the Winner Is...

By Angelito Yambao Jr.

The battle lines were drawn. Sides were taken. Big deals were made, but in the end there was one definitive winner. After almost a year of grueling battle Blu-ray Discs have defeated HD DVD. That means for all those who were paying attention the new standard for high-definition picture and sound as it pertains to home viewing will be Blu-ray Discs. Now what does that mean for the average consumer? Plenty....

For starters, all movies from here on out that will release on standard DVD now have a chance to be released on Blu-ray, of course that all depends on the studios that release them. The biggest problem the consumer faces when deciding to upgrade to the Blu-ray format is the hefty price tag that comes attached to the players as well as the discs themselves.

Now with Sony's Playstation 3, which accounted for a large sum of the Blu-ray sales due to it's out right Blu-ray compatibility; more and more people are able to get a reasonably priced Blu-ray player as it is a combination of both a gaming system as well as a Blu-ray player. Now doesn't that make you wish you bought a PS3 sooner? With that in mind have I mentioned that this is Sony's first format to garner such popularity that will likely be the new standard for movie and video collectors alike. Here's a list:



- Beta Max = FAILED
- Mini Disc = FAILED
- UMD = Pretty much FAILED
- Blu-ray = SUCCESS....so far....

Why did I say so far you ask? Well it's quite simple really. Now that the "High Def War" has come to a close, another war has just begun, a war that will likely continue for some time to come. This war is now between the High Definition Blu-ray and the long time standard DVD. Some may see this as a no brainer for Blu-ray to win but some like myself; see it as a huge chal-

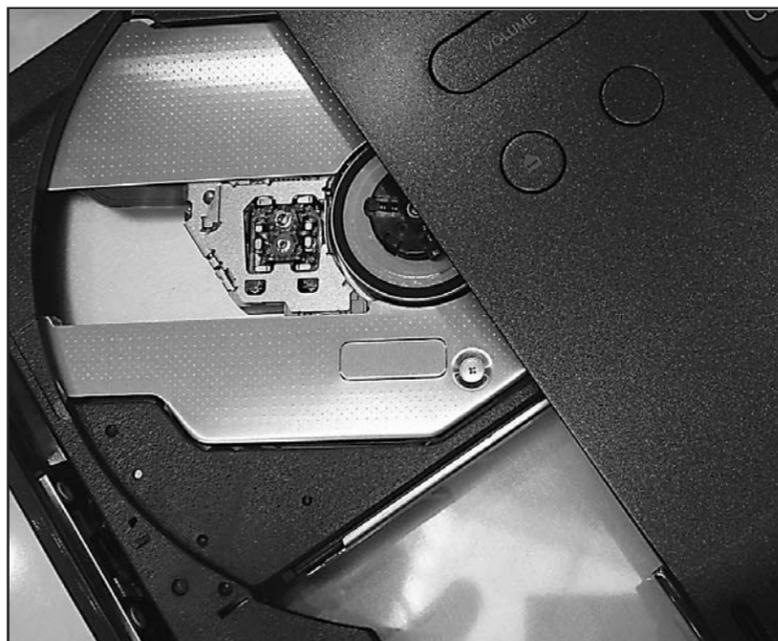


Photo courtesy of google.com

lenge to overcome.

Take for instance the price range for both formats. While the superior picture and sound quality is found within the Blu-ray format the price range is still too far apart for the average consumer to make the upgrade.

While I for one am not calling the average consumer poor by any means, I feel that the average consumer isn't willing to spend \$29.99 - \$39.99 for a Blu-ray copy of "I Am Legend," when they can purchase the DVD copy for \$14.99 - \$19.99.

Now the discs themselves aren't the only thing holding Blu-ray back, the price tags on the players themselves also poses a big problem. A typical standard DVD player can cost anywhere from \$39.99 - \$99.99 where as the average Blu-ray player cost from \$279.99 - \$999.99. A big difference

I know, but if you think back to when DVD first hit the market in the late 90's the prices on the players and discs were quite similar to that of today's Blu-ray discs and players.

In all essence the best way for Blu-ray to take over is to gradually lower the prices on both the discs as well as the players. With 2009 just around the corner we may see just that. As more and more movies start to become available on Blu-ray and once all analog televisions become obsolete due to high definition television the Blu-ray era may come quicker than expected. So Sony is going to have to make some bigger moves now more than ever to take their new format to the top and perhaps with all the new games slated to release exclusively for the PS3, perhaps more and more people will jump on the Blu-ray wagon or at least the PS3.

## MY TOP BLU-RAYS TO PICK UP:

Cars

The Condemned

Live Free or Die Hard

The Spider-Man Trilogy

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

The Prestige

Superbad

The Pirates of the Caribbean Trilogy



Photo courtesy of amazon.com

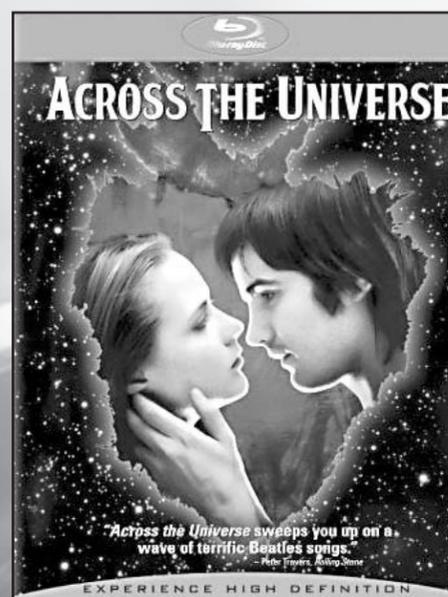


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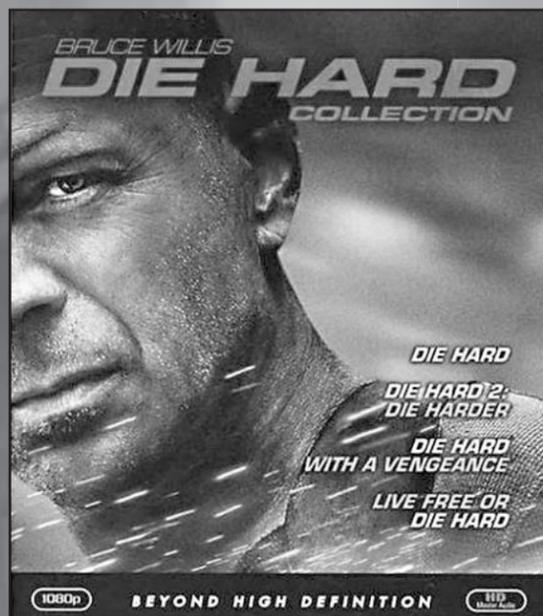


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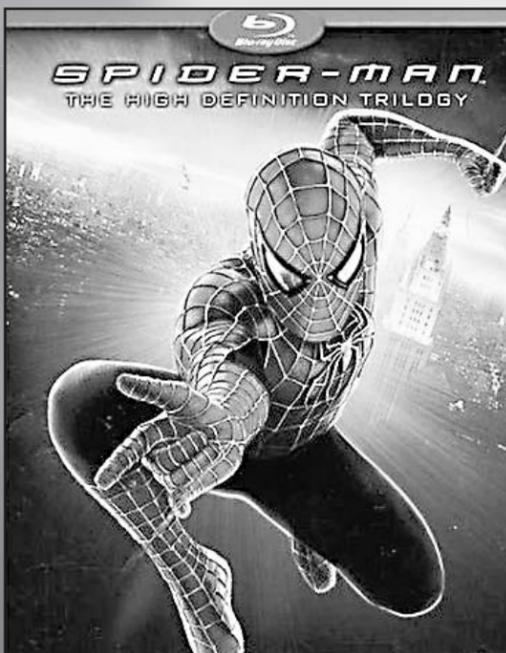


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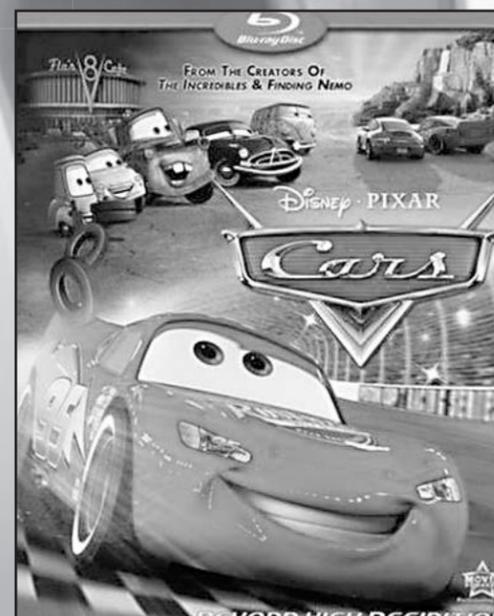


Photo courtesy of amazon.com

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Remembering Proof: The Heart of Hip-Hop

By Anthony Keazwezka

When rapper Proof, real name Deshaun Holton, was fatally shot and killed on April 11, 2006, it not only altered the lives of his family and friends, it also rocked the rap world—knowing that a true rap legend and innovator was gone forever.

On April 11, 2006, Proof was killed by a gunshot wound to the head at the CCC Club on 8 Mile Road in Detroit, Michigan, after fatally shooting U. S. military veteran Keith Bender Jr.

It is believed that following a dispute over a pool game, Proof fired the first shots into Bender's head after taking the pistol and striking Bender several times in the face.

According to the coroner, Proof had a blood alcohol content of 0.32. Proof was then shot by bouncer Mario Etheridge, Bender's cousin. He was then taken by private vehicle to St. John Health's Conner Creek Campus, an outpatient emergency treatment site, and pronounced dead shortly thereafter.

For more than a decade up until his untimely death, Proof was a leading figure on the Detroit rap scene.

In the mid-90s, as a host and frequent participant at the famed open mic night at Maurice Malone's Hip-Hop Shop, Proof carved out a legacy as a proven battle MC, and—as depicted by Mekhi Phifer in 2002s

8 Mile—played a definitive role in pushing his best friend and rhyme partner Eminem to worldwide superstardom.

In a XXL magazine interview conducted a couple of weeks after Proof's death; Eminem couldn't help but reminisce about his humbling beginnings with his friend.

"He'd say, 'Come up here and say one of those raps, and see if you don't get a response.' And I said, 'Okay, I'll do it.' I did it, and the 20 people in there were going crazy... That's how we sort of became a team, I latched onto Proof."

Proof was featured in The Source's Unsigned Hype column in 1999, and came close to winning the 1998 Blaze Battle.

He released his highly anticipated solo album, "Searchin' for Jerry Garcia," on August 9, 2005, 10 years to the day following the death of Grateful Dead front man, Jerry Garcia.

Even though he had a cult like following in Detroit, the masses know Proof better as a member of the rap group D12, who released two albums, "Devil's Night" and "D12 World." Both albums debuted at number one and went on to go multi-platinum.

Members of D12 shared their feelings of Proof to XXL magazine after the loss.

"When I met [Proof], I was a kid," said D12 member Bizarre. "He would give me money when I was broke and starving. I never had to worry about anything when he was around. He always took care of me, no mat-



Photo courtesy of wikipedia.com

ter what I did. He was like a big brother."

"He was the life of us, you know. He was our heartbeat," said Kuniva. "Once we all saw each other and looked around the room, it was like, our leader is gone. Our brother is gone. It's been really hard to accept, because he wasn't just a friend to us—that was our brother, our big brother."

Always one of Detroit's most approachable stars, Proof could regularly be found at clubs, restaurants, concerts, and bowling alleys, and he continued in his support of local hip-hop.

Deshaun Holton made an impact on everyone he ever came in contact with. Thousands of people showed up at the funeral because they all have their own special relationship with Proof.

Proof's label mate and friend Obie Trice shared the pain he was feeling for his fallen friend in an interview for XXL.

"They let me, Eminem and D12 see him in the hospital... he was DOA. The feeling in that room, seeing him laid up like that... I'm touching his face and its freez-

ing. I'm just breaking down. He didn't deserve to go out like that. I didn't get any sleep for weeks... I drank a lot. I cried a lot. I talked to my mother. I felt like he was right there with me."

Proof should be seen truthfully, as the authentic voice of Detroit that he was: complex, angry, sarcastic, earnest, loyal, and proud of his roots. He should be remembered as the artist that he was—a man consumed with supporting the place that weaned him; a man, who was, ultimately, consumed by the very same.

Eminem and Obie Trice read eulogies at the funeral service. Here's an excerpt from Eminem's speech:

"I'm sure everybody who has ever met him, even just once, can testify to the fact that he illuminated a room when he walked in it. I believe Proof loved people and people loved him. He was a magnet. He lured you in. You wanted to learn about him, follow his swagger. Without Proof, there would be no Eminem, no Slim Shady, and no D12."

## Wu-Tang Clan Lasts the Test of Time in Hip-Hop

By Anthony Keazwezka

When it comes to rap music, there is no group more synonymous with the culture than the Wu-Tang Clan. For fifteen years, Wu-Tang has provided rap with the much needed thought provoking lyrics.

The prolific group has put out three platinum albums, one gold disc, more than twenty solo records, and a bunch of hit singles.

Along the way, Wu-Tang has concocted its own mythology inspired by the mysticism depicted in Kung-Fu flicks, the pro-black man teachings of the Five Percent Nation (an offshoot of the Nation of Islam) and a rugged street-oriented aesthetic.

In 1993, the group's debut release, "Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)," exploded nationwide, giving the world several instant classics, including "Method Man," "C.R.E.A.M.," "Can It Be All So Simple," and "Da Mystery of Chessboxin'."

The album also introduced eight of hip-hop's most recognizable voices and singular personalities: RZA, the enigmatic mastermind,

Method Man, GZA, Raekwon, Ghostface Killah, ODB, U-God, and Inspectah Deck.

In 1992, the eight members coughed up \$100 apiece to record a single, "Protect Ya Neck." Rather than pursue a record deal with a major label, the members developed a huge following by selling the single to local stores and radio stations.

While Wu-Tang's early songs were rugged, swaggering songs with chanted refrains and attention-getting hooks, the group's musical climate on their second album, "Wu-Tang Forever" (1997), was as street-edged and out of sync with current hip-hop trends of the day as one could imagine.

Take for instance, the chorus less, five minute plus lead single, "Triumph," a proclamation that conventional commercial considerations were tossed out the window.

Violins bring an old-world feel to the song to mark their return, "Reunited." The song "It's Yourz" was equally penetrable to the casual listener. Excellence outweighed the excess, enabling Wu-Tang Clan to be highly re-

garded in the music world.

Their third group album, 2000s The W, bears a striking and refreshing nostalgic resemblance to Enter the Wu-Tang. Songs such as the lead single, "Gravel Pit," with the help of scorching horn swells, gave the album a gritty, stripped down feeling with menacing beats and lyrics.

The year after, the group's fourth effort, 2001's "Iron Flag," hit stores. For a change of pace, the production was more electric on this record.

After a long hiatus, the members of the Clan came together to release "8 Diagrams" in December of 2007. As the old adage goes, if it isn't broke, don't fix it, and the groups kept the same formula that made them a household name.

The group always goes in their own direction as seen on the first official single, "The Heart Gently Weeps," a cover of the Beatles song "While My Guitar Gently Weeps." George Harrison's son, Dhani Harrison helped make the song.

In a released statement to Allhiphop.com, group leader RZA commented on the need for the

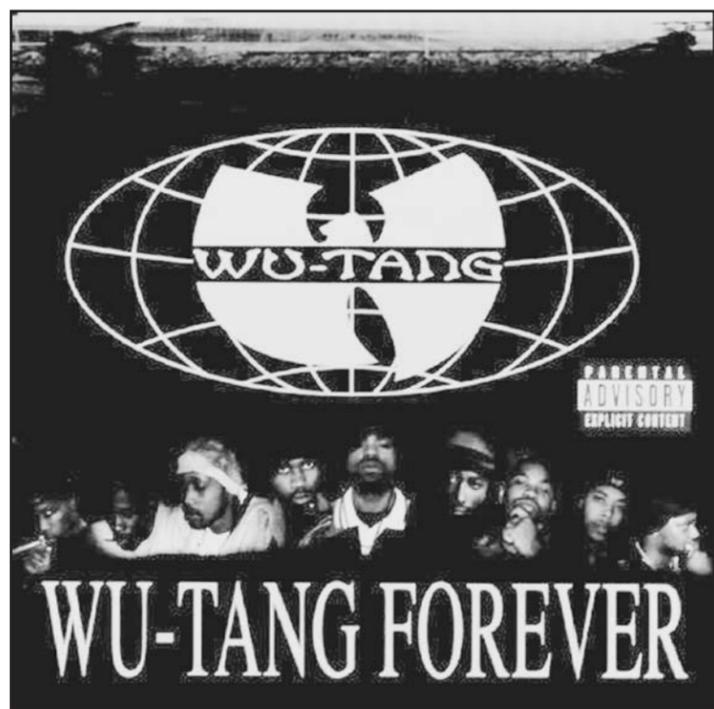


Photo courtesy of amazon.com

Clan's return:

"This is the perfect time for us to come back; the stars are aligned. We put out real hip-hop at a time when it was turning into pop or R & B. We brought the focus back

to the music in its realest form, without studio polish or radio hooks... People want something that gives them an adrenaline rush. How could hip-hop be dead if Wu-Tang is forever?"

# SPORTS

## Confessions of a Student Athlete

By Lyle Hickman

Time management is Whitney Awaru's fiancé.

"I tried the planner thing," Awaru says, explaining her philosophy on time management, "I make to-do lists out of loose leaf." On these papers Awaru jots down tasks for the day and scribbles reminders on the dry-erase boards hanging in her room.

Awaru is originally from Uganda and is a sophomore. Awaru is a member of the Biology Club, African Student Organization, and Student Government Organization's Activities and Public Information Committees.

Awaru also works three jobs in addition to being involved on campus and taking a full load of 15 credits.

This 20-year-old has a plethora of obligations, but she carries a weight that would make Atlas quiver.

"It's an honor to be a student-athlete," Awaru says, completing her second year as a hurdler for Women's Track and Field at NJCU. Awaru has the burden of representing approximately eight-thousand NJCU students and the University in competitions with other colleges and universities. Awaru is strengthened by the grueling practices, mental preparation and above all, adoration for the sport.

Building speed posthaste and repeatedly catapulting herself over hurdles, Whitney finishes track meets expending most of her energy. Exhausted, Awaru studies for exams on an uncomfortable, lengthy bus ride and puts the finishing touches on

*"I would like more recognition for the athletes because we give the school publicity and we give up a lot."*

her papers due the following days. Sitting in class sore from a demanding competition the day before, Awaru continues to succeed in academics, approaching school work with the same tenacity as track and field.

Competing in track meets is not new to Awaru, who has been running track since her junior year in high school, which made the transition to college much easier. "I have a track family with people who encourage me and I love," says Awaru. "We bring the school publicity and get the ability to run," Awaru says speaking on the NJCU Track and Field team's benefits

of competing, "and do what we love."

Discontent with the NJCU student, faculty, and staff turn-out to track meets, Awaru encourages the NJCU community to support track and field. "I'd make the meets closer if I could," Awaru says, critiquing the distance of track and field competitions from NJCU.

"I don't think people had a chance to know who we are," Awaru says addressing the lack of student support. "We need a trainer who helps you when you are injured," Awaru says, pointing out the lack needed staff in NJCU Athletics.

"Lots of us get injured," says a concerned Awaru, "you have to loosen up and go in or drop the event." According to Awaru at least one person is injured at each competition.

"Most of us are commuters, some of us have kids, jobs," Awaru says solemnly, "and we have to get up at 4am to arrive to the University by 6am to get on the team's bus."

Awaru continues to sacrifice time and effort pursuing her passion. Awaru's love for track and field sustains her participation, and her goal for this semester is to get straight A's.

Awaru and the numerous student-athletes of NJCU persist, traversing tribulations while staying goal oriented and maintaining a focus on academics.



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Sophomore Whitney Awaru is on the Cross Country Team at NJCU.

*New Jersey City University*

*Week Before Finals*  
*Light Party*

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**Thursday, April 24th**  
**At The John J. Moore Athletics Fitness Center**  
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**No admittance after 10:30pm**  
**NJCU Students Only**

**NJCU GOTHIC ID REQUIRED TO ENTER**

*Sponsored by the Student Government Organization*

**If you are interested in writing for the Sports Section contact me at:**

**lhickman@njcu.edu**

## NJCU Athletics Continues to 'Read Across America'

By Lyle Hickman

New Jersey City University's Athletics Department has served the "Read Across America" program for ten years straight! This philanthropic cause, sponsored by the National Education Association, allows our university's athletes to read to children.

The Read Across America program was founded by the National Education Association in 1997. Read Across America has a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on Dr. Seuss's birthday, March 2.

Former NJCU Men's Basketball coach Charles Brown and the Student Athlete Advisory Board decided to get the university involved with Read Across America one year after its creation.

Nina Celuch, a senior majoring in elementary education and history, who finished her fourth and final season for the NJCU women's soccer team last fall, participated in the Read Across America program for her second consecutive year.

Celuch has been part of a Ukrainian scouting organization called "Plast" since age four. Achieving the rank of scout leader as a freshman in high school, Celuch has been mentoring boys and girls in Plast between the ages of five and seventeen for over seven years.

Celuch has also had to read before children and write a reaction paper for the course Reading Language and Literacy. Celuch's involvement in the el-



njcugothicknights.com

Former NJCU soccer captain Nina Celuch reads to the children at PS #28 in Jersey City.



mentary education program at NJCU and experiences learned in Plast have definitely prepared her for the anxious third graders in the classroom of Jersey City Public School #28.

Celuch walked into the classroom more confident than last year, refining her techniques for engaging the young scholars. Apprehensive the previous year, Celuch read Dr. Seuss's *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish* to a class full of wide-eyed, animated second graders.

"I really enjoyed it my first year," said Celuch, "so I wanted to do it again."

This year Celuch read her favorite childhood book, *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein to the third grade class.

Celuch was one of four NJCU representatives who attended PS

#28 to read to the children this year. NJCU Interim Men's Basketball Coach, Marc Brown, NJCU Women's Basketball Coach, Ashante Timol, and former NJCU Women's Soccer Captain, Katie Feehan, participated in the Read Across America program this year.

"There is a perception that education is not important to us," Celuch said, referring to the stereotypes placed on student-athletes. "I think kids look up to us as student-athletes, and it allows the kids to say hey, maybe I can be a student athlete."

By participating in Read Across America, Celuch motivates the youth to read, increase literacy and comprehension, and is also a real-life role model that they can relate to.

# SPORTS

# I'll be stalking you

## Here Come the Knight Stalkers!!!

By Lyle Hickman

They show up instantaneously and then vanish as quickly as they appear.

Some call them raging lunatics and crazies. Others refer to them as excessive fanatics. Both of these perceptions are understatement for the New Jersey City University Knight Stalkers.

This enigmatic group of fans sole purpose is to get the NJCU community more involved with supporting the athletic games.

Wielding a giant kitsch, foam hand and blowing a whistle, running back and forth wild like a child in a walker at an NJCU Homecoming game is Justin Raney aka "Bobo Jenkins," 20, a criminal justice major and junior at NJCU from Roselle, New Jersey.

Moving in intermittent spasms that some would call dancing is Esther Semexant, 20, a biology major and sophomore at NJCU from New York City, New York.

Nearly shattering the durable glass windows of the JMAC gymnasium, is Lizette Louis, 24, an illustration major and senior at NJCU from Irvington, New Jersey, shrieking at an NJCU Homecoming game making the competition remember the NJCU teams and the Knight Stalkers.

These are three Knight Stalkers out of twenty who belong to the official fan group of NJCU.

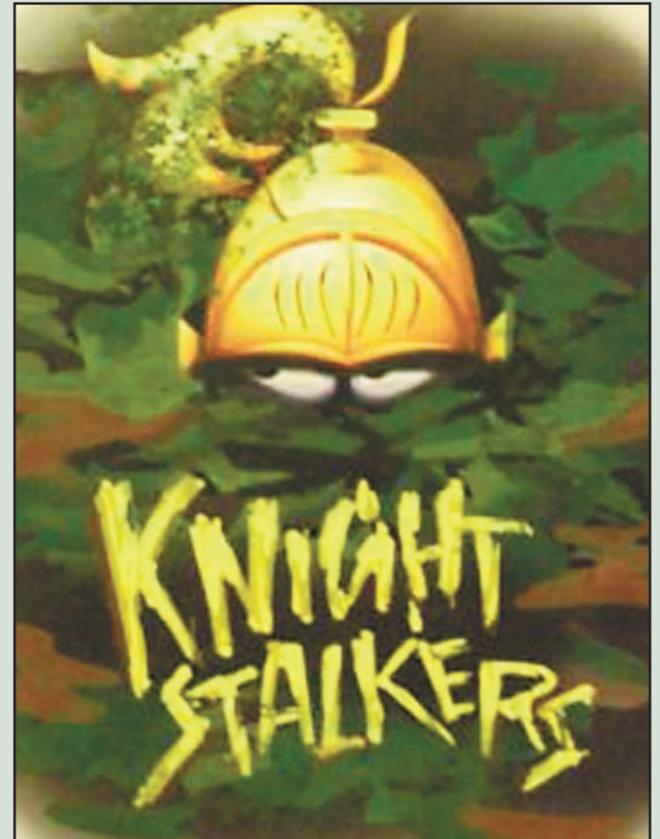
Birthered in December 2007 by the Homecoming Committee consisting of Robert Quinones, Ira Thor, Ella Rue, Wanda Rutledge, Jose Balda, Maurice Washington, Lizette Louis, Justin Raney and other NJCU administration, staff, and students, the Knight Stalkers entered our realm.

Similar to the Bleacher Creatures who cheer for the New York Yankees, the Duck Pond who cheers for Oregon University's Ducks, and the Cameron Crazies who cheer for Duke University's Blue Devils, the Knight Stalkers

cheer for the NJCU Gothic Knights. "We show a lot of school spirit and we involve the NJCU community," says Raney, "but they might think we are a little crazy." The Knight Stalkers are usually coated with green and gold painted faces resembling Mel Gibson in Braveheart, camouflage t-shirts with the Knight Stalker insignia designed by NJCU Art professor Dennis Dittrich, and green and gold wigs and pompoms to match the grimace on their painted faces.

The Knight Stalkers urge all NJCU students, faculty, staff, friends and family to join. There are no membership fees. The sole requirement of a Knight Stalker is an unrelenting, uncanny, and unruly love and appreciation for NJCU athletics.

"When other teams come to play NJCU, they know they are up against the team," says Rob Quinones, "and the Knight Stalkers."



njcugothicknights.com



Photo by Lizette Louis

**Join the Knight Stalkers now**

Attend NJCU athletics events and email [sportsinfo@njcu.edu](mailto:sportsinfo@njcu.edu)

## 2008 NJCU Men's Baseball Schedule

DATE	UNIVERSITY	LOCATION	TIME
4/1/2008	John Jay College	Jersey City, NJ	Tues. 3 p.m.
4/3/2008	Manhattanville College	Jersey City, NJ	Thurs. 3:30 p.m.
4/4/2008	Kean University	Jersey City, NJ	Fri. 3 p.m.
4/5/2008	The College of New Jersey	Ewing, NJ	Sat. 12 p.m.
4/10/2008	William Paterson University	Jersey City, NJ	Thurs. 3:30 p.m.
4/12/2008	Rowan University	Jersey City, NJ	Sat. 12 p.m.
4/15/2008	Albright College (PA)	Reading, PA	Tues. 3:30 p.m.
4/17/2008	Montclair State University	Jersey City, NJ	Thurs. 3:30 p.m.
4/18/2008	Kean University	Union, NJ	Fri. 3:30 p.m.
4/19/2008	Ramapo College	Mahwah, NJ	Sat. 12 p.m.
4/22/2008	Maritime College (NY)	Jersey City, NJ	Tues. 3 p.m.
4/24/2008	Rutgers-Newark	Newark, NJ	Thurs. 3:30 p.m.
4/25/2008	Montclair State University	Little Falls, NJ	Fri. 3:30 p.m.
4/26/2008	Rutgers University-Camden	Jersey City, NJ	Sat. 12 p.m.
4/30/2008	NJAC Tournament First Round vs. TBA	TBA	TBA

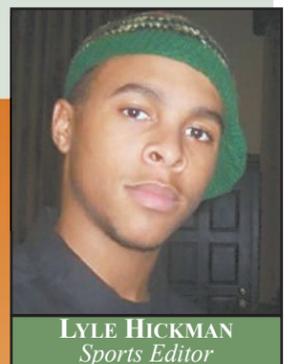
## Greetings

NJCU Community,

I am Lyle Hickman, the new Sports Editor for the *Gothic Times*.

I'm no stranger to the paper, writing articles earlier this academic year, *Valentine's Cliché* and *A Look into the Jena 6*. I am excited and will solemnly give my best effort, providing news about NJCU Athletics.

If you are interested in writing for the *Gothic Times* sports section, please email me at [lhickman@njcu.edu](mailto:lhickman@njcu.edu) or stop by my office located in the Gilligan Student Union Building room 125D.



**LYLE HICKMAN**  
Sports Editor