

Time Travel: Fact or Fiction?

By Erica Molina

Time travel went from fiction to fact for those at New Jersey City University on April 14, 2008. That afternoon, Dr. Ronald L. Mallett, a physics professor at the University of Connecticut for the past 32 years, spoke about his theory and proposed practical applications of time travel.

"It's exciting," said Mallett, 63, "to get the public to realize that the notion is real. [... Albert] Einstein said time could be changed."

One of the few African Americans to hold a PhD in theoretical physics, Mallett's interest in time travel began early in life. At ten, he lost his father, 33, to a massive heart attack.

This experience, along with introductions to both the books *The Time Machine* by H.G. Wells and *The Universe and Dr. Einstein* by Lincoln Barnett, resulted in a life-long struggle to find a way to the past in order to possibly save Mallett's father.

"It's likely I probably wouldn't have [become a scientist]," said Mallett, had his father not died so suddenly. Mallett tells of his personal and scientific journeys in his 2006 book *Time Traveler: A Scientist's Personal Mission to Make Time Travel a Reality*.

"I think we can all relate to Mr. Mallett's obsession with time

"The idea of going into the past to save a loved one from a certain fate is something we all [...] wish can be possible!"

— Jessenia Diaz

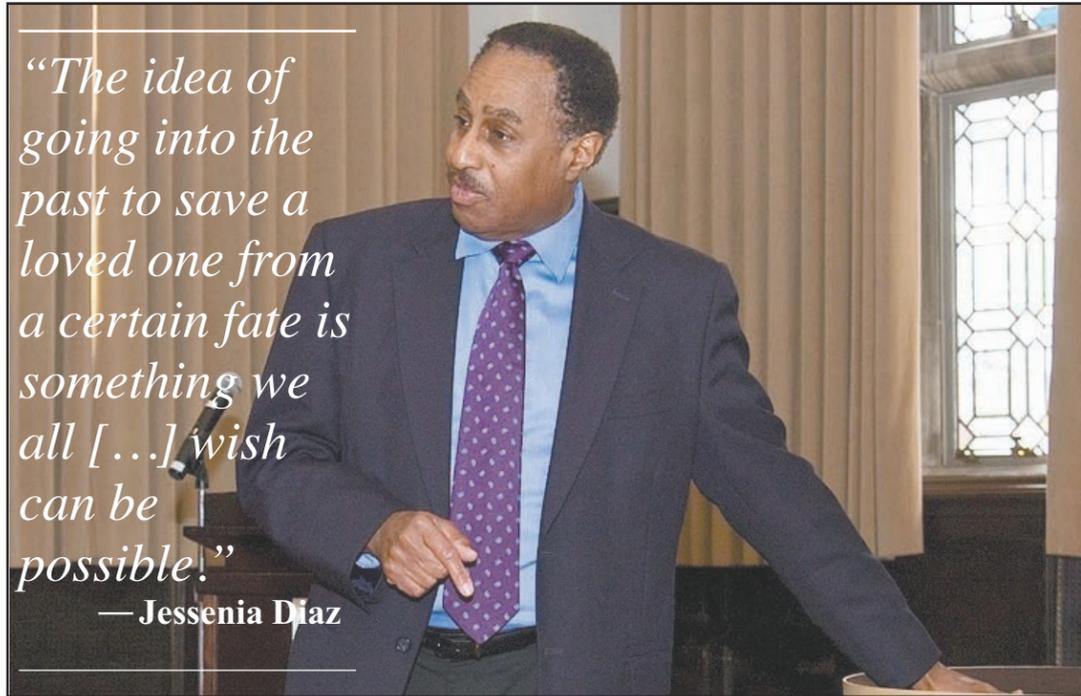


Photo by Bill Wittkop

Dr. Ronald Mallett explains his theory of time travel to the NJCU audience.

travel," said Jessenia Diaz, senior, 22, math major, Jersey City. "The idea of going into the past to save a loved one from a certain fate is something we all [...] wish can be possible."

The final lecture of NJCU's 22nd annual University Lecture Series opened with an introduction of Mallett by Robert Thurston, the Opportunity Scholarship Program (OSP) Tutoring

Program Coordinator. Thurston has published almost 20 science fiction books, some of which involve time travel.

Mallett then described to the audience Einstein's theory of relativity on which his own theory is based. The basic concept of relativity is that while the speed of all matter (everything that takes up space, such as a car, a person, or air) can change, the speed of light

is always constant. Mallett's theory is to use this quality of light in the form of lasers to create a time machine in which subatomic particles can be sent to the past. Eventually, people will be able to send information, and, in the distant future, other people.

"I'm interested in the physics and possibility of [the idea]," said NJCU President Carlos Hernandez. "[Mallett] really believes it

is within our reach."

It was not until Mallett created his theory, however, that he realized he will never be able to see his father again. His time machine, he explained, will only work within the time frame it is operating. For example, if Mallett were to turn on the machine at midnight on January 1, 2009, and leave it on for 100 years, time travel would be possible within those 100 years, but not before the day and time it was turned on.

"[Nevertheless, it is] a great legacy for my father [and] for future generations, [who] will have a mastery of their destinies [we will never have]," Mallett said.

But putting his theory into practice will be no easy task.

"What people don't realize is that you need money to do these things," said Mallett. He estimates it will take five years and a quarter of a million dollars for the initiation phase of his plans to become a reality. This phase consists of showing exactly how space can be twisted by light. The phase of sending particles into the past will not take place until another five years.

"My colleagues are very supportive," said Mallett. "If there is any skepticism, it has to do not with the science, but with the technology. It's going to be an en-

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Keeping the Tradition Alive

By Elizabeth Rolon & Senior Class E-Board

As graduates wait for May 14, 2008, they can look forward to walking into the newly named Izod Center in East Rutherford, New Jersey to be acknowledged for their hard work and achievement. Part of this acknowledgement will include walking across the stage as their name is called, receiving a diploma case, all thanks to the graduating class of 2007.

On February 23, 2007, the commencement committee made a decision that shocked the entire university community; they were no longer going to call names at commencement. This decision was made in light of two consecutive commencement ceremonies in which nearly the entire graduating class left the stadium once they walked across the stage and received their diploma case.

In a statement made last year in *The Gothic Times* by Walter Brady, Director of Auxiliary Services and commencement committee chairperson, he explained the



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horror that was felt by administrators, faculty, and other university community members when students rose from their seats and exited the stadium after walking across the stage.

"I think it's extremely selfish. It should be the students and the university. We're celebrating with you. This is a university celebration..." said Brady.

Through a vast number of e-

mails, phone calls, and comments posted on the *Gothic Times* website by upset students and parents, the commencement committee and the president of the university, Dr. Carlos Hernandez, gave the class of 2007 a last chance to prove that the students of NJCU do indeed deserve to have their names called at commencement. After examining commencement procedures in other universities that still called names, even with a large graduating class, the commencement committee thought of a way to shorten the time taken to call graduates' names and entice them to remain throughout the ceremony.

If you attended last year's commencement ceremony, you witnessed the triumph of the entire student body. This triumph was more than just winning the battle of being able to walk across the stage and hear their name at the ceremony; they set a standard for future commencement ceremonies at NJCU.

"It (commencement 2007) was one of the best ceremonies I had attended as president. The efforts

made last year by the graduating students were truly magnificent," said President Hernandez. "The prior two ceremonies were not only embarrassing for the University, but more importantly, demonstrated a complete disrespect for the graduates' fellow students as well as the families and friends in attendance. I believe that the very last student who walks across the stage to receive a diploma deserves exactly the same wonderful and exciting experience as the very first student and that is what we all experienced last year."

The commencement committee couldn't be more relieved and joyous seeing how well the ceremony went last year. They hold high hopes for this year's graduates as they expect for them to follow in the footsteps of last year's graduating class.

"Last year's class showed remarkable respect for themselves and their fellow graduates," said Brady. "I am truly excited for this year's class and for future class-

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NEWS

Letter from the Editor: Vanessa Cubillo

By Vanessa Cubillo

How does it feel to be Editor-in-Chief? The one question I always dreaded and always got since September. It really is hard to give an accurate description of what this job feels like. It feels like nothing and everything at the same time. It was exactly what I thought it would be and nothing like I expected.

This year has gone by faster than I could have imagined, part of me feels like I'm still working on the September issue. Now as this last issue comes out, I feel a mixture of sadness and happiness. I'm very happy with all the work that my staff and I have done over this year.

Of course there have been problems met with large amounts of stress, but that's pretty normal anywhere you go. So, for a newspaper staff that started off in a kitchen and made its way to a nice office with a beautiful view, I think we did pretty well.

One of the greatest things you can take away from being in a club or organization is the people you meet. Ever since I've been a part of this paper, I have met and made friends with very good people and what's greater is that people can bond over a common interest. I knew I always wanted to write, and if you can find more people like that then you have found yourself a solid group. And that is really what the Gothic Times is

about, it's about a group of people who come together to serve their community through their work.

This paper is not made by one person and I would be lying if I said I did this on my own. I would have nothing if I didn't have my staff and I thank them for all the hard work they have put in. Coming into this paper I never thought I would apply for this position, and when I had it, I couldn't believe I was going to do it, now that it's over, I can't believe I'm alive.

This experience is something I will always value, and something I never want to do again. I will take everything that I have learned in this past year with me in life and hope that it will serve

me in my future goals. I give all my luck to my successor and I know that they will continue to make this paper something to appreciate.



VANESSA CUBILLO
Editor-in-Chief

Time Travel

Continued from page 1

gineering challenge," said Mallett.

"Many of the theories of time travel," said Dr. Christopher Herbert, 41, Associate Professor of Physics at NJCU, "are philosophical and speculative rather than scientific because these theories cannot be tested."

At the question-and-answer portion following the lecture, Mallett addressed audience questions ranging from his coming-to-terms with his father's death to theoretical paradoxes arising from successful time travel including changing the courses of history and the possibility of numerous alternate universes.

"We are talking about things we don't know exist," said Dr. James Sasso, a Professor of Philosophy at NJCU for 37 years.

Despite the uncertainties stemming from Mallett's scientific theories, there is no doubt that those who attended his lecture enjoyed themselves.

"Alexander [Daniels] became interested in making a time machine," said D. Anne Stewart, Brooklyn, New York, of her six-year-old son. "I stumbled upon Dr. Mallett's information and decided to email him. [He] emailed us back and was [kind enough] to invite us to this lecture, [... which] was excellent."

"It was a big day and I'm learning a lot about science," Alexander said.

Additional reporting by Marlen Gonzalez

Commencement

Continued from page 1

es to have the experience of hearing their named called and to have the opportunity to walk across the stage. Remember, this is not only for you, but is for all those in your life who have supported you along the way!"



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Word on Campus

Photos and interviews by Santo Sanabria

How will you spend summer vacation?

 <p>Senior Eboni Collington, 21 MAJOR : Psychology Jersey City, NJ</p> <p>A constructive summer for me would be working and taking summer courses to build up my college credit and to keep going my mind going.</p>	 <p>Junior Luis Rodriguez, 21 MAJOR : Chemistry Lakewood, NJ</p> <p>I will be working as a pharmacy technician at CVS/pharmacy. I will also be going on vacation.</p>	 <p>Senior Erika Ulloa MAJOR : Geoscience Jersey City, NJ</p> <p>I will stay at home studying for my classes and work. During my free time I will go to the park with my dog.</p>
 <p>Wanda Guzman MAJOR : Sociology Garfield, NJ</p> <p>In my opinion a productive summer involves relaxation and enrichment, after a tedious semester it is only necessary to invest time in yourself. Explore new job opportunities in your major field.</p>	 <p>Junior Tommy Wong MAJOR : Business Management Hightstown, NJ</p> <p>I will be working as much as possible all summer to pay rent for a new apartment.</p>	 <p>Freshman Steven Paez MAJOR : Criminal Justice</p> <p>A productive summer to me would probably be moving into my own apartment and getting a good job.</p>

EDITORIAL

The Herd Mentality, Part 2: What's Newsworthy?

By Mike Sorrentino

So, another big-time politician falls from grace. The newsworthy item here is that the State of New York is now minus one ill-tempered, sex crazed governor. The problem with the reporting of this story, and the increasing amount of stories just like it, is that they don't end with the dethroning of the public official involved.

All you really need to know about former Governor Elliot Spitzer is that he was involved in some of the very activities he promised to "f-ing bulldoze" out of existence like the wrath of God against Sodom and Gomorrah. You need to know that he was caught with his proverbial pants down and now he is the ex-governor of New York. That's it in a nutshell.

However, we live in gossip ravenous 2008 America, where the famous are worshiped and their every move scrutinized, photographed and plastered on front pages and television screens along with the latest death, grief, sorrow and murder.

And now we have another new celebrity to raise-up, and then obliterate after the requisite 15 minutes have expired. This newcomer to fame is none other than the girl-gone-wild recipient of a portion of Mr. Spitzer \$80,000 prostitute habit. Why do we need to know about this person? Why is her life and likeness given hard-news, feature story importance?

By the time she begins her even-

tual evaporation into oblivion, we will, like it or not, have been exposed to her real or fictionalized biography, semi-clad photos, so called musical endeavors and god



knows what else. We will know more about Spitzer's paid fantasy girl than his wife, what's her name?

What quality should differentiate a given story as front page hard news from gossip page fluff?

In an effort to get to the heart of some of these questions, New Jersey City University's Prof. Jim Broderick was kind enough to allow me to discuss a few recent headlines with his Tuesday night journalism class. Who better to ask about all the news fit to print than those who will be writing the stories.

I asked the class to ponder a series of questions regarding current events and to prioritize the importance of each story, asking them

to classify each as either hard-news or gossip. To my surprise the class was nearly unanimous in agreement on the gossip status of anything involving celebrities other than untimely death, and even then, why is this given priority over the deaths of any one of the 4,000 people we've lost in Iraq and Afghanistan?

They agreed that the controversy surrounding Reverend Jeremiah Wright, Senator Barack Obama's spiritual advisor, was initially newsworthy, but soon became little more than gossip style dirt digging after two weeks of relentless media pounding.

We also discussed stories that are unlikely to get front page headlines, but may have as much or more importance than anything currently being reported. You may have heard that honey bees are dying en masse and scientists aren't exactly sure why this is happening. If you paid any attention at all, you probably quickly forgot about it or thought, "oh yeah, I heard something about that."

Would you have paid more attention if you knew that this bee die-off could affect one third of the human food supply? According to an Associated Press story from May 3, 2007, foods like nuts, berries, melons, soybeans and apples could be greatly diminished without honey bees for pollination. Doesn't the possible decline of the food you eat rank a little higher than who just got



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

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voted off of American Idol, or which rehab facility your favorite Hollywood train wreck is visiting this week?

Consider that being constantly bombarded with negative and depressing news stories has the effect on the collective psyche of the populace of making us more negative and depressed much like a grey, miserable day. Think about how a week of bad weather affects your mental outlook and how much you look forward to

seeing the sun again. Would you feel uplifted by more positive news?

More importantly, how much would you be willing to spend in terms of time, and advertising persuasion for exposure to more positive news? Do you think this would eventually make positive, hopeful changes in society as a whole? If so, have you ever thought of actually telling someone in a governmental position to do something about it?

Getting Involved

By Craig Morrison
 V.P. of SGO Activities

The value of participating in your campus activities has its extended benefits. This year is my fifth year of being involved and I am proud to say that I don't regret any of it. As I graduate this May, I would just like to leave behind words of wisdom about getting involved and the benefits and experiences it will have on any college student's life.

First of all, every student on this campus pays a student activity fee that enables recognized student clubs and organizations to operate and host events. As the Vice President of Activities, I often preach this matter to students because your fees is what gives us the opportunity to put on programs such as Multicultural Month, Spring Fest, Week of Welcome, and other various events that you might see occurring on campus. The greatest thing about being involved is that you will learn how to network with a variety of people. When networking with other



Student Government website
 V.P. of SGO Activities, Craig Morrison.

students, you will learn how to deal with personality types that most of us will deal with once we graduate and get into the work force.

The other benefits of getting involved includes utilizing certain skills you learn in your classes and putting them to practice within any clubs and organizations you will choose to get involved in. For example, if you are an accounting major, many clubs and organizations will be able to utilize your knowledge that will indeed help organiza-

tion their budget in spending and keeping records of all the transactions made for each events.

My experiences in being involved with campus life have propelled me to learn many skills that will help me out in my future. Many employers in the workforce often look at your resume to see the various extra curriculum activities you have been involved in to provide themselves with more input of whether you're the type of employee they are looking to hire. I have learned how to delegate duties to my peers, plan events and programs, be consistent in meeting deadlines, time management, and much more that involves leading me to greatness. The most important things that I have learned about being involved are separating business from personal affiliations.

Most of the challenges that I have faced in Student Government really occur at a broader scale. People sometimes have their own personal agendas and don't necessarily understand what it takes and mean to work in a team. Perhaps, most of the

time when you have done so much for certain individuals, they seem not to be satisfied and create more controversy because they just don't understand that burning bridges is the wrong path to go on.

Whatever you do, if you're that student looking to get involved, please don't interpret my learned experiences as a negative view that might avert you from getting involved. Everyone gets experiences, and I will say that not all of our experiences are good, because if that were the case we all would be perfect individuals.

In brief, I strongly recommend all students to take advantage of learning about what our campus has to offer. Did you know that you could volunteer to go on a Collegiate Challenge for Spring Break? This involves only a few students and you will have to be interviewed by the Coordinator of Community Service and Volunteerism, Rob Quinones, if anyone is interested.

The Student Government is located on the first floor of the Student Union Build (125), and

we want more students to get involved because we all support each other as students. One other important reason why you should get involve is that you will be able to voice any concerns and issues you might have with the services at the university, and at the same time sit on university committees to voice your solutions and concerns as a representative of the student body.

Trust me this will also prepare you for the future jobs that you will seek. As college students we are modest learners. I think that being an active student on our campus will give us the opportunity to learn more valuable skills. It could also teach us effective ways for communicating with people as well as different ways to deal with a variety of situations. In the long run, we would have developed valuable skills that will guide us as we grow in our lives as students. This is truly a great element to being a college student, because becoming involved will mold you into being someone great some day.

OPINION

For Goodness Sake, Stop the Remakes

By Christie Avila

American remakes of Asian films are becoming more and more popular these days. Genres such as drama, action, and the favorite genre among many, horror, are being remade with an American twist. What happened to classic, yet original films? There have been countless remakes and it makes some wonder whether or not movie directors or producers are losing their sense of originality.

American celebrities like Joshua Jackson, Sarah Michelle Gellar, and Jessica Alba, just to name a few, are placed in roles where Asians actors and actresses were originally cast. That is absolutely fine, but what is hard to understand is that some of the films still have the same setting, usually somewhere in Asia.

Also, Asian actors and actresses are still cast for the other roles, except the leading roles. Many of the perfectly good original films have been tweaked with celebrities just to influence people to go see the remakes on the big screens.

It is not to say that this is wrong, since everything is done legally. Roy Lee has been a major influence in the remakes of many of the films that have hit the big screens. According to *The New*

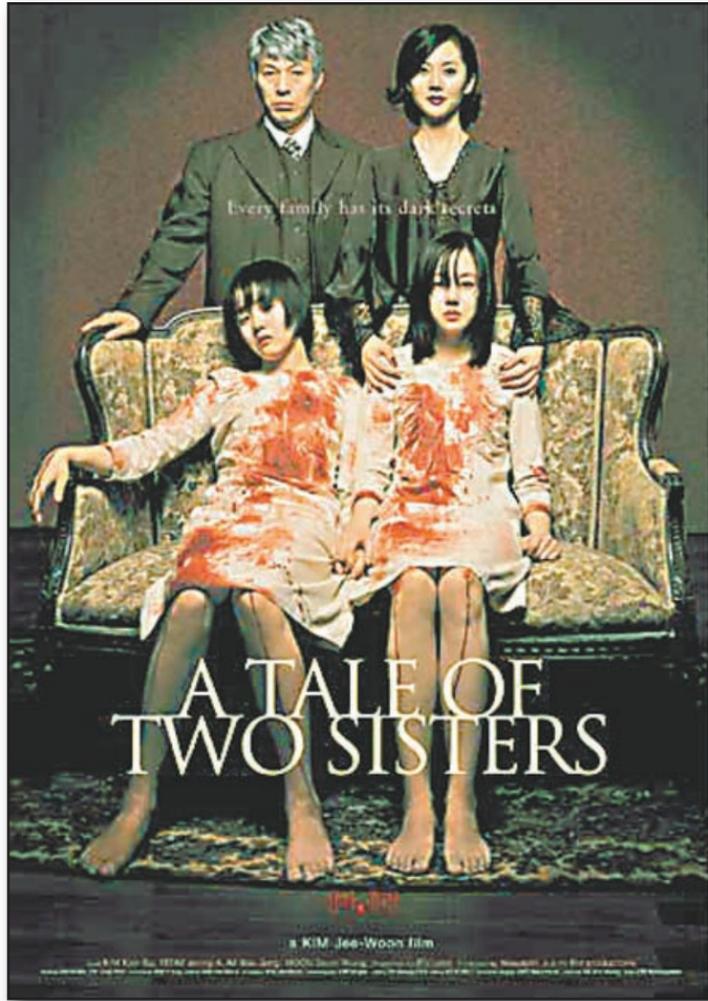
Yorker, "He watches videos of every Asian movie ever made, picks the biggest hits, and then, on behalf of their Asian distributors, sells the "remake rights" of those films to studios here, so that they can be turned into big-budget American spectacles."

Some films which Lee has been involved with include *The Ring*, which was originally a Japanese horror flick called *Ringu*, and later came *The Ring 2*, *The Grudge* and *The Grudge 2* which was a remake of the Japanese film *Ju-on*.

Many of the good original films have subtitles, but some people are just too lazy to read subtitles as they are watching a film. The original versions have great dialogue, not to mention storylines, whereas American versions focus more on special effects and flashy scenes.

Some other films that have been remade include: *The Eye*, which was originally *Gin Gwai*; *Dark Water*, which was originally *Honogurai Mizu No Soko Kara*; *Shutter*, which came from the Thai version-*Shutter*; *The Departed*, which was taken from *Infernal Affairs*; *The Lake House*, originally *Il Mare*; *Eight Below* or *Antarctica*, which was originally *Nankyoku Monogatari* (*South Pole Story*); and many others.

Why take those ideas from the



The upcoming film *The Uninvited* is a remake of the Korean film *A Tale of Two Sisters*.

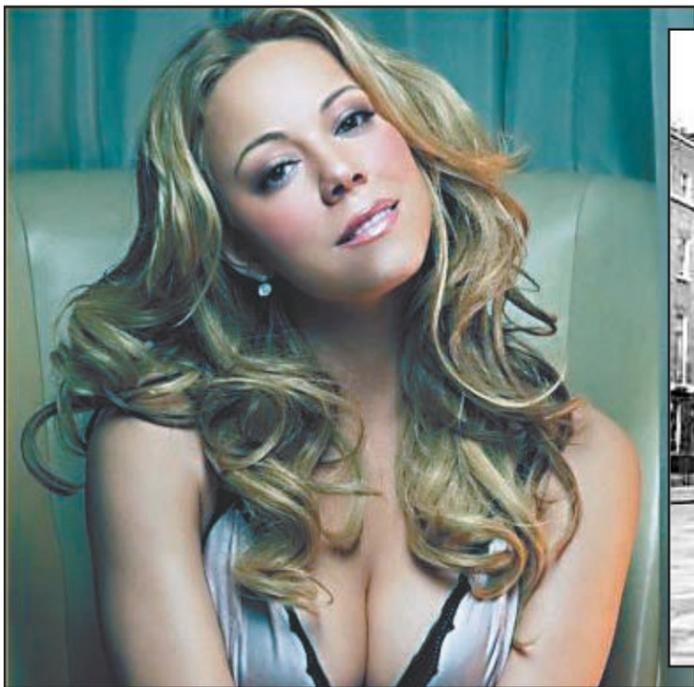
original creators just to gain recognition or make a profit. Films are remade by talented people who initially had the ideas to come up with the first versions. To some those versions are just as good to begin with, maybe even better.

Some American producers and directors try to over exaggerate when they remake the movies and try to make them better than they originally were. In some films, it may seem that they try too hard to make the remake versions of the originals better without always succeeding. There are certain movies that are not meant to be remade.

Although many remakes are made in several countries, and not just the United States, the U.S. is profiting more since Americans are so tuned into the entertainment industry. I know Asia remakes some American films, but people know that they are remakes because of globalization and countless Hollywood advertising and promotions everywhere.

Many producers and directors who remake Asian films try to take credit for originality without promoting the original versions. A lot of the times Americans do not even know about the originals and all the praise is given to the wrong people.

Where is All the 'Real' Music today?



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Mariah Carey: Poised to dethrone the Beatles in having the most No. 1 debut songs.



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By Mohammad Hassan

I was shocked to the core upon hearing the news that Mariah Carey has the second most No.1 singles after the Beatles. I mean here is a singer who literally sings the same things over and over again and it really saddens me that people just buy her every album considering that there is nothing really interesting about her music at all.

Now before all of you Mariah Carey fans start sending me the

hate mails regarding how good her music and singing abilities are, I don't deny that Mariah Carey is a good singer but she is only a good singer, not a good songwriter

As I mentioned before I do not deny the fact that Mariah Carey has a beautiful voice and she might be the record holder of having the most No. 1 singles but to me, she will always be an average pop artist, just like the rest of these pop artists are.

Today, crappy and sexually

charged Pop music is all the craze, with the likes of Fergie, Ashlee Simpson, Pussy Cat Dolls and the dreaded Paris Hilton coming up with their sexed up albums and sadly selling millions.

Have we become that blind and deaf that we cannot even recognize good music from bad? With song titles such as "My Hump," I mean is that what two thousand years of civilization has brought us to? And unfortunately the sad part is that we listen to it, buy it on itunes, download it on our

"sidekicks" as ring tones and recommend it to our friends, thus giving our precious money to these artists.

It's one thing to be a good singer and then there's another thing to be a good songwriter. Unless we pull ourselves out of that sex crazed pop music and singers who continue to sing nothing but sex crazed albums, we are only pushing the music industry to its slow but undeniable demise.

What does Mariah Carey come up with? "Touch My Body," "Af-

ter Tonight," "Alone in Love"?

I mean is that the best she can come up with? There is a reason that still after all these decades Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Rolling Stones remain with us. Why? The reason is because their lyrics are timeless. I wonder if thirty years from now people will still be singing songs of Mariah Carey and if her songs will be remembered or as much cherished like the songs of Beatles or Zeppelin.

As I mentioned before I do not deny the fact that Mariah Carey has a beautiful voice and she might be the record holder of having the most No. 1 singles but to me, she will always remain an average pop artist, just like the rest of them.



CHRISTIE AVILA
Opinion Editor

ADVICE

Atlantic City, More than just a gamble

By Candice Pepe

Flashing dollar signs, crashing coins pouring from slot machines, while dings, bings and bells surround you from every corner - Atlantic City's eleven 24-hour casinos bring you to a dazzling green world of lights and attraction.

"I believe that AC is also a great family place. Great shows to see, great places to eat, and there is always a family atmosphere there. It's not all about the casinos," said Ryan Schumacher, 20, a media arts major from Pittsgrove.

Lay on the free beach or rent a curtained cabana if you're feeling V.I.P. Now that you're hot and probably a little burnt, let the sea breeze cool you off by taking a thrill ride at the Steel Pier. The rocket, flip-n-fly trampolines and rock n' roll Himalaya will put enough butterflies in your stomach to make that red body squint a smile. For sightseeing folks, the Atlantic City Historical Museum, the Civil Rights Garden and the Absecon Lighthouse offer in art, culture, and history.

It's convenient when your room's in the same building as the poker table you've been hustling at, but it's costly, especially in the summer. Nightly room rates go up as the summer reaches its peak. At the Tropicana it will run you up to \$395 every Saturday. On a weekday in May, the lowest is \$89, in June the lowest is \$135, and in July the lowest is \$160, you can see where this is heading and that fluctuation pretty much goes for all the big casinos like the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa, Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort and Showboat- The Mardi Gras Casino.

Personally, as a frequent visitor, I've had two memorable experiences to share when it comes to overnight stays. One time my boyfriend Matt and I figured we'd stay at a motel to save money. There was no vacancy anywhere except for a hole-in-the-wall motel in the middle of a dark side-block. For about fifty bucks we stayed in a roach spray scented

room with a broken lock on the door. Stepping in I literally started to cry. I couldn't imagine what must have been under those bed sheets so I used my jacket as a blanket. I've stayed at shabby motels before but I felt comfortable enough to walk around with my socks off. I suggest if you want to save a few bucks and mortification, stay at a motel on a main street and make reservations ahead of time.

"...make sure that you know where to find help if needed. Don't ever let your guard down," warned Schumacher.

The next time Matt and I stayed in Atlantic City we hit the jackpot. On a spontaneous night we made last-minute reservations at the Tropicana. They ran out of regular rooms, so we got a suite! On the top floor we had a California king size bed, doorbell, Jacuzzi, and a mesmerizing view of the ocean, all for the price of a regular room. I'll never forget that night ... and I snatched up the fancy full-size Sweet Sea Grass Spa Collection shampoo, conditioner, beauty kit, and bubble bath, as favors.

Sleek venues with top-quality sound will host many scheduled performances this summer. In places like the House of Blues and Xanadu, artists Alicia Keys with Jordin Sparks, Comedian Larry the Cable Guy, Donna Summer, Boyz II Men, jazz ensemble Dave Koz & Friends, and many more will be flocking here this summer.

"I like it because it's always more of a party atmosphere than at other shows," said Nick Capodice, 23, a history major from Bayonne.

Atlantic City isn't cheap but there's ways to save. At the promotions booth in every hotel casino you can sign up to get a 'comp card.' Insert your card when pulling the handle at a slot machine or buying chips. As you spend, points add up that can get you perks like free meals, free parking, to even a free room. There's no need to go to a bar for beer or cocktails because pretty waitresses will fetch you free



FUN FACTS

- Most of the street names in the original Monopoly game board were named after streets in and around Atlantic City, New Jersey.
- It is said that saltwater taffy was created in 1883 on the Atlantic City boardwalk when a candy store owner's stand on the beach was flooded during high tide, saturating his taffy.
- The first Miss America Pageant was held in Atlantic City in 1921.



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drinks in any of the casinos, yes — *free drinks*. So even if you're not gambling, hang around and watch other people bet.

"Basically you should get one at every casino you go to because it only takes two minutes," said Capodice.

Inside the Quarter at the Tropicana sits Cuba Libre restaurant and rum bar. The Cuban-influenced restaurant offers dance lessons, professional shows and mojitos. Close by is the Planet Rose Bar which is known for its lus-

cious décor and karaoke.

The newest hotel, the Borgata, gives an intense nightlife experience in a glamorous setting. Clubs mur.mur and MIXX get you inside techno paradise. If there's no limit to your credit card, go to 32° in Tropicana and tell me all about it, because I can't afford a night of European bottle service. It's possible you may even spot a celebrity, like Michael Jordan, Vanessa Minnillo, Bam Margera, Terri Hatcher, Tyrese and the list goes on and on.

There's over fifty outlet stores where you can shop Adidas, Calvin Klein, Coach, Ecko Unlimited, J.Crew, Liz Claiborne, Timberland, or even the BCBG MAX AZRIA. Afterwards try some French cuisine at Cavo Crepe Café or some award-winning steak at Ruth Chris Steak House, mmmm... yummy.

"Don't bring money that you can't afford to lose, because you're most likely going to lose it. It's really fun unless you get in over your head," said Capodice.



By Mabel Montero

Graduation is finally here! All students in New Jersey City University dream of the day when they can finally have their diploma in their hand. Many students still have a couple semesters to go, and others are merely starting out the long journey.

For many seniors graduation will be the happiest day of their lives, but in the mist of all that happiness, one question arises. What will I do after graduation? Will I find a job right away? What if I don't?

"I think the scariest thing for

everyone is not finding a job after graduation. The thing is that entering this new life, is scary," said Luis Martinez, a 22-year-old senior that lives in Jersey City and is majoring in education.

As a senior myself, all I can think about is finding a job in my field. ANY JOB! I try to think positive even though it's hard. I have learned everything that I need to succeed from all the professors in the English department.

"Speak for yourself, the education department didn't help me whatsoever. I'm scared that because teachers didn't teach anything else that what was in the

text, I won't find a good job," said an angry NJCU student who preferred his identity be kept anonymous.

Regardless of what kind of professors students had, the real task is finding that perfect job. Finding the perfect job will be complicated. Remember whatever job you end up in make sure that you're a sponge - absorb and learn all you can.

Other seniors are not worried about the future. Like 22-year-old, Elizabeth Kuca who said, "My plans after graduation are getting a teaching position, getting married, and being happy it's all over."

Other students already have a job.

"I will be working as a page at NBC news. It's all ready," said 23-year-old Media Arts major, Adira Johnson from Jersey City.

The hassle of finding a job is stressing NJCU students. My advice to these students is take everything one step at a time. First graduate, then start looking for a job, and when you finally find one whether it be today or tomorrow, work, work, and keep working.

Work your way up the ladder until you finally achieve all your goals. One more thing, CONGRATULATIONS on making it this far!



MABEL MONTERO
Advice Editor

ARTS

SCOPE Art Fair New York 2008

By Willa Goldthwaite

SCOPE Art Fair travels worldwide to introduce artists, curators, and galleries to the global art market. SCOPE hosted its 2008 invitation-only edition at Lincoln Center during the week of March 26th. The fifty participating galleries were selected from twenty countries in four continents.

Entering the temporary glass pavilion in the park at Lincoln Center, the visitor is immediately greeted by the impressive installation of Johnston Foster's "What the Flock?!", consisting of a flock of seagulls, handcrafted from found materials. Then, in the doorway, another installation piece leads viewers into the show. It is a rainforest made of clothing, complete with a tropical soundtrack, created by the artists of Guerra de la Paz.

Each gallery represented in the fair is allotted a 'booth' space, which is basically a white box, to display their artworks and promotional materials. Collectors, curators, artists, and students in addition to the general public congregate to enjoy the presentations.

Most of the fair is set up fairly similarly. After a while there is so much that it just becomes a sea of art, a maze of stimulation. But in the back of the pavilion, there is a separate room, an escape. It was supposed to be used as a VIP room, but it became one of the more appealing parts of the exhibition. Large monitors were surrounded by big comfy pillow-chairs provided by LoveSac to create a sort of media lounge.

In this lounge, multiple video installations played simultaneously. An interactive installation was the central attraction. [PAM], the Perpetual Art Machine, is a collaborative installation originally created in 2006. It has now grown into a progressive international community through which all types of people involved in video and interactive media can get together. The viewer participates through a touch screen, where one can select a category, and then a video from that category. As of now, the database holds thousands of videos of all kinds with over three thousand registered users.

Other attention-grabbing pieces of art at the SCOPE Art Fair included charcoal installations by Seon Ghi Bahk and a project called 'One Hundred Dollar Bills.' The dollar bill project consisted literally of one hundred one-dollar bills, individually framed and marked for sale at prices up to four million dollars (for one ordinary dollar bill!). More surprisingly, some were marked as sold for up to three hundred dollars.

Bahk had two charcoal installations displayed in separate locations, a staircase and an archway. The staircase was my personal favorite. Each



Photo by Willa Goldthwaite

piece of charcoal was individually suspended from the ceiling with clear nylon thread. From a distance it looked like they were floating. To make it more interesting, the staircase was not solid; it broke apart in some places. And viewers were actually encouraged to touch this piece because by pushing one piece, it would knock another and send a chain reaction causing the whole installation to move. When they were moving, it looked like the pieces of charcoal were floating on water.

SCOPE was only one of the many events happening during New York's Art Week. The Armory Show was just blocks away at Pier 94. The Armory Show is another international art fair, this year celebrating its tenth annual exhibition. Coinciding with the Armory Show was PULSE New York, a younger contemporary art fair, appearing for its third year at Pier 40. Free shuttles ran all day between the three venues.

Find more information on SCOPE and related topics, check these links: www.scope-art.com
www.pulse-art.com
www.thearmoryshow.com



Installation by Seon Ghi Bahk, courtesy of Krampf Gallery

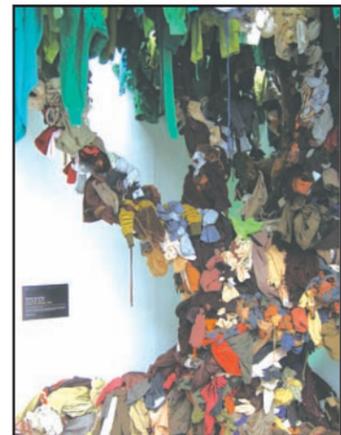


Photo by Willa Goldthwaite

The Green Zone: Under the Banyan Tree by Guerra de la Paz, courtesy of [CTS] creative thriftshop & Daneyal Mahmood Gallery



Photo by Willa Goldthwaite

WILLA GOLDTHWAITE
Arts Editor

A Word From the Editor

It has been a pleasure working for the *Gothic Times* as Arts Section Editor for this past academic year. I have learned a lot about NJCU and have met some great people. Unfortunately I will be unable to return as Arts Editor in the fall, although I look forward to continuing to write for the paper and keeping you up to date on local arts events.

I would like to thank the *Gothic Times*

staff as well as our advisor, Dr. James Broderick, for making it such a fun and interesting experience.

I would also like to thank Rossana Villafior, former Arts Editor, for her ongoing support and Richard Ryals, section writer and photographer, for his outstanding efforts this semester. Both Rossana and Richard were there when I needed them.

We now reach out to the rest of the Art

Department at NJCU to find a new Arts Editor for our award-winning campus newspaper.

Come and join us with as much or as little experience as you have, and expect to leave with great experiences and lots of memories. Now is your chance to make a difference and have your voice be heard. Contact the *Gothic Times* located in GSUB Room 301 for more information.

ENTERTAINMENT

The Mulhollands

By Leanne Aciz

I was stumbling along my way outside the infamous Key Club on the Sunset Strip on March 8, 2008 in Los Angeles, California when I first met the Mulhollands. I noticed that every person was here for two reasons: they were playing fantastic, live music or they were listening to fantastic, live music. The Mulhollands' performance was so professional and exciting that it was hard to see why the rest of the US hasn't recognized this band yet.

Sarah's onstage persona is refreshingly outgoing and would put girls like Hayley from Paramore and Gwen Stefani to shame. She treats the stage like it's her own personal party and engages great communication with the crowd of loving fans. The guitar rips were intense and the massive beats of the drum woke me out my slump and back to dancing. The connection between the band and their soaring lead singer is clear and that's what makes a Mulhollands show so enjoyable.

Leanne: How did you guys get started?

Sarah: I pretty much always knew that I wanted to sing for sure. I took every opportunity I could to perform. I can't imagine doing anything else. It's my true passion. I only feel like my true self when I'm on stage, as lame as that sounds.

Matt: I've wanted to play guitar since I was 3 years old. I got my first one when I was 8 and learned some basics...but when I turned 16, I got real serious about it.

How did The Mulhollands come together?

Sarah: I moved out to LA to start a band and met Jeremy at my apartment complex. He was sitting by the pool playing acoustic guitar and he amazed me so I went up and talked to him. We immediately started writing and putting some songs together. It was meant to be. We found the rest of the guys and started playin' out.



The Mulhollands

Photo courtesy of google.com

Matt: Danny, our drummer, and I played in a band called SpyCamera together. We did a lot of shows with The Mulhollands. In July, they needed someone to fill in while Jeremy was "on holiday." Then when he came back, they asked me to stay. As for Danny, the Mulhollands have a "spinal tap" history with drummers and by that I mean we've had a lot, so when the drummer seat opened again, I recommended Danny and the rest is, as they say, history.

Name some of your musical influences.

Sarah: The band influences are the Ramones, Blondie, Pretenders, Beach Boys. Mine would be The Pretenders, Fleetwood Mac, Heart, and The Beatles.

Matt: I am a pop culture junkie. I love pretty much every guitar-based, song-oriented band from the beginning of rock and roll but the Beatles are my all time favorite. I could give you a huge list of my favorite

bands, but that would go on forever.

What is the Mulhollands ultimate goal?

Sarah: Of course it would be nice to achieve the ultimate dream life, but we really do just love playing our music. I can't see myself doing anything else...with or without fame/fortune.

Matt: I can't answer for every one of us, but for me, I want the opportunity to express myself artistically and have it heard on a large scale.

What is the one song that the Mulhollands think is their best?

Sarah: "Beautiful Night." It has great melodies and its dynamic and it's really fun to play live. We usually end the set with that song.

Matt: Being the 'new' guy, I think I may be able to answer this one better because I'm not as biased. My favorite song is "True Romance," but there is a new one called

"Sucker" that I like a lot as well.

Who writes the music and lyrics?

Matt: It started out as Jeremy's baby...but there may a shift soon because he is "on holiday" again.

Sarah: Jeremy writes most of the music and lyrics. I have written a couple of them and help with melodies and lyrics.

What do people think of the Mulhollands having a woman front the band? Is it at all reminiscent of No Doubt, or is power/responsibility divided equally?

Matt: Well, obviously, Sarah is the one people focus on, which has its pluses and minuses. The pluses of that are notoriety and respect, the downside is everyone wants a piece of you and they don't always have your best interests at heart.

Sarah: People are usually surprised when they see us live because my personality on and off stage differ GREATLY. I'm generally a pretty shy and happy person so you wouldn't expect for me to be the way I am on stage.

Anything you would like to tell the East Coast?

Sarah: Look out for us this year!! We'll be coming! I am from Philly so we will be touring out there hopefully!

Matt: Yes! Rest in Peace CBGB'S...you will be missed!

Thank You To All!

So first and foremost I would just like to say thank you to *The Gothic Times* staff for the past couple of years for the support and the help provided to me by you guys, even before I was an editor. Thanks to Dr. Broderick who kept me sane throughout my tenure as a staff member for the paper as well as just a student. He truly is the greatest advisor you could have here on campus, Journalism major or not he's great to talk to. I'm not kissing up, I've technically graduated already so I speak the truth.

As the day of my graduation approaches I would like to just tell everyone who reads this whether you are a Journalism, Math major, Science major,, or still debating on what you want to do in life while you cram for your Civilizations II test remember this, there is no rush in getting out of college. Figure out what you want to do and stick with it if it's really what you want to do and hopefully you'll have some fun along the way. I know I did.

Angelito Yambao Jr

'A True Story'

By Mary Paone

Every first Saturday of the month, PJ Ryans is the place to be. Bar regulars, new faces, loyal fans, and people from the neighborhood are all there. It's the night that 'A True Story' plays.

The band: Michael "Mike" Buscio, 23 (guitar/vocals); Nicholas "Nick" LaMonica, 22 (vocals); Victor "Vic" Giordano, 21 (bass /vocals); and Richard "Rick" Davis, 23 (drums).

I recently had the opportunity to sit down with Mike (a graduate of NJCU) and Rick and was able to get some insight into the guys behind the music. Both guys started playing at a young age.

"My uncle taught me the drums when I was eleven and I've been in love with it ever since," said Rick.

Mike, on the other hand, was a different story, "I thought it would be cool to play so I picked up a guitar and started playing. I play by ear; no music sheets needed for me."

The guys met each other at a Battle of the Bands that was held at NJCU in 2003. At that time, Mike was in another band, "after Rick and the guys saw our band perform, they approached me and asked me to join them

and their band. The rest is history."

According to the guys (who are currently unsigned), the chemistry was instant. "We hang out all the time when we aren't performing," says Mike. They put out their first cd after only a month of playing together.

In fact, they have put out three cd's since they started playing together. Their music has a unique and different sound to it.

They have fun with their music and aren't afraid to try new things. Their latest cd, "15 Minutes of Fame" is no exception. Released this month, it has a unique mix of sound.

But where do they draw their inspiration? Well that's easy if you ask Mike, "Our songs come from things that have happened and what we are going through or have gone through."

Rick also adds "It's whatever is going on in our lives at that moment." Listening to their latest album, you can almost feel what they are going through. The words connect with you as you are listening. The songs are personal, unlike most songs on the airwaves today.

And just like their chemistry, picking a name for the band was also simplistic. It was Rick who actually thought of their name, "I was at the movies with a few



A True Story

Photo courtesy of google.com

people watching *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* and on the screen came the words 'based on a true story.' I mentioned it to the guys and that was that."

Their popularity and fan base is also growing. The guys have traveled as far as Virginia and New Hampshire. They have over 6,000 friends on Myspace, and some of them aren't even from this country. "It sucks, being unsigned and all, because we have fans in England that we can't perform for because the means just aren't there," says Mike.

'A True Story' is so popular that they have permanent gigs throughout the year. They play at: Centrum (in Passaic) every Friday beginning May 2; Reds in Carlstadt once or twice a month; and of course, as already mentioned, PJ Ryans in downtown Jersey City every first Saturday of the month (except in May, they will be performing

May 10).

Their performances consist of both original songs and covers, and playing covers doesn't seem to bother the guys at all. According to Mike, "for PJs, we were hired as a cover band. It doesn't really matter as long as we get to play, and get paid. But we do play a few of our originals when we can. They don't seem to mind."

These guys are the real deal. But don't just take my word for it. Check them out for yourselves. You can access their schedule and listen to a few of their songs on their Myspace, www.myspace.com/atruestory. If Myspace isn't your thing, then you can also listen to their music on www.purevolume.com/atruestory. But get to their shows early, especially at PJs if you want a seat, as it becomes standing room only. After one show, you'll be hooked.



ANGELITO YAMBAO, JR.
Entertainment Editor

SPORTS

BASEBALL IN THEIR BLOOD

By Robert T. Griffiths

When it comes to gaining a competitive edge, athletes will take it however they can get it. Whether it means pushing the limit in the weight room, taking countless reps of practice swings or shots, or spending more time in the film room than they probably should (eh-hem, go to class); a competitor will do whatever it takes.

Wouldn't it be nice to be born with such a competitive edge??? "Keep dreaming," you say???

For two of NJCU's most valuable commodities on the diamond, that is just the case; it can be said that their edge flows through their very veins.

Simply put, Baldwin Vargas, NJCU's strong-armed ace hurler, and Jose Fulgencio, the Gothic Knight's versatile star shortstop, have baseball blood. These guys are good.

Because of their different roles on the field, their talent shines through in different ways. Fulgencio's baseball resume would be topped by his NJAC all-time record 40 game hitting streak (stretching back from the '07 season until 3/16 of this year's campaign). That hitting streak was part of a bigger picture, as Jose safely reached base in 50 consecutive games. Fulgencio is a 3-time NJCU male athlete of the week, and, this Saturday, April 12th he joined the 100-hit club; which is a prestigious accomplishment. Fulgencio is the fastest player in NJCU history to record 100 hits; doing so in only 65 career games... Vargas doesn't have the same type of numbers, but that's only because pitchers aren't every day players. Vargas's talent speaks for itself in other ways. Vargas can toss the rock a scorching 93 mph, but Vargas's ability to bring the heat is only a supplement to the savvy he brings to the mound. Vargas is a very intelligent pitcher, comfortable in any count. Last year, in a game against conference rival Kean University, Vargas struck out then national player of the week Derek Gianaskas, twice, blanking him for an 0 for 2 afternoon.

Despite their different accomplishments, these teammates do have their share of similarities; in fact, anyone who knows them knows that these peas come from the same pod. Both Vargas and Fulgencio are 21 years young, both share a Dominican heritage, both hail from the Bronx, both see baseball as a way of life, and before our interview, both said, simultaneously, and almost in harmony: "just so you know, you're probably gonna get the same answers out of both of us". Oh, yeah, both have relatives that once played major league baseball.

I sat down with both of these guys to find out how having top-level athletes in their families has impacted their lives and their baseball careers...

Interview

Rob Griffiths: How can you put into words how important baseball is to you guys?

Baldwin Vargas: Baseball is the number one thing in my heart and my life. Nothing comes before baseball.

Jose Fulgencio: Its definitely one of the most important things in my life. I don't think I could live without baseball.

RG: What is most important to you besides baseball?

BV: My relationship between my family and I. Easily. Without family—you're nothing.

JF: My baby. My son, Alexander Jose.

RG: How old is he?

JF: He's one and a half. We call him "El King."

RG: That is a dope nickname... How important would you say baseball is to your respective families?

BV: Honestly...not that important. They put education before baseball. Actually, they really only became more interested in my baseball life once they found out that I was actually good (laughs).

JF: Baseball is very important to my family. You could say its like a tradition. My uncles all played baseball—one went to the majors. I can't even explain how important it is. They also believe in education of course, but baseball is huge to my family.

RG: Speaking of the majors... What former major leaguers are you guys related to?

JF: My uncle, Rafael...Santana. He won a world series in 1986 with the New York Mets. He also played for the Yankees and the Cardinals.

BV: Will Castro; he's my cousin. He played for 8 seasons with the Mets, Expos, and Brewers—he was really successful. Now he's the bullpen coach for the Milwaukee Brewers.

RG: Respek. How do you feel that having relatives that played in the majors has affected your lives?

BV: It makes you try a lot harder, because you don't want to let them down. Also, if they see you have potential, you have someone to help you out—whether its technique tips or making a call to a scout. From the basics to the business. (©Copyright that phrase Baldwin).

JF: It pushes you to help keep the family tradition of being a professional baseball player alive; and it has given me a sense of pride throughout my life.

RG: Do you feel like you get any type of competitive edge having such accomplished athletes in your families?

BV: You definitely get an extra edge skill-wise and knowledge-wise because you know someone who has been there before.

JF: Having a relative at that level, you gain skills that most people just don't have; maybe it's in the blood. But I think it helps you out in the mental realm, too.

RG: Do you feel that the success that you've had in baseball thus far has anything to do with having relatives that played at the highest level?

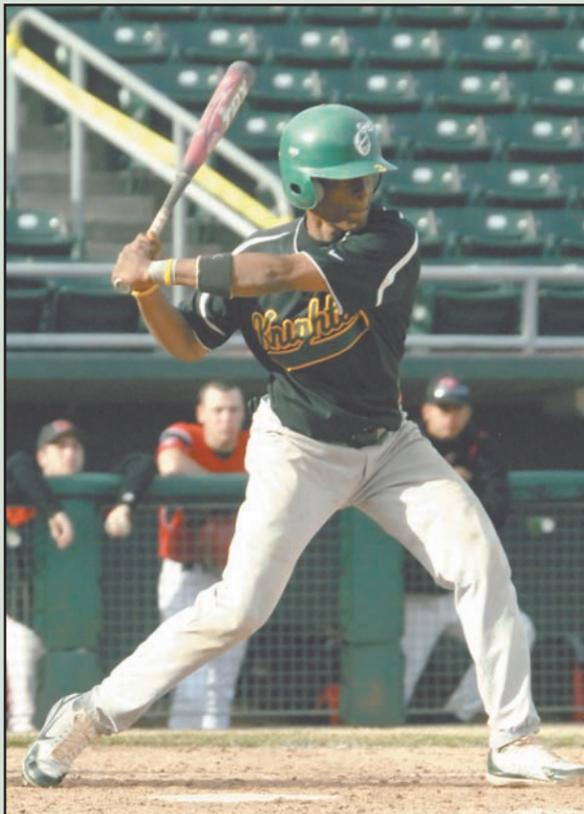
BV and JF in unison: Naaa!!!

BV: For me it's just straight-up heart.

JF: I just love this game.

RG: Do you think you have inherited some skills, or is it more that you've been motivated by having such accomplished relatives?

BV: Yeah, I definitely think you inherit some things. You can teach basics, but you can't teach instincts. And I think those in-



njcugothicknights.com

Jose Fulgencio



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Baldwin Vargas

stincts are in my blood.

JF: Like Baldwin said, you can't teach natural ability. If you have it, you have it.

RG: Have they given you any key insights that may have contributed to your success as baseball players?

BV: Yes; how to outsmart a hitter, for instance. How to pick a batter's brain before he can pick mine. I have a better grasp on what pitches I should throw on what counts—Will has helped me with stuff like that.

JF: My uncle taught me advanced mental techniques to use in order to be successful—like to go as hard as I can, but to take it easy at the same time; he helped me find that balance.

RG (to Jose): Does he tend to give more fielding advice? Or batting advice?

JF: He gives me more fielding advice—how to play base runners, how to use my arm...but I'm a better batter than him (and he's as serious as a heart attack, folks).

RG: Have you passed any of these things on to

your teammates?

Both: Yeah!

BV: Every little thing I can...

JF: We want to be as good as we can as a team.

RG: How do you think your lives could be different had you not had family members at the highest level of the game?

BV: (shrugs) I think things would be the same.

JF: I think the only difference would be that not everyone would mention my uncle every time I met someone involved with baseball.

RG: Baldwin—you were drafted by the White Sox last summer. What made you decide to return to NJCU?

BV: In the long run, I think coming back to school was the best thing I could have done for my baseball career. I think that staying in college for another year and dominating in this division will give me a shot to get drafted in a lower round.

RG: Respek. And what do you guys foresee in your baseball futures?

JF: Well, I hope to have the opportunity to play professional baseball, and if I make it, if I find myself in the minors, I will work as hard as I can to make it up there with the big boys.

BV: The biggest word in what Jose just said was "opportunity." We just want to have an opportunity to show what we got; and then we'll just let the talent take over; let the talent speak for us. We just want a shot!

RG: And what about your futures aside from baseball?

JF: I would like to be a physical education teacher; something... anything involving sports. Especially baseball.

BV: I have one other dream... of being a coach at the college level, and taking a team that no one really respects, and turning into a team that everyone fears.

RG: That would be awesome. Well, I want to thank you guys for your time, and wish you luck on the rest of the season. Is there anything else you'd like to say before we finish?

BV: Yeah. I want to say that Jose may have had a 40 game hitting streak and a 50 game on base streak; and he may be a better batter than his World Series champion uncle. But he still can't hit me.

JF: My ass...
On a serious note, it is not beyond the realm of possibility that Jose Fulgencio and Baldwin Vargas could one day be the major league relatives that the younger generations of their families look up to. They have the talent, the heart, and the hunger...hopefully, opportunity is the horizon.

LYLE HICKMAN
Sports Editor

****If you want to check Jose and Baldwin out in action, or if you just want to come out and support NJCU baseball, check out their schedule online at www.njcugothicknights.com. NJCU's home field is located on Rt. 440 (make a left onto 440 from Culver Ave, drive about a half mile, and you can't miss it). COME OUT & SUPPORT NJCU ATHLETICS!****