

## Overhaul: Obama Directly Impacts NJCU Students with New Lending Program

By Felix Alarcon and Juan Bustos

Starting July 1, 2010 all New Jersey City University students taking out loans will get their college loans directly from the Federal Government courtesy of President Barack Obama's Healthcare and Education Reconciliation Act, which has effectively ended the middlemen role of private banks.

NJCU students used to be able to view and accept loan awards through their GothicNet accounts. This will no longer be the case.

"All students will be required to go to [www.dl.ed.gov](http://www.dl.ed.gov) and e-sign a Direct Loan Promissory Note using their Federal Pin number in order to accept their loans," said Joe Roberto, NJCU Director of Financial Aid.

According to an email statement by NJCU Vice President of Stu-

dent Affairs, John Melendez, "the implementation of the Direct Loan Program is being coordinated jointly by Offices of Financial Aid, the Bursar's Office, the Department of Information Technology and Campus Information Systems."

"We're better off than most colleges because we've been gearing up for this since January," said Roberto. "[The Financial Aid Staff] has been running tests to see if the software (PeopleSoft) pulls and accepts the federal files," added Roberto.

The new law will eliminate the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) and ban any new FFELP loans from being laid out after July 1, 2010. The Direct Loan Program will essentially disburse only Stafford loans at a 5.6% interest rate for subsidized



Photo by staff

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Photo illustration: NJCU student inquires about financial aid.

## Human Trafficking: One student's story of survival

By Nadya Alvarado

There are two types of runaways: the regular runaway, who only stays away for a while but ultimately returns home and the habitual runaway, who constantly moves from one place to another – nomadic, lost, rarely finding a place to call home. Many runaways are youths that become entangled in the seedy world of drugs and prostitution. Irvington resident Tyamba Taylor was a runaway who became a human trafficking victim at the age of twelve.

"I was 12-13 years old at the time. I didn't start off as human trafficking [victim]. I was a habitual runaway. On that journey of being a runaway, I ended up in New York, and of course I had no place to stay and I happened to be staying with different people from time to time."

According to the Trafficking in Persons Report 2007, human trafficking victims often suffer physical and emotional abuse, rape, threats against self and family, document theft, and even death."

Taylor was an honor student, a responsible daughter and sister, until her childhood came to an abrupt end. She spoke about her experiences in an exclusive interview for the *Gothic Times* and as part of a university seminar on April 13. Taylor is a stu-



www.google.com

dent at NJCU, and also works at the Student Union Buildings in the Campus Life office.

Her mother, Ingrid Johnson-Hayward, worked long hours as a nurse and Taylor stayed at home looking after her two younger brothers. She started to skip school and her grades dropped drastically.

"I met someone online and we met at a Laundromat. He asked me to go back to his house just to get a couple of things and when it was time to leave, you know, he didn't want me to leave," said Taylor.

"You want to leave, you can't leave," said the man that accost-

ed Taylor.

She was forced into stripping and having sex for money in underground strip clubs. The money would go straight to her pimp. For a whole year, her life revolved around sex, drugs, and violence.

"I would smoke and drink to put my feelings aside and do what I was told to do. I would make \$500 to \$1,000 a night. Sometimes I would get paid \$1,000 just to sit and talk to a guy," said Taylor as tears streamed down her face.

She never had the chance to

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## NJCU Students Feel NJ Transit Fiscal Pinch

By Jan Aguilos

New Jersey Transit, a state-owned agency, has announced fare hikes of at least 25% and the trimming of services to offset a \$300 million budget deficit. According to a March 5 news release, most of these changes will start to take effect on May 1, and NJ Transit expects that this plan will generate \$140 million in revenue.

"I'm outraged," said Daisy Her-

andez, a junior from West New York who regularly rides the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail. "We pay a lot of money to be on the Light Rail and on the buses as it is. It doesn't seem fair to me."

NJ Transit is the biggest statewide public transportation system in the country maintaining more than 850,000 weekday commutes on 240 bus routes, three light rail lines and 12 commuter rail lines.

"Most of NJCU students are

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## NJCU Presents "Trans-Logues"

By Jan Aguilos

As part of New Jersey City University's Women's History Month Program during March, the "Trans-Logues" were presented on Wednesday, March 24 in GSUB Multi-Purpose Room B. The presentation was set up by Hudson Pride Connections, headquartered in Jersey City and they partnered with NJCU's own Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Friends Alliance.

The performance was inspired by Eve Ensler's "Vagina Monologues" but the twist was that the five performers were transgender women.

"Our ladies today push out definitions in terms of discrimination and empowerment," stated Renata Moreira, Assistant Director for Special Proj-



Photo by staff

Phoenix Nastasha Russell in "Trans-Logues"

ect and advisor to the LGBTF Alliance, as she introduced the five women. "It will be fun, it will be moving, and I promise, you will not leave this room as you entered."

Phoenix Nastasha Russell led the five women performers on stage, being the most experienced in writing poetry and has been published.

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## NEWS



Photo by staff

Five women jokingly singing about their vaginas to the tune of the "Oscar Meyer Weiner" song.

## NJCU Presents the "Trans-Logues"

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Russell set the tone for the event by describing how she felt "trapped" when she was young and starting to realize that her gender identity was different from her biological sex.

"Even though this confused the hell out of me / I still sat down when I peed / This just felt more natural to me," Russell spoke to the eagerly listening audience.

Like the women who followed, her poems were raunchy and laden with humor, which the audience loved. The audience enjoyed Russell's references to the appendages of her male partners and her silky-voiced description of her vagina as a "purring pussycat."

Tyra Gardner, the youngest of the women at 20, would follow and her confidence matched the first two performers. Her poem, "The Way to My Vajayjay," described her sexual exploits, with braggadocios details which would make the prim and proper blush.

Angela Hodge-Bordelle followed and her poem centered on more romantic relations with men. Hodge-Bordelle would be as bawdy as the other women but steer more to the subtler side than her peers with her declaration that she wants a man with a "key to her special spot."

The last to introduce herself was Joi-Elle White. White's poem was flirtatious and playful, such as when she feigned a giggle before uttering the line, "Don't ya'll know that my vagina's ticklish just like me?"

As the show went on, these five women would continue to tell tales of what femininity means to them with a few penis jokes for good measure.

The act ended with the five women jokingly singing about their vaginas to the tune of the "Oscar Meyer Weiner" song.

Renata Moreira came back to moderate a Q & A with the five women, when students and faculty members in attendance inquired about their personal

experiences and impressions of how the world sees them.

Audience members asked about the discrimination they felt and the women responded by telling how acute it was in the realm of the workplace. Russell, White, and Hodge-Bordelle told of their concerns of being discriminated against during job interviews and expressed their desire for strong laws and enforcement, both on the federal and state level, of anti-discrimination laws which include transgender persons.

When Russell was asked if being transgender was a choice by one of the audience members, she responded saying, "I don't believe you being born trans or feeling you're in the wrong body is actually a choice."

White chimed in stating that she never felt "trapped in a man's body."

"I'm not trying to be a woman, I'm not trying to be a man, she added. "I enjoy just being myself."

come back at gun point."

Taylor spent her birthday and other holidays out in the streets with other girls selling their bodies for their pimp. Taylor began to lose hope of any escape.

Her mother had tracked down her location by tracing the phone number and reaching out to the Brooklyn police. Taylor's mother eventually contacted with the man who was holding Taylor and convinced him to release her daughter. The man that held Taylor didn't want trouble with the police so he sent her with some cash to meet her mother at a train station.

Taylor and her mother reunited that day. She promptly returned to school and she sought out counseling.

"I went to 5 different counselors. I stopped going. I didn't feel like it was helping me. I have trust issues. I have nightmares,

## NJCU Students Feel NJ Transit Fiscal Pinch

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commuters," Hernandez added. "It's going to have a big effect on NJCU."

Under the planned 25% fare hike, one-zone bus pass would go from \$1.35 to \$1.70 per ride, which NJ Transit points out is still lower than base transit fares in New York City (\$2.25) and Philadelphia (\$2.00). A single ride on the Hudson-Bergen Light would go from \$1.90 to \$2.40.

NJ Transit cites that they have experienced a four percent dip in commuters due to a bad economy and low fuel prices. The agency plans to decrease the frequency on 50 bus routes. For example, a bus route that will decrease in frequency will prolong the wait a commuter has by a range of five to 20 minutes, according to the NJ Transit website.

"That's a huge increase [in waiting]," Stephanie Dooley, a 20 year old junior and Biology major from North Arlington. "I wait for the bus [to get to campus] for half an hour, if that. It's not like minute wait."

Under the plan, the wait for Hudson-Bergen Light Rail lines would extend from 20 to 30 minutes for late night trains on weekdays. For riders of the Newark Light Rail, waits during midday hours would go from 15 minutes to 30 minutes.

NJ Transit held 12 public hearings from March 25 to March 27 in transportation hubs like Port

Authority Bus Terminal in Manhattan and the Frank R. Lautenberg Secaucus Junction Station, among others. Commuters from all over the state attended these hearings and railed against NJ Transit.

"We realize this proposal is painful," said NJ Transit Financial Officer Kim Vaccari at the hearing in Secaucus. "We are aggressively attempting to address the issues."

Yet students at NJCU remain pessimistic on attempts by NJ Transit to address the issue in light of the dissent from commuters.

"They'll just piss [the opportunity] away on something stupid," stated Kevin Flannigan, a 23 year old Political Science and Elementary Education double major and senior living in North Arlington.

The American Public Transportation Association released a survey this month which pointed out that seven in 10 agencies are expecting budget deficits this year. Eight in 10 local transit agencies around the country are raising fares and cutting services.

Last year, the fares went up and services were cut around the country as well, but \$8.4 billion from the stimulus minimized the bleeding. This year, stimulus money won't be there to minimize the pain.

"In the end, students are gonna be biting the bullet," stated Asheenia Johnson, a senior majoring in Economics and Jersey City resident.

## Overhaul

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loans and 6.8% for unsubsidized loans. NJCU determines if a student is eligible for a subsidized loan based on their Free Application for Student Aid (FASFA) information.

The deadline for FASFA is June 1, 2010 and students should first fill out a FASFA form before seeking out a Direct Loan because they may be afforded a Pell Grant and other awards. The maximum per grant amount is estimated to

rise from \$5,550 to \$5,975.

"[The Healthcare and Reconciliation Act] is one of the most significant investments in higher learning since the G.I. Bill," said Obama at the signing of the bill.

The Direct Lending Program is estimated to save the government \$68 billion over the next 10 years. It will also pump in 2 billion for Community Colleges as well provide 820,000 more grants for students by 2020. NJCU currently receives 22.6 million from student loans.

"By 2020, America will once again have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world," promised Obama.

"This is a very beneficial [law] for the country and for the university because these banks were paid fees and overhead to run the loans and now [the money] can be potentially borrowed by students," said Joseph Moskowitz, NJCU Professor of Political Science.

## Human Trafficking

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leave because there would always be a pimp standing outside the door.

After being picked up by a "John," a term exclusively used on the streets to mean a man that solicits sex, she was driven to a dark empty road and raped. She saw a gas station with a pay phone and called her mom.

"I want to come home." She said tearfully into an answering machine.

She stayed in the restroom of the gas station for a few days until it was safe to come out, until the people that were after her were gone. She opened the door only to realize that her victimizers were still there and she ran. They chased her onto the roof of



Photo by staff

Tyamba Taylor

a building.

"If you want to get out then you have to jump off the roof. If you don't want to die, then give up," shouted the man who chased Taylor.

"If I tried to get away I would get beaten with hangers or any other objects. I was forced to

## Correction

In the March 24, 2010 edition of The Gothic Times, in the front page article, "N.J. Gov. Chris Christie Proposes to Cut Higher Education" the name of a student interviewed was spelled incorrectly. The correct name is Ron Iglisias.

Also in the March 24 issue, the story and photo credits were missing for the Arts page article, "40 Acres: A Portrait Series." The article and all four photographs are by Allana Clarke.

# EDITORIAL

## Uncle Sam Finally Backs Higher Learning

Obama's signing of the Healthcare reform bill received a fiery reception from Republicans, while Democrats celebrated their victory. Cable news stations similarly hailed the movement as something akin to civil rights or Armageddon. The rhetoric between the respective opinions did little to address the passing of the student loan bill that affects current and prospective students across America and NJCU.

The overhaul of the student loan system is revolutionary. It eliminates fees paid to private banks that serve as a third party in providing loans to students. The government will put billions of dollars into financial aid programs, including the federal Pell Grant program. The New York Times cites that the law will invest \$2 billion into community colleges as well, over the next four years to expand access to higher education.

The transition to a government run student aid program is expected to save the government \$68 billion dollars – a sobering reminder that our economy is still teetering.

The government option is good for students because it enables them to have more flexibility on their student loan repayment options. This would enable the students to negotiate their monthly repayments.

In light of the difficult economic times, most Americans are enduring and NJCU students are no strangers to adversity.

Sallie Mae, a lender to students, and the "army of lobbyists" as President Obama referred to those that support the banks interest over the students, will no longer receive additional money from fees paid by students. Currently the government gave private financial aid providers approxi-



Photo by Juan Bustos

mately \$75 per loan.

According to the *New York Times*:

"Students who borrow money starting in July 2014 will be allowed to cap their repayments at 10 percent of their income above basic living requirements, instead of 15 percent. Moreover, if they keep up their payments, they will have any remaining debt forgiven after 20 years instead of 25 years – or after 10 years if they are in

public service, such as teaching, nursing or serving in the military."

When Americans are struggling, it is the government's responsibility to look after its citizenry. The banks and their lobbyists have steered the U.S. down a road of perdition. It's time that Americans regain control of the driver's seat. The government is an institution created of the people, by the people, and for the people.

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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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## Studying Abroad in Peru:

### An NJCU Student's Perspective

By Claudia Severino



Photo by Claudia Severino  
**Claudia Severino taking in the sights in mountains of Peru.**

In spring of 2009, Joel Paula, a senior at New Jersey City University, asked me if I wanted to go to Peru with him. However, he meant through the study abroad program. I had never thought about studying in another country. Just getting by was a priority. But the idea was enticing and I couldn't deny the desire to get out of New Jersey. I began to look into the study abroad program.

At first, it all seemed impossible and surreal. Most importantly, how would I ever pay for it? After speaking a few times with Joel and with others that work in NJCU's study abroad office, I learned that there are infinite amount of ways to pay for the program, it was just a matter of taking the time to work it out.

It was the first time I embarked on a trip without my family. I was more excited than scared. I just wanted to get there already. During the first weekend in Peru, our program, ISA, took us all over Lima, the capital of Peru. Before I knew it, I had done so many new things, and some I dared never to do, like eat guinea pig (which was pretty good). Before school started, we had walked through the Amazon rainforest, swam in the Amazon River, went piranha fishing and I found myself a pet turtle. It was the greatest week of my life but that was just the beginning.

I ultimately chose Peru because I wanted to go to Machu Picchu. It was amazing! There truly is something special and

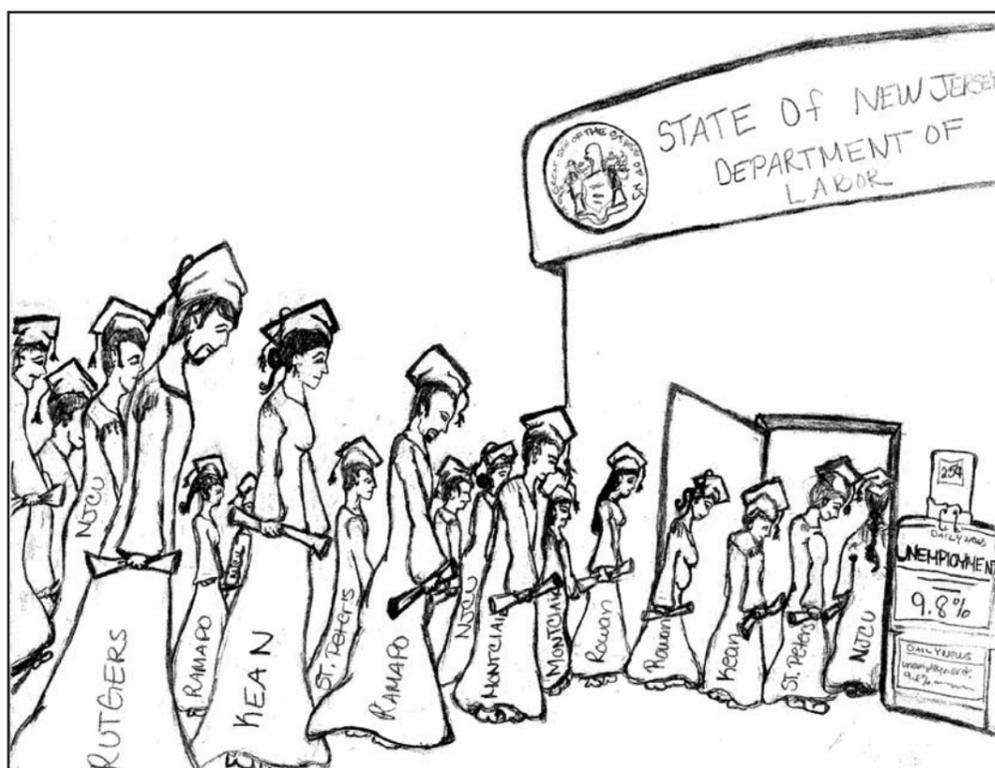
spiritual about Machu Picchu. The amount of work and knowledge that went into building Machu Picchu and many other Incan ruins in Peru, leaves people completely overwhelmed with respect and curiosity. Every single place I visited in Peru holds a dear place in my heart.

The worst part of study abroad program for me was the studying part. Yet, the university I chose to go to (Pontifical Catholic University of Peru) was filled with so much energy and life that it made me excited to go to school. I never imagined I would gain so much knowledge in such a short period of time. Studying abroad has been the best educational decision I have ever made.

Who says studying can't be fun? Why shouldn't we learn about the Incan empire while standing in the Incan capital? Where does it say that we can only learn about the Amazon Rainforest from books? Why not learn about culture by being completely immersed in it? Where does it say that higher learning only happens in a classroom?

*"Where does it say that higher learning only happens in a classroom?"*

## Editorial Cartoon



Cartoon by Rabiah Bhatti

# GOTHIC GUIDE

## Getting Hired: Thing you need to know now

Brought to you by  
The Gothic Guru,  
Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory

There comes a time in everybody's life when they feel a need to rise up, to take action in the name of everything that is sacred in human society. No, I'm not talking about joining the Peace Corps. No, no babies will be kissed in the making of this vision. The thing I'm speaking of is much more monumental decision, one that will, inevitably, mold every other event in a person's life.

I'm talking about the ever-elusive job.

Discussion of the current economic crisis is flooding the media. Between headlines documenting the state cuts to public higher education and news stories broadcasting the plight of the overqualified unemployed, who are despite their greatest efforts, seemingly doomed to stay that way. Developing a game plan, as a university student, may seem like an impossible dream.

However, I, the Gothic Guru (you can call me GiGi) am here to change that.

Without further ado, I am proud to present The Gothic Guide to Getting Hired, a mini handbook to all things job-related. Before taking your first plunge into the world of work, it is first essential to be prepared with respect to three key areas: cover letters, resumes, and interviews.

All NJCU students should first be aware of the resources at their disposal on campus. Before beginning your quest for the cash, you should be sure to visit the Frank Capone Career Center for job search resources and information and the Cooperative Education Office for information on how to apply for internship opportunities (both paid and unpaid), both conveniently located in Vodra Hall, Room 101.

### Cover Letters

How many of you can remember a time when your mother or father pestered you about the importance of first impressions? Whether it was your first day of kindergarten or the night you met your first boyfriend or girlfriend's parents, the message was clear: first impressions are everything. Although the majority of us will have a college degree before applying for a position (or at least enough academic experience to warrant us bothering to go out for it in the first place), human beings do not have college transcripts tattooed on their foreheads. This is why cover letters were invented.

The purpose of a cover letter is simple. It is meant to formally introduce you, the job applicant, to your potential employer, show your personality, explain your reasons for wanting the job, and summarize your qualifications for the position in question. If you need an idea of how to format a cover letter, you can find a mil-



Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory

*Be Confident. If you don't believe in yourself, you can't expect anyone else to do it, either.*

lion different sample letters by performing a simple Google search, or go to the Frank Capone Career Center here on campus (part of Vodra Hall). Once you get past the initial nerves involved in writing one, here are some key tips to remember:

- The K.I.S.S. Rule - The acronym K.I.S.S. stands for "keep it simple, stupid." While you may feel the urge to tell your entire life story and/or explain your brilliant cure for the common cold in hopes of impressing your future boss, the safest course of action is to stick to the basics. Introduce yourself with your name, the job listing and/or position you are writing them in reference to (date/newspaper or website). Hit on your best personal qualities and technical qualifications for the job, without restating your entire resume.

- Do (and Show) Your Research- Before applying to any job, it is your responsibility to research details about the company and position in question. If and when you get an interview, your potential employer will be sizing you up to see whether you will be a good fit for them and whether you know what you are getting into. Citing 1-3 short facts about the company in question that caught your attention will show that you are serious about the position, and are an organized and prepared applicant.

- Remember To Ask For An Interview- You might have written the best cover letter the world has ever seen, but if you don't clearly express your intent in writing it, it's all a waste. Be sure to request a follow-up phone call, email, or interview (depending on the job in question), so that your letter doesn't wind up right in the recycle bin.

- Say "Thank You." Employers are busy people. Taking the time out to consider their feelings will demonstrate character, and will make you look like a human be-

ing instead of just another applicant.

- Don't Forget Contact Information! Remember to include your mailing address, phone number, email address, and website, if applicable (professional sites only- NO FACEBOOK!) so that your boss can easily reach you.

### RESUMES

- Use a Normal Font- Above all, you need your resume to be clear. For this reason, you should treat your resume like an MLA paper, using Times New Roman font in size 12. If you want to get creative, choose an alternate (but clear) font to use.

- Keep It Short-- Resumes should be one page or less.

- Keep It Relevant- There's no need to include every summer job you've ever had. List only the jobs, internships, skills, and experiences that relate to the job you are applying for.

### INTERVIEWS

Yes, they are terrifying, but here are a few crucial ways to survive them.

- Be On Time Early! When going for a job interview, it can be hard to gauge exactly when you should be there. To play it safe, the best idea is to be no more than 15 minutes early. If you come earlier, you'll look like you're trying too hard, and if they decide to start early, you'll be prepared.

- Dress the Part- There's an old saying along the lines of "dress for the job you want." Unless you have a desire to be an extra in Jersey Shore or work in a fashion house, make a concerted effort to dress conservatively. Girls, this means a suit, skirt and blouse, or blouse and pants, or a modest dress, with heels or flats. Some people say color is the enemy, but, speaking from experience, as long as it isn't completely out of hand (i.e. neon green or pink), color is a great way to show your personality without disrespecting your employers or the interview venue. Also, keep the makeup to a minimum- shoot for natural, but pretty. Men- wear a suit, or a jacket, dress shirt, tie, and dark-colored slacks. Dress shoes are the name of the game- no sneakers here. Also, be sure to take care of your five o'clock shadow ahead of time, and be sure your hair is neat.

- Know Your Stuff! Research the job. Have questions prepared, and be ready to answer them, as well. You should be able to justify your qualifications, goals within the job, future goals, how you'd benefit from the experience, and how the company can benefit from having you join their team.

- Don't talk too much! Be friendly, but don't scare them away. Speak slowly and clearly, and keep it relevant. Your conduct is a direct reflection on the level of professionalism you will carry with you if hired.

- Be Confident. If you don't believe in yourself, you can't expect anyone else to do it, either.



## Word on Campus

Photos and  
interviews by Gothic Guru

### What is your best interview tip?



#### Junior Chris Bolger

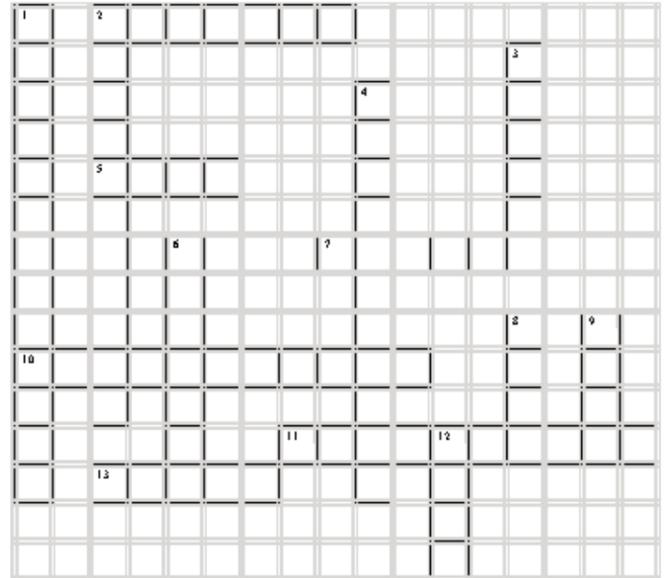
“In a Fight Club kind of way, rule number one. We do not talk about getting the job. You have the job already. Have faith that you're good enough for anyone. This will not only land you any job, but make your own life so much more enjoyable.”

#### Sophomore Elizabeth De La Sota



“‘Um’ is the enemy. Never use the word ‘um’ while in an interview. Vocabulary is key in interviews.”

## Gothic Times Crossword Puzzle No. 1



### ACROSS

- 2 French President.
- 5 Abominable snowman.
- 7 A discussion.
- 10 A person appearing or attempting to be a member of the opposite sex.
- 11 The regular or a particular course of study in a school, college.
- 13 The last name of the director, who started out touring his plays in the "chitlin circuit".

### DOWN

- 1 Harry Hamlin was the original hero in this movie that was recently remade in 3-D.
- 2 A program where students can attend classes overseas - two words.
- 3 Search engine
- 4 English Playwright.
- 6 A nightclub in NYC or an American lexicographer.
- 8 A recognized leader in a field
- 9 Incan Civilization.
- 12 Apples latest device.

# OPINION

## Vodra Hall Cafe:

### You Can't Have It Your Way

By Oriana Sweeney

New Jersey City University's food offering is not worth the cost. Students have to pay at least ten dollars just to have a decent meal. The Vodra Cafe, the mini cafeteria on campus, offers students a limited amount of food choices. Students who want a salad are forced to walk over to the GSUB cafeteria.

The Vodra Cafe used to make the best Caesar salads I've ever tasted. That all stopped in the fall of 2008. It was one of the healthier food choices that I loved.

Currently, Vodra Cafe sells yogurt, water, soda, juice, fruits and sandwiches as well as prepared salads. The salads always taste funny and occasionally the sandwiches are dry. The only other option on the menu is to eat something that is either grilled or fried.

Fried food is not good for the students on campus. These foods increase the rate of heart disease, diabetes, blood pressure, and cholesterol.

The Vodra Cafe needs to add more healthy alternatives to their

menu. The closest thing to having a healthy lunch from the Vodra Cafe is a grilled chicken sandwich. The hot and honey barbecue wings are delicious but it's not something that I would want to eat every day.

The daily specials should be healthy meals like baked chicken, corn bread, and green beans. They could even make salads with shrimp or chicken topped with some cranberries, walnuts, and low fat dressing.

*The Vodra Cafe needs to add more healthy alternatives to their menu. The closest thing to having a healthy lunch from the Vodra Cafe is a grilled chicken sandwich.*

I've heard of the "freshman fifteen" - the term used to describe the weight put on by college students in their first year of attendance - but what about the weight students gain by the end of their senior year? It may taste good but the long-term consequences may be harmful.

Additionally, food prices are too

high. I spend almost ten dollars a day for lunch. If I choose to buy breakfast, that is extra money spent and it can cost around \$6.00 to \$8.00. The University needs to lower the prices of the drinks, snacks, and some of the smaller items of food.

I suggest that the Vodra Cafe create a dollar menu where they can sell popular dishes like French fries, nuggets, mozzarella sticks, chicken sandwiches, and cheeseburgers alongside healthier alter-

natives like side salads, fruit salads, and yogurt which will be lower in calories and will likely sell well. The cafe will profit from the dollar menu and at the same time offer NJCU students healthier and cheaper choices.

These food choices will make students feel better about their health and their pocketbooks.

## GothicAlert!

By Danielle Church

In 1990 the Jeanne Clery Act was passed and it required universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. After incidents at Virginia Tech, Seton Hall University and St. Peter's College, campuses around the country have begun to reach out to their students during emergencies. Along with signing up for classes, students enrolled at New Jersey City University are advised to register themselves for GothicAlert! - a free emergency notification system.

It's definitely a safer feeling for those students and faculty who are active on campus here at NJCU. Crimes such as murder, rape, robbery, and even motor vehicle theft must be reported to the campus under the law.

The GothicAlert! system is used for potential life-threatening situations on campus, closings, building emergencies, and extreme weather condition warnings.

NJCU developed the GothicAlert! system to ensure that everyone on campus can receive accurate information in an emergency situation. According to the NJCU website for Public Safety, "When an emergency occurs that requires the NJCU community's attention or action,

GothicAlert will be activated and you will be notified."

While being pleased with the overall concept of the system, Early Childhood Education major Monica Atencio, 20, of Union City said, "I use it for emergencies," but "it could be [better]...I always get it late."

Not only will the campus community receive emails through their GotMail email account but the system allows for informa-

**SUBSCRIBE TO GothicAlert**

Students who wish to sign up for the GothicAlert! log on to [www.njcu.edu](http://www.njcu.edu) and fill out the notification form from your GothicNet account.

tion to be obtained via telephone, voicemail, and text message. When signing up for the service you are given the option to choose how you would like to receive your emergency notification.

As stated by NJCU, when signing up for the emergency alert service "you will be a proactive partner in keeping our campus safe."

## NJCU's Major Curriculum Changes Needed

By Daniel X. Rivera

New Jersey City University's mandatory area courses claim to mold a student into a well-rounded person. The more concentrated a program is the more one should expect that chosen major to fully prepare a student for a position in a professional field once that degree is obtained.

I fail to comprehend how a seemingly endless number of area courses ranging from geography to philosophy will lead to a better understanding of life in a practical sense.

Students pay to attend many classes covering topics that most will hardly remember let alone actually apply in their daily lives.

This excess academic fluff prevents students from taking more classes relating to their majors, instead forcing them to wait over a span of several extra semesters before completing the core curriculum, as class scheduling conflicts or a lack of availability remain steady.

I understand higher education is a business first and foremost but perhaps what we all need is more compassion for the student, namely, those students who struggle to pay for their own educational through loans and other means.

Once area courses are out of the way, students can look forward to those classes that go toward their major requirements, right? Not necessarily.

There is such a heavy emphasis on becoming 'well-round-

ed' that in most cases one's most significant curriculum gets short-changed in favor of a meandering lesson plan that has little to no honest relevance to the major.

As an English major specializing in journalism, I have experienced this first hand.

*"Students pay to attend many classes covering topics that most will hardly remember let alone actually apply in their daily lives."*

Study of Literature, a course on the English track list, was dramatically altered a few semesters ago and now cannot be completed unless an exit exam is passed. It does not matter how well a student performs throughout the semester, a failing grade on the test leads to repeating the course. This alone is unsettling but the course itself is also troubling.

Study of Literature, as do nearly all English major requirements, primarily covers archaic poetry with extensive analysis. What is most puzzling is how the main curriculum calls for

English majors to spend so much valuable time being graded on grasping the structure and 'correct' meaning of poems according to a professor's guidelines, when poetry is an art

form completely open to interpretation.

As far as I know, there are not many high-paying poetry jobs out there. Sure, a lucky, talented few might eventually write a scholarly poetry critique or two in some textbook. The last time I checked, opium dens were no longer located on every corner, nor is William Shakespeare still alive.

The obvious exception would be those students with a passion for poetry who might also be planning on teaching the tedious topic in the future.

This should apply to all major areas of study, as to avoid needlessly prolonging the Undergraduate program for students, some of whom usually find themselves convinced they have reached the end of their journey only to find out a few credits for useless classes still need to be fulfilled.

The number of general studies needs to be reduced to provide schedule flexibility, crucial course availability and improved lessons pertaining to majors.

Are there undeclared students unsure of their long-term purpose who want to sample areas before making a final decision? Indeed.

They have every right to, but this should not impede declared students who want nothing more than to pay for and learn from a focused academic curriculum that will appropriately enable them to find stable and substantial careers after graduation.

## A Scanner Darkly on Campus

By Alberto Arias

I have a problem with non-students here at New Jersey City University. As a former student of Hudson County Community College you were required to present a valid student ID or class schedule in every building or no access was granted. At NJCU you can enter the campus without an ID. Anyone can come in and solicit or use our computers on campus. I had one incident where I needed to use the computers during finals week. All the computers in the lab and library were occupied with people doing last minute papers. What made the situation worse were non-students using the university computers to access Facebook. NJCU students are required to pay lab and technology fees as part of our tuition, so why do we have to share the facilities with people who don't pay to use the computers?

Moreover, incidents like these - which are not uncommon - are a serious security concern.

According to the Bureau of Justice, on average, college students were victims of about 526,000 crimes of violence annually between 1995 and 2000.

Is it going to take a violent crime to occur on campus for the university's security to get tighter?

New Jersey City University students do not feel safe. I asked one student if she felt safe and she stated "[No.] because they allow anyone to enter and exit the school as they like and they don't

check IDs. Anyone can just enter the school!"

In this - post-9/11 era - security is of primary importance on the home front. Now more than ever the fears of violence and terrorism have to be taken seriously. The recent shootings at Virginia Tech University and the University of Alabama have reinforced the need for stricter security in universities nationwide.

As a result, organizations like Students for Concealed Carry on Campus ([www.concealedcampus.org](http://www.concealedcampus.org)) are promoting gun laws

*"Is it going to take a violent crime to occur on campus for the university's security to get tighter?"*

permitting the carrying of concealed guns on college campuses. By allowing guns on campus, they argue, there will be less gun violence committed on college campuses across the country. This argument is based on Utah's concealed weapon laws. On the contrary, this would spark more violence and likely cause a rise in gun violence on campuses nationwide.

"I let only NJCU, students and high school students into the campus," said an NJCU Security Guard.

The school's administration should add ID scanners to enter the school, library, and computer labs. This poses a great threat to our school and its students' safety. Metal detectors should also be taken into serious consideration.

School safety is a matter that needs to be taken up at the next SGO meeting. The NJCU campus should be a safe, peaceful, and worry free environment.

# Entertainment

## Resurrecting the Grateful Dead

By Joseph Sforza

With fans intimately dubbed “Dead Heads” and psychedelic hits like “Friend of the Devil,” the Grateful Dead’s impact on the music industry and American culture is so colossal that the New York Historical Society is showcasing an exhibit on the California-based rock group.

The exhibit highlights the Dead’s beginnings, business dealings, fan connections, and performances — all while playing their music softly in the background.

Upon entering the exhibit, you’ll find the first of several neatly arranged, rectangular displays, in which rests a poster of Bill Graham’s Fillmore East, a rock concert hall where the Grateful Dead and music icon Jimi Hendrix played on the same day, accenting their popularity.

Within the “Beginnings” section, several vintage photographs whisper different narratives, each of which seems to focus on front man and lead singer Jerry Garcia, after whose death in 1995, the band ceased to play.

Vinyl discs and their vivid, dream-like cases line the Beginnings section, including *Dead in a Deck, Built to Last, 1989*, which was sold with a specially made deck of cards. The band’s Platinum Sales Award is also preserved and encased; it was presented to the group to commemorate their sale of 100,000,000 copies of “Ameri-

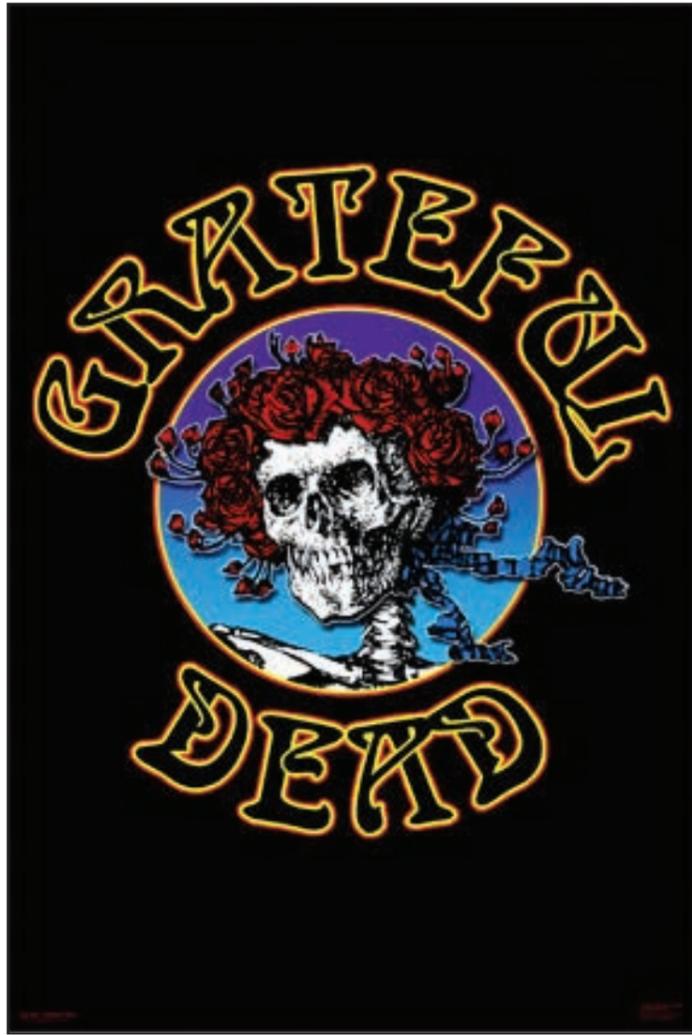
can Beauty,” a cassette and CD.

A 40-year-old Warner Brothers contract boasts the Dead as the first rock group to be signed on the label. Across from its signatures sits the most impressive of the exhibit’s arrangements: three full-sized skeletons, all decked in Dead-like clothing and scruffily bearded, concert-ready, amidst a set of bongos, two guitars and a subwoofer, all of which are laced in a vine of roses. Artist Gary Platek created it for the “Touch of Grey” music video.

Behind the stage-like scene hangs an enormous American flag, evoking a sense of patriotism, something the exhibit insists is a trademark of the band in its Introduction: the “band came at a time when social upheavals and awakenings began shaping the social landscape.”

As the Dead gained stardom, in 1973 they created Grateful Dead Productions, an umbrella company charged with handling the Dead’s business ventures. The Business section of the exhibit includes sound sticks that stream Grateful Dead hotline updates from 1992, which fans could access at East or West coast numbers. For ticket returns, fans were told to send in legal size envelopes, on which many painted creative designs that are preserved in the exhibit.

Committed to staying connected to their fans, the Grateful Dead played over 2,400 concerts in a 30-year time frame. The group was glad to accept any and all gifts from adoring fans and often



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sent out demos to those fans who signed up for their mailing list. Some fans’ T-shirt designs were used as Dead merchandise and are

suspended within the exhibit.

Another display, in which bold, black print reads “Taper Sections,” also reveals the Grateful

Dead’s intimacy with their fans. It was in these sections that fans were allowed to record concerts. Tapers were prohibited to sell recordings but could only redistribute free of charge.

At one corner of the exhibit, a projected video replays the Dead’s trippy performances, and with provided headphones, you can sit back and enjoy sweet tunes over the historic shots.

“Their sound system, their music and Jerry Garcia” makes them special, said one Dead Head in the video. That sound system, known as The Wall of Sound, was specially created for the Dead’s concerts, but, being so cumbersome to lug from location to location and needing 26 crewmen to do so, the Dead dumped the system to save time and money. Its blueprints lie enclosed in one of the exhibit’s displays.

On the whole, the exhibit proves an excellent way to get to know a rather influential and talented rock group. Students, artists and living Dead Heads poured in during my time there. It seemed as though older fans were reliving the thrill of the Grateful Dead chase. Some entered in business suits, others in jeans and others in Dead-wear. From wherever they came, it’s certain that the “Dead spirit,” as one fan referred to her obsession in a letter to the Grateful Dead, will live on for long while.

All of the exhibit’s materials came from the Grateful Dead Archive of the University of California.

### PLAY REVIEW OF ‘A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM’

## The ASC Production was in fact a Dream

By Nicole Irene Sanchez

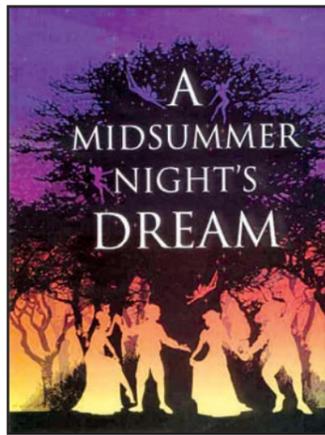
In their 10th anniversary production of Shakespeare’s most mesmerizing plays, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, the Actors Shakespeare Company has captured the essence of what it truly means to dream. In our dreams we find the strength to have what we cannot dare to have when we are awake. This play aims close to the heart, where it cannot be ignored or overlooked. As Peter Galman, the actor who plays Bottom, said in the introduction to the play, Shakespeare’s theatre was made to keep his audience in the light, and that is exactly what the ASC has bestowed upon its audience.

The intimacy of the performance was captivating. The closeness of the actors with the audience stimulated almost all of the five senses. The projection of the actors’ voices was electrifying to the ear drums. The lighting of the stage gave each scene its own visual authenticity. The smell of mixed male and female fragrances lingered in one’s nostrils, making this experience more real than any film adaptation could ever

be. With the actors only inches away it was tempting to reach out and touch them, for they were reachable, attainable and real.

From the very beginning we are presented with fantasy versus reality. To dream is to enter into a world of fantasy, but not every aspect of a dream is so far fetched. Hermia longs to be the bride of Lysander; Helena yearns to be the one who holds Demetrius’ heart; Titania desires for Oberon to stand by her side and let go of his ego; Oberon is determined to have the Indian prince; and Bottom is filled with infinite fantasies. All of these characters have dreams that are not impossible to achieve, but they simply need help along the way. When the fairy world collides with the mortal world, we are left with many mistakes that must be amended; and so it is that Puck is sent to clean up the mess.

Peter Galman was entertaining and wholesome in his depiction of the intense character that is Nick Bottom “the weaver.” His performance set off an epidemic of contagious laughter that left many members of the audience gasping for air and



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covered in tears because they could not contain themselves.

Hermia, played by Beth Ann Leone, was the best depiction I have seen thus far. Leone’s tears, in the very first scene when Hermia’s father Egeus (Ron Sanborn) refuses to allow her to be with her love Lysander, provoked tears in my eyes. She was radiant, flawless and dedicated to the part, which made watching her, a most enjoyable experience.

Another enchanting female performer was Susanna Baddiel, who played both Hippolyta and Titania. As Hippolyta,

Baddiel embodied the confidence that only a Queen could possess. She held her head up high throughout the play, and even when playing Titania and tricked into loving an ass, she still held a certain grace and poise in her manner. Baddiel is an eloquent speaker of Shakespearean verse and an excellent interpreter of a powerful female figure.

One choice that wasn’t quite to my liking was Puck. Casting a female (Elizabeth Belonzi) with long legs and a beautiful exterior took away from the mischievous, trickster element that makes Puck who he is to this fantastic tale. Although Belonzi held her own and played the part as best as she could, Puck would have been better cast as a short, elfin figure with comical features.

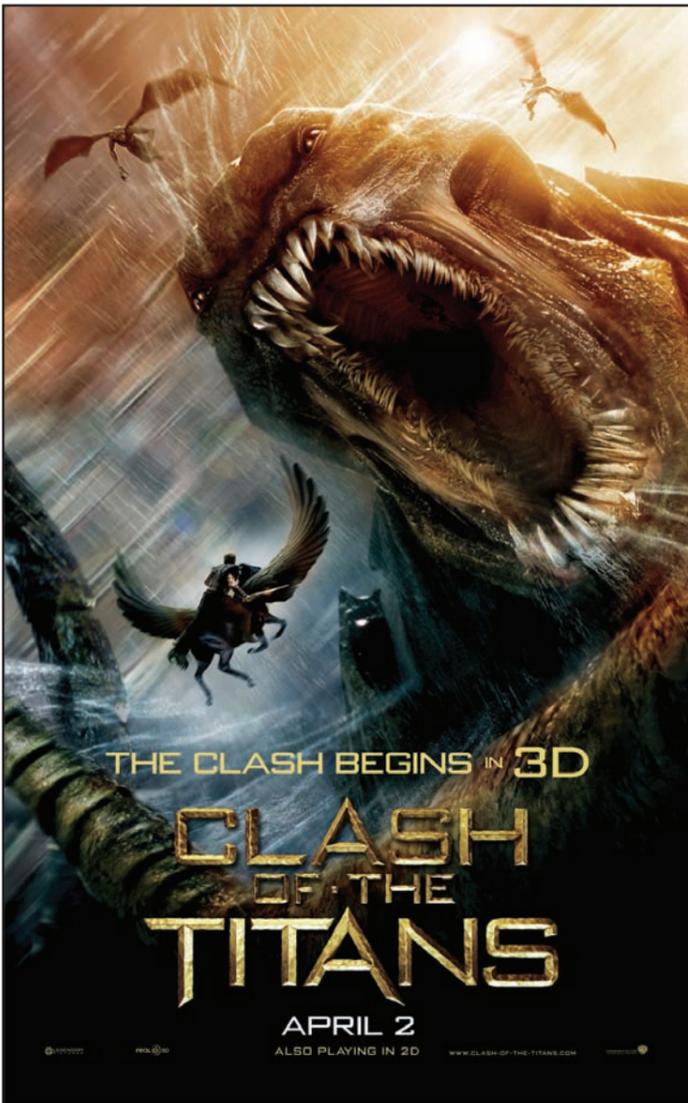
All in all, this play drew its audience in with the promise of immersion in a world of fantasy. Placing a dreaming boy in front of the audience, both in the beginning and ending of the play, provided a message for all who were there. We are all dreamers and sometimes we are too afraid to chase after the things that we want most, but

*The smell of mixed male and female fragrances lingered in one’s nostrils, making this experience more real than any film adaptation could ever be.*

what if we could have those things? Aren’t they worth chasing? To give up on a dream is to give up on life; an endless trial of reaching one’s goals. Without goals we would never move forward, we would never seek further and we could never believe that such a dream is possible. To reach an unlikely dream, one must first believe that it is possible.

For die hard Shakespearean fans more information on the Actors Shakespeare Company and future productions can be located on the NJCU website under *The Westside Theatre* quick link. Don’t miss the chance to experience the timeless creations of William Shakespeare.

# Entertainment



Clash of the Titans (2010) Release date April 2, 2010

## Clash of the Titans:

### A Clash-tastic Remake

By Mohammad Hassan

The first time I saw The Clash of the Titans, I was 14 years old and instantly I fell in love with it. Watching Lawrence Olivier playing with the fates of humans as Zeus was awe inspiring and evoked a lifelong obsession with Greek Mythology before I even knew anything about the myth of Perseus. So naturally it came as a surprise when it was announced that there will be a remake of the camp classic.

The remake is not only far superior from the original in terms of its scale and visual effects but it also takes itself a bit more seriously. Watching the original, after seeing the remake is like an elementary version of the same story.

When the original was released, its effects were the best of its kind with famed animator and creature designer Ray Harryhausen behind the scenes but the remake's effects are far superior and the Kraken is a stunning creature to behold.

Sam Worthington, fresh from his success of Avatar, again takes charge in a big budget action movie and again he shoulders the weight of the movie.

However, it is Ralph Fiennes who steals the show as Hades. At first I never understood the decision of him playing Hades but now I do. However, you have to see him to believe him. Liam Neeson as usual brings an aura of grace and authority to his role as the King of Gods.

The remake also takes certain liberties in terms of story from the original. Since it is based on mythology, these liberties only add more dimensions to it. Perseus is no longer a pretty boy but a gruff hero, played effectively by Worthington.

My one big complaint is Warner Bros. decision to turn the movie into 3-D months before its release. The 3-D looks jarring and it makes the movie unwatchable. Many have commented on the quality of the 3-D effects and majority of them have been negative. So save your money and see the movie in 2-D.

Clash of the Titans is a far better remake that eliminates the campy elements from the original and injects a much needed dose of adrenaline and breathtaking action sequences – making it the most stylish and epic adaptation on Greek mythology.

## The Temper Trap Live @ Webster Hall

By Daniel X. Rivera

April 2, 2010: Downtown Jersey City, NJ - The Courtyard Marriott Hotel at 540 Washington Blvd., near the Pavonia/Newport PATH train station. Room 907's balcony view spotlights the swarms of busy bees below commuting to and from the city, most dressed in office attire, bumping and passing each other as they compete in the repetitive rat race.

My assignment is to cover a concert being held tonight at Webster Hall, a popular live performance/nightclub venue located at 125 East 11th St. in Manhattan, NY. Cigarettes, coffee and my girlfriend are accompanying me for moral support. The headlining band is The Temper Trap, whose members (Vocals - Dougie Mandagi, Guitar - Lorenzo Sillitto, Drums - Toby Dundas, Bass - Jonathon Aherne) are impacting the Alternative/Indie music scene. The Melbourne, Australia natives infuse some U2-esque guitar riffs with an entrancing vocal style mixing melodic wails and high notes. They gained exposure from their single, "Sweet

Disposition" being prominently showcased in the critically acclaimed film, (500) Days of Summer.

The 33rd St. PATH train ride to 9th St. is cramped; I can barely edge out a breath to survive amid strangers' bodies pressed up against everything. Most people avoid eye contact, especially me. A nagging thought keeps arising of the female teen suicide bomber responsible for the recent Moscow subway attack.

Webster Hall is smaller than ex-

pected, with an audience mostly of Caucasian men and women in their '20s. Not much variety in the ethnic department, except for a few Asians, as the lead singer of The Temper Trap is Indonesian. A circular bar is found at the backend of the venue where many are crowding around devouring over-priced alcohol during the night's opening act, a Denmark-based band called The Kissaway Trail. One point during the set, a bearded, long-haired member stands in the center of the stage flailing around banging a tambourine to the rhythm of the music. It is humorously reminiscent of what one expects to see in a Broadway production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

After equipment set-up and sound checks are complete, The Temper Trap hit the stage with a forceful instrumental free-for-all and flashing white and blue lights. Fog machines begin to fill the auditorium, completing the ambience.

They begin with "Rest," a song going from an unassuming opening to a fast-paced conclusion. A few songs follow sounding far superior to their studio-recorded counterparts, capturing an energetically cohesive presentation some performers cannot bring to a live performance. They unveil the new acoustic song "Rabbit Hole," which at first sounds vocally similar to the Bee Gees, but more melancholic.

The vibrations from the massive amps on-stage reverberate through my chest as the momentum never ceases. Taking into account the venue's modest size, the stage lighting is creatively used, even more so than in larger ven-

ues. There are seamless transitions between songs, making the entire concert feel more like a unified experience.

When they begin performing "Fools," a sad, mellow ballad, the black backdrop of the stage becomes a starry night sky; scattered yellow dots of light pulsate. By now, the fog has already enveloped most of the area's visibility and oxygen while the catchy "Love Lost" kicks into full gear. During the funky, slow-building "Resurrection," the singer sways his right arm and head. These are magnified within the dense fog by a white light behind the vocalist, leading to a warped shadow projection. The opening riff of "Sweet Disposition" causes a meltdown around me; shrieks and applause from every side. This song by far has warmest reception.

The most intense portion of the 60-minute set occurs with "Drum Song." The lights die and the singer bangs on a bass drum and symbols with his comrades joining in. The drum-driven instrumental is visually striking as they are bombarded by flashing digital cameras from the crowd.

The blue hue predominantly used in lighting the event highlights the music's somber undertone, as does their debut album *Conditions* (2009) cover shot of a concerned girl staring into space. Slivers of TV static distort the outline of her image floating in darkness. Cool winds of the evening greet me once I exit and rejoice with a cigarette. Others around me discuss what transpired, most stumbling drunk along the sidewalk. Only 10 PM; the night is just beginning.

## Laughing and Crying with

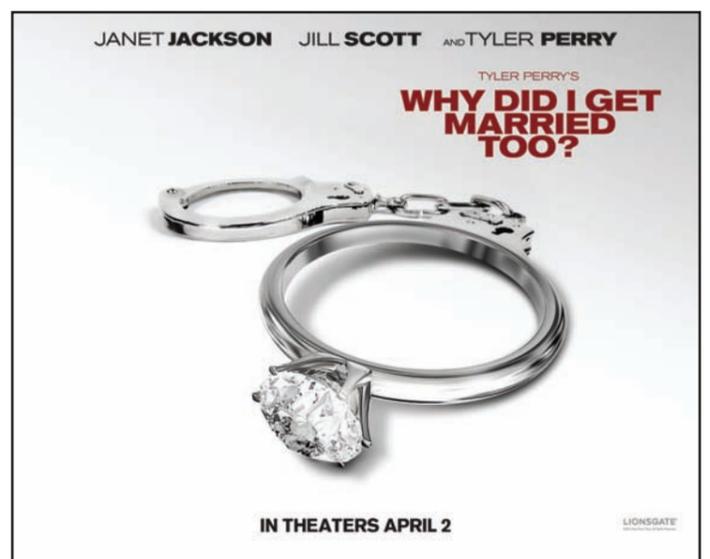
### Tyler Perry's *Why Did I Get Married Too?*

By Oriana Sweeney

"Tyler Perry's *Why Did I Get Married Too?*" delivers not just drama, but explosive drama. If you're looking for some action, this is the film to see. I highly recommend it. You will laugh, cry, and even feel sad in a matter of two hours. It evokes emotions ranging from mirth to misery when the issues of finance, infidelity, and abuse are confronted.

The film is a sequel to Perry's 2007 hit movie, "Why Did I Get Married" and just like the original; it explores the trials and tribulations of marriage. It stars Janet Jackson (Patricia), Jill Scott (Shelia), Malik Yoba (Gavin), Richard Jones (Mike), Tasha Smith (Angela), Michael White (Marcus), and Tyler Perry (Terry).

The couples head for the Bahamas for a one-week reunion to share and celebrate their lives and relationships. However, an unexpected guest, Mike, whose Sheila's ex-husband, disrupts the intimate week in paradise in hopes of getting her back. In doing so he puts the plot into motion and the gang starts to realize their marital flaws and how to

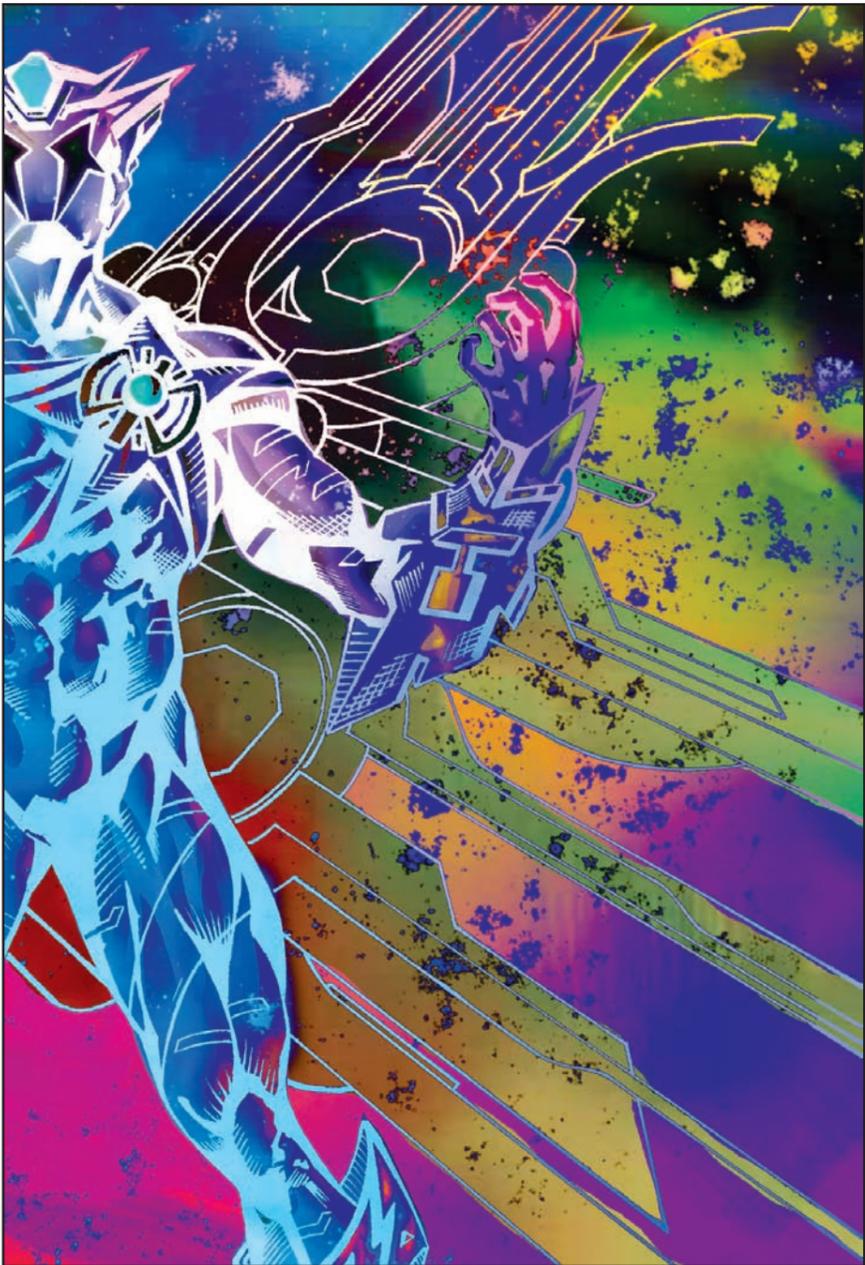


Why Did I Get Married Too? (2010): Release date April 2, 2010

confront their spouses about it. The funniest of these couples are Tasha Smith and Michael White. They draw the most laughs since they have the most complex and developed relationship (bickering and lots of it). Also, Smith shines with her comedic timing. Even Janet Jackson gets her Elin Woods on when she is enraged at Malik Yoba. It's the most power-

ful scene in the film when Jackson transforms into the "angry black woman" who's been scorned. That scene alone is worth the admission fee. Even though, "Why did I get Married Too?" might suggest that love conquers all, viewers will be left questioning their own relationships long after the screen fades to black.

# Arts



Art by Taylor Sterling



Art by Taylor Sterling

MesarToon

BFA Postcard

## Spotlight on a NJCU Artist: Taylor Sterling

Taylor Sterling is a senior at New Jersey City University. He is currently interning at Marvel Comics, the biggest comic book company in America. He will graduate in May, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in illustration.

“The kind of art that I am most passionate about is sequential illustration for comics and film. I always carry a sketchbook so I am constantly drawing. Sometimes the drawings are left in the sketchbook and other times they develop into more in-depth and detailed images. Within the last few years, some drawings

have evolved into interesting environments, structures, and characters. It has always been a dream of mine to create my own comic book and now after years of planning, plotting, and creating I have all the things necessary to do so.

The week of **May 3-7** I will be having an art exhibition for my BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree) program. The exhibit will showcase the genesis of my first comic book called **Okemus**. This event will be held in the **Gilligan Student Union Building** art gallery and I invite everyone to stop by and check it out.”



Art by Taylor Sterling

Okemus

**The Harold B. Lemmerman Gallery**  
2039 Kennedy Blvd.  
Hepburn Hall, room 323

### Little Masters

An MFA Thesis Exhibition  
by Lisa Ficarelli-Halpern  
April 16 – 29, 2010

Artist's Reception:  
Thursday, April 22, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

The Little Masters exhibition includes over a dozen still life paintings, scaled small to medium size, in oil on canvas and oil on linen, that are inspired by classical Dutch 'vanitas' works, and feature the juxtaposition of familiar objects that range from traditional to contemporary. As in the Dutch still lifes, Ficarelli-Halpern's objects have both symbolic and referential significance.

For more information, visit [www.lisaficarelli-halpern.com](http://www.lisaficarelli-halpern.com) or email: [lfhalpern@verizon.net](mailto:lfhalpern@verizon.net)

### Works in Silence

An MFA Thesis Exhibition  
by Nicholas Bautista  
May 3 – 13, 2010

Artist Reception:  
Thursday, May 6, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Nicholas Bautista is an artist and candidate for the Master of Fine Arts degree. His MFA Thesis exhibition, "Works In Silence," will feature his light-based installations which places emphasis on the quality of silence. Inquiries about the artist's work can be directed to: [nbautista3@gmail.com](mailto:nbautista3@gmail.com)



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The Harold B. Lemmerman Gallery

## 2010 BFA Exhibitions

- April 5-9: Filipe T. Amador and Federico Ruiz
- April 12-16: Daniel Kidd and Christie Schneider
- April 19-23: Nikola Djokovic and Ivan Ortega
- April 26-30: Leon Kuzu and Laura Krapacher
- May 3-7: Julie M. Boland and Stan J. Schoenewald
- May 10-14: Austin Booker, Charlotte Exantus

Some BFA Exhibitions are shown at the Gilligan Student Union Gallery, 1st floor :

- May 3-7: Stephen Defendini and Taylor Sterling
- May 10-14: Carlos Medina

Opening receptions weekly on Mondays, 4:30 - 7 p.m.

# LIFESTYLE

## JC SPOTLIGHT: Madame Claude Café

By Zeba Blay

Nestled on the corner of 4th Street and Newark Ave. is a place that the average NJCU student might not expect to see: A little bit of Paris. Madame Claude Café is a “casual yet classy” French bistro that’s been around since 2002. It was one of the first establishments to enter the burgeoning downtown Jersey City restaurant scene. Rest assured there’s nothing gimmicky about Madame Claude. The décor, with twinkling lights and funky art on the walls are charming and cozy, but never cheesy. The main goal is to give the diner an authentic French cuisine experience – minus the stereotypical stuffy atmosphere and unreadable menu.

When I showed up on a week-day night, the restaurant had a good buzz going with diners sharing lively discussion whilst enjoying appetizers of fresh French bread, soft butter, and assorted cheeses. My waitress, Lulu, was friendly and attentive – but not in an I’m-just-trying-to-get-a-good-tip, kind of way. There was a laid back, welcoming atmosphere from the start. The owners, a married couple, Alice Troietto and Mattias Gustafsson, were enjoying their own dinner just a few feet away from me.

If you’ve never had French food before, have no fear. French cuisine isn’t complicated. It is decadent, savory, and altogether sinfully delicious – especially at Madame Claude Café. Entrees range from Escargots, to hearty soups, to pommes frites (French fries), to both sweet and savory crêpes. Ah, the crêpes. They’re probably the best feature of the menu, and you can get these special thin pancakes with any sort of filling, like ham & cheese, or

even chocolate and bananas. The night I went, I had the La Norvégienne, a crêpe chock full of smoked salmon, tomatoes, capers, scallions – and epic win. The best part is that not only is the food at Madame Claude delicious (and I mean delicious), it’s healthy, a nice respite from the everyday college diet of Red Bull and Ramen noodles, and surprisingly affordable for the amount of food that you get.

And on top of the wonderful food and great ambiance, the heart and soul of this Zagat rated eatery is its owners, Alice and Mattias. The married couple moved to Jersey City from France and decided to open up a French bistro downtown in a bid to share their

*“The heart and soul of this Zagat rated eatery is its owners, Alice and Mattias.”*

culture and show Jersey Citians that French food is the best kind of comfort food.

Not only that, but they also do their best to give back to the community. Madame Claude Café has worked with both St. Anthony’s Church and the Hudson Cradle Fund to raise money for charity, amongst other causes that the owners believe in. As cheesy as it may sound, the minute you walk into Madame Claude Café, you feel the love.

If you want to feel the love, head down when you get the chance! And stay tuned – in the coming weeks there is going to be a special treat just for NJCU students, courtesy of the lovely staff and owners at Madame Claude Café!

For more info, go to [www.madameclaudercafe.com/](http://www.madameclaudercafe.com/).



Photo by staff

The “La Norvégienne” crêpe is phenomenal.

## Fashion Knight Looks

By Diana Diaz

Think you have to head to the cities of London, Milan, and Paris to see the latest in street style? Think again! Gothic Knights are taking advantage of the fact that NYC, the fashion capital of the world, is right across the river. Check out some students we found on campus creating statements with their outside-the-box fashion sense.



### Stephen Dzikowski

Age: 24  
Major: English Education  
Spotted at the entrance of Karnoustos Hall.

“Up the Punx” is how Stephen describes his style. Most of Stephen’s clothes are self-tailored, making everything he wears extra unique. He puts a twist on the basic denim jacket with hand-sewn patches of his favorite bands and spiky silver hardware. Talk about endless creativity and style!



### Kory Martinez

Age: 23  
Major: Art – Painting / Drawing  
Spotted in GSUB waiting for soup.

According to Kory, her style is “Random! Complete starving artist.” Her irreverent style is certainly refreshing. When speaking to her, we actually found out she was once a student at F.I.T (go figure). The best part, Kory’s artsy style doesn’t break the bank: Skippies – Kmart, Jeans – H&M, Painting smock – Ralph Lauren (gift), Scarf – Urban Outfitters, Sunglasses – Flea Market, Watch – G-Shock, Purse – Thrift Shop.



### Avi McClain

Age: 25  
Major: Graphic Design  
Spotted getting tacos in the GSUB cafeteria.

We’ve seen Avi on campus and always admire his choice of color combos. If you’re feeling adventurous this spring, take a cue from him and don’t be afraid when it comes to mixing and matching different hues! Oh, and Avi doesn’t discriminate when it comes to buying clothes – he shops anywhere from eBay to Urban Outfitters to Marshalls. If he likes it, he grabs it.

**NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY**  
2039 KENNEDY BLVD, JERSEY CITY, NJ  
APRIL 29, 2010 @ 7:00 P.M.  
DOORS OPEN @ 6:30P.M.  
GILLIGAN STUDENT UNION BUILDING  
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOMS A,B,C

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# LIFESTYLE

## Spring Into Wellness!

By Alissa Koval-Dhaliwal  
Psychologist  
NJCU Counseling Center

We all know what it means to be healthy – free of illness or disease, physically robust, and full of energy and vitality. Wellness, however, encompasses far more than physical well-being. Wellness involves the optimal well-being of the mind, body and spirit, all of which contribute to our achieving our potential and maximizing our quality of life. It is typically defined as including eight dimensions of well-being:

physical – maintaining a healthy body through nutrition, exercise, the avoidance of high risk habits and behaviors, and seeking medical advice as needed

intellectual – engaging in stimulating learning experiences that promote cognitive development

emotional – understanding and experiencing the full range of human emotion in a healthy balance, coping with stress and frustration in self-affirming ways, and developing a positive sense of self

social – cultivating mutually beneficial relationships with individuals and the community at large

occupational – using your interests, skills and talents to develop a satisfying career

spiritual – having a sense of meaning and purpose in life

environmental – having awareness of your surroundings, your impact on them, and their impact on your well being

financial – understanding your relationship to money and creat-



Courtesy of NJCU.edu

ing a financial situation that allows you to balance current financial needs with preparing for future (both anticipated and unanticipated) financial needs

Each April New Jersey City University offers a broad array of programs designed to help students, employees and the surrounding community to enhance these various dimensions of wellness in their lives. This year's Health & Wellness Month includes 27 informative, interesting and fun events which will provide participants with knowledge and skills to take charge of their well-being.

### Our upcoming programs are:

**4/12: Credit 100: Maintaining Financial Wellness** from 12 – 1 in GSUB MPR A

**4/13: Hopes and Dreams: Addiction in Families** from 4 – 6 in Hepburn 202

**4/14: Mental Health Film Festival** from 10 – 6:15 in GSUB 129

**4/21: Activity and Nutrition for the Busy Lifestyle** from 4 – 5:30 in GSUB 129

**4/22: Wii Can Do It: Fun and Fitness for All** from 3 – 5 in GSUB 129

**4/26: Bullying: The Ravaging Effects** from 7 – 9 in GSUB 129

**4/28: Mind, Body & Spirit for Women** from 4:30 – 6:30 in GSUB 129

Look for details about these and other events from posters and flyers around campus or at this webpage:

[web.njcu.edu/dept/hwc/Uploads/hwm\\_events\\_2010\\_website.pdf](http://web.njcu.edu/dept/hwc/Uploads/hwm_events_2010_website.pdf)

## Help, I'm Stuck in Jersey City!

By Zeba Blay

Spring is officially here and soon the mounds of homework, essays, and quizzes of the semester will be a distant memory! Check out these fun, affordable activities to do in the JC area.

### April 9 Creative Grove Artist and Designer Market

The Grove Street PATH Plaza is fast becoming Jersey City's own little Union Square! Stop by every Friday from 2:00 to 8:00 PM to view artists' installations, listen to live music, and shop for the handcrafted works of local designers.

Info: 646-573-7164  
<http://creativegrove.org>

### April 10 Earth Day at Jersey City Museum: "Chalk the Walk"

Support the Jersey City Museum at this event to celebrate Earth Day (which is on April 22). From noon to 5:00 PM you can stop by the museum for a piece of chalk, and add to a collaborative Earth Day collage on the sidewalk in front of the museum! Then, at 2:00 PM, head inside for a spring concert performed by St. Dominic Academy Dominoes Chamber Choir of Jersey City.

Info: 201-413-0303  
[www.jerseycitymuseum.org](http://www.jerseycitymuseum.org)



[www.images.allmoviephoto.com](http://www.images.allmoviephoto.com)

### Eagle vs. Shark

### April 12 NJCU Presents Student Recitals: Kristin Wuest and Lynette Ford

There's always something awesome happening on campus, and if you're into live music come to Ingall's Recital Hall in Rossey 101 to listen to two of NJCU's very own talented musicians perform. Kristin Wuest will go on at 7:00 PM, followed by Lynette Ford on flute at 8:30 PM.

Info: 201-435-5756  
[http://web.njcu.edu/sites/mdt/content/student\\_recitals.asp](http://web.njcu.edu/sites/mdt/content/student_recitals.asp)

### April 13 Jersey City Drawing Club at LITM

If you like art or just want to try something new, stop by LITM between 8:00 to 11:00 pm for this free event. Presented by artist Emily August and sponsored by the Jersey City Craft Mafia, this will make for a fun evening of sketching, socializing, and great food.

Info: 201-536-5557  
[www.litm.com](http://www.litm.com)

### April 15 Movies on the Wall at The Warehouse

This installment of The Warehouse's weekly 7:30 PM movie screening is *Eagle vs. Shark*. It's a hilarious indie comedy (starring Jemaine Clement of *Flight of the Conchords* fame) reminiscent of *Napoleon Dynamite* about two socially awkward people who fall in love.

Info: 201-420-8882  
[www.thewarehousejc.com](http://www.thewarehousejc.com)

### April 16 Poetry Festival at the Five Corners Branch Library

This free event, taking place from 2:00 to 4:00 PM is in celebration of National Poetry month. Stop by to listen to poetry from people in the Jersey City community, and feel free to share your own!

Info: <http://jclibrary.org/>

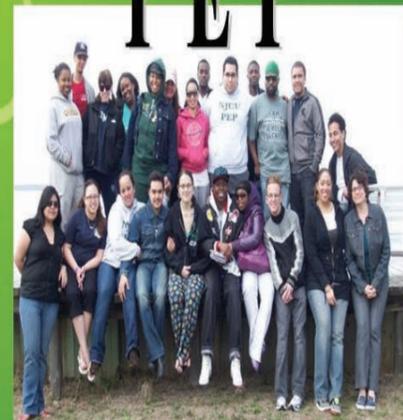
### April 8 – 10, 15 – 17 NJCU Presents: The Trojan Women

Professor Andrew Johnson has directed an exciting version of this classic Greek tragedy, which tells the fates of the woman of Troy after the end of the Trojan War. The show starts at 7:30 PM at the West Side Theater, and is not to be missed!

Info: [web.njcu.edu/perlcal/calendar/](http://web.njcu.edu/perlcal/calendar/)

## PEERS EDUCATING PEERS

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# SPORTS

## Interview

# Thomas Vermazen

## NJCU Gothic Knight's pitcher

By Christopher Mirabile

Baseball is a magical thing inside the hearts of almost every young American boy. Dreams of being on the mound or in the batter's box are shared amongst pillows spread across our country every night. After growing up many of those dreams fade while truth and reality set in. How many kids actually get the chance to pursue those dreams and play competitive baseball? Not many. The ones that do – know to never let anyone take it away. Still, how far can baseball take you and how long will one man travel to explore that opportunity? The NJCU Gothic Knights have a student athlete named Thomas Vermazen. He is a sophomore and a starting pitcher for the Knight's baseball team. Raised in San Diego, California he now resides in Jersey City in order to play out his baseball days and see what may come.

**Q: When did your whole journey start Tom?**

A: I came to New Jersey in September 2008. I went to Point Loma High School, a residential area of San Diego.

**Q: Was it your plan from the beginning to come play baseball on the east coast?**

A: Actually, I had no intention of playing college baseball. It was just a shot in the dark that I was noticed pitching in a summer tournament after my senior year of high school. I had only played one year of high school ball prior to that.

**Q: So what was your plan for the upcoming days after high school?**

A: I had originally intended to attend any one of the three schools; Gonzaga, Utah, and Nevada. Those were the three schools I visited and had been academically accepted to.

**Q: What made you change your mind?**

A: The opportunity to play college baseball is something a very small percentage of people growing up actually get to experience. That chance was worth the distance and travel to a place I had never been before.

**Q: Just how different is it out here from your hometown?**

A: The differences between my home town and living on my own in Jersey City are extensive. There was more than a month long transition period that I needed to fully adjust.

**Q: What is the hardest part about being out here for you?**

A: The seasons have been the most drastic change for me. I still put on shorts in the morning not realizing that De-

cember in New Jersey is much colder than December back in San Diego. Otherwise there is the obvious fact that this is my first time living on my own and my family is 3,000 miles away while other kids are only a town away from their parents.

**Q: You said the transition took you about a month to start feeling comfortable. What has helped you along that path?**

A: My teammates have been a huge filtering process for me. Although I obviously expected to make friends at any university I attended there is something to be said for the relationship someone has with a teammate.

**Q: What has attending NJCU helped you do?**

A: The ability to travel to such an array of places once I was here has been great. I have seen many major cities in different states during my stay here. The kind of traveling I get to do now on my down time never would have happened had I not come here to play baseball. A 14 hour trip is what it would take me to get to Oregon while a quick 4 hour drive gets me into Boston surrounded by an entirely new atmosphere.

**Q: So you never got to travel much, prior to this?**

A: I did but this was my first trip to the northeast and here there is an ability to witness drastically different areas that are only a short distance away. Like, living in such close proximity to the world's most famous city is my favorite part about living here. Los Angeles was about two hours driving from my home but it's not nearly the spectacle that Manhattan is. Cities like New York, Philadelphia, and Boston have such an extensive history that you just don't find living on the west coast.

**Q: What else has NJCU been able to offer you?**

A: Baseball was my main reason for coming out here and without the chance to pitch in a competitive conference I never would have seen the northeast. It also got me involved in a collegiate summer league in Hawaii which not many people get to experience.

**Q: Why did you have to travel all the way here for these things to happen?**

A: The west coast is so spread out that there are not as many options for athletes. With only a few junior colleges and everything else being major Division I competition there is little room for an athlete to get a small time chance and use that opportunity to explode.

**Q: How is your baseball ex-**



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

Thomas Vermazen

**perience treating you? Specifically at NJCU?**

A: Baseball at NJCU got off to a good start and has not let up. My first semester here, I was very nicely welcomed by the veterans of the team. Although my first season was riddled with some injuries I think I had a good enough year to prove that I could be a focal point of this team's drive to succeed.

**Q: And how has that carried over into your sophomore year?**

A: It's a really good feeling being a competitor that my team and coaches rely on to help them progress through the next level. Especially being virtually unknown to all of our competition and recruiters it is almost like I have the chance to completely blindside our conference.

**Q: What are your goals for your tenure here at NJCU both athletically and academically?**

A: I have two major goals for this season athletically. First is to help NJCU set the school record for most wins in a season and finish the season strong by earning a bid into the playoffs. On a personal level, I am really striving to build off my All-State Rookie season and be named to one of the NJ All-State teams for my sophomore year. Academically I hope to be a straight A student and maintain my currently high GPA.

**Q: What are some of your career goals for after college?**

A: I'm on a path for a degree in mathematics and maybe in the future teach that subject. If playing baseball does not turn into a career I would still love to keep sports a part of my life by writing about it, coaching it, or broadcasting it.

**Q: Would you have chosen a different major if you were studying in a different institution?**

A: No mathematics has been my plan for some time now. However the faculty has made my experience here one to remember.

**Q: So you have no regrets about flying cross country for school?**

A: No, absolutely not. School and baseball here, will be something I can always cherish and talk about to friends and family.

## Men's 2010 Gothic Knights

### Baseball Schedule

Dates in bold are home game:

DATE	OPPONENT / LOCATION / TIME
Tue. 4/13/2010	Lehman College Bronx, NY 4 p.m.
Thu. 4/15/2010	Rutgers-Newark Newark, NJ 3:30 p.m.
Fri. 4/16/2010	William Paterson University Wayne, NJ 3:30 p.m.
<b>Sat. 4/17/2010</b>	<b>Rutgers-Camden (DH) Jersey City, NJ 11:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Sun. 4/18/2010</b>	<b>John Jay College Jersey City, NJ 2 p.m.</b>
Wed. 4/21/2010	Drew University Madison, NJ 3:30 p.m.
<b>Fri. 4/23/2010</b>	<b>Rutgers-Newark Jersey City, NJ 3:30 p.m.</b>
Sat. 4/24/2010	Richard Stockton College (DH) Pomona, NJ 11:30 a.m.
<b>Tue. 4/27/2010</b>	<b>Baruch College Jersey City, NJ 3:30 p.m.</b>
Thu. 4/29/2010	Ramapo College Mahwah, NJ 3:30 p.m.
<b>Sat. 5/1/2010</b>	<b>Rowan University (DH) Jersey City, NJ 11:30 a.m.</b>

Source: <http://www.njcugothicknights.com/>

## Alice De Fazio's Rise to Success

Continued from page 12

jored in physical education at the time.

While at MSU she managed to show off her skills playing in New York City's Madison Square Garden four times with her team.

"I always said I would, but people laughed," said De Fazio of the times she played at MSG.

Upon graduating from MSU, De Fazio played with the New York Stars before they folded and was offered \$12,000 to play in the Women's Basketball Association in 1980.

In 1994 De Fazio came to NJCU for a part time assistant coaching job, and realized that coaching was her passion more so than the game itself. She completed her final year as NJCU's women's basketball coach during the 2004-05 seasons guiding the Gothic Knights to a 14-13 record.

Before coming to NJCU, De Fazio previously held coaching jobs at Jersey City's St. Dominic Academy as well as her alma mater, Montclair State, where she guided the Red Hawks to a two year record of 27-16 from 1990-92.

Now, as NJCU's athletic director she feels she's gained an even better position and sees herself as the "coach of the coaches."

As women athletic directors in the state of New Jersey are increasing, De Fazio still encour-

ages a strong educational background for true success, and is currently going back for her masters in sports management.

"We need positive female role models," said De Fazio, who also remarks that if offered, she would not take up any type of position in the WNBA today. "There is no stability [there]," she said.

Unlike many athletes, De Fazio believes "it's all about seeing student success."

She understands the hardships that women's basketball and athletics has been through, as well as the athletic industry in general, and jokes that if she could do it all over again, she'd be a tennis player or a golfer.

Along with her basketball playing career days, De Fazio has also been involved in the furthering of women's athletics and was a long-time member of the New Jersey Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (NJAIW), where she served as President for two years from 2004-06.

She succeeded Lawrence R. Schiner, who held the position for 30 years. De Fazio faces a highly accomplished challenge as only the fourth athletics director in the school's history. She has found nothing but happiness in doing so.

"Find a job you love, and you'll never work a day in your life," said De Fazio.

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Contributing articles to *The Gothic Times* is a great way to have your voice heard. And remember, contributions to *The Gothic Times* make a great addition to your resume and/or portfolio. Section writers, reporters, photographers, and illustrators may contribute to our News, Opinion/Editorial, Entertainment, Lifestyle, Arts, and Sports sections. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, please email us at [gothictimes@njcu.edu](mailto:gothictimes@njcu.edu). Please include your name, major, email address, phone number, and to which section(s) you would prefer to contribute.

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## SPORTS

# Volleyball Team Moves Up

*NJCU qualifies for NECVA Championship for Ninth Time; 16th-Seeded Gothic Knights will face #1 Rivier on April 9*

By NJCU Office  
Sports Information

**J**ERSEY CITY, NJ – The New Jersey City University men's volleyball team was among the youngest in the conference this season, but despite the learning curve, was talented enough to earn a post-season bid. The Gothic Knights have been selected as one of 16 teams out of 43 eligible to play in the 2010 North East Collegiate Volleyball Association Championship Tournament, which will be held April 9-11 at the Hyannis Youth and Community Center in Barnstable, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. It will be the 16th year the championship is held.

The NECVA Tournament Selection Committee announced the 2010 bracket on April 4, with the NECVA champion receiving the league's automatic bid to the Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship, to be held at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin, April 16-17. Overall, the top two teams in each of the conference's five divisions—CUNYAC, GNAC, Metro, New England and Western Divisions—plus six at-large selections from among the 33 other eligible schools in the league, advance to the post-season event.

The Gothic Knights (17-9) will play in the tournament for the ninth time in program history and the first time since 2007, after se-



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

curring the #16 overall seed in the championship event. Despite placing fifth of 10 teams with a 5-4 record in the NECVA Metro Division, the young Knights earned one of six available at-large bids to the tournament. Among the notable victories by NJCU this season were two victories against D'Youville College, the tournament's 14th seed, on February 20 and 21.

NJCU will have the challenge of facing top-seeded Rivier College (28-8), the GNAC Division Champions. Rivier claimed the #1 seed in the conference tournament for the second consecutive

year and the second time in its history. Rivier, the 2006 NECVA champions, will make its 10th consecutive NECVA Tournament appearance since 2001.

NJCU is 6-8 all-time with a .429 winning percentage in 14 matches in its first eight appearances in the conference championship, having previously qualified in 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2006 and 2007.

It will be the second meeting this year between NJCU and Rivier. The Raiders, then ranked seventh in Division III, posted a 3-1 (30-22, 30-11, 28-30, 30-19) win over NJCU on February 20 at the



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

vided eight kills. Junior libero Chris Edra (Edison, NJ/JP Stevens) defended a match-high 17 digs.

Third-year head coach Carlo Edras 2010 version of the Gothic Knights saw two freshmen—Davis Obi (Old Bridge, NJ/Old Bridge) and Casey Blake (Bayonne, NJ/Bayonne)—starting in the middle and another standout freshman in Jose Matta (San Juan, Puerto Rico/Union Hill). While half of the starting lineup had no collegiate experience at all, Lisk became a starter for the first time this season and Bryant, who started in the middle as a rookie last year, played his first season as an opposite. Even junior setter Jorge Rodriguez (Havana, Cuba/Memorial) was a newly-minted starter, having been inserted in that role midway through last year. Only Edra, a standout libero, was a full-timer at the same position last year.

Endicott College Invitational in Beverly, MA. NJCU still leads the all-time series with Rivier, 5-3, but the Raiders defeated the Knights for the third straight meeting. At the time of the loss on February 20, NJCU became the first unranked Division III team to win a set from Rivier this season.

In that meeting, NJCU was led by sophomore opposite Austin Bryant (Virginia Beach, VA/Kempsville), who posted 12 kills and four blocks while sophomore outside hitter Kenny Lisk (Old Bridge, NJ/Old Bridge) pro-

## Alice De Fazio's Rise to Success

By Danielle Church

**B**efore Alice De Fazio became the Alice we know as New Jersey City University's (NJCU) Director of Athletics, she was Alice Schmidt, a young girl from Jersey City with quite a knack for sports. This energetic and friendly woman has become known for her incredible passion for women's basketball and remains to this day the all time leader in college assists, at Montclair State University (MSU), with 630 from 1977-80.

Before meeting and marrying her husband Bill De Fazio, the current head coach of a highly success girls' basketball program at Marist High School in Bayonne, Alice spent her younger years partaking in sport activities with many of her siblings which included four older brothers and sisters, and one younger sister.

"[My brothers] had to take care of me...so by default, I became an athlete," said De Fazio of her adolescence.

It was at St. Paul's Catholic school that De Fazio began her days of basketball as she became a member of their basketball team. Girls' sports were very limited at the time, yet De Fazio managed to find her place in the scarce world of female athletics, and re-



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

marks that she "made a lot of friends doing it."

De Fazio became a participant of St. Anthony's basketball team during her high school years. It was during this time that the 1971 "Title 9" Law was passed. The law stated that any institution that received federal funding had to give equal opportunities to both boys and girls may have set the pathway for De Fazio's future in athletics and education.

"Education was first and foremost," said De Fazio of her family upbringing.

Although she played varsity sports in high school and was certainly going to go places, she never gave up on her education and continued on to what many would consider the UCLA of women's basketball, Immaculata University. After only one semester of attendance there, she transferred to Montclair State University as a collegiate women's basketball player while majoring in English—a choice much different than the average athlete, who typically ma-

## It's Time to Resurrect Our Football Team

By Nadya Alvarado

**N**ew Jersey City University is one of the few schools in the country that doesn't have a football team. The program was eliminated in 2003 due to lack of funding. NJCU had no money to provide the squad with the proper equipment, transportation, and other requirements sufficient enough to maintain the team.

According to NJCU President Carlos Hernandez, the reason why the football team was sacked was "because of the severe budget reductions mandated by the State of New Jersey for fiscal year 2004." Yet, a football team is a symbol of college pride and all schools lose money on their teams at some point.

"NJCU had to make difficult decisions in order to balance its budget and contain tuition increases," Hernandez added.

To maintain the football team, a considerable amount of money is needed to keep the program running. Students here are ready to play and root for football.

"I played football all four years of high school and though I would be able to play at the University, - I later found out that it was no longer part of the program" said Chris Cabrera, 24,

business major.

"It's a shame that there isn't a football team in the university. My best friend was a cheerleader for a football team in high school and I was hoping to do the same at NJCU," said Nicole Sanchez, psychology major.

"What I don't understand is why the university has so many sports, including golf and they can't make room for football?" Freddy Alvarado, 21, a business Major

Since 2003, there have been no attempts to restore a new football program. After football was cut there was monetary room for improvements at our Athletic Department.

Allowing new sports seems unfair since football didn't have a second chance to regain its reputation. If we give money and support to other sports at NJCU, why can't we give it to a football team? If the school doesn't have money to maintain a football team, then why not at least start a club? It would be a great way to build the momentum and money towards a successful team. If we don't stand up for our Gothic teams who we will be blindsided next? Baseball? Volleyball? The Girl's Bowling Team! There will be nothing left to cheer for.

Continued on page 11