

## Proposed Jersey City Gas Pipeline Worries Community

By Rafael Rogoza

Spectra Energy Corp., a Texas based natural gas company, has filed an application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to expand the company's interstate pipeline system through Bayonne and Jersey City.

"The region will have more energy security and is expected to see lower energy costs as a result of the expansion," said Greg Ebel, Spectra Energy CEO, in a news release.

According to Spectra Energy, the 15.5 mile pipeline is critical to meeting the energy demands of New Jersey and New York along with the rest of the northeast.

In the proposed plan the pipeline would be constructed along the east side of Bayonne, through downtown Jersey City up to the Hoboken border, from there construction would continue under the Hudson River into midtown Manhattan.

In Jersey City the pipeline is within the vicinity of the downtown Medical Center, the New Jersey Turnpike, as well as city schools and parks.

Natural gas pipelines are at risk of explosion, the most recent taking place in Allentown Pennsylvania killing five people. A disastrous explosion in San Bruno California last September killed

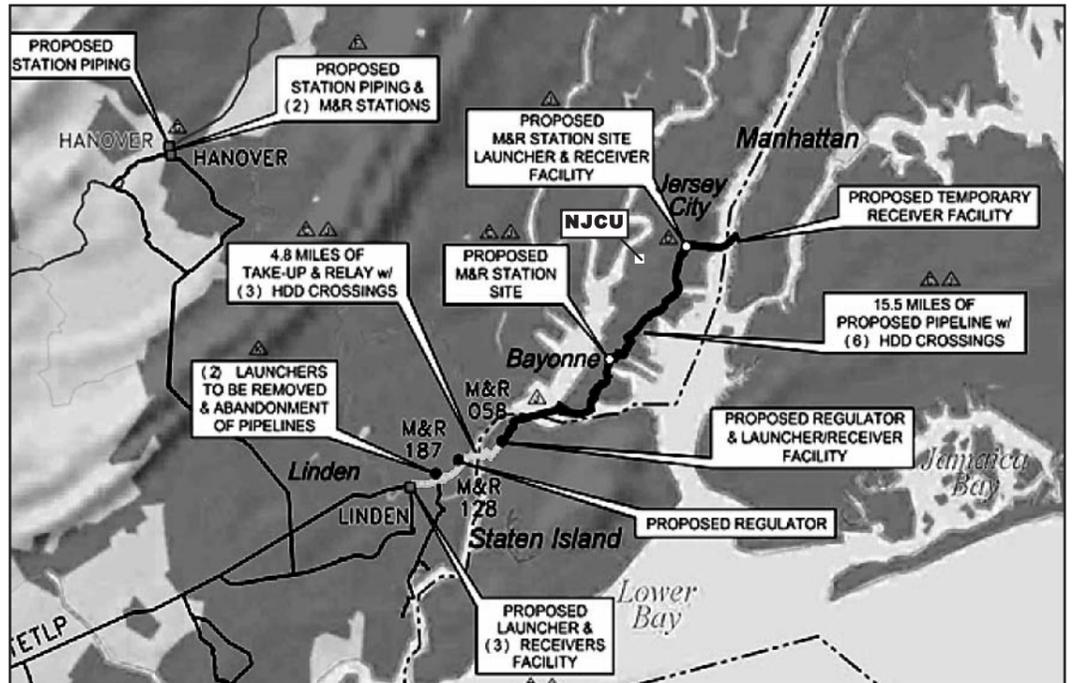
eight people and destroyed or destroyed fifty-five homes.

Environmental risks are also possible due to unaccounted gas leaks that are common in natural gas distribution systems. Such leaks release toxic carcinogens into the air that may pose a health hazard for city residents. The city may also suffer economically from lost property value and reluctance from developers to invest in Jersey City real estate.

*"It's dangerous, and there should be an alternative route bypassing the city,"*

**Erin Elmegeed, 23,**  
*business management major from Jersey City*

While considered as an alternative and cleaner energy source when compared to coal, a recent EPA study has concluded natural gas is a doubtful solution to climate change. The EPA estimates that methane leaks in pipes and gas production facilities are equivalent to the greenhouse gas emissions of 35 million cars annually. The pipeline has aroused the attention of concerned Jersey City residents who have raised their objections along with Mayor Jer-



Route for proposed pipeline.

emiah Healy at a public meeting with the energy commission on August 4, 2010. "There is so much at risk by this route," said Mayor Healy during his address to commission officials.

According to Jersey City councilman Steven Fulop, Spectra Energy has offered the city compensation for the pipeline ranging from two to four million dollars annually over the next

forty years.

"Safety is not for sale," said Mr. Fulop.

The planned route can be seen in detail on [nogaspipeline.org](http://nogaspipeline.org), a website developed by downtown residents Dale Hardman and Stephen Musgrave who took action to mobilize and inform the public in opposition to the construction project.

In an interview with the Gothic

Times, Dale Hardman, an expert in marketing by trade, was adamant about the risks that a natural gas pipeline would pose to the public, the environment, and the local economy.

"There are about 16,000 residents per square mile in Jersey City, that's equivalent to San Francisco. San Francisco would-

Continued on page 2

### SGO ObamaRama

Q&A with SGO President Fatima Terry

By Monir Khilla

The New Jersey City University Student Government Organization (SGO) held the Obama-rama: A Celebration of Diversity and Progress" event on February 7, 2011 at the Multi-Purpose Rooms B and C.

The Gothic Times sat down with SGO President Fatima Terry and asked what her thoughts were on the event and the goal of getting Michelle Obama to come speak at the May 2011 Commencement Ceremony.

**Q: Whose idea was it to bring Michelle Obama to NJCU?**

**A:** "It was actually the Department of Advancement. They've been trying to get Michelle Obama since last year."

**Q: Why Michelle Obama?**

**A:** "One thing we [SGO]

looked up to was that she's a strong female and she's the first African-American First Lady. We're the first all-female E-board and that's something we look up to. It's not only about her but, it's also the NJCU community coming together and agreeing on something and trying to do it."

**Q: What else has been done to bring Michelle Obama to NJCU?**

**A:** "A lot. We've started since September. President Hernandez sent a letter to the White House, the E-board sent an Executive letter to the White House, and some clubs have sent letters and petitions to us to send to the White House. We've always had one thing we've sent to the White House every month. There's also a



Photo by Rabiah Bhatti

Fatima Terry

Continued on page 8

### Lyrics on His Mind and a Beat in His Soul

NJCU Student Takes Music to the Streets

By Haneen Salem

While walking through the streets of New York City one might come across a man carrying a guitar and playing his heart out. Don't be fooled by the green streak in his hair or the rocker clothing he's wearing because Remillino Josefranco Ella a.k.a aReJay is very dedicated and extremely passionate about his music.

When aReJay isn't at New Jersey City University studying as a Music Education major, he spends his time practicing and honing his skills as a guitarist. He takes his trusty guitar with him everywhere he goes because when music comes to him he feels an urge to open the door and let it in.

"He is the [most] realist musician I have ever heard. His music personifies him. There is nothing more pure than his lyrics or



njcu.edu

Continued on page 2

Remillino Josefranco Ella a.k.a aReJay

# NEWS

## Pipeline

Continued from page 1

n't think twice about a natural gas pipeline under its feet," said Mr. Hardman.

"Spectra is using state of the art technology. The pipeline is monitored twenty-four hours a day. We would notice any gas leaks," said Marylee Hanley, Spectra Energy's media contact.

To draw support for the pipeline Spectra Energy created a webpage, [yesgaspipeline.org](http://yesgaspipeline.org), with informational videos and facts about the pipeline.

On campus the reaction to the pipeline was predominantly negative. "It's dangerous to the whole neighborhood," said Joshua Baldwin, 19, a house studies major from Jersey City.

"Its dangerous, and there should be an alternative route bypassing the city," said Erin Elmegeed, 23, a business management major from Jersey City.

Following the submission of Spectra Energy's application to the Federal Energy Regulation Commission, in obstruction to the plan Jersey City filed for intervenor status. Intervenor status legally forces the energy commission to keep the city informed about the pending application and it gives the city a say in the matter before the commission makes a decision to approve the project.

The Sierra Club, Food and Water Watch, along with 300 other individuals and institutions have also filed for intervenor status. Currently all parties are awaiting the draft version of the Environmental Impact Review, the energy commission's evaluation of the proposed plan.

## Lyrics

Continued from page 1

songs," said Gregory Haralambidis, 19, Music Ed.

His love for music started with the violin in third grade and developed into playing the guitar his junior year of high school. Academics were never aReJay's forte, so he held on to his talent.

He briefly sums up what music means to him.

"Music is about freedom," said aReJay.

There's a sense of exposure that comes from the music and songs that are intertwined in his world and feelings.

"Every time aReJay performs he makes sure that his audience not only hears the music but also that they see a piece of his heart. His music and performances show what a lot of others lack, passion," said aReJay's girlfriend Justine Nunez.

New Jersey City University had a hand rearing the musician. He has performed with his violin in the orchestra and performed in open mic nights at NJCU.

"NJCU definitely gets me ready for the music career. The professors are great and they help students get ready for the real world," said aReJay.

His ultimate goal is to travel with his guitar and perform in places all over the world. After he becomes travel weary he wants to take his gift and his experience and teach music.

# Women's History Month At NJCU

By Monir Khilla

The month of March is National Women's History Month and the New Jersey City University (NJCU) community is holding many events to celebrate this occasion.

The motto for Women's History Month, not only at NJCU but across many college campuses this year is "Our History Is Our Strength."

What message is being sent about women and women's history? Karen DeAngelis, Co-chair of the Women's History Month Committee and Director of the Speicher-Rubin Women's Center said, "[The goal is to] bring more attention to writing women back into history and to bring attention to women's issues."

Issues such as gender equality, female genital mutilation, and female homelessness and abuse are the focus of many events being held at NJCU.

"The events hope to show women have a place in history and bring focus to achievements," said DeAngelis. "[And] to make people aware [of the issues] and help stop the repressions of women."

The "Our History Is Our Strength" motto isn't just the motto NJCU uses but, the theme of Women's History Month in college campuses all across the country.

Students and faculty alike are encouraged to come to the events and help solve issues that repress women in everyday society.

Men are especially encouraged to show up, as change won't happen without their support. "Our women students and faculty affect the lives of men. It's really important for men to come to the events and help be a catalyst for change," said DeAngelis.

## EVENTS

### "Our History is Our Strength"

#### Wednesday, March 23 "Why I Choose (or Not) to Cover?"

Panel Discussion — 7-9pm  
Michael Gilligan Student Union, Room 129  
A panel of speakers, including Muslim women, discuss why some choose to wear the hijab (head-scarf) and others do not as well as how this decision impacts their lives. Refreshments will be served.

#### Thursday, March 24 "100th Anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire"

Presentation— 10am-1pm  
Michael Gilligan Student Union, Room 129  
This program commemorates the centennial of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in which 146 workers, mostly young immigrant women, lost their lives.

#### Thursday, March 24 "NJCU's Inaugural Miss Inner Beauty Pageant"

7-9:30pm  
Michael Gilligan Student Union, Multipurpose Room A  
This student-organized contest focuses on the "true makings of a woman" and recognizes personality, intelligence, and creativity. For information e-mail [Ysalazar@njcu.edu](mailto:Ysalazar@njcu.edu).

#### Tuesday, March 29 "Ending Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)"

Roundtable Discussion — 7-9pm  
Hepburn Hall, Room 202  
Speakers discuss women and children's rights regarding FGM as well as international campaigns to end the three million procedures performed each year.

#### Wednesdays, March 30 "Freeheld: The Laurel Hester Story"

Screening and Discussion — 4-7pm  
Michael Gilligan Student Union, Room 129  
"Freeheld" chronicles the battles of a dying woman trying to transfer her earned pension to her domestic partner, an automatic option for heterosexual married couples.

#### Thursday, March 31 Women's History Month Closing Ceremony

Featuring a Performance of "Stretch Marks" — 7-9pm  
Michael Gilligan Student Union, Multipurpose Room A  
"Stretch Marks," a one-woman show featuring Angela KaRiotis, focuses on being born and the legacies inherited.

#### Further information:

Renata Moreira, assistant director for special projects, (201) 200-2269.  
Karen DeAngelis, director of the Speicher-Rubin Women's Center, (201) 200-3189. Dr. Jacqueline Ellis, coordinator of the Women's and Gender Studies Program, (201) 200-3170.

## WORD ON CAMPUS:

Interviews & Photographs by Joseph Rivera

### Do you know what SGO is? If so, do you know what they do?



**Brittney Machi, 21,**  
Fairview, NJ,  
Elementary Education /  
English Major

**S**tudent Government Organization. I guess they are supposed to find out about the issues on campus.



**Charles Yarbrough, 26,**  
Las Vegas, Nevada,  
Psychology Major

**I**t's going in the wrong direction because I feel like they are promoting more social events than educational events, which they should have a balance of both for us college students who want to broaden our horizon.



**Erica Sumter, 20,**  
Jersey City, English /  
Secondary Education Major /  
Secretary of Criminal Social  
Justice System (club)

**T**hey are supposed to be on board for the students, to listen to students and to lead us.



**Emilio Marmora, 51,**  
Jersey City,  
Psychology  
Professor / OSP

**A**n umbrella group for students, policies, rights and clubs.



**Doug Pickel, 21,**  
Kearny, NJ,  
Music Major

**S**tudent Government Organization. They are more involved with community life and meeting campus officials; basically our voice to representatives.



**Chidinma Emenike, 25,**  
Newark,  
Media Arts

**S**GO is, Student Government Organization. They are for students who need help and for clubs.



**Jamie Leiter, 37,**  
Downtown Jersey City,  
Physics Major

**I** have no idea.



**James Vezos, 19,**  
Kearny, NJ,  
English

**S**tudent Government Organization. I never looked in depth to get a feel of what they are [all] about.



**John Hall, 21,**  
Bayonne,  
History Major

**S**tudent Government Organization. I believe they represent the student body.



**Justice Monroe, 24,**  
Jersey City,  
Psychology Major

**T**he student government organization are broken down into categories for all clubs, and voice for all students.



**Niko Vega, 20,**  
Jersey City,  
Professional  
Security Major

**S**tudent Government Organization, and they are supposed to handle student affairs, events and decide what funding goes to what clubs.



**Ray Vaillant, 18,**  
Bayonne,  
Accounting Major

**S**tudent Government Organization. I know they have leaders of the clubs meet with each other.

Any inquiries about the "Word on Campus," email us at: [wordoncampus@gmail.com](mailto:wordoncampus@gmail.com)

## EDITORIAL

### EDITORIAL

# An open letter to Michelle Obama

Mrs. Obama,

The students at New Jersey City University would be honored to have their commencement speech by no other than the First Lady of the United States of America.

The Student Government Organization and the university's Department of Advancement have worked together to make this large feat possible. The SGO along with students have held a strong campaign spanning several months to amass signatures for a petition. The largest event was recently held in February, where students and club organizations turned out to show their support. The event was penned "Obama-Rama."

The event featured performances varying from musicians to poets and even the local city paper, The Jersey Journal covered the event. "Obama-Rama" was filmed and made into a short documentary where students lined up to a cardboard cutout of yourself and each gave their personal reasons on how your presence at NJCU would affect their lives.

We are a small commuter's college amid giants in the area but we're an integral part of Jersey City.

NJCU is one of the most diverse campuses in the United States. Like Jersey City, we represent a mixed demographic of the United States.

We feel that you're the ideal person to speak at the commencement. Your commitment to the family, education and the country are exemplary. Your leadership in the "Let's Move" campaign against childhood obesity demonstrates that a problem can be fixed if it is faced head on. Whether it is an epidemic or a financial crisis, the notion of hope and a better future remains – if we can strive to make a change.

Your presence at NJCU would instill that audacity of hope in our students.

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

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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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# Let's be brilliant

By Gabriel Cortés

Yes, we are the Facebook generation and we are proud of it. Our brains are overloaded with Snookie and vampire fairytales. Our knowledge stretches as far out as the pages of *Teen Vogue* and *Star* magazine. Our full attention is devoted to the latest Charlie Sheen saga and Justin Bieber's songs. We idolize Lady Gaga and adore Rihanna. We are poised to feed into an endless succession of Tweets, the frivolity of our daily lives with simplistic words that say nothing. Clearly, our information gluttony is out of focus.

And yes, we are conscientious enough to pursue a college degree to achieve, in whatever way possible, that American dream we've been promised since before we were born. But, are we in school for the right reasons? Is a college degree the materialization of an intellectual achievement or is it the pathway to a higher income that can satisfy our insatiable consumerist desires? Education has become the means to an end and not the end in itself.

We prefer easy professors and no homework please. We want easy courses and the less challenging the better. We ostracize smart and we rather have what's cool and fashionable. We follow trends because our social lives depend on them. We are mindless worshipers of trend setters. We are letting Hollywood foist the superficial lifestyles they promote. Where is our renaissance, our period of enlightenment? Today, it seems lost.

In a single week *The New York Times* publishes more information on its pages than what was available to the average person

during his/her lifetime in the middle ages. Today information is disseminated at incomprehensible speeds. Are we exploiting the information age to its full potential? Or do we expect social media and our Blackberries to make us smarter?

Far too many classrooms are filled with students looking out the window and too many stares pressuring that clock to move just a bit faster. Writing a three-page response paper has become a grueling exercise and reading a chapter out of a textbook is an egregious proposition. And please don't ask me what my personal opinion is, let me just google it and I'll tell you later.

We are too comfortable saying that math is just not our thing, that philosophy is too boring, that

the sciences are too convoluted and geeky. And politics? We just don't know anything about politics. We are constantly looking for that easy A, that easy professor, but are we really learning?

A January 20 article published in the *Economist* magazine titled "The rise and rise of the cognitive elite postulates the predicament and the challenges our generation faces: 'All kinds of talent are rewarded. But the number of people who get rich by singing or kicking a ball is tiny compared with the number who become wealthy or influential through brainpower.' It is that brainpower that should be the focal point of a university. Mustering that mental aptitude is what we should strive for constantly. And ultimately, it is mental skill that is

more lucrative.

As the great writer García Márquez once wrote "the world must be all fucked up when men travel first class and literature goes as freight." Let's pick up a book or two. Let's expand our horizons a little. Let's learn from

*Let us take this opportunity to be inebriated with knowledge.*

what others have said in the past. Great minds have shared their knowledge and their insight and have buried it in books, our job is to uncover it and build upon

their understanding.

Let's dare to imagine and build the world of the future. Let's lead extraordinary lives. Let's dream of something more than just a job to pay the bills. Let's do something spectacular, something unimaginable. Let us be inspired, enlightened, truly educated global citizens. Let us take this opportunity to be inebriated with knowledge. It is time to learn from the great philosophers, scientists, artists, thinkers that have come before us. Let's truly be the best we can be. Let's challenge our brains. Oscar Wilde understood that conundrum: "I am but too conscious of the fact that we are born in an age when only the dull are treated seriously, and I live in terror of not being misunderstood."

## THE COST of Higher Education



By Rabiah Bhatti

OPINION

# A Smoking Debate on Campus: Where do you Stand?



google.com

## Smoking On Campus: Bad For Everyone

By Matthew Barnes

Ever find yourself behind somebody who is smoking a cigarette and you think to yourself "I hate this awful smell?" Well, this wouldn't be the case if a smoking ban were to go into effect at New Jersey City University (NJCU).

The only thing that I envy about smokers is that they know how they're going to check out of life; they know they'll die a smoke-related death. In NJCU they smoke around non smokers, thus adding fumes to the list of things that can kill us. According to statistics, 400,040 people die from smoking-related causes. Broken down that means fifty people die every hour. If NJCU doesn't ban smoking, any number of us can end up as the fifty people who die every hour from a

fume stick.

Students who smoke are insensitive to those who don't. Second hand smoke endangers those near them more than the person smoking. People who are exposed to second hand fumes have a 25% chance of gaining heart disease. Which means all it would take is one smoker walking near you and one quarter for you to be afflicted.

The students of NJCU should not take this threat lying down. We did not come to college only to end up as a smoking statistic, we came here for our futures. With the threat of smoking, we know some action needs to be taken. We have to stop smoking on campus because the smokers should be the only ones paying for their cigarettes and our lives should not be paying that price.



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## Smoking is a Personal Choice

By Monir Khilla

The City University of New York (CUNY) recently prohibited students from smoking on all campuses. College campuses have been putting stricter restrictions on smoking in public areas. New Jersey City University should not follow this trend.

Secondhand smoke (SHS) is an understandable nuisance to students that are non-smokers, but so are loud cell phone conversations, spitting, burping and loud music. Should these nuisances be banned as well?

Smokers can't control what direction the wind blows or who is behind them, and they should not have to. Non-smokers just need to take a few steps and avoid the smoke. Also, it would be discriminatory to put the rights of non-smokers above those of smokers. The NJCU campus is not reserved for non-smokers only. The rights of smokers in the NJCU

community would be violated if they are told they can no longer smoke on campus. If anything, a smoking ban would just create a bigger uproar on campus by smokers.

Smokers understand the health risks of smoking and wouldn't purposely create an unbearable environment for others around them. Most stand by ashtrays near the entrances of buildings, off to the side enjoying their cancer sticks and doing their best not to get in people's way.

When SHS becomes unavoidable and you're forced to be near a smoker there is one civil way of trying to remedy the problem: just ask.

Now, if the NJCU Administration was really adamant about promoting a healthier and safer environment on campus, smoking should be the last thing they should try to fix. They could probably start with vegetables in the cafeteria and properly equipping security guards.

# The Price is Right

By Rafael Rogozo

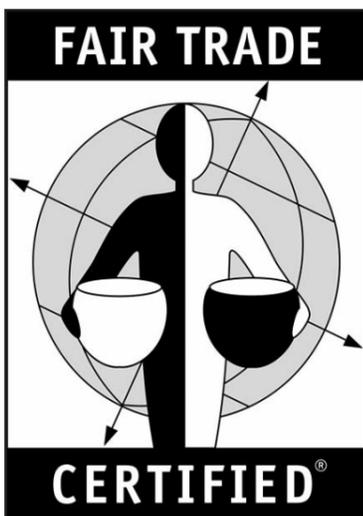
With a globalized world, corporations are stretching their reach into parts of the world where people are held down by poverty and will do anything for a few dollars to provide for their families. Multinational companies are dipping their toes into these cheap labor pools and making billions in the process. I have no problem with job creation abroad, but I can't help thinking about labor exploitation. In the past we heard accusations of sweatshops making Nike and Gap products. So, it is important to be a responsible consumer in our era of globalization. We need to demand ethical business practices from employers that have factories in places where there are no proper labor rights.

The question is how can we be heard? In this case it is not necessary to march and rally in front of a corporate headquarters. The best thing to do is let our money reflect our moral standards. Buy products from companies that you know are fairly compensating their employees. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development website lists fair trade labels that we should pay attention to the next time we go shopping. When buying a product with a fair trade label, you know your money is supporting a company that has had its facilities inspected by organizations with corporate sustain-

able in mind. This means the sneakers and jeans, in your shopping bag, were not made by a child working the night shift in a hazardous factory earning less than a dollar.

Fair trade labels can be found on almost any product. I noticed one that caught my interest when facing a myriad of tea boxes in a grocery aisle. I looked up the tag and came across brands such as Speedo, Tazo Tea, and Marshalls. They, among others, are members in the fair trade movement. By pumping money into companies such as these, and shunning other uncertified fair trade companies, we can slowly make a difference in labor exploitation. Consumer boycotts work in creating positive change and it was partially responsible for making the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa successful.

A basic American tradition of splurging cash on a shopping spree can put money in the hands of people that need it. We can (with economic empowerment) help parents support their children staying in school instead of putting in shifts at a labor camp; we can change that exploited cheap labor pool into an educated one, and we can use globalization to our advantage to achieve social change that, before, was considered impossible.



google.com



## Disability Awareness Day

*Celebrating Diversity, Awareness and Empowerment for Persons with Differing Abilities*

### Wednesday, April 20th

**Understanding Students With Disabilities**  
12:00pm—1:30pm

Center for Teaching and Learning, Vodra Hall, Rm. 143  
Presentation by **Jennifer Aitken**, Director, Office of Specialized Services for Students with Disabilities and **Alissa Koval-Dhaliwal**, Psychologist, Counseling Center  
NJCU Faculty and Staff can learn more about various disabilities students present and how those disabilities impact students academically and interpersonally. Contact Center for Teaching and Learning for registration information. This workshop is open to Faculty and Staff Only.

**Stories of Courage—A Student Panel**  
5:00pm—6:30pm

Gilligan Student Union Building, Rm. 129  
NJCU Student Panelists  
Moderated by **Jennifer Aitken**, Director, Office of Specialized Services for Students with Disabilities and **Alissa Koval-Dhaliwal**, Psychologist, Counseling Center  
NJCU Students with disabilities will openly discuss their successes and challenges, along with their hopes and fears, as college students with mobile, auditory, learning, or medical disabilities. This Program is Open to All.

**Through Her Eyes: An Artist's Vision**  
7:00pm—8:30pm

Gilligan Student Union Building, Rm. 129  
Visual Artist/Painter, **Bojana Coklyat**  
Jersey City native, **Bojana Coklyat** will discuss her journey as an artist who is also legally blind. A showcase of her work will accompany her inspiring and courageous story of trials and triumphs. This Program is Open to All.

- Resource Information Table will be located in the GSUB Lobby
- Free Giveaways!
- Presentations given by Student Led Group **Project Eye-to-Eye**
- **And MUCH MORE!**

**For More Information:**

**Jennifer Aitken**  
jaitken@njcu.edu  
**Leah Jackson**  
ljackson1@njcu.edu  
Phone: (201) 200-2091



This inaugural event has been a collaboration of the Office of Specialized Services for Students with Disabilities, the Counseling Center and the Office of Campus Life.

**BUSINESS**

# The Cost of Winter Storms

By Gabriel Cortés

This winter storm season has been one for the record books. New York City, for instance, has seen around 60 inches of snow so far, that is three times its yearly average of 12 inches. Boston has suffered more than 70 inches of snowfall this year. These snowstorms have brought along a little more than frigid temperatures and school closings.

State and local governments, already affected by big deficits, are facing new fiscal pressures from unexpected high clean up costs from this stormy winter. From overtime pay and gas to rock salt and new equipment expenses are piling up on the balance sheet of local governments. New York City had spent its entire \$38.8 million snow removal budget by the end of December. Local governments will have to find ways to pay for this budget deficit by cutting spending in other areas.

Snowstorm related costs amount to more than just clean up expenses. Lost wages for hourly employees constitute a big chunk of forgone revenues that reverberate throughout the whole economy. Other indirect economic impacts caused by the snow include airport and highway closures, lost tax revenue, and millionaire losses in multiple industries. As the snow accumulates restaurants close, service stations shut down, and transportation services come to a screeching halt.

The American Highway Users Alliance recently published a report on the economic impact of



nj.com

**Jersey City residents help JC police officer stuck in snow.**

snowstorms for sixteen states in the country. The report found that the state of New Jersey lost about \$289 million per day caused by snow covered roads, while the state of New York lost \$700 million per day, the highest loss in the nation.

Other costs related to winter storms that local governments pick up are increased highway patrol officers to assist during accidents and other public safety services that are demanded during storms. Federal assistance is limited but many local governments have no choice but to seek collaboration from federal agencies like the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to pay for some of the mounting costs of the storms this winter. Jersey City applied for a \$753,000 aide from FEMA, a request that is still pending.

The Jersey Journal reported that in Jersey City the snow removal tab is at about \$2 million. The Jersey City Incinerator Authority has removed 20,000 tons of snow and



nj.com - Tony Kurdzuk

**Many cities in New Jersey have dug into their budgets to handle the unprecedented snow fall.**

used up to 10,000 tons of salt costing the agency about \$1.4 million. Even the Board of Education has spent over \$200,000 in snowstorm related expenses.

The month of March lies ahead and with it the possibility of more winter storms. Local governments have to brace themselves for the potential of more financial pain to come. And concerned citizens should plan for nasty weather, forgone wages, and service cuts from local governments.

## Do's and Don't of Credit Cards

By Gabriel Cortés

When it comes to credit cards you can never know enough. Students and young adults may find it irresistible to sign up for and over use a credit card. The consequences of those shopping sprees may haunt you in the future. So, before you grab that plastic and head for the mall, here are some basic tips on how to use your credit card and manage your debt.

**Do's** Use your credit on things you really need, not just your unlimited wants.

**Don'ts** Do not pay the minimum only. Paying only the minimum increases interest expenses.

**Do's** Tell your credit card company if you can't make a payment in advance, often they will work with you and help you.

**Don'ts** Do not buy things you can't afford. Getting in debt to satisfy your impulses is not wise.



google/images.com

**Having a credit card can build good credit but requires discipline.**

**Do's** Keep your balance down. A good credit score is based on your ability to control debt.

**Don'ts** Do not close accounts without consulting with your credit card company. Your credit score will be impacted.

**Do's** Renegotiate your interest rate from time to time, companies will lower your rate if you're in good standing and credit score.

**Don'ts** Do not charge everything to your card, charges add up very quickly.

**Do's** Use your credit card sparingly not

everyday expenses.

**Don'ts** Do not forget to pay your bill. Do not waste your money on late fees.

**Do's** Paying your balance in full is best. You can add up your credit card rewards and manage your debt responsibly.

**Don'ts** Do not sign up for the first card you are offered, shop around, get the best deal with the best rewards.

**Do's** Ask a lot of questions before you sign up for a credit card.

**Don'ts** Do not incur credit card debt to pay off other debts.

**Do's** Lower credit card limits are better, beware of increased limits and temptations to spend.

**Don'ts** Do not max out your card, just because you can, doesn't mean you should use up to your credit card limit.

**Do's** Review your monthly statements and watch out for identity theft.

**Don'ts** Do not throw away your receipts; compare them with your monthly statements.

# Free Trade, Free Markets and Free Nations

By Juan A. Florez

Trade between countries, organizations, industries and to be more precise between humans goes back to the very beginning civilization. Trade is a tool utilized with the purpose to exchange products and services between two individuals or entities. In the present, communication and technology advances have broadened the market to a new level opening a new career opportunities for the new generation of students who are ready, willing and able to take advantage them. The industries of the twenty-first century demand a new breed of professionals with a young spirit, open mind and the burning desire to

achieve success.

Globalization is the new gate, the new door; a road leading to diverse markets, cultures, and more diversified opportunities. The United States of America has gone through a metamorphosis from an autonomous industrialized leader to a country deeply dependable on foreign trade. The United States imports products, services, technology, and talented professionals.

We as students and professionals of the future will be confronted with a very competitive job market. Our competitors are talented, highly educated students with multiple college degrees and fluent in various languages from developing countries that are hungry for success. Globalization has opened

the doors of opportunity to them. But, those doors swing both ways and the jobs of the future are for grabs. Are we going to sit and watch how those positions are fulfilled with imported professionals? Or are we going to secure our future and the future of our nation?

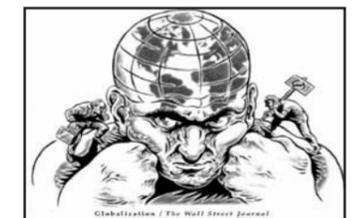
In other parts of the globe the economy is booming. Developing countries have been given a vital injection from international markets, an opportunity they have desired for generations. They often offer cheap and specialized labor forcing industrialized countries to outsource their manufacturing and other industries.

Take for example Ford and IKEA opening up in India. Wal-Mart, who is the largest importer of Chi-

nese goods in the U.S. is looking into Africa, Carrefour in South America and now even Sears is considering following their steps. These big box retailers are not just looking to move their manufacturing operations they also seek to penetrate and expand into new markets, targeting a newborn middle class hatched in developing countries.

These developing economies are surging with double digit growth. The American economy is not the only cool kid on the block anymore. More and more investors are being allured by better opportunities overseas. How can America remain on top?

Globalization and free trade with a little bit of sense, transparency;



Source: Wall Street Journal

**Students need to begin to understand the globalized market in order to thrive in it.**

honesty could be the way to a free world. A world where sharing and relaying on each other is the norm and helping one another to succeed the goal. We must leave no room for greed, open our doors to solidarity and make the best of globalization, and more importantly be ready as students to undertake the shifting waves of the future.

# Interviewing Etiquette

*Prepared, Confident, Professional*

By Gabriel Cortés

As the economy recovers many students are eager to return to the labor market. A crucial factor of getting a job is the way we interview and the impressions we make on our potential employers. An interviewer has only a few moments to assess our abilities and our appearance, manners, and behaviors that influence greatly the hiring decision. Whether we are applying for a cashier job, a waitressing position, an internship, or an office job, there is a certain interviewing etiquette, a code of ethics that we must pay attention to. In order to get the job we want, we must learn the rules of interviewing, from wearing the right clothes to behaving professionally at all times.

**Arrive early.** The added stress of running late will not help you in your interview and your interviewer will be extremely annoyed that you made him wait; after all you are the one that needs the job. Being on time is a good sign of your professionalism, dependability, and commitment to the job. Plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early. It's your first chance to leave a good impression.

**Behave professionally while you wait.** When you are waiting to be called in for the interview, remember that people may be watching you. Act professionally, leave your iPod in the car, do not chew gum, and keep a straight posture. Keeping a calm posture will help you organize your thoughts and face the interview with serenity and collectedness.

**Practice your handshake.** Make sure your hands are not sweaty. A firm handshake shows professionalism, character, and confidence. Don't forget to smile while shaking the interviewer's hand.

**Be prepared.** Always have your resume and other materials at hand. And be ready to answer all the questions that may arise. You don't want to look shaky and hesitant.

**Do not sit before you are asked to.** Introduce yourself clearly before heading for the chair. Wait until they ask you to sit, it is considered rude if you don't.

**Do not yell, do not whisper.** Talk with confidence and maintain a constant voice level. Avoid yelling since it's rude. Avoid whispering since it portrays a

lack of confidence.

**Avoid negative body language.** An interview can be very stressful, but employers want to know how well you can manage uncomfortable situations. They want to know how you perform under pressure. Some signs of nervousness and things to avoid include: touching your mouth or hair, forced smiles, biting your lip, slouching, avoiding eye contact, moving or rocking your chair, and looking puzzled or confused by the questions.

**Maintain eye contact.** Always make firm eye contact with your interviewer when talking and answering questions. If a difficult question is presented reflect for a second and respond with confidence.

**Use positive language.** Be positive even if you have to speak about a past employer that you may have disliked. Use positive language and have an optimistic attitude.

**Do not talk too much, or too little.** Answer your interviewer's questions with accurate and concise responses. Talking too much about yourself will not help you and most likely annoy your interviewer, talking too little will show a lack of interest from your part. Show initiative and portray the individual benefits and experiences you would bring to the company.

**Ask questions.** Asking the appropriate questions at the right time will show that you really are interested in the job. It will also help you assess whether or not this is the job you are really looking for. Don't ask inappropriate questions. Asking for vacation time or pay increases may send the wrong signal.

**Be natural.** Be yourself. Interviewers know when people are lying or trying too hard. Don't forget to be courteous and polite. Say goodbye in a professional manner, thank your interviewer for the opportunity and shake his hand firmly.

**Send a "Thank You" note.** After the interview, be sure to send a hand written thank you note to your interviewer. Thank him for his time and the opportunity given to you. A simple thank you goes a long way.

Now you know the rules. Go out there and get that job that you want.

ARTS

# Art and Design 'Create-a-thon'

By Joseph Rivera

The Art and Design Association (ADA) is a student-run organization at New Jersey City University. They organize and create events to help open a community for students and artists to socialize and share techniques and ideas.

"This is an organization in which [art majors] from various specializations can come together to be exactly what they are: artists," describes their Facebook page.

Their goal is to strengthen the NJCU art community and establish relationships and networks to a larger community. They have held many interesting events such as Laser Graffiti, art shows and Photoshop Tutorials. Their next event is the "Create-a-thon" which will be held on Thursday, March 17 in the Art Building in room 221. "Create-a-thon" is an event that fosters a social and creative environment for artists to create new work. There will be artwork in various media, including, drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, and graphic design. ADA e-board members will also be contributing to this event. Former treasurer of ADA, Cristine Posner, 23, Photography Major of Brick, NJ will be showing some of her current pieces based on the BP Oil Spill.

"This event will be a chance for young artists and students to socialize. And hopefully we can attract new members." explains president of ADA, Jared Reyes, 21, Illustration Major of Bayonne.

All artists are welcome so feel free to bring in your work to share with fellow artists who share your passion for creativity. For more information, visit the ADA Facebook page: "Art and Design Association."

Photos from ADA's Facebook page



# Jersey City Art House Productions

By Abdoulaye Camara

New Jersey is known for a lot of things such as the Jersey Shore, the home of Snooki and The Situation. New Jersey is entertaining and historical as well as artistic. When most people think of art and museums they do not think of New Jersey; but, if one knows where to look it's surprising how much Jersey City thrives as an art community.

Art House Productions is a Jersey City-based nonprofit arts organization. It inspires budding artists to open up their petals and show the world their bright colors. It nurtures and promotes the arts in our community through accessible, multi-disciplinary initiatives. The organization provides educational programs so that the youth of today can become the artistic icons of tomorrow.

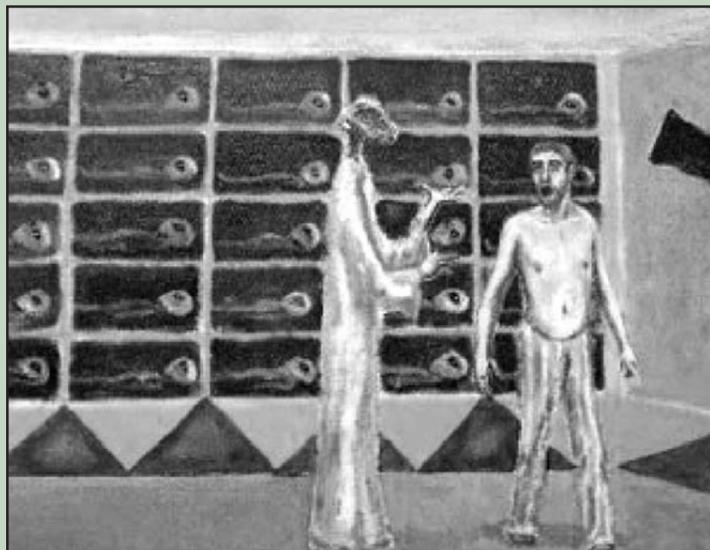
*It inspires budding artists to open up their petals and show the world their bright colors.*

Through their exciting events and programs, Art House Productions allows artists to interact with the community through collaboration, open forums, and volunteer opportunities. The organization promotes diversity and encourages the exchange of cultural ideas.

Art House Productions' most popular event is JC Fridays, a quarterly event held four times a year at the start of every season: March, June, September, December. Here is a list of some of the events that will be featured on Friday, March 4.

The next JC Fridays will be held on Friday, June 3, 2011.

For a full list of this month's events and more information, please visit: [www.art-houseproductions.org](http://www.art-houseproductions.org).



jcfridays.com

**6pm-9 pm, BALANCE SALON/18 ERIE GALLERY** presents "UFO Abductee Experience Exhibition w/David Huggins." View artwork created by David Huggins, depicting his true alien abduction experience.

Discuss, share, ponder and enjoy!  
18 Erie St (at 1st St), 201-369-7000



jcfridays.com

**4pm-8 pm, BONE BOUTIQUE** presents "Oloyu Miya: Spiritual Artwork," spiritual paintings and carvings that have been influenced by Ancient beliefs and African Culture.  
437 Jersey Ave (at Bright St), 201-333-0800



jcfridays.com

**12pm-3 am, BOCA GRANDE** presents "Communal Art Show," art by Jersey City's own Ruler and friends. An art piece will be created live by Ruler then continued by each artist in the show.  
564 Washington Blvd (at 14th St), 201-626-6646



jcfridays.com

**4:30pm-7:30 pm, NJCU GALLERIES** presents a Closing Reception for "Flesh Art," a multimedia exhibition exploring varied meaning and implications of flesh through painting, sculpture, photography, installation, and video.  
Visual Arts Gallery, 100 Culver Ave (at Towers St), 201-200-2496



jcfridays.com

**7pm-9 pm, DOWNTOWN LIVE** presents a Martial Arts Demonstration. Our new weekly program Tang Soo Do Academy, taught by master Rich Ahlers, will wow you with the Movements of Traditional Korean Martial Arts.  
143 C. Columbus Dr (at Barrow St) 201-344-2888.

# LIFESTYLE

## Does the NJCU Community support having Friends-with-Benefits?

By Ally

In a poll of 25 people from the NJCU community, 21 admitted support for friends with benefits. Some participants said they were better than having a committed relationship. Friends with benefits are people who act as couples and sometimes engage in sexual activities, but have no romantic ties. So what are the perks to having a friend with benefit? Sex.

“[Friends with benefits is] good, if the two parties have a mutual agreement. The “agreement” is a deal to keep it casual and not catch feelings for one another, so things don’t get too sticky and no one gets hurt,” said Carolyn McGrath, 21, Education major.

So, how can this possibly backfire? Most people fail to understand about friends with benefits is that emotions get involved. Even though having a friend with benefits can feel liberating because of the lack of romantic commitment, the other person might not feel the same. Those who notice a clingy pattern in their own personal relationships should not seek this type of friendship simply because they will develop feelings.

“Psychologically we all want a companionship and feelings will come into play,” said Robert Brennan, 25, His-

tory major, “it’ll ruin whatever friendship there was or wasn’t in the first place.”

This problem can arise either early and during in the “relationship.” Some people go along with what their partner wants because they feel uncomfortable or embarrassed to admit their true feelings and others might seem to have a mutual agreement but with enough time start to



Photo by killerfilm.com

### Friends-with-benefits

feel something more.

On a lighter note, some do not consider friends with benefits all sex, but the sex as just a bonus.

“Friends with benefits [are a] great help, to know you have someone to comfort you in ways your other friends can’t,” said Kenneth Barry, 20, Music Education major.

Some participants of the poll feel that relationships can bloom from having a friend with benefits.

“A lot of people find their boyfriend or girlfriend though that [sex without commitment],” said Fernando Cunha, 21, Finance major.



Photo by urbanmediakings.com

## NJCU Model Casting & Show

By Aida Toro

New Jersey City University’s Fashion Organization hosted their model casting calls for the upcoming fashion show called “Unorthodox: An Ode to Them.” The show will be held in the Margaret William’s Theatre in Hepburn Hall on April 21, 2011. Tickets for the show will begin to sell in March and are to be picked up in the Gilligan Student Union Building room 111.

It is hosted every year and its purpose is to donate money to charity funds and to NJCU students that are in need.

“Last year we donated to Pras from the Fugees, which is called the “PrAsperity Project [non-profit organization], and to an NJCU student that suffered a tragic loss in his family,” said Wanda Brun Treasurer/Co-Founder, 22, Sociology Major of Union.

In order to put on a good show, the Fashion Org needs models for the NJCU Spring Fashion Show that meet some requirements. The fash-

ion show is known for the models to be tall and slender, because size does not matter.

“[Models for the fashion show]... do not have to be experienced. However, if some of the models are not experienced, the Fashion Organization is willing to help them,” said Tiffany Salas Founder of NJCU Fashion Org., 21, Business Administration of Irvington.

Also, models are required to wear high heels because a runway shows consist of high-fashion collections.

“they [models for the fashion show] must learn how to walk in heels, it is a requirement,” said Salas.

Some of the young ladies model as a hobby, but some do it for the passion and the talent they have for it.

“A goal that we try to reach is that we spotlight up and coming talent,” said Salas.

The Fashion Org. invites a guest star and important members from the freelance industry to view the models and their talents. Not only does the organization invite freelance industries but a guest star as well.



Photo by powerhouselounge.com

### Powerhouse Lounge

## Powerhouse Lounge

By Stephanie Del Valle

We’re halfway into the semester and some of us are already overwhelmed with homework and studying. Sometimes, the best way to focus is to clear your mind. Spending time with friends, eating good food and having good drinks might be the best way to unwind. In Jersey City, Powerhouse Lounge’s great atmosphere, decadent meals and tasty drinks offers that chance.

Located in the Arts District of Jersey City, Powerhouse Lounge is the best place to go after a long day’s work. The atmosphere is calm with dim fluorescent bulbs and the brightest light comes from the back of the bar, which lights the entire venue of

aqua blue from the shine of the waterfall. You can lounge around the couches, sipping a martini and eating their delicious chicken skewers.

The venue replaced the former comedy club, Rascals, and opened in early fall 2010. Jeff Favia, consulting manager for Powerhouse Lounge, was concerned with bringing a more upbeat, casual and affordable bar into Jersey City. Customers can sit on couches and eat on coffee tables, the bar, or on the high seats accompanied by the small tables decorated with the dim candlelight. The bar offers appetizer size goods, including chicken skewers drizzled with honey mustard or buffalo sauce. The restaurant is building up a reputation for its sushi, which has gotten numerous good reviews.

**Powerhouse Lounge**  
360 Marin Boulevard  
Jersey City  
201.918.5125

**Hours are:**  
Tuesday-Thursday 4pm-2am  
Friday 4pm-3am  
Saturday 2pm-3am  
Sunday 2pm-2am

The servers have very stealth-like black outfits, walking around taking customer’s orders not with a pad and paper, but with a technical gadget that resembles a palm pilot. That’s something you don’t see every day. Their service is very attentive and friendly. If you’ve had one too many drinks you don’t even have to worry about a ride, because the bar offers free shuttle service.

This is a great place to get away from all the chaos that life can bring. Come and spend some time with friends, have a few drinks and munch on some appetizers. Nothing seems better than that.



Photo by Sephora.com

### Kat VonD Tattoo Coverage

## Think before you Ink

By Angela Giddings

The word tattoo comes from the Polynesian word ‘ta’ which means striking something and the Tahitian word ‘tatau’ which means to mark something. Currently, tattoos have a stigma attached to them and are associated with pirates, criminals and circus members. Despite their growing acceptance in society, many employers frown upon them.

If you have been inked, there are several cover-up and removal options depending on the placement and size of your tattoo. Some methods of removal are laser, dermabrasion, cryosurgery and tissue expansion. These methods cost about a few hundred dollars and might leave ugly scars. On the other hand, cover-up options are more affordable and you can still keep

your “body art.” Some cover-up options include airbrush and cosmetics.

One popular cover-up option is under the Kat Von D Make-up line. This option can cost at least \$90 and can be purchased exclusively at Sephora.

Apply the products in the order listed to the area you would like to cover. Allow the concealer five minutes to dry before applying the translucent powder. For best results, consult a Sephora color specialist.

Tattoo-cover-up and/or removal isn’t always necessary in some industries such as auto repair and bar tending, music and film industries.

If you haven’t gotten a tattoo yet, think before you ink.

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

[www.designboom.com/history/tattoo\\_history.htm](http://www.designboom.com/history/tattoo_history.htm)

### What you will need to cover your tattoo is the following:

Kat Von D Tattoo Eraser — \$14

Kat Von D Tattoo Concealer Brush — \$19 (optional)

Kat Von D Tattoo Concealer — \$25

Translucent Powder — Varies

Kat Von D Lock + Load Makeup Setting — \$24

# LIFESTYLE

## FOOD ON CAMPUS

### Where Is My Halal Food?

By Haneen Salem

The New Jersey City University cafeteria does not cater to Muslims who have a religious obligation to eat halal food. There are many cultural foods ranging from Italian to Spanish dishes that are served, but the one important choice the cafeteria does not have is for people with religious restrictions.

“NJCU is very diverse and full of multiple religions. It is not fair to serve one group of people and force all others to adjust,” Rita Rosario, 19, Psychology, Hoboken.

In particular, Islam and Judaism dictate a need for food restrictions. Specifically, for Muslims Halal food is embedded into ones culture and upbringing and for Jewish individuals kosher not only pertains to food but is considered a way of life.

*What is Halal food?*

In Arabic the word halal means lawful or permitted. A Muslim has a set of rules or standards to live by and one of those is that they must follow certain dietary guidelines (Halal foods). All foods are considered to be halal except particular substances specified in the Qur’an. For example, Muslims believe that pork is harmful to their health because it is unsanitary.

Muslims can only eat meat from animals that were living when slaughtered to ensure that there is no blood in the meat when it is eaten. Animals must be freshly killed in a humanitarian way in order to be considered halal.

“Halal food plays a big role in or religion. Our university is bent on educating students about all individual religions, backgrounds, and culture. I do not understand why the cafeteria finds it difficult to be open towards all different eating

habits and choices,” Maysa Abdelrazeq, 19, Political Science of Cliffside Park.

The fact that NJCU does not serve halal food can be construed as an insult to the Muslim student body because there is a substantial number of Muslims who attend NJCU and are proud of the diversity and acceptance it offers. Leaving students without a viable option when they want a bite to eat is not acceptable.

Halal meat is more expensive than non-



Google Images

## Pupusas: A Zesty Taste from Central America

By Stephanie Del Valle

Spring is right around the corner, which calls for the perfect time to find an excuse to spend some time outside. A great way to enjoy the weather is to visit a restaurant and enjoy their scrumptious food on the patio underneath the vibrant sun. A dish that will invoke the feeling of spring and summer and fill your stomach with the delicious culture of the Central American is *Pupusas*.

*Pupusas* is a common Salvadoran dish made out of corn tortilla, stuffed with either cheese, cooked pork, or both. Originally known as *Pupisio*, it originated from the Pupil tribes that held their territory in El Salvador.

*Pupusas* did not become widespread until about the 1960’s when the population began to migrate and neighboring countries such as Honduras and Guatemala started becoming familiar with the dish.

Throughout the 1980’s, the Salvadoran civil war forced migration into other countries such as the United States and Salvadoran communities began to form within Florida, New York, New Jersey, and to this day we can still find *pupuserias* nearby that serve the historical cuisine.

*Pupusas* are served with *curtido*, which is a slightly spicy cabbage based with vinegar, alongside with tomato sauce. A restaurant that gives the full feel of Central American culture is La Pupusa Loca in West New York. Surrounded with Central American flag, vibrant Spanish music, and neon lights the restaurant is nostalgic of Central America. It is located at 5910 Bergenline Ave. Come and enjoy this delicious finger food, which can also be enjoyed as a full meal. Ordering a plate of four will keep your belly happy, and with its significantly reasonable price, \$1.50-\$2.00 each, how can you go wrong?



Google Images

mal meat because its specifications and demand are high. The benefits of halal food are numerous health wise because it is cleaner and less likely to have risks. By adding halal foods to the cafeteria menu more Muslim students will be able to eat in the cafeteria as opposed to packing lunch or eating at home. As a whole, it gives NJCU the satisfaction of being culturally driven and show religious acceptability.

It is sad that halal food is not included in a lot of seemingly diverse cities. When a person goes to the food court at the mall they don’t see a food stand advertising halal foods. Are the 1.8 billion Muslims in America supposed to refrain from eating in every public place they attend because the food industry does not include Muslims? The American Fast food chains don’t offer anything even remotely Halal on their menu. America prides itself on the different cultures, but they don’t take other cultures into consideration. I guess this melting pot doesn’t allow halal ingredients.

## Iota Sweethearts

By Angela Giddings

Iota Phi Theta started in 1963 at Morgan State University. The fraternity was founded by twelve non-traditional male students who saw a need for an organization that would build a brotherhood among men who shared different responsibilities than their younger schoolmates. In addition to being students these men were full time workers, parents, etc.

New Jersey City University has a chapter of Iota Phi Theta and a sister group known as the Iota Sweethearts on campus.

The Sweethearts began in the 1960’s and the first sweetheart was Audrey Brooks, a staff member at Morgan State University.

To get a closer look at the Iota Sweethearts, I had the opportunity to sit with Iota Sweetheart, Kenza Hutchines, second education/history major.

*Q. Are the Sweethearts a sorority or a branch of the Iota fraternity?*

A. We are an auxiliary within the fraternity.

*Q. Why did you decide to become a Sweetheart?*

A. I decided to become an Iota Sweetheart because I’ve grown up around Iota in my family, so when I got to

college it was natural; they were the only org that interested me.

*Q. What is your position as a Sweetheart?*

A. I am the Epsilon Chapter Sweetheart President.

*Q. What do you look forward to as a Sweetheart?*

A. I look forward to the community service, being around the Sweethearts from other campuses and regional and national events.

*Q. What are the misconceptions about sweethearts? And about sororities?*

A. The biggest misconception about us is that we are groupies. We work hard for the business of Iota. We are to be LADIES at all times. People automatically assume that because we are part of a fraternal organization, we are being groupies, when it is far from the truth.

*Q. How large is the organization?*

A. We have chapters all over the U.S. and even in Korea.

*Q. What are the responsibilities of a Sweetheart?*

A. Our responsibilities are to team up with the brothers and plan events for



Photo by Kenza Hutchines

**Kenza Hutchines**

the chapter, and do community service projects off campus.

*Q. What events and activities do Sweethearts do on campus? Off campus?*

A. On campus, we work with the brothers of the chapter to plan events. Off campus we work on community service projects like the Breast cancer, AIDS, and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation walks, soup kitchens, and mentoring young women.

*Q. What sets you apart from other organizations such as the Deltas or AKA’s?*

A. We are different from Deltas and AKA’s because we are auxiliary and not a sorority and we do not step.

## SGO

Continued from page 1

Facebook page for students to join. We’re also sending a video of the event to the White House.”

*Q: Has the administration helped with the event?*

A: “The school basically made an advertisement for anyone that would like to come; the Jersey Journal came and did a story on us. The school also helped with advertising and the event cost less \$1,000. The only thing we really had to pay for was paperwork and food and other little things. They also helped with the planning process and setup the Facebook page.

*Q: How much time has been spent preparing this event?*

A: “About almost five months. Now that I think about it time went by so quick. Five months preparing for event. We were really dedicated to it.”

*Q: How hopeful is the SGO in getting Michelle Obama to come?*

A: “We always have hope but, realistically speaking her schedule is busy or she may be booked for another university. The greater meaning was that SGO and the community came together to make someone pay attention to us.”



Become a friend of *The Gothic Times* by visiting our Facebook page

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ENTERTAINMENT

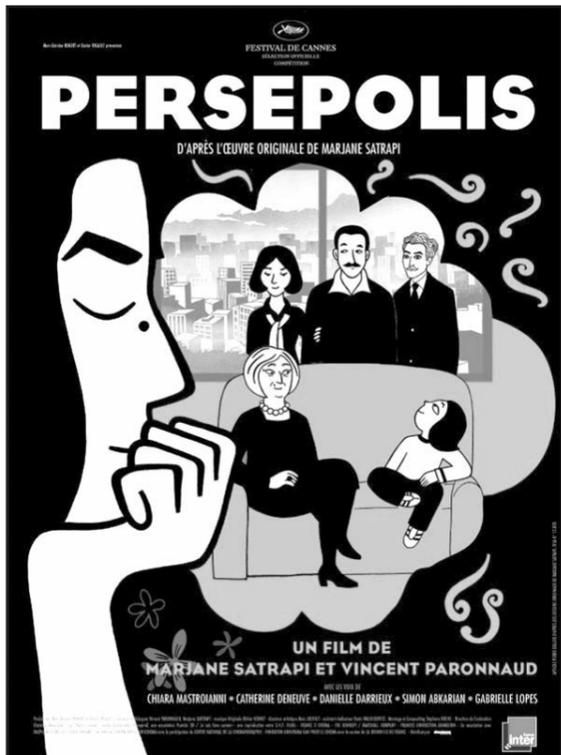
Film Screenings for

By Jose E. Ortiz



National Women's History Month

Throughout history women across the world have fought many battles to gain their rights. Although they have accomplished many victories, the fight for equality continues. This March, there will be a series of events held in recognition of Women's History Month. As part of these events, there are three films which will be screened and discussed: *Persepolis*, *Transamerica* and *Freeheld: the Laurel Hester Story*.



Persepolis:

Based on the bestselling autobiographical graphic novel written by Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis* tells the story of a young girl growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution. Like the graphic novel, the film is told through animation rather than live actors. The film is done in French, but there is an English version with different voice talents compared to the original.

What is special about this particular film is the way the story is told. Rather than live actors, we get graphic art as if it were a comic strip. This adds creativity to both artist and audience and it leaves more freedom to explore the main character's world.

Compared to the other films being screened, this one does more than just tell a story. It invites you to a visit a new fan-

tasy world where things are clearer and more understandable than the real world we live in today. What makes this film unique is its ability to take a gloomy subject and turn it into comedy. There are many scenes that seem dark and depressing, yet as one keeps watching, one can't help but laugh.

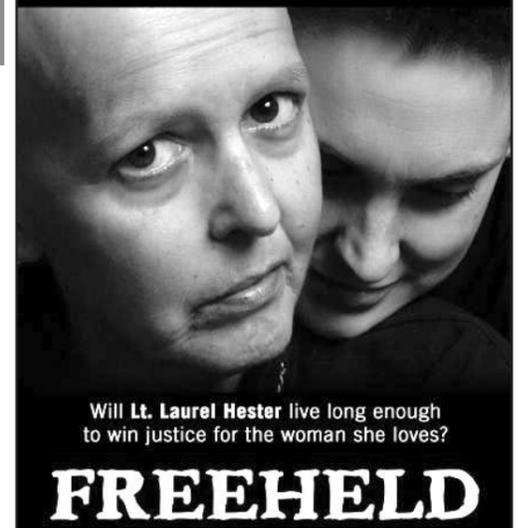
“For Women's History Month [Persepolis] is a very instructive film” says Dr.

Liza Fiol-Matta from the Women's and Gender Studies Department. “On one hand, it's produced by a woman, the animation is by a woman, and for the most part, graphic novels have been sort of the territory of men. So here she is as a woman doing this. But for Women's History Month, it's very important because it tells us the story of a girl growing up.”

**Persepolis** film screening will be held on Tuesday, March 15 in the Gilligan Student Building room 129.

Liza Fiol-Matta from the Women's and Gender Studies Department. “On one hand, it's produced by a woman, the animation is by a woman, and for the most part, graphic novels have been sort of the territory of men. So here she is as a woman doing this. But for Women's History Month, it's very important because it tells us the story of a girl growing up.”

Freeheld: The Laurel Hester Story



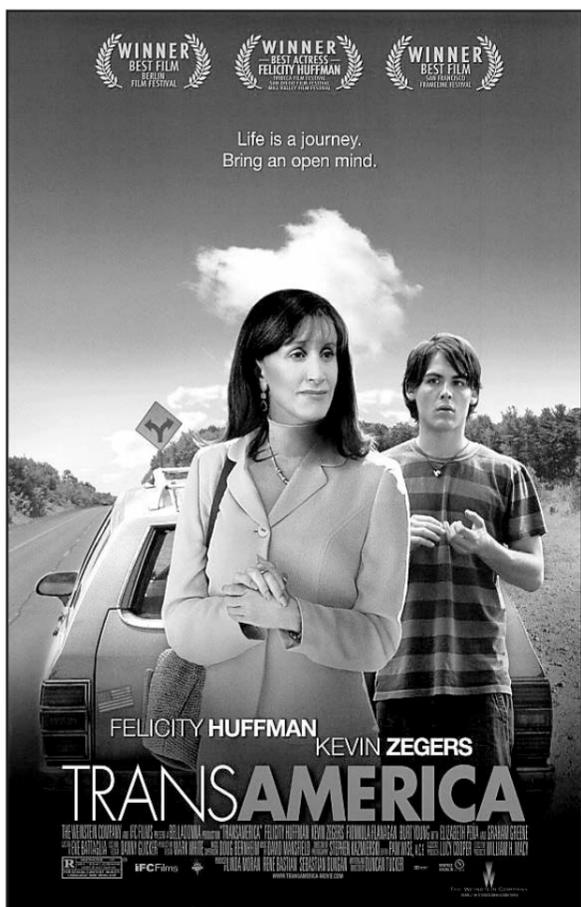
**Freeheld: The Laurel Hester Story** screening for this 'movie will be held on Wednesday, March 30 at the Gilligan Student Union Building room 129

Directed by Cynthia Wade, *Freeheld* tells us the story of Detective Laurel Hester and her fight against the Freeholders of Ocean County, New Jersey for her right to transfer her earned pension to her domestic partner, Stacie Andree. Also, to make matters worse, she has been diagnosed with a terminal lung cancer and has six months to gain her rights.

It is a changing world. Over the course of history, Americans have been gaining freedoms day after day and when things start to get better, there is always one more problem in need of mending. *Freeheld* is a documentary that tells us the story of Laurel Hester, who has spent most of her life protecting and serving the citizens of Ocean County. And when it was time for her to gain her rights, she was denied.

This documentary helps expose a world still filled with inequality and discrimination. It also shows us how far one person is willing to go to gain his/her rights, which helps inspire others to do the same, no matter the cost. This is one movie everyone should see.

“This is a lesbian couple trying to live together and support each other and this is a big part of the history of what women's lives in New Jersey” said Dr. Tracey Riley from the Women's and Gender Studies Department. “It ends up having a big impact on the fight for marriage equality for women and same sex couples in New Jersey.”



Transamerica:

Written and directed by Duncan Tucker (also the director of *Boys to Men*), *Transamerica* is the story of a male-to-female transsexual named Bree, who learns she is the father of a seventeen year old hustler named Toby. Together, they travel across the country, from New York to Los Angeles and begin to form a bond as well as learn about one another.

What is interesting about this particular film is the way the story is told in relation to the title “Transamerica.” Yes, the story is about a male-to-female transsexual and her journey in becoming a woman, but the story tells more than just “this is a transsexual” rather “this is Bree.” The film may be called “Transamerica” but it isn't about a man becoming a woman. This movie is the story of a woman and her life.

Felicity Huffman does a tremendous job of portraying Bree. She does the film justice to the role and to the story. One look at her, and you could never tell that her character was ever a man, which adds to the illusion her character creates around Toby. She also gives a convincing portrayal of a male-to-female transsexual. Then there is also the performance of Kevin Zegers, who portrays Bree's son, Toby. Toby's character is complex and hard to relate to. Zegers portrayal of the character makes it easier for the audience to get a good look at what he is: an arrogant, abused young man, who is trying to survive on his own. Putting these two characters together and you get a comic adventure.

“In relation to Women's History Month, one of the issues

it raises is parenthood,” said Dr. Ellen Garvey from the English Department who is co-directing the screening event. “Bree has been the one thing women cannot be: a father. Not in a social sense but in a biological sense. So what happens during the course of the film is, does she accept ‘fatherhood’ or does she accept ‘parenthood’?”

**Transamerica** film screening event will begin on Wednesday, March 16 at the Gilligan Student Union Building room 129.

“Transamerica is an interesting selection that I had brought up,” said Renata Moreira from Campus Life, who will also be co-directing the event, “because we are expanding the notions of gender. What does it mean to be a man for that matter? And where do Trans-people fall in those categories? The reason I want to bring in *Transamerica* is because last year we brought up the *Trans-Monologues*.”

According to Moreira, the *Trans-monologues* is based off the *Vagina Monologues* that was developed by Eve Anzler, a playwright and a journalist, who wrote a series of monologues based off women's experience with sex, abuse, love, and more.

“Over the past five years I have been producing *Vagina Monologues*. We brought it here to NJCU in 2006 and it was well received. After we did the monologues, I got in touch with a group of trans-girls who work at the Hudson Pride Connection Center and who created their own *Vagina Monologues*.”

This is one event not to miss.

## WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

## Seeks a Fresh Start

By Kelsey O'Donnell

Going into her 8th season as head coach of the NJCU women's softball team, Bridgette Quimpo is looking forward to a fresh start.

Last season the team had a home record of 3-9 and an NJAC record of 1-17.

"The problems last season, it was more lack of experience," said Quimpo.

The 2010 roster had four Freshmen, one Sophomore, five Juniors, and just one Senior. This season the roster will have four Seniors and two Juniors with more experience, including Junior transfer pitcher Jess Mucerino.

Last year, third baseman, Rebecca Satz was the star of the squad. Satz was named the NJAC Rookie of the Year (first in NJCU history), two time rookie hitter of the week, and was the only Freshman in all of the NJAC in 2010 to make the 1st team all NJAC at third base. Satz batted .394 and had a slugging percentage of .528 in 2010. She also had a fielding percentage of .964 playing the hot corner.

Satz has, however, hit a bump in the road coming into the 2011 season. Over the summer she had to have shoulder surgery. Coach Quimpo said the injury is due to, "years of throwing the wrong way. It was very abrupt."

Quimpo recognizes the challenges that Satz will have to face this season. "The true challenge is more mental than physical," says Quimpo. "She puts more pressure on herself. Her true challenge is Rebecca Satz going against Rebecca Satz."

Aside from Satz, there are a handful of other players to keep an eye out for. Freshmen Marissa Bariso and Casey Perez are looking to bring a lot to the field.

"[Bariso] is very strong. [Perez] is lightning fast. She has a lot of speed to steal bases. She'll also be very good with the bunt and run," said Quimpo.

The pitching staff in 2010 struggled with a 6.02 ERA, but Coach Quimpo working on "movement of pitches." When asked about Sophomore pitcher Ashley O'Beirne, Coach Quimpo was optimistic that she will improve.

"She didn't understand the competition until she experienced it," said Quimpo. "Now she knows what to expect from herself."

Coach Quimpo knows the goal to set with her girls and that is to win games.

"This is the toughest and most demanding conference in the country. Any game is a shocker," said Quimpo. "We want to surprise some teams. We've beaten Montclair, Stockton, and William Patterson and want to continue that with these girls. We're going to win the right way. This is a disciplined and good group of girls."

"I can promise you that we can win in the future," said Quimpo.

## SPORTS

## NJCU Men's Volleyball Fighting to Qualify

By Alex Johanesen

New Jersey City University's men's volleyball team is currently 7-8 overall and 2-7 in the North East Collegiate Volleyball Association (NECVA). They began their season on January 19, 2011 against Ramapo College at the John J. Moore Athletic and Fitness Center. After losing a few starters from the 2010 season, they are at a disadvantage.

With the season in progress, Head Coach Carlo Edra (2008-2011), 27 of Montclair, has full confidence in his team.

"We are playing with a lot of last year's lineup not [being] here. But they [the players] are willing to step up and make this season as successful as possible," said Coach Edra.

Sophomore outside hitter Kenny Lisk, 20, Chemistry major

from Old Bridge, was asked to play middle hitter in the first three games of the season; until teammate Corrado DeVincenzo, 21, Psychology major, of Bayonne, joined the roster for his first game in 2011 against Brooklyn College on February 3.

"At the beginning of the season we lacked depth at the middle position so moving me there was the best choice. I just had to step up to help my team. By playing middle the first couple matches, it helped with my timing and seeing the block. Now that I'm back on the outside I have more confidence in my swing," said Lisk.

With above a .400 hitting percentage, Lisk has been a valuable asset to the Gothic Knights. Also, the three captains have displayed leadership qualities to push the team to overcome the team's shortcomings.

"I try to be optimistic on the court when we're playing and I try to keep people in an uplifting and calm mood," believes sophomore outside hitter and captain Michal Kucza, a 19 year old Math major from Bayonne.

The head coach's younger brother is Chris Edra, 21, Criminal Justice major from Edison. His position is libero, the designated defensive specialist. He leads by example and anchors the Gothic Knights backline. Edra hopes to break the career digs record of 1,134, with only 133 digs left to reach this goal in his final season.

"I'm confident in my abilities. I'm not trying to think about the record. I'm just trying to concentrate on winning as a team. The record would just be a bonus," said Edra.

Captain Jorge Rodriguez, 23, a Fire Science major from Union

City, will be finishing his career alongside Edra.

"It's fun. I feel like the new kids look up to me. I'll miss playing and my teammates when it's over," said senior setter, Rodrigo.

Those players that look up to him include the starting opposite hitter, freshman Rich Boyle, an 18 year old Bayonne native who is currently undeclared.

"I have to play at a higher level than I was used to and have to try my best to keep up," said Boyle.

He has the third highest amount of kills per set (2.47) and blocks (12) on the team.

Coach Edra has no doubts in Boyle or the rest of the team.

"We've qualified for the post-season two seasons in a row and are looking to do the same again this time around," said Coach Edra.

## 2011 MEN'S BASEBALL PREVIEW

By Edgar Rivas, Jr.

**2010 Record:** 13-24**Home Field:** Thomas M. Gerrity Athletic Complex**First home game:** March 16, 2010 vs. Alvernia University

With a losing record of 13-14, 2010 was a tough season for the Gothic Knights' Men's Baseball season. Head coach Jonathan Thomas, however, can't wait to hit this field this year.

"What I enjoy is getting to the field or wherever we practice or play at and the anticipation of a game," said Thomas. "When you get ready for a game and if you don't feel that little knot in your stomach then there's something wrong."

Thomas is no stranger to NJCU baseball. He played four years from 2001-2004 catcher, designated hitter, and left fielder for the Gothic Knights before becoming the 10th coach in school history on May 6, 2009.

After playing for NJCU Thomas signed a professional free agent minor league contract with the

Kansas City Royals, the first NJCU player to do so since 1984. He played five seasons professionally from 2004-2009. He played with the Newark Bears (2005-2006), two seasons in the Frontier League with the Traverse City Beach Bums and the Chillicothe Paints (2007-2008), and the Yuma Scorpions of the Arizona Winter League (2009).

In 2008 Thomas was the assistant coach/hitting instructor for the Gothic Knights. The transition from player to assistant coach and then to head coach was a little tough.

"It's just a transition mentally. Instead of being out there myself and knowing what I have to do, I'm responsible for every player, getting myself prepared every single day to get the best out of these student-athletes," said Thomas, "I'm enjoying it though."

As a recent graduate Thomas can relate with his players. His passion for the game rubs off on his team and can help the players match his intensity.

"He's very motivated and at

practice he's very intense. He just loves the game of baseball," said pitcher Jeff Karczewski.

Another former NJCU baseball player (1993-1995) and current assistant coach Charlie Auletto said it's an honor to be Coach Thomas' assistant. "He knows baseball. He knows the game very well," said Auletto.

The key games to look out for this year are all of them. From five games vs. Top-25 teams to games vs. in-and-out of conference teams, every game counts.

"We have our work cut out for," said Thomas.

Team chemistry plays a key role for this season. "We're more of a team this year," said catcher Francisco Ramirez. "This year is going to be difficult."

The leaders will have to lead the team to their potential. "I feel if we can do that, we can win and go to the playoffs," said center fielder Ken Witte.

**Players to watch**

**Ken Witte, CF:** 2010 stats: .393 Avg., 59 H, 43 R, 13 2b, 3 3b, 4 HR, 32 RBI, .602 Slg%, .468

Ob%

He had a career year last year coming off a broken finger the year before. He's an all-conference type of player.

"We haven't been in the playoffs in a while. I'm just looking to win," said Witte.

**Francisco Ramirez, C:** 2010 stats: .381 Avg., 45 H, 17 R, 14 2b, 4 HR, 32 RBI, .602 Slg%, .468 Ob%

A last season transfer who started at Rutgers-New Brunswick then to Montclair before NJCU, he set the record for doubles in a game with four vs. The College of Staten Island.

"I'm looking forward to success this season--go to Florida and have a couple of wins and have a good season. We're looking for success," said Ramirez.

**Jeff Karczewski, P:** 2010 stats: 4-2 W-L, 52.1 IP, 28 SO

The ace, the workhorse. If he goes, they go. Last season he had all of the conference wins.

"I'm basically ready to get the season underway. We've been working hard," said Karczewski.

## SPORTS

# Remembering a Thunder: The Fighter's Spirit of Arturo Gatti

By Alberto Arias

Arturo "Thunder" Gatti was once the most compelling boxer the world had ever seen. He is best characterized as a modern day Rocky Balboa with his no surrender and a dramatic appeal. Shortly after his retirement, boxing lost its true warrior when he tragically lost his life in a suspected suicide in Porto de Galinhas, Brazil. He was only thirty seven years of age.

A Jersey City native, Gatti was a true throwback fighter to the golden era of boxing. He galvanized crowds with his ferocious brawling style and untamed heart of a lion. His punch and get punched style gave audiences heart wrenching minutes of hellacious boxing.

He did not possess the skills of Cassius Clay's nifty foot work, the blinding hand speed of "Sugar" Ray Leonard, nor did he have the crafty defensive skills of Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker. He was a just a fighter with a rare inner strength that the boxing world admired.

Gatti was born in Italy on April 15, 1972, but raised in Montreal. After his father's death at the age of 15 Gatti dedicated his father's memory through boxing. He fought his way to six Canadian Golden glove titles but did not want to compete in the Olympics and shortly after turned pro at age 19.

When he moved to Jersey City he garnished his toughness and developed his bones as a boxer. Jersey City being a tough and blue collar city symbolized his tenacity and never-quit attitude.

Gatti's thunderous power gave him a record of 16-1 and 14 KO's. In 1994 he got a title shot when he challenged (25-2) Pete Taliaferro for the USBA title and won his first belt.

In 1995 he beat Tracy Harris Patterson, a two-time division world champion and current IBF 130lbs belt holder. After this he TKO'd Wilson Rodriguez in stunning fashion and the bout got Fight of the Year. His savage pugilistic style made him a fan favorite.

After gaining fame he began to get sucked into the party scene and dropped his next three bouts. His father once told him that he can't be a fighter and a rock star; you have to be one or the other; you can't be both.

He lost to Angel Manfredy and Ivan Robinson twice which one of the fights won fight of the year for 1996. On March 24, 2001, he squared off against "Golden Boy" Oscar De La Hoya. De La Hoya outclassed and knocked out Gatti in the 5th round.

"You can do one of two things when you leave the gym, you can go to your hotel and worry about your bruises on your face or you can go and play golf cause your not getting hit in the gym" said Gatti's newly hired head trainer and former champion James "Buddy" Megirt. Megirt started to re-train Gatti in the sweet science and began sharpening his skills.

His next bout was the epic trilogy between Gatti and tough journey man Mickey Ward. According to boxing historian, Bert Sugar, these fights had the sensational dra-



Arturo "Thunder" Gatti

## Arturo Gatti

1972-2009

World Champion in two weight classes

Four time Candidate for Ring Magazines Fight of the Year

Ring Magazines 2002 Comeback Fighter of the Year

Google images

ma of, Ali and Frazier's Thrilla in Manila. Gatti vs. Ward was an electrifying slugfest that saw both fighters refusing to surrender.

In the 9th round Gatti went down and got up from a pulverizing body shot. This round epitomized the will and the spirit of Gatti as both fighters traded powerful hooks. This bloody bout won Ring Magazines Fight of the Year for

2002, which Ward won in a close decision.

Their second fight was won on a unanimous decision by Gatti but again both fighters needed a visit to the trauma unit. The last and final fight was another non stopping exhilarating bout that also won Ring Magazines fight of the year for 2003. The two fighters became close friends after their three fights.



## LOCK OUT

By Kelsey O'Donnell

Every NFL fan's worst nightmare has become a reality. On March 10, 2011 after extending the deadline an extra week, the NFL Players Association has decertified and the players are currently locked out.

The NFL's collective bargaining agreement originally expired on March 3, 2011. This was the deal that was extended in 2006 when the players received almost 60 percent of the league's \$9 billion in revenues. \$1 billion was also taken from the owners.

In 2008 the NFL owners decided to opt out of the CBA and created a frenzy throughout the 2010 season and started the idea of a lockout. Now that the players are locked out there will be no free agency, or player trades until an agreement is made. The 2011 draft, however, will still take place in April.

For both the NFL owners and players economics are an issue. There are two sides to any disagreement and both will be looked at carefully.

The league wants another \$1 billion to help build new revenues to help grow the game. Another issue

is the creation of an 18-game regular season. The 20 game structure will still stand, but instead take away two preseason games and add two regular season games.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell, according to ESPN, claims that, "The fans have clearly stated that they don't like the quality of our preseason."

Goodell may be saying that the move for a longer preseason is for the fans, but financially it seems it's more for a business purpose. More regular season games bring more interest to fans which brings more money to the office.

In order to attempt to prevent a lockout, the NFL decided not to go forward with the 18-game regular season.

Like mentioned earlier there are two sides to every disagreement. The players have a say as well.

The players are against the 18-game regular season. Currently an NFL player career now averages to about 3.5 years playing in the league. Expanding the games would make that average smaller.

This brings an issue for the NFLPA (National Football League

Players Association) and that is safety and health benefits. Players can have post-career benefits after three years of playing in the league, but the expansion of games can cut the average years to 2.8 which could cost them their benefits.

The compromise that could be met aside from revenue split and increased regular season is cutting down rookie wages. Look at Sam Bradford. He was the number one draft pick out of the University

of Oklahoma in 2010 to the St. Louis Rams and before he even played his first game he was given a \$78 million contract with \$50 million guaranteed. This is a lot of money compared to a handful of veteran players in the game today.

If money is saved on rookie salaries then there could be enough money to help increase the salaries of veteran players and help benefit retired players. The NFLPA could be in more agreement.

Do everyone a favor, NFL. Stop this lockout by coming to an agreement at least on cutting down the rookie wages. More money will be available and could possibly help save the 2011 season from becoming a lost cause.

*For both the NFL owners and players economics are an issue.*



dnainfo.com  
Carmelo Anthony's debut against the Bucks.

## Melo is back in New York

By Alberto Arias

The Former Denver Nugget's forward Carmelo Anthony was part of a mega-deal that sent him to the New York Knickerbockers on February 21, 2011. The trade brought the Brooklyn native, Anthony, to Madison Square Garden where he will join Eastern all-star forward Amar'e Stoudemire. They played on separate teams in the 2011 all-star game but will share the spotlight in the most scrutinized media outlet in sports.

"It's what he wants. It's what I wanted, to come to New York and play on the big stage," Stoudemire said. "He has the same type of swag. This is what he wants and he can handle it. We're going to do it together."

The Nuggets received small forwards Danilo Galinari and Wilson Chandler, center Timofey Mozgov, and point guard Raymond Felton. The Knicks have given up most of their starting line up and height for Anthony. Some NBA analysts say that the Knicks gave away to much talent. While others speculate that this is a key ingredient to a perennial championship competitor.

Anthony was the third overall pick in the 2003 draft, which included Miami Heat superstars LeBron James and Dwyane Wade. Anthony is averaging 24.7 points, 7.6 rebounds, and 2.8 assists per game during his eight year career. He has led his team to the playoffs since 2004-2009. He ranks 4th on the Nuggets all-time scoring list (10,768). He has made all-star team four times and to the All-NBA team four times. Anthony made the USA National Team twice; he won a bronze medal at the 2004 Olympics and a gold medal at the 2008 Olympics.

The Mecca of basketball was buzzing on February 23rd when Melo made his Knicks debut against the visiting Milwaukee Bucks. He had 27 points and 8 rebounds to lead the Knicks in scoring. Let the saga begin.

## Deron Williams to the Nets

By Edgar Rivas, Jr.

On February 23, the New Jersey Nets acquired Utah Jazz point guard Deron Williams for point guard Devin Harris, forward Derrick Favors, and two first-round draft picks.

"We are very excited to add a player with the caliber of Deron Williams to our roster," said General Manager Billy King. "He is one of the premier point guards in the NBA, and his skill and talent

level will bolster our franchise as we continue to build towards our goal of becoming a championship-caliber team."

Williams is 6'3," 209 lbs., was selected third overall in the first round of the 2005 NBA Draft by Utah. In 439 career games, including 406 starts, Williams is a two-time All Star (2010 and 2011), made the All-NBA Second Team in 2008 and 2010, won a gold medal as part of the Team USA at the 2008 Summer Olympics in



google/images.com

New Jersey Nets point guard, Deron Williams

Beijing, was a member of the All-Rookie First Team.

He ranked fourth on Utah's career assists list (4,003), fifth for three-pointers made (511) and fourth for three-pointers attempted (1,427). In 53 games with the Jazz this season, Williams averaged a career-best 21.3 points, 3.9 rebounds, 9.7 assists (3rd in the NBA) and 1.2 steals in 37.9 minutes. He also tallied 27 double-doubles (7th in the NBA).

## SPORTS

# NJCU Men's Basketball NJAC CHAMPIONS!

By Carolina Garcia

**N**JCU Men's basketball team finished their season off strong by winning 16 of their last 19 games. They clinched the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Tournament and most importantly won the NJAC championship by defeating Montclair State 72-67 in a heart wrenching close game on Friday, February 25th.

The New Jersey City University Men's Basketball team started their 2010-2011 season being voted the "Dark Horse" of the conference by all coaches because everyone knew coming in how much talent this restructured team possessed. It has been a 7 year struggle, but the Gothic Knights have a conference record of 11 championships.

In the beginning of the season their 3-6 record did not speak for the amount of experience and heart this championship team carried. Back then the Gothic Knights continued to struggle by seeing their leads slip away, and not being able to finish off close games. The difference now is that these players have built chemistry and know how to make each other better. They took their shortcomings this season as valuable lessons and never dug a hole for themselves. This season alone they have won 3 times by at least 50 points.

Reserve players like James Liv-

ingston, Ashmere Wilson, Taquan Abdullah, Walik Albright and Michael Johnson stepped up to the plate and delivered. They offered the team a spark off the bench and an overall attack. At any point in a game anyone of these players can come in and change the momentum.

"The main things is focus. I want to keep helping my team the best I can. If it's playing defense then I'm going to go all out doing it," said Michael Johnson, 21, from Irvington.

Freshman defensive specialist, Michael Johnson, has been a tremendous help since coming in this January. His unselfish play allowed for NJCU to force a lot of turnovers down their winning stretch.

NJCU has a solid 1-2 punch in junior point guard Keith Williams, 21, Jersey City and senior shooting guard Da'shon Barrino, 22, from East Orange. Their play in the backcourt is crucial to setting the tempo for this fast pace team. Many times they have single handedly gotten the team back on track and established themselves as team leaders.

The Gothic Knights started their championship berth when they defeated the #3 seed in the South division, Rowan University, 75-72 on Saturday, February 19th. James Livingston scored seven of NJCU's final 12 points, making four foul shots and a game-winning three-pointer with 18 seconds

to lift the Knights past Rowan.

"It felt good because we were down seven with two minutes left and I think we deserved the win after getting consecutive steals," said Livingston, 23, Trenton.

They continued their playoff run by defeating #1 south seed Kean University 75-61 on Wednesday, February 23rd in Union, New Jersey. Williams and Barrino combined for 34 of NJCU's 75 points in the win.

The Gothic Knights most memorable game this season was when they faced number 3 seed in the North, Montclair State, on Friday February 25 for the NJAC crown. The Red Hawks and Gothic Knights played for the third time in 11 days and that helped build a lot of tension

between the two squads. MSU and NJCU were now familiar with each others strengths and weaknesses, so the third game was the determining factor to this series.

The Gothic Knights had an 82-62 victory in Jersey City on February 14th before Montclair State came away with a 62-53 win two nights later at the Panzer Athletic Center. The Gothic Knights came back with a vengeance after getting their 9 game winning

streak snapped, and defeated Montclair 72-67 in a close game on Friday February 25th. For some of the NJCU players, this was their first championship ever.

"There is no greater feeling. For the first time I felt like a champion," said Taquan

Abdullah, 21, Kenilworth. Junior point guard Keith Williams scored a team-high 14 points, including 9-of-10 from the line to help ice the game, adding two assists and two steals in 34 minutes. Sophomore small forward Walik Albright tallied 12 points (4-10 FG, 1-1 3FG) with six rebounds, two assists and two steals.

NJCU claimed the NJAC Championship and an automatic bid to the NCAA

Division III Tournament. NJCU now holds 12 championship titles and will have a solid foundation next season. Even though seniors Rob Robinson, Da'shon Barrino, Tom Mcdermott, Josh Hosang or James Livingston

*"The main things is focus. I want to keep helping my team the best I can. If it's playing defense then I'm going to go all out doing it."*

Michael Johnson

will not be returning next season, they have young core of players with playoff experience. NJCU will only continue to bring in top caliber recruits and this team will again be back in the running for next year's NJAC championship.



Photo by Richard Formica  
Garcia dribbles past the defense.

## Leading Knight: Carolina Garcia

By Alberto Arias

**N**ew Jersey City University Women's basketball team has had a dismal season but there was a bright spot in captain and senior guard, Carolina Garcia, 22, Criminal Justice from Plainfield, NJ who was Honorable Mention All-New Jersey Athletic Conference for the 2010-2011 season.

With a new head coach at the helm, Sandra Nunez, and a newly formed roster, she led an undersized and young team.

"Being a leader on the basketball court helps me be a leader overall. It helped me deal with different scenarios because I had to lead a team with a lot of controversy. You have to be a positive role model," said Garcia.

Garcia was a consistent player for the Gothic Knights women's basketball team throughout her four-year career and will finish off her career with an All-Conference selection. She also won the NJCU Women's Athlete of the Week for the fourth time in her career and the third week in a row. During that stretch she had an average of 15.7 points per game.

"I have mixed emotions, I was happy winning all those awards but as a team we didn't win much. Basketball is a team sport not an individual sport. So if the team would have done better it would have felt like a real accomplishment," said Garcia.

The All-Conference guard moved into ninth place in the programs history in scoring with 920 career points. She finished No. 2 in school history in minutes played with 3,007.

"I'm going to miss my old teammates, having someone like Coach Nunez pushing me, and being part of a sisterhood," said Garcia.

## The Dominance Keeps Rolling

By Edgar Rivas, Jr.

**F**or 11th year head coach Frank Parisi this season could not be any better. With a 71-25 record the women's bowling team is definitely on pace to have their most successful season in school history. After making the nationals seven straight years, their eyes are set on reaching the Nationals for the 8th straight year. They are currently the 7th ranked team in the country for Division I, II, and III.

The team proved themselves worthy this season, beating the top-ranked teams in the country. Their big wins include #1 Fairleigh Dickinson University, #4 Vanderbilt University, and #5 University of Central Missouri.

The Gothic Knights most recent big win was against Sacred Heart, which still keeps them in contention for Nationals. Captain Drejerwksi, 21, Finance from Levittown, Pennsylvania led the team with 4027 Baker Total Pinfalls.

"These wins were important," said Nicole Drejerwksi.



NJCU women's bowling team with head coach Frank Parisi.

Photo by Richard Formica

On February 18, coach Parisi earned his 600th career win in the final match of the Morgan State Invitational against Howard University. The milestone improved his record to 600-264-3.

"It just proves the consistency as a program. I'm very proud," said Coach Parisi.

Some players have stood out during the team's successful season.

"We just stick together as a team," said Drejerwksi. "We

*"We just stick together as a team. We don't worry about individual things."*

Nicole Drejerwksi

don't worry about individual things."

On February 21, Amy Brehm and Jennifer Daunno were

named Second-Team All-Tournament Team during the Morgan State Invitational.

This success should result in a good run at the Northeastern Conference Championships and the NCAA Bowling Championships.

"We're a very balanced team," said Coach Parisi.

The team's good run will continue this weekend at the ECAC Championship at Parkway Lanes in Elmwood Park, NJ.