Civility Code: Reduced to Civility Amendment

By JILL BARTLETT
Editor in Chief

Students will not be required to sign a civility code to attend Bergen Community College, but BCC President Jeremiah Ryan intends to press ahead with an amendment to the current Student Code of Conduct that addresses civility.

“The way I understand it is that the student handbook will be amended, and that a dialog is starting to happen with the Student Government Association and other clubs,” stated Susan Baechtel, director of Public Relations at BCC.

In an interview this month, President Ryan said he thinks asking students to be courteous and respectful is a reasonable request, and that he intends to bring both student government and the faculty senate together to draft the proposed amendment. A previous “Code of Responsibility” published in The Record led to a controversial outcry regarding free speech.

“I think the idea of having a simple statement that says what the college expects of people in terms of behavior is powerful,” Dr. Ryan stated. “However, in a place this big, and this complex, asking people to sign a code is probably unworkable.

Dr. Ryan said his new proposal intends to be careful about the possibility of infringing on free speech. He has enlisted the help of Seton Hall Law School Professor Paula Fransese; the college is currently making arrangements with Fransese to conduct a civility conference with all 19 community colleges. It has not yet been decided whether she will be involved in drafting the new amendment.

“We are in discussions regarding what she should do; we do know that we want her to speak and that we want her to speak with students, as to helping us to understand how we should carry out civility,” said Baechtel. “We are trying to make [the conference] happen before the end of the semester, but that depends on her availability.”

BCC made national headlines last month when the school’s public safety officers began enforcing a new ban on smoking. Students will not be required to sign the new Civility Code after the conference take place, but it is expected that some students who are required to sign will continue to smoke.

In New Jersey, the state-wide ban on smoking took effect on January 1st, and the Bergen Community College administration is enforcing the new rule. The college has made arrangements with Ramapo College. But all that is required is that students continue to smoke while on campus.

“For the moment, I think it’s an effort to show that we are doing something,” said Ryan. “And I think we’ll see the results.
The program is focused on personal training, preparation, and self-protection. The reward for training in CERT consists of protecting yourself, your family and your community, said Leventhal. “CERT is not meant to supplant first responders but to enhance the community’s preparedness capabilities,” he said.

CERT personnel could assist during and after an emergency with evacuation support, information dissemination and victim support,” Sgt. Leventhal said of CERT’s purpose in the event of a campus emergency. “Having trained CERT personnel may reduce panic in how the campus responds to instructions from authorities.

Then, he reminded volunteers that they should be prepared for the most common hazards here in Bergen County, which are flooding, winter storms, and transportation disasters. Though not typical, they also need to be trained for terrorist attacks as we now live in a post-9/11 America.

“As a personal counselor, one of my responsibilities is to help students with mental health issues and support their success at the college,” said Cristina Haeo, a counselor with Student Services. “I attended the training because I know that our department will be one of the first to be called upon to tend to the college community in case of a disaster.”

With the help of a PowerPoint presentation, Sgt. Leventhal went over what the program will cover, including training and practice outside of the class, and a training schedule. Training includes Disaster Fire Suppression, Disaster Medical Operations, and a Light Search & Rescue, Sgt. Leventhal said.

Sgt. Leventhal said being prepared is as basic as having an emergency kit or just carrying a whistle, some duct tape and a flashlight. He demonstrated a flashlight which lasts for two years without batteries. In the event of a disaster, he said, “I’ve been to, I have been able to get Coca-Cola but what is really important, which is medication, is missing,” he said.

Hening concluded his presentation by opening the floor to questions and showing slides of the effects of AIDS worldwide, providing devastating images of those infected and the many children orphaned by AIDS victims. The final slide was of a distorted, very uncomfortable Kama Sutra position which read: “If you think this looks dangerous, try it without a condom.”

Next on the day was Elisabeth Lothe of the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping, who explained that the Peacekeeping Department authorizes and deploys personnel to some internal problems between cell carriers. T-Mobile users, however, there will be no improvement for other cell carriers. Some in the campus community and neighbors have repeatedly objected to construction of the tower, arguing that cell antenna poses possible negative health effects. T-Mobile said the antenna is well within the guidelines set by the federal government.
Sahlberg made it a point to ensure the safety of the students and teach- ers by making sure that there was always a security officer in sight. At night, there would be a guard watching over the lot, so people would feel safer just walking to their cars.

Chief Sahlberg had a refined knowledge of dealing with people and situations in a rational way. His tenure at Bergen was highly appreciated.

Now, after 14 years of dedicated service, Sahlberg has retired. Even though he has left BCC, he is still a campus "smoke-in" sometime during the spring. When asked if he would consider taking part in the MySpace page, the "about me" section of the profile states that the site was created by a group of friends who want BCC students to unite to protest the ban.

"By spring I want to have enough people signed up," one organizer of "smoke-in," the site states. "For those of you who don’t know what people mean..." All the students in the campus "smoke-in" get together at a certain time and light up outside. "I’d love to see public safety run around and try and write everyone’s name down." "The site and its postings list sever- al reasons against the ban. Some argue that cigarettes are a legal product and the students at BCC, like the rest of the state, have the right to use them. They also complain that smokers have rights too, and some kind of smoke- free school is just a matter of choice."

In a reply message sent to the "Torch" MySpace page, the profile’s anonymous- listed many reasons they are so upset.

"My group and 1 could fill your ear with reasons against the smoke- ban," the anonymous adminis- trator said. "The first day I came to Bergen and had my little orienta- tion class I was told ‘This is col- lege. You’re not in high school any- more’ why do I still have to sneak and smoke cigarettes? If we’re all adults here why am I being scolded for exercising my rights?"

The no-smoking policy states that the main reasons for the ban is that smoking has been clearly labeled by the NJ State Legislature and the NJ Dept. of Health as a substantial health hazard to both the smokers and the nonsmokers. But on MySpace, students are quick to argue it.

"Obesity beat out smoking as the number one killer in America a long time ago," one anonymous student writes.
Graduating Bergen Community College Soon? CONSIDERING TRANSFER?

Transfer Presentations Spring 2008:

Monday, March 3
William Paterson University

Thursday, March 6
NJIT

Monday, March 17
Rutgers University

Thursday, March 20
Ramapo College

Monday, March 31
Montclair State University

Thursday, April 3
New Jersey City University

Meet with representatives from area colleges here on campus.
Time: 12:30 p.m. - 1:25 p.m.
Room: S-138
Child Development Center Grows Up; Celebrates 25th Year

BY MELISSA FLORES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As you walk through the doors of the Child Development Center at Bergen Community College, you can’t help but notice the splashes of color everywhere. The classrooms look like themed playrooms and the walls are plastered with pictures of flying kites, aged two to four years.

The center, known on campus as the CDC, celebrated its 25th anniversary in December with an open house where faculty, alumni, and parents were invited to see how it has grown and expanded over the years.

Guests were given the chance to sign a guest book, leave a note or tour the center. Some visitors hadn’t seen the center since it opened 25 years ago, and seemed pleasantly surprised at how things had changed.

“It is still a very loving environment and has grown and developed,” said Bonnie MacDougall, a professor in the English department and a parent who once utilized the center. “They provided peace of mind for me, now my daughter is 25 years old and married.”

Located in Ender Hall, the CDC serves as a learning facility to both children and BCC students majoring in early childhood education. The children who attend the center are introduced to math, creative arts, science, social sciences and even computer technology.

BCC students enrolled in the early childhood education program must complete two rounds of field work at the center before they are eligible to receive a degree. In the initial field work assignment, the student works once a week for three hours, and teaches three lessons before the semester ends. The second field work program requires the student to, once again, come in once a week for a three hour session, but also to teach a lesson every day he attends the Center.

“The staff consists of three group teachers, one assistant director, and one director, Dr. Ursula Parrish-Daniels,” said Assistant Director Sally Dissimo.

Members at monthly meetings.

Child Development Center Grows Up; Celebrates 25th Year

By Melissa Flores

Hola! Ciao! Go Study Abroad

BY ROB TORRES
STAFF WRITER

What do you know about BCC? You know that Bergen Community College is an institution where one can obtain an associate degree after two years of school or by completing the necessary credits needed to graduate or transfer. But did you know that BCC also has a study abroad program? Yes, you can study abroad while invited to visit at community college.

Dean Amparo Codding is the advisor of the study abroad program for BCC through the Consortium for International Studies (CCIS). It started in 2000, and since then 12 students have studied in foreign countries including Italy, Australia and Costa Rica. There are 31 countries and 80 programs to choose from, all available to those who qualify. If you are interested in studying in a foreign country, there are a few steps needed to get started.

First, students should plan a year in advance. The reason for this is due to funding, grades, how long you’d like to stay in the country, the location of your stay (either in a city or rural town, etc) and more. Once you make an appointment and meet with Dean Codding you will be asked to determine and state the reason why you want to study abroad, attended BCC for at least one semester, have no remedial classes to take, and have a minimum GPA of 2.5. Along with that, you’ll have to answer a pre- liminary questionnaire and write a statement of purpose if you are eligible. Once approved, you will then compile an official application which includes the application, three letters of recommendation, and an official transcript.

This is a needed service to help out the cost. This is another reason why traveling is a year in advance is necessary. You will need to have your passport, visa, and vaccinations.

“I strongly encourage students to consider this opportunity and to study or travel overseas in order to get a different perspective of the world,” said Amparo Codding.

See Study Abroad... page 15

Chinese Club Offers Bridge to Old Culture

BY NICOLE JANSUKE
STAFF WRITER

Like the famous writer Paolo Coelho once said, “The story of one is the story of all humanity.” In its own way, the Chinese Club offers that message by both promoting its culture to non-Chinese students while also explaining the similarities it shares between them.

The goal of Ying Ying Yang, president of the Chinese Club, is to introduce Chinese tradition to Americans. She conveys such knowledge through interactive activities such as free Chinese lessons and providing ethnic cuisines on occasion. Yang also wants to dispel stereotypes while she aspires to get Americans to recognize the significance of her culture.

“We do kiss on cheeks and give hugs!” she exclaimed, meaning that she has just as vibrant a personality and as a loud a voice as the American standing next to her. “We just differ in looks and color.”

Her second goal is to bring Bergen’s Chinese community together and create a so-called “safe haven” for international students emigrating from China. The club provides new immigrants with knowledge of American customs and the little things all immigrants inquire about upon entering a new country. Some members commented that the club is a home between classes and a welcome addition to their social lives. They said that the club exposed them to many people by enabling them to socialize at events and meetings.

See Ying Ying Yang... page 17

Chinese Club Offers Bridge to Old Culture

Anybody interested in learning about the Chinese culture can join. Members of the Chinese Club serve guests of their New Year’s Celebrations.

Every so often the international students association and the Chinese club combine to do coop- erative projects. World work is an example of one that they will be celebrating together. Fun events, such as having your name painted in Chinese and made into a book celebrating together. Fun events, such as having your name painted in Chinese and made into a book...
**“Proper” Cell Phone Etiquette, Jersey-style**

**By Manny Simoes**

**Guest Writer**

In order to train for this exercise, one must first understand the key credentials required for proper cell phone usage in our society. The few, but necessary, items required for this form of social interaction are:

- **Phone**
- **Manners**

Step one is simple. Find a crowd-sized, quiet place. A college library, or possibly a bookstore would help to maximize outcome.

Another spot might deplete the full potential of this new electronic device, which has been called “the new generator” of society. The book, or any audio-visual medium can take one’s mind off the constant beeping and ringing of this new generation of technology.

How often: Is it every day, three times a week, or twice a month?

How bad: Is it extremely severe, or barely noticeable.

How long: Does it take a long period of time to come off this feeling?

How well: Does it feel like this until a social get together with a loved one? Does it only feel like this at work or during other daily situations as well?

These are some questions individuals should ask themselves before choosing to consult with their doctor who can ultimately diagnose if they are depressed or not. Depression is a mental health disorder that impacts the way one sleeps, works, think about himself/herself and about other things. It is a psychological disease that could impair judgment, employment, while others might not. There might be a lingering feeling of hopelessness and pessimism hovering around you. You have a persistent anxious or empty mood. If you or anyone you know is experiencing feelings such as these, you or that person may be depressed.

At what point can you tell whether you have crossed over from feeling blue to being depressed? Is having a “bad” day considered depression? There is a thin line between feeling down and being depressed. In most situations, people go from the former stage to the latter without even realizing it. The only guideline one could use is what is referred to as the “OBL” method. That is how often, how bad and how long does the individual feel depressed.

Situating yourself near the core of activity where you find the most people busy and occupied. Most of humanity would consider “reading” a book to be something that humanity would consider “reading” a book to be something that our time with the reggaeton jingle. A digital cable. In the middle of the song, three mermaids appear, chanting that horse number in time with the reggaeton jingle. A few seconds later, the three mermaids are swimming anything, and spandex tank tops, tell us the phone number twice, like we did not cancel it the first time. No, I won’t give you the phone number – though it is in my phone.

The commercial then cuts to the hallway during registration, it was easy to see that I wasn’t the only one in my age category (How old? None of your business!) who had decided to remove the halls of academia. In fact, there were several waiting in line for classes that I hadn’t even attended. My hair may be white, but at least I still have it, and I was able to shield my eyes from the glare coming off the scalps of many of those around me. Then I went into a not a major but terribly minor depression. The urge to cry was just too great a difference hit me between the eyes. I was at least 50 years older than the next oldest student, who was probably 16 years younger than my youngest daughter. On the first day of class, I was wearing a sport shirt and slacks; they were wearing jeans and a t-shirt. In fact, I don’t remember anyone wearing jeans when I first started college somewhere in time between the Vietnam War and the Gulf War. Oh well, these girls did look pretty comfortable and relaxed.

At least I could relate culturally to the professors. Then I met them. Both dressed in more than what I was used to, but at least one of them was wearing a t-shirt the same size as the students than I was to me. And, fortunately, both were experienced and knew more about the subject than I was to learn. Thus, I would assume, was the basic reason for much of the Jacksonian garbage that I was depending on being able to add AA and then BA would complete a life cycle for me.

Oddly enough, I do not believe we are given the opportunity to go around again. It doesn’t make up for lost time, but it certainly can fill in some emotional gaps. I think the Army’s slogan, “all that you can be,” pretty well sums it up.

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**New “Jurassic” Student Faces Culture Shock and More Than an Age Adjustment**

By Bob Nissof

**Contributing Writer**

Most American colleges and universities today host a plethora of cultures: Palauans and Indians, Brits, Jews and Arabs, and all manage to meld their diverse backgrounds into one cohesive entity: a student body.

Despite the cultural differences, they all have one thing in common: age. Most college students fall into the 17 to 22 age category and share many of the same likes and dislikes that transcend whatever cultural gaps. I think the Army’s slogan, “all that you can be,” pretty well sums it up.

The truth of the matter was that even though I had entered college after serving in the Army, I could have been more mature about the way I tackled school work and applied myself more to studies than to fraternities, sports and social activity.

I expect that in less than two years, I’ll have sufficient credits for a BA. That will be a great satisfaction. My wife has her BA, and additional certifications; two of my daughters have derogatory terms like that. But increasingly there is a new segment of society: the “Jurassic Students.” And they are probably older than the professors. Then I met them. Both dressed in more than what I was used to, but at least one of them was wearing a t-shirt the same size as the students than I was to me. And, fortunately, both were experienced and knew more about the subject than I was to learn. Thus, I would assume, was the basic reason for much of the Jacksonian garbage that I was depending on being able to add AA and then BA would complete a life cycle for me.

Oddly enough, I do not believe we are given the opportunity to go around again. It doesn’t make up for lost time, but it certainly can fill in some emotional gaps. I think the Army’s slogan, “all that you can be,” pretty well sums it up.
The Hangman’s Noose Is Never a Joke

BY NICOLE JANUARIE

STAFF WRITER

Last month, Martin Luther King Day was commemorated and we celebrated his dream about desegregation and civil rights. But how far have we really come in fulfilling the dream of the King?

The hangman’s noose -- a symbol of racial hatred -- suddenly has reappeared in America. The case in Jena, Ala., has gotten national attention. Yet, there are other cases, so many that recently, The New York Times ran a map showing the spots around the country where nooses were found. A noose was found dangling from Madison C. Constantin’s office door at Columbia University Teachers College in October. Also in New York, an emergency officer found a noose dangling from his locker in his unit department in Brooklyn. There have also been seemingly less horrifying nooses, like Halloween decorations last fall of 2007’s Halloween season. When we know better we do better, but many of us do not understand the message black people see when they see a noose. Some consider angry reactions against the noose as being too sensitive. Those were not enough. The Golf Channel’s Kelly Tilghman should be fired for her joke about lynching. Broadcasters hold a public trust to do the right thing. The insidious racism that used to be part of the mainstream now merely lies just below the surface of our society. But it’s there. Racism is a disease that will be wiped out only when public consciousness is raised and when perpetrators are held accountable.

The noose was primarily used in the south to hang a person of color from a tree in the ritual of lynching. Lynching: the performed act of killing blacks, done by angry vigilantes usually in a mob, with the attempt of preserving white supremacy. Hangering the bodies from a tree displaying them high above ground was an escalation of power and control. The burnt and tattered bodies were signs of warnings to all others, a way of instilling fear and so called discipline into a suppressed nation. Just the mere sight of the noose was a threat and a reminder for the black individual to know his or her “place” in society.

It is with this history that the noose is reappearing on the scene. It was a noose that escalated a crime in Jena into a national story. The story is that in December 2006, six teenagers were charged with second-degree murder as a result of battering a white student, named Justin Barker, using their tennis shoes as alleged murder weapons. But less known to people; at first, was that a number of incidents occurred prior to this event. One of them included a black student who had the “audacity” to attend a party of white people at school, causing outraged white teenage boys to assault him. The white students merely suffered minor school suspensions as a consequence, according to Fordham Law Professor Robin Reinhart, in a lecture recently on “Jena Justice.” His lecture touched on the investigations into the events and attitudes surrounding the high school and racial tension in Jena. This lecture took place on Thursday, January 17, 2008 at MKA in Monclair. Shortly after this episode, three white students hung nooses from a so-called “white” tree on campus after black students asked permission from administration to sit under the “white” tree. These events preceded the battering of Barker.

When the media ultimately reported the whole story of how Barker came to get battered, it stirred up indignation among both races and triggered a civil rights march to release the black boys from their severe charges. The support of the people influenced the authorities to lighten the charges against the black students, who said the boys were acting out of fury. The message sent by the white teenagers was one of a hate crime that implied known your place, white supremacy will prevail.

Despite all this, many still think the noose can be a harmless joke. When I posted a question online about the noose, Anita Pfeic, a student at BCC, explained: “I never thought of it as a racial gesture. It’s just a part of rope tied in a loop. Actually, first thing that comes to my mind when you mention or see the noose is cowboys, Will Smith’s ‘Wild, wild west’ song and Clint Eastwood movies. Remember, I’m a farm girl. I just use noose/rope as a functional/practical thing. Not as a symbol or intimidation object.”

But another student, Craig Sanders, said: “The noose is a powerful and symbolic message of some of the darker and sinister aspects of our nation’s past. It personifies nothing less than a brutal inhumane death caused by human beings to each other and because of its symbolic nature it can never be taken as a senseless joke. Death is never anything to take for granted or joke about. This statement hasn’t even been brought to the subject. Regardless, it is a powerful symbol that shows the barbaric violence of man against another man, let alone that this brutal form of execution was primarily used in the south to inflict severe emotional pain on many African Americans.”

When we know better we do better, but many of us do not understand the message black people see when they see a noose. Some consider angry reactions against the noose as being too sensitive. Those were not enough. The Golf Channel’s Kelly Tilghman should be fired for her joke about lynching. Broadcasters hold a public trust to do the right thing. The insidious racism that used to be part of the mainstream now merely lies just below the surface of our society. But it’s there. Racism is a disease that will be wiped out only when public consciousness is raised and when perpetrators are held accountable. My objective throughout this article has been to raise consciousness about racial tolerance and about acknowledging the past to be able to bury it and move forward from there.

The occurrence of racial attacks and hate crimes are done out of ignorance and an unconsciousness about the truth. We should do better as an educated and diverse generation.

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AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE DESIGNED AROUND YOU!
Wake-up Boomers and Gen-X: It’s not Laziness. It’s a Generation Gap

By Taryn Fondi

Guest Writer

“It’s not that complicated, I’m just misunderstanding,” goes the song by popular artist Paul McCartney, on the title track “Misunderstood.” The song underlines what seems to be the large gap between today’s teenagers and their parents. This gap is exacerbated by a parent’s increasing frustration in their child’s所谓的“mathematics remedial success rates.”

The term “laziness” has been used numerous times to refer to members of both English and mathematics departments, I decided to do my own analogy as “A BCC Mathematics Teacher Reads the Torch,” and use it regarding Amandita Ferriante’s lead news story “Changes Ahead for Remedial Math” in the December 2007 Torch.

In that article, remedial success rates for English and mathematics courses were given for the last five years, from 2002 to 2006. The success rates ranged from 69.9% to 66.1% in English and 58.2% to 48.7% in mathematics. The first thing I wanted to ask was, was there was the less than 20% success rate (the shocking 80% failure rate) claimed in a news story by Ms. Ferriante in the March 2007 Torch? These success rates in mathematics remedial courses are not necessarily those of the January 2007 issue are two and a half to three times that of the March 2007 class. If the student were to fail the first correction or correction of the claims of March 2007? Nothing is said about this.

Unfortunately, the mathematics remedial success rates appear to be trending down over time. Even though there were only five pairs of data points, I calculated a correlation between them. The value of the correlation coefficient was over +0.9, on a positive scale from zero to +1, and this was statistically significant, even though there were only five data points. This means more than 80% of the variation in one discipline’s remedial passing rates can be accounted for by variations of other discipline’s rates. Since correlations are not necessarily causative, I would interpret these figures to mean that there is a common cause for the decline in both variables, probably a gradual overall decline in academic skills of the students taking BCC remedial classes in both English and mathematics over time. I also discussed these numbers with Ms. Tonia McCoy, of BCC’s institutional research department. She told me that these were overall figures for all English and mathematics remedial classes, and included data from Mat 045. Although Mat 045 is, strictly speaking, a remedial class (i.e. typically, the first mathematics course in tenth grade), at BCC that course is pre-requisite for the calculus/linear algebra/physic sequence. Many students taking the course are not the same as those in Mat 011, which is usually a sufficient prerequisite for the college level drawal withdrawal penalty) and E (nonful- ication withdrawal) are counted as part of the total, which would reduce the overall success rate. Although there may be arguments made for including the data, I think it hinders our perception of what the problems are in remedial education at BCC. We need to look at the remedial courses if we are to begin to understand what is happening in remedial education, and what remedies might be tried to increase student’s success in this area. I can appreciate the frustration felt by students who feel locked in seemingly endless sequence of remedial courses. I believe that, after years of benign neglect, the BCC administration is finally paying attention to the problems of remedial education. This academic year, the class sizes were reduced in remedial mathematics courses, although these sizes remain the highest in the entire state. There was a joint meeting of the BCC English and mathematics faculty to discuss the problems associated with remedial education. Let us hope that steps like these continue, but also that simple and superficial solutions are not proposed (or imposed) for what are very complex issues. For the moment, the problem that is found in remedial mathematics education. The probability of failure at first encounter at this advanced level is very high for those students who successfully complete the remedial problem. This ultimate goal of success in college level programs should not be sacrificed by making remedial education a means to exercise just to pass rates in remedial classes.

Very truly yours,

Walter Rothaug

The writer is a member of the BCC English and mathematics faculty; we have all and nothing to prove. Our cultures may very well be different, but their discourse is in our chat room; their “hanging in the quad” is our Facebook, their “get a job” is our “go to college” and we respond with equal fervor.

If only the Baby Boomers and Generation X would look past the facts, just as we blissfully ignore the gaping copier hole they helped create, they’d see the potential in our technologically advanced generation. The things dreamed up in front of a computer – social networking, online shopping, architectural blueprints, scientific breakthroughs, DNA mapping and meteorology; among others – are extraordinary. A parent might consider hours in front of a computer lazy, but we don’t see it that way. We see it as truly indefinitely revolutionary.

“One day we were talking about Remedianomics, listening to ‘When Does Cy’ by Prince, and acid-washing their jeans, they graduated from college and went on to jobs. Today, about 75 percent of college students aspire to advanced degrees beyond the four-year Bachelor’s degree. By any standard, this means that these were overall figures for the last five years with Blues Traveler, so he was most certainly not lazy. So what can one do about this growing stereotype, only further fueled by the insane popularity of internet sites such as MySpace, Facebook, and other stationary time-consumers like video games? Teenagers can only do one thing: keep on keepin’ on. As we enroll in college in record numbers, achieve higher grades than previous generations, and continue to be the busing generation; entrepreneurship; we have all and nothing to prove.

The cultures may very well be different, but their discourse is in our chat room; their “hanging in the quad” is our Facebook, their “get a job” is our “go to college” and we respond with equal fervor.

The Dec. 2007 issue of The Torch reported Christine Haedo as the current advisor of the Muslim Student Association. She is now co-advisor of the Turkish Club along with Lena Bakir. Jon Yaasin is the current advisor to the MSAs.

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The Torch, a member of the Associated College Press and the College Media Association, is the official student newspaper of Bergen Community College. The purpose of The Torch is to report on the events at BCC and the local community and to offer the BCC community a forum for the expression. The opinions expressed in The Torch are not necessarily those of BCC. All the materials submitted to The Torch become property of The Torch.

Corrections

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Opinions & Editorial

Hillary Clinton: Hate her or love her?

By Elisa Cervone

Managing Editor

Although I don’t think Hillary Clinton will win the 2008 election, I do believe she will have a significant impact on U.S. politics as we know it, which will spell pain for every man, woman, and child of this country that is not a part of the power elite. Clinton is a force to be reckoned with. She has the ability to run a campaign that is not only good for her but good for the country. In fact, I believe she will be the first female candidate for the presidency.

Mrs. Clinton said recently on the Tyra Banks Show, that she “never doubted Bill’s love for her.” But that is hard to believe considering the many times her husband has had linked extra-marital affairs. Some may look at Mrs. Clinton and see a strong-willed woman, not afraid to fight for her husband and take him back after his wrongdoing. Still, others look at Mrs. Clinton and see a self-serving, conniving politician who stayed with her philandering husband to gain a Senate Seat that led directly to a run for the presidency.

Sen. Clinton finished behind Senator Barak Obama in the Iowa Caucuses and the South Carolina Primary, taking only the New Hampshire State into a win as NJ participants in “Super Tuesday” for the first time ever.

Her platform as of the moment is Women’s Health Care, the creation of more jobs, the end of the war in Iraq, tax reform and rebates and more government funding for programs that will help those of the inner city.

Many believe in what she says, many do not. Many like her husband campaigns for her, but do not vote for her. That is the problem that faces Senator Clinton. The name Clinton can be as magical as it can be deadly for her in this President’s race. It is both a blessing and a curse. It just depends on where she is running and who she is speaking to.

But, love her or hate her... when the name Senator Hillary Clinton is raised, all of us will have an opinion, and we will voice it.

How do students at BCC feel about Hillary Clinton?

By Elisa Cervone

Managing Editor

Pat Mihalio - 46

Susan Musson - 20

Joe Henly - 21

Susan Musson - 20

Attention Students!
Concerned about Health & Safety on campus and want to have a voice?
A short survey for the BCC Health & Safety Committee will be coming out soon. Watch for it in the next few weeks!

By Elisa Cervone

Managing Editor

Since the dawn of sports, the star male athlete has been given preferential treatment. The fact is that star male athlete can get away with anything, all because he can either hit or throw a baseball, throw, run or catch a football, or dribble and shoot a basketball. To have these gifts and physically perform better than the other guy pays you in that special stratosphere where your skills make you higher than all others. Where does the remarkable quality go to the home school or hometown wins the game. And when the big game is won, the athlete is elevated to “hero” of the game. And when the big game is lost, the athlete is vilified for the loss.

As an example, when the Detroit Pistons deflected a lot of negative publicity away from Thomas and his team by winning the championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship. His good guy image as the point guard of the rough-and-tumble Indiana Hoosiers to an NCAA championship.

So exalted are they that unfortunately, they become the young men who can get away with anything...

“Thomas? The two are both football players for the Cincinnati Bengals who have been in the news for drinking and driving, as well as possession of illegal drugs. Also, most recently, he was accused of raping a cheerleader, but was later found not guilty in a trial. It finally came out with the verdict that gold was a reputation that no one knew about. It only depends on where she is running and who she is speaking to.

But, love her or hate her... when the name Senator Hillary Clinton is raised, all of us will have an opinion, and we will voice it.

By Elisa Cervone

Managing Editor

Although I don’t think Hillary Clinton will win the 2008 election, I do believe she will have a significant impact on U.S. politics as we know it, which will spell pain for every man, woman, and child of this country that is not a part of the power elite. Clinton is a force to be reckoned with. She has the ability to run a campaign that is not only good for her but good for the country. In fact, I believe she will be the first female candidate for the presidency.

Mrs. Clinton said recently on the Tyra Banks Show, that she “never doubted Bill’s love for her.” But that is hard to believe considering the many times her husband has had linked extra-marital affairs. Some may look at Mrs. Clinton and see a strong-willed woman, not afraid to fight for her husband and take him back after his wrongdoing. Still, others look at Mrs. Clinton and see a self-serving, conniving politician who stayed with her philandering husband to gain a Senate Seat that led directly to a run for the presidency.

Sen. Clinton finished behind Senator Barak Obama in the Iowa Caucuses and the South Carolina Primary, taking only the New Hampshire
Byron Motley, a noted baseball historian, spoke and showed a film about the Negro Baseball League.

Charlotte Blake Alston used her gift of music to share stories, songs and poetry of the African-American experience, and traditional stories told in African villages to both young and adult audiences. Her performances have been heralded in The New York Times as “…eloquent storytelling…”

Ernest Green, a member of the historic Little Rock Nine, spoke on “The Integration of Central High School, Little Rock, Arkansas: 50 Years and Counting.”

Newark Mayor Cory Booker, a major supporter of presidential candidate Barack Obama and a Bergen County native, spoke on “Preserving the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr,” an event that was podcast.
BCC Adjusts . . . continued from page 1

of the habit. Each year, approximately 44,000 people die from illnesses related to cigarette smoking. Cigarettes kill more Americans than all illegal drugs, accidents, suicide, AIDS, homicide, and illegal drugs combined. To help ease the transition, Father Albert J. Ferrara from the department of health services of Bergen County hosted a two-day workshop on smoking cessation for nearly 40 students of three “Injured America’s Heroes and College Experience” classes as well as to other students. The smoking cessation program, the goal of which is to provide students with the tools necessary to overcome smoking, was designed and implemented by the Human Resources dept.

Knowing how hard the decision to quit smoking can be, Professor Stafford Barton, a personal counselor at BCC, said smokers need to make that decision on their own. “If they come to us, we want to see them at the beginning of the semester,” he added.

BCC President Ryan joined in commemorating AIDS Awareness Day.

Bergen Community College Code of Responsibility

In the full knowledge of the commitment that I am freely willing to undertake as a student, I promise to respect every member of the college community without regard to race, creed, political ideology, lifestyle, orientation, gender or social status. In this way I will come in contact with as a member of the college community, I promise to Bergen Community College that I will follow this code of Responsibility.

1. Honesty, integrity, and a respect for all who guide my personal conduct.
2. I will respect and celebrate differing perspectives intellectually.
3. I will build an inclusive community engaged by diversity.
4. I am willing to respect and assist those individuals who are less fortunate.
5. I promise my commitment to civic engagement and to serve the needs of the community to the best of my ability.

BCC Forum.

aton of the employee assistance program. Approximately 25,000—10,000 continuing education students and 17,000 for theft, six for vandalism and referrals.”

Dr. Ryan said while BCC might have to threaten violence to some- one, they will share with the Office of Student Life and head of judicial affairs conduct cases, said he and Dr. Ryan had discussed allowing the judicial board to meet once a week if the need arises, but it hasn’t been necessary thus far. The same study respondents are mys- timified about a student misbehavior problem.

Personally, people just act inap- propriately,” stated Andrew Palmco, a sophomore at the college studying philosophy and business. “They act loud in the student cen- ter, they leave their garbage, and they throw things. That’s pretty much the extent of it. I heard recently of students getting their stuff stolen out of their lock- er downstairs in the lower gym, that is on the third floor, and I think it’s student misbehavior (I know of one).” Some faculty said they recent the increase in smoking on campus as a way of dealing with bad behavior. Faculty members joined a campaign to combat smoking and to help students stop. The second concerned postcards of the college’s own direct mail that was returned to BCC with remarks such as “Where are all the white males?” apparently in reference to the mailer’s photograph of BCC’s multicultural population. The third upsetting incident occurred when a group of neo- Nazis reportedly informed the college it would attend its open forum with U.S. Senator Bob Menendez last August. Several individuals were stopped, searched, and politely asked to give pamphlets to security for safekeeping during the forum. The neo-Nazis were not identified as BCC students. However, The Record came to the story by different means. Dr. Ryan said The Record called BCC in Dec., after a disgruntled parent contacted the newspaper about what she deemed untreatment by the Judicial Board. Bad behavior isn’t anything new at Bergen. A December 1981 issue of the school newspaper, then called The Bergen Monitor, reported graffiti “marrying the first month of school.” The front page of Feb. 1982’s Bergen Monitor reports a security guard was attacked on campus by a former student of the school. The attack left the security guard in the intensive care unit of the Valley Hospital. Neither inci- dent led to changes in the BCC Code of Responsibility.

Dr. Chouinard said the difference between then and now is that today the college has an official structure in place to deal with conduct issues.

“I think the difference is that, for one, the judicial board itself has a mission,” she said. “When this system had a system, we had a disciplinar- ian, such as a vice-president who handled conduct issues. Now, we have a set educational sys- tem of having a group of people two faculty members, three staff, two counselors and two students who listen to the cases and then deter- mine an action. Whether it is extreme, it is less arbitrary, we are documenting more of those cases.”

He added that many of today’s incidents emanate from the classroom, and he thinks it is because the college encourages reporting incidents today. “We let faculty know that if they are having an incident with a dis- ruptive student that they need to report it and not wait until the end of the semester,” he added.

The Bergen Community College philosophy department, Crewe Hall, 1600 Main Ave., owned by the Human Resources dept.

Knowledge about how hard the decision to quit smoking can be, Professor Stafford Barton, a personal counselor at BCC, said smokers need to make that decision on their own. “If they come to us, we want to see them at the beginning of the semester,” he added.

BCC forum.

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BCC Forum.

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BCC forum.

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Chic Antique: An Oldie but Goodie You Should No Longer Be Deprived of...

By Amanda Ferrante

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Is Heath Ledger's Death Enough To Make Him A Legend?

By Ron Torres

February's Album Anecdotes

By Amanda Ferrante

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Ah, music. It’s what takes us out of our every day routine and gives us an opportunity to sit back, relax, and enjoy the tunes. In an age where accessing music is as easy as signing on, record sales are taking a hit. These picks are managing well, given the circumstances. Many say, music is like wine, maybe you like rock- but while we gravitate toward one genre, it’s important that we appreciate great music when we hear it.

Is Heath Ledger's Death Enough To Make Him A Legend?

BY AMANDA FERRANTE

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

February’s Album Anecdotes

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Jack Johnson: Sleep Through The Static

Sheryl Crow: Detours

Lud Fisco: The Coal

Tate Domino: The Cool

What Can't Kill Him, Can Only Make Him Stronger

By Paul Ibanez

STAFF WRITER

Kanye West went from being a Chicago emcee known for always donning a Louis Vuitton backpack, to becoming an international superstar almost overnight. After suffering the loss of his mother, Donda West, this past Nov., life has been a whirlwind for this multi-platinum star.

There is no question that Kanye’s super ego can make it hard for normal people to relate to the “Can Louis Vuitton Don’t,” but after losing his mother to complications from cosmetic surgery, he has become more human than his usual superstar ego. West was recently seen crying while performing “Hey Mama” at a concert in Paris a few weeks after her passing. He also was seen playing con- nect four with Beyonce during a New Year’s Eve party at the Palms in Las Vegas.

In Sept. 2007, Kanye’s third album Graduation broke industry records by becoming the year’s highest selling album, in terms of first week sales with 957,000 copies sold. This came at a time when hip-hop CD sales dropped nearly 30 percent. With Kanye’s lyrics progressing while his music relates to all types of demographics, there is no question why he earned eight Grammy nominations, including Album of the Year.

Kanye’s freshmen and sophomore albums, The College Dropout and Late Registration, have also been previously nominated for Album of the Year, but this most-prized Grammy still seems to evade this talented singer/song- writer/producer. Kanye’s flashy style also earned him GQ’s prestigious “International Man of the Year” title in 2007. He has also been known to pen a guest column for Complex magazine, and has graced the cover of countless magazines. Kanye West has reached the level of his metaphorical “big brother” Jay-Z, as a rapper, but as a produc- er there is no question he is the best. He has produced tracks for artist Common (which was nomi- nated for three Grammy’s), and 2008’s most anticipated album, Lil Wayne’s The Carter III (set to release March 18, 2008). Kanye’s infamous pink polo can’t hurt his credibility as a rapper any- more, and his sampling creativity had doubters in the past, but there is no question most of them are coming around after the release of Graduation. No doubt this past year was the year Mr. West solidified his place in music. R.I.P. Donda West.
Powerhouse David Homyk Knocks hard on the music Industry’s Door

By Amanda Ferrante

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

New York City is home to so many of our favorite things- a great slice of pizza, countless landmarks, and a powerhouse talent sure to make the music industry fall to its knees. Having produced tracks for Kelly Rowland and Solange Knowles, David Homyk is the city’s hidden treasure as he sings, composes, produces, and plays every instrument under the sound-making sun and he’s good looking. You’re in for a treat.

While David resides in the Big Apple now, he was raised in Charlottesville, Virginia, where he says he’ll end up and buy a farm. David and I sat down in true New York City cliché- a Starbucks on a cold winter day- and ended up conversing for hours about music, love, and life.

David began composing at age eight. I fell in love with Scott Joplin and ragtime music,” he says of his early influences. “I fell in love with his music, with his word, with his flow, with his 1-2-3-4. That’s why my songs are so catchy—there is an element of a familiar pattern that you can latch onto. In “Remember the Fallen,” “The Poison,” and “Busy Me.” All of these with positive messages to always strive and push through the hard times, because in the end you’re a better person for it,” says front man Tony Polizotto.

While the New Jersey metal scene has been losing its luster in recent years, Silence Will Fail shows no signs of slowing down, or giving up. “Honestly, man, it’s an honor to be a part of the NJ metal scene. There are a lot of metal bands that have come out of Jersey, just name a few God Forbid, Ill Nino, 40 Below Summer, so to be a part of what these bands helped start for us is an honor,” says Polizotto. “Yet at the same time the scene right now is kind of a standstill, but we see our future growing and that one hit wouldn’t make anyone millions anymore. Instead, it will take a quantity of quality albums and a work to achieve success—a blueprint that has worked for many established hip-hop artist like Nas, Common and Jay-Z. It took these artists hard work and time to develop their albums, and each did not achieve success until a few albums were released, enabling them to reach a wide range of audiences.

It is going to be fun to see major labels smacking their heads on the mistakes they made in 2007. But on an optimistic note, this is a time for independent hard-working artists. “Some labels make a name for themselves, 2008 may just be the year when the garbage is finally taken out.”

Sweeney Todd: Depp and Burton do it Again

By Daniel LaFaso

SPORTS EDITOR

Enterprising a plot skeptic about viewing a two plus hour musical that’s spectacles about viewing a two plus hour musical that’s

In the Fires of Adversity

SPORTS EDITOR

The year The Music Industry Broke Down

By Paul Ibanez

STAFF WRITER

There is no doubt 2007 was a bad year for the music industry. CD sales dropping 15 percent from 2006, the industry has cut down on staff and artists. New names ADRs and executives like Rob Stevenson, who signed acts such as Fall Out Boy and the Black Keys, were forced to avoid the cut. The music industry is in a recession- and big hits just can’t catch on.

To counter these losses moves were made and new ideas came about. One of the biggest names is Johnny Depp. The actor has made a huge 120 million 10-year deal with concert promoter Live Nation. It’s the largest deal in history this year for the music industry. With 2007 being a bad year for the music industry, releasing, film and TV projects, DVD release, and music-licensing agreements, bringing an end to Madonna’s 25-year relationship with Warner Music Group. Radiohead also shocked the industry this past year, releasing their newest EP In Rainbows on their website under the terms that Radiohead fans could download the new licks for whatever price they keyed in. Some chose to pay a penny, others elected to pay upwards of $20. Depp/Jan president Jay-Z stepped down from his position due to contract issues. Jay-Z still is signed to Roc Nation, however he has one album left on his contract to release. Jay-Z, a four year stint as president, garnering 28 Grammy nominations this year for Def Jam- the most in the compa-

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 notícia, there’s a new leader in the Jersey rock revolution! Silence Will Fail will be heard at http://www.myspace.com/silencewillfail and you can also hear them on 98.5 FM Sat. nights.

Some may say it is the greed of top execs, who live off the talents of many artists. The quality of musicians in question, especially within the genre of hip-hop, where labels thought marketing big hits or “one hit wonders” would save the industry from downfall, but CD sales dropped 30 percent. With the industry marketing one hit wonders like Soulboy coupling with the com-

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Sweeney Todd is truly sent to the gallows. Edward Sanders, his rival, has one album left on his contract to release. Jay-Z, a four year stint as president, garnering 28 Grammy nominations this year for Def Jam- the most in the compa-

What’s best about the song is the heartfelt vocals that turn into powerful choruses deep steaks piano. Of his production process, he says, “I’m very much in love just keep doing it, it’s so easy to get into something. Then you’re in for a treat.

David Homyk

David Homyk is the city’s hidden treasure as he sings, composes, produces, and plays every instrument under the sound-making sun and he’s good looking. You’re in for a treat.

David Homyk

David Homyk is the city’s hidden treasure as he sings, composes, produces, and plays...
**What’s Going on in Entertainment**

**By Amanda Ferrante**

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR**

A reunion is in the works for Stone Temple Pilots. Frontman Scott Weiland told the Miami Herald the band will reunite in “the coming months.” Velvet Revolver guitarist Slash told billboard.com that Weiland will be rejoining his previous band, STP, for some shows this summer. He also said that Weiland would be working with VR on their third album starting this spring.

**• Marilyn Manson** is firing back against allegations that his music influences teenagers to act out on violent urges leading to tragedies such as the Columbine High School shooting. Manson told the Boston Globe “... We get blamed for every act of violence. They don’t have a Grammy award for school shootings, but I guess I would get one if they did, whether I asked for one or not.”

**• Linkin Park** has chosen “Given Up” as their next single to be released off Minutes to Midnight. Chester Bennington said on his Website, “We are starting to shoot our new video for ‘Given Up’ and I think it’s going to turn out real- ly good. The band has decided to go with a live video and I think it’s perfect for the song. We always do really big expensive videos and it’s nice to take a break from that.”

**• Rumors are swirling about Metallica revealing American tour dates.** Metallica first confirmed concert this year will be in Poland on May 28th. The metal pioneers are putting the final touches on their currently untitled ninth studio album due out later this year.

**• Beloved actor Heath Ledger was found dead in his New York City apartment on Tuesday, January 22nd.** Police said his death may have been drug-related. In 2007, record sales went down 36% since 2000. Album sales were down 36% since 2000. Album sales were down 36% since 2000.

**• “Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds”** is nothing but a steal. Including commute, this show will be unbelievable live. At fifteen bucks (maybe $25 including commute), this show is nothing but a steal.

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Study Abroad  

learned all about a painter’s life, techniques, and analyzed his works right there on-site in front of the painting. Imagine dis-  

The Bergen Room Treats  

The Bergen Room Treats

Campus to Fascia Fare

Once again Bergen Community College would like to announce the smoke opening of The Bergen Room Restaurant, on February 6, 2008, located in C-219 in the Peden Education Center.

The Bergen Room is staffed by students under the supervision of Professor Donald Del Nero. This is our open invitation to you to experience first-hand and what the Hotel Restaurant program is about.

Hours of Operation are as follows;

- Weekdays 1200 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.
- Thursdays 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Reservations are highly recommended, please call 201-447-7222 internal plant call ext. 7222. If you or your guest are unable to fulfill your reservation please inform us of your cancel-  

CERT  

he said, it’s members of the com-  

CERT volunteers in the classroom.

He said 911 should only be used in case of a real emergency. "If someone violates the College’s new no-smoking poli-  

The smoking ban took effect at the time. Of SGC’s original list 34 colleges around the world, about 1.5 million or about one in 200, is smoke-free or has a similar policy. The findings were presented at the College’s new no-smoking poli-  

TV and Radio  

anyone to download. It’s a whole new digital world for Prof. Katzen, who still recalls the little Radio Club that he headed at his junior college in 1980. The radio station was then located in the space that is now the Child Development Center. The radio club did shows that were broadcast on the school’s low power station. But today, as many students say they are being  

Designed for working adults like you, our fully accredited online degree programs are flexible and affordable. Choose from three fully online programs:

- Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies
- Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

A world-class Catholic university, St. John’s has educated leaders since 1870. We also belong to the Conference on Higher Education for Diversity and Social Justice, which means students can create their own learning experiences that are tailored to their individual needs. St. John’s is one of only 34 smoke-free campuses, six of which have more than 34,000 students.

For more information contact
Elizabeth Schinella
Manager of Online Learning and Services
1 (877) 571-5550, mention ext. 127868A | distancelearning@stjohns.edu
www.stjohns.edu/permore01.333.sq
Basketball Tournament

Habitat for Humanity Basketball Tournament

Sponsored by Bergen Community College BCC
Sponsored by Bergen Community College BCC
Sponsored by Bergen Community College BCC
Sponsored by Bergen Community College BCC

Saturday, March 8th, 2008 9:00 AM
Gym, 11th Floor

Date: 03/08/08
Time: 11:00am—5:00pm
You can make a team of three and the price is $30 a team ($10/person) pre-registered. ($40 at the door).
Players will need proof of insurance and Id the day of the tournament. Spectators will be charged $3. The proceeds of this tournament will be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH - KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Francine Prose
Tuesday, March 4th
11:00 AM - Ciccone Theatre


A distinguished critic and essayist, she has taught literature and writing for more than twenty years at major universities. She lives in New York City and is the current president of PEN America.

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH - FEATURED SPEAKER

Jhumpa Lahiri, Author of The Namesake
Thursday, March 20th
11:00 AM - Ciccone Theatre

Jhumpa Lahiri’s debut collection, *Interpreter of Maladies*, won the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. It was translated into twenty-nine languages and became a bestseller both in the United States and abroad. In addition to the Pulitzer, it received the PEN/Hemingway Award, the New Yorker Debut of the Year award, an American Academy of Arts and Letters Addison Metcalf Award, and a nomination for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. Lahiri was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2002. *The Namesake* is her first novel.

Jhumpa Lahiri was born 1967 in London, England, and raised in Rhode Island. She is a graduate of Barnard College, where she received a B.A. in English literature, and of Boston University, where she received an M.A. in English, M.A. in Creative Writing and M.A. in Comparative Studies in Literature and the Arts, and a Ph.D. in Renaissance Studies.

Jhumpa Lahiri has taught creative writing at Boston University and the Rhode Island School of Design.
Thurgood Marshall

Prof. David Troutt, Esq., Panel Moderator

Brown v. Board of Education deci-
sion declaring Plessy constitu-
tional. In all, Marshall argued
29 cases.

That same year President John F.
Kennedy appointed Marshall to the
federal bench. Ultimately President
Lyndon B. Johnson named him in
1965 and then elevated him to the
High Court in 1967, where he served
till his retirement in 1991.

Panelists Janice Robinson, dean
of

Affirmative Action at Rutgers Law
School, Newark, humanized

“The guy was a cut-up in law
school,” Robinson said. “He was a
brother who took risks and was
not just a historical figure. He had
periphereal...”

She admonished the student audi-
ence by focusing on those who
misanthrope can dismantle the
master’s house.

You need strategies to deal with
others and yourself. You need to
be respecting others and yourself!

Felicia Smith, staff counsel for
Travellers Insurance Company, also
pandemic, and as a child, the
audience heard that original! –
and once again this time holding
umbrellas (isn’t

professional...)

This commercial is as prejudice
as Hollywood. It is as prejudice as
the April 21, 1954 decision
declaring Plessy unconstitutional.

And now, Thurgood Marshall.

This is because of his work.

To change things as Justice
Marshall humanized

This discussion was attended by
some hearing impaired students,
in sitting the front row.

Interpreters for them

were Loughran and Jeanne
Ferreras-Boyland, providing
students with a comprehensive
comprehension of the proceedings.

Marshall died on Feb. 24, 1993
at the age of 85, only two years
after his retirement.

Etiquette

requires a lot of concentration,
which is the reason why we chose
a library book.

The next step requires a little
more effort, and may rely on
the dependability of the person you
are speaking to.

Check their contact list and look for
someone with whom you are on
speed dial. Consider making the
attempt to call this significant
person, and hang up after a few
rings.

This may be your friend, in turn, to
attempt to reach you by calling
back. What plays a big part in this exercise is how long
the ring is on your phone. You need
to want to make sure that when the
phone rings, the whole building
will notice and your attention on you.

This is very important.

The third step will require timing
and precision. Upon receiving the
invitation you have been
desired to take, make sure you allow
your phone to ring the maximum
number of times before answering
it. While in the process of picking
it up, make sure to sit, if standing
or if you already were.

If the ringer plays a tune you
happen to like, feel free to bob
your head or dance freely during
the gap of time after the first ring
and before the initial pickup.

Next, you will extend that forward
into the look into the phone’s caller ID.
Now that you realize who is calling
you can call back, and look at them
at least shouted at a reasonable vol-
ume. Loudly responding with
phrases like “yellow,” “howdy,” or
“what’s good?” while picking up the
phone may be used to improve the
crudelessness of this exercise. Begin
a conversation by asking what the
person is doing. By this point, you
should have gained the attention
of at least 60-70 percent of the
room. Continuing on with the
conversation, break into a long
story or explanation, starting with
something similar to “Oh my god,
you’ll never believe what happened on
the other day,” or anything of that
nature, to make sure the audience
becomes even more interested in
what you have to say.

After your story is finished, make
sure to finish off the conversation
with a dramatic closing. What
you will say be entirely left up to you.

At this point you will be
in the background on the
records of other artists, like Joe Turner
and Lloyd Price. He continued to
write many hot songs with Dave
Bartholomew. In 1956, he put five
songs in the top forty, including
“I’m Gonna Love My Baby” and “Tipi-
don of a song that had reached
number one for Glenn Miller in
1943 (although there is a claim
that the song was number two) and
was Domino’s highest chart record
ever in 1948 for “The Fat Man” which
he sang on.  “The Fat Man” (1947
is when it was born) Fats was induced into
the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Last
year, Kohl’s featured Domino’s 1955 hit “Whole Lotta Lovin’” in their holiday
campaign. It was perhaps the warm, fuzzy
feel-good one of the season.

Fats currently resides in New Orleans
where tragic Hurricane Katrina
destroyed the house in which he lived.
Fats was missing for several
days, but was eventually
recovered and released by the military. The
youth and power of Fats’ tracks is
now un-paralleled – there’s nothing
like it.

Entering an industry that crum-
pled the careers of others,
Fats brought together
many different cultures and
groups.

Fats Domino returned to
Tipitina’s at New Orleans,
presenting his musical
career. “Fats Domino, a
man who lived. Fats was missing for several
weeks in which Hurricane Katrina flooded the area in which
the music legend was living. Fats gives, but it was a sure fit.
however, is one in which
rhythm and power of Fats’ tracks is
now un-paralleled – there’s nothing
like it.

If you have any questions or need
a no boundaries.” That method
touches them.

Optimum wanted to create a buzz.
To accomplish this, they
set with a band and all of his com-
pany to back him up. The songs
are greatly enjoyed, and
charts with some
scrambling, but Ill Nino seem to
find the balance with their Latin
element, most notably, precious per-
inclusiveness as he’s sure to touch the stars.

A musician,” David says.

No boundaries.” That method
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The 2008 4th Annual George Stickel Festival Of Moving Images

Presented by
The Arts and Communications Department of Bergen Community College

Monday, April 14, 2008
3:00 p.m.
Student Center Mini-Theater
Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Road, Paramus, NJ 07652

Entry deadlines April 1st 2008
For an entry form and more information contact:
Prof. Marshall D. Katzman
Bergen Community College, Room A331
400 Paramus Road, Paramus, NJ 07652-1598
Phone: 201-483-3507
email: mkatzman@bergen.edu

George Stickel served as the Bergen Community College photographer for twenty-five years. His keen eye for visual composition was instrumental in developing an extensive archive of college images. His kind, gentle, and patient personality always helped him “find the good side” in creating portraits of those who worked and studied here at the college. His interest in people was evident in the way he shared his creative and technical expertise with others.
The NBA Midseason Report

As All-Star weekend arrives, the NBA has had many surprises and disappointments so far during the 2007-2008 season. We here at The Torch will be handing out our midseason awards as well as an honorable mention to praise those who fell just short of winning. We have also profiled the seasons of both the New Jersey Nets and New York Knicks thus far. All statistics are as of Feb. 2, 2008.

Most Valuable Player: Chris Paul, New Orleans Hornets

This Wake Forest product has been phenomenally so far during the 2007-2008 season. Paul has put up the stat sheet averaging approximately 21 points and 11 assists, 4 rebounds, and a league leading 2.5 steals per game. His knack for being a team player has helped first time All-Star and Teammate David West have the best season of his career. Without Paul, the Hornets would have been far behind the teams they were last season - the NBA draft lottery. Honorable mentions: Kevin Garnett, LeBron James, and Kobe Bryant

Rookie of the Year: Kevin Durant, Seattle Supersonics

Durant has begun his NBA career with an immediate impact. Following a phenomenal freshman year at The University of Texas, where he was named national player of the year, Durant has averaged nearly 20 points and 4 rebounds per game. Durant does have room to improve defensively -and on that selection- but expect him to be a top player in the league for many years to come. Honorable mentions: John Salmons, LaMarcus Aldridge, and Andrew Byrum

Defensive Player of the Year: Marcus Camby, Denver Nuggets

Camby has a good shot of winning the defensive player of the year award for the second straight season. The former New York Knick has averaged career highs in both rebounds (14) and blocks (4) per game this season while helping the Nuggets attempt to secure a playoff spot. Honorable Mentions: Bruce Bowen, Kevin Garnett, and Kobe Bryant.

Sixth Man of the Year: Manu Ginobili, San Antonio Spurs

This all-action Argentinian has spurred San Antonio’s season by scoring nearly 20 points 5 rebounds, and 4 assists per game off the bench. Ginobili has lit up the stat sheet averaging 12 points per game this season while helping both rebounds (14) and blocks (4) per game this season while helping the Nuggets attempt to secure a playoff spot. Honorable Mentions: John Salmons, LaMarcus Aldridge, and Andrew Byrum.

Most Surprising Team: Portland Trail Blazers

The Blazers were 32-50 last season and ended up having first pick in this year’s NBA draft, choosing big man Greg Oden. Much to their dis- may, Oden went down with an injury, costing him his season before it even started. The Blazers were, once again, picked to finish near the bottom of the NBA standings. So far, however, the defending NBA champions have proven to be a top 10 team in the league. Outside of a three game winning streak, they have been playing well, Nate Robinson has shown great improvement and the team’s top five players have at times been playing like an all star. This year has been a big surprise for the team and an even bigger surprise for the fans. Honorable mentions: Yao Ming, Steve Nash, and Al Horford.

Most Disappointing Team: Washington Wizards

Regardless of injuries, a team that has Shaquille O’Neal and Dwyane Wade in 75% of their games should not have the worst record in the NBA. The same team that won the 2006 NBA Championship, and made it to the second round of last years playoffs currently has 27 more losses then wins, leaving plenty of questions to be asked. Honorable Mention: New Jersey Nets, Chicago Bulls, and Los Angeles Clippers.

New York Knicks

The Knicks are once again struggling to play team basketball and it is visible in their record thus far. They currently are in last place within the Atlantic Division, an unacceptable position for the team that has been a top 5 team in the Eastern conference. Outside of a three game winning streak, where they surprisingly blew out title contender Boston, has been little to talk about this season. Jamal Crawford has been playing well, Nate Robinson has shown great improvements and the Knicks have put up their best when Stephen Marbury does not suit up. The Knicks may have some tough games but we future, as they are stuck with many bad contracts and no financial flexibil- ity. After the season is over, expect to see rising star David Lee opt out of this year’s deal and look elsewhere to continue his career.

New Jersey Nets

A team with Richard Jefferson, Vince Carter, and Jason Kidd has no business with a 20-26 record. Even with big man Keniit Kristic out of the injury list, the Nets should be a top five team in the Eastern Conference -no questions asked. To make matters even worse, Jason Kidd is having a great statistical sea- son while teammate Richard Jefferson simply do not compliment each other on the court. The Nets still have hopes of a playoff spot since the East is weak. There have also been recent rumors of trades for either Strome Swift, or Jermaine O’Neal. Either trade would put the Nets back in position to make the playoffs, with potential for home court advantage.

SPORTS

BCC’s Briana Kovach Receives National Rank

BY ALEX KOZAR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Despite a somewhat tumultuous season for the girl’s soccer team, freshman co-captain Briana Kovach managed to get noticed in ways that even she did not expect. The Lady Bulldogs went 7-3-3 while the senior, head coach of women’s soccer at BCC, “she has a great deal of experience on the field and is a quick player who knows how to handle the ball.”

Here at BCC, “she has a great deal of experience on the field and is a quick player who knows how to handle the ball.”

“She was able to tally 11 goals and 8 assists in her first season – statistics that ranked her 25th nationally in goal scoring at Bergen Community College. “Hers was a little different being the youngest one on the team, but with a lot of leadership from the seniors and coaches,” she said. “It was a little different being the youngest one on the team, but with a lot of leadership from the seniors and coaches,” she said. “It was a little different being the youngest one on the team, but with a lot of leadership from the seniors and coaches,” she said. “It was a little different being the youngest one on the team, but with a lot of leadership from the seniors and coaches,” she said.

“I think the best part about our team was that we had a culture,” she said. “We did things for the greater good and really put the Team first for the most part and always had fun no matter what we were doing. We had some tough games but we also had some amazing ones. Even if we were losing we would still play as a team and never give up.”

The women of the soccer team have a year to think about how to improve their game for next sea- son. Kovach remains upbeat about the prospects of next year’s season, that has the largest payout. More experienced players will be lost to graduation, as is the case every year. "What girl coming back in the team’s never-say-die attitude and camaraderie, she said.

“Briana is a very dedicated and skillful player,” said Gazwan Ithnan, head coach of women’s soccer at BCC, "she has a great deal of experience on the field and is a quick player who knows how to handle the ball.”

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**BCC Sports Schedule Winter 07-08**

**2007-08 MEN’S BASKETBALL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Dec. 4</td>
<td><em>Middlesex CC</em> A</td>
<td>7:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Dec. 8</td>
<td><em>Atlantic Cape CC</em> H</td>
<td>3:00</td>
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<td>Tues. Dec. 11</td>
<td><em>Passaic CC, Co.</em> A</td>
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<td>Sat. Dec. 22</td>
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<td>Sat. Jan. 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Feb. 23</td>
<td>Reg. XXI-Div. III (1st round)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. Feb. 25</td>
<td>Reg. XXI-Div. III (2nd round)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. Feb. 27</td>
<td>Reg. XXI-Div. III (2nd round)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Feb. 29</td>
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<tr>
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**2007-08 WRESTLING**

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<td><em>Stevens Coll. of Tech.</em> A</td>
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<td><em>Northampton CC Inst.</em> A</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Feb. 6</td>
<td><em>Atlantic Cape CC</em> H</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Feb. 9</td>
<td><em>District Championship</em> A</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. Feb. 21</td>
<td><em>NJCAA Div. III</em> A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Feb. 22</td>
<td><em>NJCAA Div. III</em> A</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Feb. 23</td>
<td><em>NJCAA Div. III</em> A</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BCC’S ASTROLOGICAL CALENDAR**

**February 14, 2008**

**Full moon**

In 2008 a paraglider survived temperatures near -50 degrees when sucked up by thunderstorm updrafts to 30,000 degrees above Australia’s New South Wales.

**February 21, 2008**

**Last quarter moon**

In 1979 on this day the daily temperature was -54 degrees set in North America’s coldest month record.

**February 29, 2008**

**Last quarter moon**

From 1992 till now Boise and Pocatello Indiana have temperature highs between 65-71 degrees only, no high was not exceeded their high (temp).