BCC Revises Campus Security Plan

By Bill Bartlett
Editor in Chief

Bergen Community College is expected to begin providing emergency text and voice messaging alerts for those who subscribe as part of a new “Lockdown Procedure: Code Red Alert” adopted by the college this semester, in case a live shooter or armed assailant threatens the campus.

The text service, which will be offered beginning in April, is just one element of a new emergency management plan at Bergen developed over several months with the help of the Bergen County Police Department. The messaging is crucial because in past emergencies, such as the one at Virginia Tech, notifying the campus community quickly was a critical factor in saving lives.

The new procedure also includes other security measures like an increase in county police and public safety officer presence, increased use of security cameras and installation of phones in every classroom that can also serve as a public address system in emergencies. Bergen County Police, BCCs Dept. of Public Safety and the Paramus Police Department will be conducting a table top exercise of the new down procedure during Spring Break on March 25 in the Anna Maria Ciccone Theatre.

“We can’t respond to any emergency or any type of incident without a plan,” said Sgt. John LaDuca, head of the Bergen County Police officers on campus, said in a Student Government Council meeting on March 12 where the proposal was presented. “Last semester we focused on an emergency management plan for the college, which provides broad guidelines for how the community should respond to an incident.”

The lockdown procedure states that those in secure areas should not come out until a law enforcement officer or public safety personnel properly identifies them.

Remedial Math Program Tries a New Formula To Boost Pass Rates

By Amanda Ferrante
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Major changes in the basic skills math program have been approved by President James Ryan to help reverse what has become an embarrassingly high failure rate of remedial math courses at Bergen Community College. On the recommendations of an internal review committee, Dr. Ryan approved several changes such as eliminating the practice of using Accuplacer tests as exit tests to pass individual courses, ending required course sequencing, and hiring developmental math students.

In an interview, Dr. Gary Porter, BCC’s academic vice president, called the proposal “the “one size fits all” approach toward remedial math instruction. The current system has strict guidelines and standardized tests that have proven to be barriers for developmentally math students, many of whom already have a math phobia.

“We need a program that recognizes that our students have a diverse program of needs, that there will be multiple pathways that students can in order to get through the math sequence,” said Dr. Porter.

The percentage of students who fail a remedial math class is high and it’s getting worse, according to the college’s “At a Glance” report in 2007, 47.4 percent of students failed one of the three remedial math courses offered at the college, down from 48.7 percent in 2006, according to BCC’s Center for Institutional Effectiveness & Research. However, the pass rate is even lower, when taken as a whole.

“The problem is, if you start with the lowest class [Basic Mathematics MAT-011], half of them get through and go to the next class [Algebra A MAT-015], and then half of them get through, and if you go to a third level [Algebra B MAT 032], you get half of those. You go from 50% to 25% to 12.5%,” said Dr. Porter.

“We are making it easier for the program to work than the success rate, because of the cumulative effect on a multi level system.”

The remedial math program includes a series of non-credit classes designed to bring students up to college level math. Students are placed into one or more of the classes after taking placement tests and they must pass before taking college level math.

“The most widely prescribed sequence is Basic Math (MAT-011), Algebra A (MAT-015) and Algebra B (MAT-032).”

Due to the disappointing pass rates, an external review was held last June. Math faculty members from other community colleges in New Jersey came to Bergen to examine the remedial math program and make recommendations accordingly.

Dr. Porter said the review was unsatisfactory, therefore, another review – this one internal -- took place, and made the recommendations for the “one size fits all” approach.

Those external teams, in spite of specific instructions from me, did not address the questions we gave to them,” he said. “Because of their failure to address the questions, we have been forced to have an internal review committee review those recommendations for implementation at Bergen Community College.”

Dr. Ryan approved the following recommendations from the internal committee to be implemented:

• The program should discontinue the math sequencing policy. This means that students will no longer be barred from taking higher level math classes. “Students should be free to enroll in the classes they need to transfer rather than what the college needs them to take for graduation,” the proposal stated.

• The faculty should be empowered to utilize the tutoring center as needed to reinforce math skills. The proposal states: “This form of reinforcement/extra assistance, by requirement, would be making better use of BCC resources, but ultimately it would lead to assistin-

g in student’s success.”

• The class sizes should be reduced so it conforms to the average class size for New Jersey. Starting in the fall development.

Gallery Bergen Gets Ready for a New Exhibition

By Evelia Bilalaj
Staff Writer

Bergen Community College prides itself on its diversity. Now it’s about to highlight it in a new art exhibit, Faces of Diversity, located on the second floor of West Hall, will see its second exhibition this semester, Faces of Diversity.

The exhibition will showcase 20 oversized portraits (routinely 20 x 30”) of Bergen Community College students, coupled with short anecdotes about each individual photographed. The show will run from April 10 – May 5, with an opening reception taking place on April 15 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

BCCs Michelle Ideler, of Teaneck, claimed a first place trophy for overall speaker points during Rockland Community College’s debate tournament held March 9. Michelle is the tenth BCC debater to claim a victory trophy over the last five and a half years. BCC will host the third annual Arlo Cunningham Memorial Debate Tournament on April 13. Pictured (l to r) are debaters Michelle Idler; Anita Peij; Laura Vilia; Professor Mike Echols, advisor; BCC debate club; Chris Vo;Vishh Kahidada; and Dan Nachum.

Faces of Diversity, the last exhibition for this school year, will illustrate BCC’s diverse and multicultural campus community. Prof. Fariba Hajamdi, an assistant art professor at the college, is serving as director and curator of this exhibition.

“Her and her digital photography students will install the portraits. She and her digital photography students will install the portraits."
Smoke at Your Own Risk Has New Meaning at BCC

By Eric Wilson

Contributing Writer

While Bergen Community College has become a smoke-free college, some young people have had to adjust to the change.

Eric Wilson, a student at BCC, said that although he is happy with the change, he misses the camaraderie of smoking with his friends.

Wilson said that he used to go to the smoke areas on campus with his friends, but now he has to find other ways to socialize.

Wilson said that he misses the sense of belonging that he had with his friends when he was a smoker.

Wilson said that he is looking forward to the day when smoking is completely banned from the campus.

Wilson said that he is glad that the college has taken steps to make the campus a safer place for all students.

Wilson said that he is proud of the college for taking a stand against smoking and setting an example for the community.

Wilson said that he is especially proud of the students who have quit smoking and are living healthy lives.

Wilson said that he is grateful for the support of the college and his friends in his journey towards a smoke-free life.
Café Bergen Receives Grant to Continue Project

By Rolliene Mallari

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With a $26,000 grant, Café Bergen is ready to launch a new season.

Café Bergen, a performing arts series based in the student center of this residence hall, is the brain-child of American Language Program Professors Apostolos Aida and Sandra Lanzingan. Each semester, Café Bergen features talent from numerous programs, ranging from talented faculty and students of the college to guest artists for the community at large.

Café Bergen is co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Intercultural Understanding (CSIU) and the Office of Student Life. Much of the grant was donated by the New Jersey Council of Arts and New Jersey Division of the Humanities, which work on behalf of artistic, cultural, and educational factors as well. Andrew Krikut, a music professor and Chair of the co-curricular programming subcommittee for CSIU at Bergen Community College, was the recipient of this grant.

Kirutik states that much of the grant will be used to fund the hosting of guest artists and to help create the Bohemian feel of an upscale coffeehouse that Café Bergen strives to be.

"A lot of work really goes into (Café Bergen): Everything is done very professionally," he said. Café Bergen always aims for diversity in its performances. In the past, Café Bergen has featured traditional Moroccan musicians, instrumental music from Puerto Rico and Cuba, spoken word, classical piano and guitar, jazz, blues, and even Filipino martial artists. Featured guest artists included professional jazz singer Mamiko Taira, and world-renowned Ugandan musician, Hafeni Mwakyusa.

"The goal of Café Bergen is cultural understanding, to showcase art, the diversity in art. We want to feature artists from around the world and promote these diverse art forms," Krikut said.

Keeping up with this goal, Café Bergen is showcasing Darfur: Words and Images for the spring semester during diversity week April 7-11. Headlining for Café Bergen is former performer Hassan Hakmoun of Morocco, winner of the 2003 Indie Award for the Best Contemporary World Recording, performing Sufi trance music. Also featured will be select works from Prof. Borgdorn’s creative writing class, and Prof. Andrzej Jabłonowski’s drawing classes. Upcoming plans for the fall ’08 semester, in conjunction with Native American Heritage Week, include Native American poet, musician, artist, and activist, John Trudell.

Check out Café Bergen April 18 at 6 p.m. in the recital hall located on the second floor within West Hall. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Women’s History Month Speaker Says Sex Sells; Highjacks Feminism

By Chris Matta

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Meredith LeVande, singer-songwriter and social observer, presented a multimedia lecture on the mainstreaming of pornography to a mixed audience of students, faculty, and guests on March 10 in the Ciccone Theatre in celebration of Women’s History Month.

Titled “Women, Pop Music, and Pornography,” LeVande’s message spoke to the issue of the “hypersexualisation” of women and the “hijacking of feminism,” which she credits to pop stars like Britney Spears, and former Spice Girl, Christina Aguilera. These women consistently depict females as sex objects, and glorify the so-called “empowerment” resulting via commercials and advertisements. While men are the intended recipients of this mainstreamingTraditionally, young women are desensitized to their portrayal as sex objects via mainstream media. Contemporary feminism, virtu, women now are seeking empowerment by promoting their sexual desire.

"This trend has turned into an institution,” LeVande said, noting the increasing “hypersexualisation” results via commercials and advertising, that young women who are in danger of finding their “potential” through sexuality alone. The presentation was for the audience to peer into their souls and take a look at the media which we feel, in part, by supporting their products with our own money. LeVande is asking people to raise awareness of this increasingly dangerous issue. She questions the social and sexual morals of a society whose role models are sexed-up teen idols. LeVande gave a haunting effect to her presentation, so much so that afterwards, audience members told her that it was a “brutal” discussion.

She replied that the speaker must become detached to convey the information in a beneficial, unbiased way. Her aim is to make the audience aware of the heightened danger in today’s popular media.

"Wow, I never thought about it like that,” said Chris Karach, a second semester student, who went to the presentation and records music himself.

SQC President Ignacio Acosta and Board of Trustee’s Secretary CID Wilson attended the 5th Annual White House Dominican Independence Day reception held on Feb. 27, 2008. The day’s events included speeches from Dominican and American ambassadors, and brought student leaders together to celebrate the day that the Dominican Republic gained its independence from Spain.

President (L to R) are Ignacio Acosta, US Treasurer Anna Escobedo Cabral and CID Wilson.

There is no way... to get something to eat if they have no change.

Many students and faculty members have complained about having to go to an ATM machine for cash, because there would be no credit card machine to swipe a card and no cash back available.

Lack of a credit card machine for students to swipe a card and access to the ATM...no one has the time to run up to the main building to get cash from the ATM, so they go without something to drink or eat. I am sure the students as well as the faculty and staff will be very glad that there will be an ATM located in Ender Hall.”
**SGC plans to revise the resolution of unacceptable word usage.** The Faculty Senate rejected the out new editions that have few keeping prices high by putting earlier edition is available and but allow students to With this resolution presented by the resolution has finally received the codes they need to set up accounts within Times and begin uploading video and radio podcasts. A formal opening session for the new, digitally broadcast media outlet is being scheduled for sometime after Spring Break.

**Getting to Know Who Represents You**

### Candidate for SGA President:
**Ron Subramaniam**

AS PS General Studies

Running for President - Student Government Council
e-mail: dayaranjan@gmail.com, mobile: 551- 225-6111

**Things I would like to do as your President:**
- First and foremost, be an effective spokesperson for the student body.
- Host leadership and political awareness events in the college. Bring in local and national leaders to address students.
- Create a website for SGC within the BCC website with minutes and agenda posted on a regular basis.
- Work towards more scholarships for sportsmen with outstanding academic achievement.

**More involvement with SGC.**

**Position I’m running for is SGC Office Manager.**

You have probably seen me around campus working on various projects, promoting Media Club, or just helping out friends in need. Being a President of a Media Club has taught me how to do that in a timely and accurate manner. I am privileged to have the opportunity to continue this work with you. I believe that I am well informed about issues affecting students at this college. My goal is to foster effective communication amongst all facets of the student body. I have done numerous mission trips such as spending time in the Navajo Nation in Arizona and I have also helped to deliver food to people in Louisiana who were affected during Hurricane Katrina. I speak English, French and I am currently studying Italian. My hobbies include playing ice hockey, camping, gardening, and fishing. I am an open-minded, busy, and outgoing guy. If you see me around campus, feel free to ask me anything.

**Candidate for SGA President:**

Anthony Celeste

Professional Studies

My name is Anthony Celeste. I am going into my second year at Bergen Community College. My major is Professional Studies with an interest in social work. I have been a member of Student Government Council for one year and I am running for both Recording and Corresponding Secretary.

I believe that I am well informed about issues affecting students at this college. My goal is to foster effective communication amongst all facets of the student body. I have done numerous mission trips such as spending time in the Navajo Nation in Arizona and I have also helped to deliver food to people in Louisiana who were affected during Hurricane Katrina. I speak English, French and I am currently studying Italian. My hobbies include playing ice hockey, camping, gardening, and fishing. I am an open-minded, busy, and outgoing guy. If you see me around campus, feel free to ask me anything.

### Candidate for Office Manager:

**Anita Pejic**

Hello Torch readers!

My name is Anita Pejic. I was born and raised in Croatia. This is my fourth semester as an international student at BCC, and my major is Communication.

This is my second semester being a Senator at the Student Government Council. As such, I got a chance to see what truly means to be part of Bergen Community College. I saw that students are listened to, that we do make a difference and for that reason I wanted to get even more involved with SGC. The position I’m running for is SGC Office Manager. You have probably seen me around campus working on various projects, promoting Media Club, or just helping out friends in need. Being a President of a Media Club has taught me how to do that in a timely and accurate manner. I am privileged to have the opportunity to continue this work with you. I believe that I am well informed about issues affecting students at this college. My goal is to foster effective communication amongst all facets of the student body. I have done numerous mission trips such as spending time in the Navajo Nation in Arizona and I have also helped to deliver food to people in Louisiana who were affected during Hurricane Katrina. I speak English, French and I am currently studying Italian. My hobbies include playing ice hockey, camping, gardening, and fishing. I am an open-minded, busy, and outgoing guy. If you see me around campus, feel free to ask me anything.
**BE SURE TO KNOW THE ISSUES THAT MATTER TO YOU THE MOST AND WHERE EACH CANDIDATE STANDS**

### War

**Barack Obama**
- Wants to bring troops home in 16 months
- Apply political pressure to get Iran to cease funding of terrorism
- Strengthen relations with neighboring nations of Iraq

**Hillary Clinton**
- Wants to set the limit of the number of troops to the same cap set by Bush on January 1, 2007
- Prioritize America’s military presence to training Iraqi security forces
- Protect American personnel and assets, and aid in countering terrorist activities
- Encourage other countries to attend to Iraq's needs

**John McCain**
- Increase troop levels in Iraq
- Aims to eliminate al Qaeda and not bring troops home until they do

### Healthcare

**Barack Obama**
- Create a nationalized healthcare plan that appeals to all Americans
- Offer a benefits package similar to the one offered to members of Congress
- Guarantee eligibility regardless of past illnesses or pre-existing conditions
- Insure coverage from job to job

**Hillary Clinton**
- Supports the SCHIP plan, wants more affordable healthcare
- Wants to increase education awareness on prescription drugs
- Expand Medicaid eligibility to low-income individuals living with HIV

### Immigration

**Barack Obama**
- Increase security for national borders
- Offer current illegal aliens that are in "good standing," to pay a fine, learn English, and move to the back of the line to become citizens
- Promote economical development in Mexico to cut down on illegal immigration

**Hillary Clinton**
- Establish strict but fair enforcement of immigration laws
- Increase cross-border cooperation with Mexico
- Employ strict penalties for business owners who exploit undocumented workers
- Establish strict but fair enforcement of immigration laws

### Economy

**Barack Obama**
- Provide a tax cut of up to $500 per person or $1000 for middle class families
- Amend NAFTA to be more compatible with American workers
- Reform bankruptcy laws
- Create a 5-star rating system for credit card companies and a CC Bill for $4000 to any public college or university

**Hillary Clinton**
- Invest 100 million over the next ten years into clean energy and alternative biofuels

### Energy

**Barack Obama**
- Empower and improve childhood education
- Recruit better-qualified teachers
- Introduce the American Opportunity Tax Credit, a fully refundable tax credit that completely covers the tuition of community colleges and covers the first $4000 of any public college or university
- Prioritize Math and Science

**Hillary Clinton**
- Reduce carbon emissions 80 percent before 2050
- Offer incentives for forest owners, farmers, and ranchers who undertake farming practices that remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere
- Invest 150 billion over the next ten years into clean energy and alternative biofuels

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**What are the important issues?**

- War issues in Iraq: 43 percent
- Healthcare: 15 percent
- Health insurance: 10 percent
- Homeland security/military defense: 7 percent
- Education: 6 percent
- Illegal immigration: 5 percent

**Source:** Gallup Poll, April 2007

**We each have the ability to increase voter turnout in this country.**

How you can help:
- Register to vote and help others register, too.
- Talk to people about the candidates and the issues and why you feel it’s important to vote.
- Find out if your family, friends, and neighbors have what they need to make informed decisions and get to the polls. Maybe all they need is a ride.
- Don’t go to the polling place alone. Make a date to take a neighbor.

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**Are You Registered to Vote?**

You can register to vote if:
- You are a United States citizen
- You will be 18 years of age by the next election
- You will be a resident of the State and county 30 days before the election
- You are NOT currently serving a sentence, probation or parole because of a felony conviction

**Registration Deadline:** 21 days before an election. Your County Commissioner of Registration will notify you if your application is accepted. If it is not accepted, you will be notified on how to complete and/or correct the application.

Download a printable pdf version of the NJ voter registration form from:

- [http://www.state.nj.us/lps/elections/vote-registration-application.html](http://www.state.nj.us/lps/elections/vote-registration-application.html)

**Voter Turnout in Presidential Elections, 1960-2004**

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage of Voting-Age Population</th>
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</tbody>
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**The Torch would like to thank the League of Women Voters for their assistance in providing the above information.**
**April 20th, Sunday**

**Like the outdoors? Join a paddle tour by the Hackensack Riverkeepers on the Hackensack River out of Secaucus. Cost is $30 per adult using kayaks. Two people in a canoe are $10 per person. Tour starts at 12 noon. Please contact Doug Short for more details.**

Contact Doug Short: dshort@bergen.edu

**April 21st, Monday**

**Virtual Riverkeeper Tour**

**12:30 - 1:30 p.m., A104**

Come by and get a virtual tour of the Hackensack River covering wildlife, fisheries, wetlands, and transportation. And the rivers role in the American Revolution.

**April 22nd, Tuesday**

**Earth Day**

**Speaker: Robert Pill**

(in conjunction w/ honors program)

**12:30 p.m., A104**

**Carbon Footprint 101**

What is it? Why is it important? What can you do about it? Please come join this interesting and thought provoking discussion.

We will have a speaker from the community take part in the discussion, Ana Barron, Owner of the Earth Friendly WaterLeaf, in Ramsey, NJ.

**April 23rd, Wednesday**

**Keynote Speaker: Jim Merkel**

**3:00-4:30 p.m., A115**

Don’t miss this! Jim Merkel is the author of Radical Simplicity and is the Sustainability Coordinator at Dartmouth College. Originally a military engineer and arms trainer, Jim changed his life at the time of the Exxon Valdez disaster, quitting his job and devoting himself to environmental service and world peace. He downsized his life and lived on $5,000 a year for 16 years. Jim founded the Global Living Project (GLP) and initiated the GLP Summer Institute where teams of researchers attempted to live on an equitable portion of the biosphere. Find out more...

http://www.radicalsimplicity.org/

**April 24th, Thursday**

**Speaker: Roger Opstahaum**

**11 a.m. - 12 noon, A104**

**Global Warming**

Using Venus’ runaway greenhouse as an example, the physics, short-term and long-term effects of global warming will be discussed.

**Discussion Panel: Presented by BergenLit**

**12:30 - 1:30 p.m., A104**

Love nature and like to read about it? Please come by and visit BergenLit’s lively discussion about nature. Add your thoughts. Books to be discussed are: Emerson’s “Nature,” Whitman’s “Leaves of Grass,” and/or Thoreau’s “Walden.”

**April 25th, Friday**

**Green Potluck**

**6:30 p.m., Student Center Lobby**

Join us for a gathering to celebrate sustainability in Bergen County and the surrounding area.

The College is interested in creating a network and support system for the local sustainability movement and we’d like your help in identifying the people and organizations connected to our local movement.

Please bring one main dish and one dessert item to support this potluck event, along with your own place settings—plates, cups, utensils and napkins—to avoid waste. We’ll provide the hot coffee, tea and water. (Please, do not bring alcohol).

Each table will feature a different topic regarding the environment — energy, health, transportation, justice, land use, education, etc. — and you are invited to discuss whichever topic interests you. At the end of evening, we will compile the information obtained and pass it on to you.

RSVP: rwieland@bergen.edu Put “Green Potluck” in subject window.

**April 26th, Saturday**

**River Clean-Up**

Want to get involved and show your support for the environment? Join us for a river clean-up! Riverkeeper’s are holding a river clean-up in River Edge from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. No cost.

Contact Doug Short: dshort@bergen.edu

**Triple Movie Feature, A104**

We are opening the college doors on Saturday night starting at 5:30 p.m. for our environmental movie goers! Please come by for a thought provoking and mind-stirring experience!

- **Texas Gold**
  - 6-7 p.m.
  - Rachel Carson
  - Kilowatt Ours

- **Kilowatt Ours**
  - 7-9 p.m.
  - Carolin Davidson

- **Kilowatt Ours**
  - 9-11 p.m.
  - Texas Gold

Note: movies subject to change.

**Environmental Week Green Team Award Committee**

Big thank you to our wonderful group:

- Rachel Wieland, Chair
- Ethel Abbring
- Sarah Markgraf
- Sherry Balkan
- Shannon McGinnett
- Tom Beery
- Roger Ophust
- Suzan Bottger
- Mari Pieckocki
- Robert Stil
- Angela Guintero
- Martha Srodvin
- Fran Ruff
- Humberto Jaramillo
- Doug Short
- Leigh Jonatlis
- Debra Souza-Olivares

Special thanks to Ana Barron, owner of Earth Friendly WaterLeaf in Ramsey, N.J. She donated her time, energy and green products to help our events.

Very special thanks to Ralph and Greg from student services. Thanks to everyone for recycling!!
Ideas on Coming Up with Solutions

Garbage is Everyone's Problem

By HUMBERTO JARAMILLO
Special from the Environmental Club

Garbage is Everyone's Problem

Excuse me, can I dig a hole in your backyard and dump all my trash there? I only have some plastic bags that will take about one thousand years to decompose, my old computer and cell phone made with toxic metals. Some used antifreeze, engine oil, a lot of plastic bottles and soda cans, a bunch of Styrofoam plates, plastic utensils, used paper and some really stinky garbage you don't even want to know about. Maybe I could just set up a fire in your backyard and burn my trash?

You would probably say: Not in my backyard! But if we think of New Jersey as our home state, then Newark and Staten Island are in our backyard. None of us complain about the landfills and garbage incinerator we have in our Meadowlands, which put toxins in the air and landscape; not to mention that they are a source of pollution right next to someone's house.

For now, think of the stuff we buy that we don't need or will ever use. We put a bunch of things in our house, out of my sight, and out of my hands. Don't need it, don't want it, and if I change my mind I'll buy another one. So where does all this garbage go?

After the garbage truck takes our waste, it is then taken to a landfill where it is buried. It can also be taken to an incinerator and burned. Problem solved. Unfortunately, matter does not simply vanish, so landfills take up a lot of space. Considering our fast disposal rate, they fill too quickly. Eventually, every place will be a landfill. Waste landfills contaminate our sources of drinkable ground water because they leach chemicals into streams.

Incinerators burn all kind of waste. They dispose dangerous toxins to the air. So, you don't have to smoke in New Jersey to get cancer. Air pollution is making people sick. Metals and chemicals like dioxin, a substance emitted by incinerators, have been proven to cause respiratory diseases like asthma, harming both the natural environment and human health. Incinerators also produce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming.

What we have done in the past is irreversible, but now it is time to be responsible of our actions. The damage we cause to the environment affects future generations, and us. So how do we stop this madness? It is inevitable to create some kind of waste, but we can reduce the amount of it. As Professor Dill of the environmental biology dept. would tell us: “Reduce, reuse, and recycle.” Reduce the amount of items you buy, and only buy what you truly need. Reuse what you own. If it is broken, someone might be able to fix it and use it. If it seems impossible to be reused, recycle it. What may seem to be waste to you is a reusable product to someone else. There are places in most communities that will take electronic and other hazardous materials. Paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, and plastic bottles are also reusable goods. That soda bottle could be used again and again before it is burnt or buried. Give it a chance. Wouldn't you like to have a second chance if you could get one?

Reusable goods prevent the usage and extraction of raw, natural resources with the drilling of oil and mines. They reduce deforestation, save energy consumption, minimize air pollution with the burning of fossil fuels, and landfill space is conserved.

Bergen Community College will begin setting the example that recycling is the right and cool thing to do for our health and the environment. Recycling is easy; we just have to put our recyclable items in the bins where they belong.

In the long run, recycling will help decrease pollution- and a planet without pollution is a healthy planet for all of us. Do your part.

Why Recycle Paper?

* It is possible to achieve significant reductions in the cost of buying office paper by reducing paper use and reusing paper where possible.
* Eliminating office from waste may reduce waste bills by as much as 50%.
* Making new paper from old paper uses 30% to 55% less energy than making paper from trees and reduces related air pollution by 95%.
* Each day American businesses generate enough paper to circle the globe at least 40 times!
* 77% of paper waste generated in offices is recyclable.
* Typical business offices generate about 1.5 pounds of waste paper per employee each day.
* Nearly half of typical office paper waste is high grade office paper.
* Recycling one ton of paper typically saves about 6.7 cubic yards of landfill space. A cubic yard of stacked office paper weighs about 380 pounds. Cost savings may be estimated by multiplying the tons recycled by 6.7 times the cost per cubic yard for waste disposal. (If by volume of 15 cost per ton if by weight).
* Commercial and residential paper waste accounts for more than 40% of waste going to the landfill. Eliminating this paper from our waste would nearly double the lives of existing landfills.
* Newspaper is recycled into newspaper, game boards, gift boxes, animal bedding, insulation, and packaging material.
* Office paper is recycled into office paper, tissue paper, paper towels, and toilet paper.
* Corrugated cardboard is recycled into new cardboard and cereal boxes.


A Dozen Suggestions: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

BY ANGELICA M. QUINTERO
Special from the Environmental Club

1. Question the practices of businesses you give your money to. All stores at the mall do not recycle, and waste tons of plastic bags and hangars daily. Reuse their bags and take the hangars home with you.
2. All the objects around you are the result of natural resource exploitation. Reuse and recycle at home, educate your family and community.
3. Join river clean-ups in your area.
4. Buy durable long lasting goods, that way they are not thrown away that often.
5. Own an environmentally friendly reusable bag so you do not repurchase plastic bags. Take it everywhere. It is the cool thing to do now.
6. Recycle your electronic waste. Bring your batteries, old cell phones, and ink cartridges to Bergen. We recycle them.
7. Reduce the amount of hazardous materials you use. Every year, we produce 279 million tons of hazardous waste that pose various threats to our health. 8. 95% of American forests have been cut down. Reuse your paper. Be creative; make notebooks by putting together all the printouts from your classes once you are done.
9. Buy products that say they are made with recycled materials, such as recycled paper.
10. Support local stores. They promote sustainable communities.
11. Learn more on how to maintain a balance between you and your environment.
12. Write to your legislators. They are the ones who create policies to ensure that residual waste can be assimilated by ecological systems.

Graduating Bergen Community College Soon?

CONSIDERING TRANSFER?

Transfer Presentations Spring 2008:
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

For more information call 201-445-7247.


* 60,000 gal of water
* 350 lbs of limestone
* 275 pounds of sulphur
* 17 trees
* Office paper is recycled into office paper, tissue paper, paper towels, and toilet paper.
* Newspaper is recycled into newspaper, game boards, gift boxes, animal bedding, insulation, and packaging material.
* Office paper is recycled into office paper, tissue paper, paper towels, and toilet paper.
* Corrugated cardboard is recycled into new cardboard and cereal boxes.


The insanity of the collective egoic mind, amplified by science and technology, is rapidly taking our species to the brink of disaster. Evolve or die: that is our only choice now.

–Eckhart Tolle
Bergen Community College presents

Tartuffe
by Molière

Anna Maria Ciccone Theatre

April 11, 12, 18, & 19 @ 7:30 p.m.
April 13 & 20 @ 3:00 p.m.

Tickets: $10; $5 for students, seniors (65+) and all of Bergen Community College

Advanced ticket sales are recommended and are available in Room A-315.

Tickets may also be purchased one hour before the performance at the theatre box office, if available.

Information: (201) 447-7428
Science Made Easy: Allergy Season is Fast Approaching

By Meike Overchekens

Illustrator

Spring is the season of rebirth, rejuvenation and reemergence of life. It is a time when we clean our closets of past winter stuffs and embrace the fresh and vibrant new life. In spring, natural spring water overflows with raindrops. While the seas are generally tranquil, it is accompanied by a flood of diseases, some mild and others deadly to the sufferer.

Although spring season is anxiously awaited and joyfully greeted when it arrives, it is also the season of worst nightmares for allergy sufferers. This is because the pollen count is high and allergens are easily dispersed by wind. Even worse news for sufferers—some allergies piercing your ear, the spring season turns to summer.

An allergy is a disorder of the immune system sometimes referred to as hypersensitivity. It is an abnormal reaction of the body to everyday substances, which are supposed to be harmless, thereby causing the immune system to become unbalanced and react against these allergens. Science Made Easy thinks that the trouble starts when you start living to war when there is no conflict.

When an allergy prone individual is exposed to this allergen, the body recognizes it and creates a special antibody against the allergen attaching the antibody to it. Henceforth, there will always be a reaction when allergens come in contact with that body. On contact, the antigens in the body cause mast cells (e.g. skin, tongue, lungs, intestinal tract, etc.) to release inflammatory chemicals and histamine, the irritants of allergies. What are allergens? Allergens are substances such as pollens, dust mites, molds and animal danders. They cause the immune system to trigger and fight itself. The human immune system combats these reactions whether they are detrimental or not. The body protects you from these allergens and you develop allergies along with their offspring. Allergies that are hereditary can appear in your family lineage, but the way the body reacts to it. On the other hand, people can just develop allergies on their own. The fact that your parents have allergies doesn’t mean you will have them too.

Statistics have shown that 50% of Americans suffer from allergies and have different allergies. The warning is-caution because the symptoms are not easy to treat and if allowed, can lead to chronic disease.

There is a common factor here: Your body gives you a warning. A parent may be allergic to a particular food, animal, or a drug, and pass these allergies along to their offspring. Allergies that are hereditary can appear in your family lineage, but the way the body reacts to it. On the other hand, people can just develop allergies on their own. The fact that your parents have allergies doesn’t mean you will have them too.

Be the Change

By Greg Traper

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I’ve been battling my bathroom to validate my existence recently. I need a friend. I need a laugh. I need a funny video on the internet. This battle started after I spent some time building houses in New Orleans and decided I could fix all the problems I used to procrastinate over in my New Jersey residence. With my new go-getter attitude it should have been easy; I planned to sherdock, mud, and tile the unfinished second floor bathroom at my house. It’s now over a year later, and I’ve managed the shower. It’s a pain. I believe the answer to self-motivation is an article from a serious angle about the self-help industry and inspire whatever project you’ve been procrastinating completion of. The only downside to this method is the months of depression that follow when things don’t work out. I was part of a team of friends who Manifestly dragged me off my air mattress and made me build houses (even when I was too drunk to think). I believe the answer to self-motivation at home is to trick yourself, persevere and inspire whatever project you’ve been procrastinating completion of. The only downside to this method is the months of depression that follow when things don’t work out. I was part of a team of friends who Manifestly dragged me off my air mattress and made me build houses (even when I was too drunk to think). I believe the answer to self-motivation at home is to trick yourself, persevere and inspire whatever project you’ve been procrastinating completion of. The only downside to this method is the months of depression that follow when things don’t work out. I was part of a team of friends who Manifestly dragged me off my air mattress and made me build houses (even when I was too drunk to think). I believe the answer to self-motivation at home is to trick yourself, persevere and inspire whatever project you’ve been procrastinating completion of.

Common allergic reactants: Anything under the sun can trigger an allergic reaction; however, there are some factors or substances that could trigger allergies more than others. Here is a list of them:

Food: Allergies. A rare, but deadly kind of allergy. The most common are high protein foods like legumes, soy, nuts and seafood. The body reacts to these allergies differently depending on the sufferer. Some people may break out, others may experience loss of air into their lung pathways.

Airborne Microorganisms: This is the allergen responsible for sneezing and coughing, especially in spring season. This is the most common of all allergens. The substances that create airborne microorganisms include, ragweed, grass, trees and spores.

Bites and stings: Have you ever been bitten by an insect and the next thing you know are you are itching and breaking out? If you have, it is because the insect bite causes an allergy that the cannot be tolerated. Remember: it is not the allergen that causes the symptoms, it is the way the body reacts to it. Drugs and medication: Another common kind of allergies. Ever watched a commercial that advertised a drug? Do you notice that towards the end they list a bunch of “side effects” are these allergy triggers. Since different people have different allergies, the warning is-caution because the symptoms are not easy to treat and if allowed, can lead to chronic disease. How are Allergies Treated? The pharmacist or doctor will advise you to try an allergic reaction to see if the symptoms are disease or allergy related. If allergy related, they might treat you or refer you to an allergist. The allergist usually asks a series of questions about family history and previous ailments to con-

Airborne microorganisms created by trees and grass during the spring season are the most common of all allergens.

Allergens are also the sixth leading cause of chronic disease in America.

For all you ladies out there who care about life in uniform, think twice.

During the six months he was in the Academy, you hardly had any time to see each other. And when you did, all you wanted to do was sleep. You chose to tough it out because deep down, you know how hard it will pay off later... or so you think.

The training is now over and you think life will become semi-nor-
mal. Guess again. He now starts working at a precinct and drives his Mobile Patrol (RMP), or as they like to call it, their “whip” (car). There he is everyday with his crisp blue col-

Honey, I’m Home! 10-4 Sweetie

By Elsa Cerbone

MANAGING EDITOR

“Hey honey, I am working a dou-
ble tonight. Can we go out another
thing?” is one of the many common
phrases you will continually hear if
you accept this behavior and some
weekends that you will be without
your man in blue, and thus, my
rough draft. However, one of the
biggest things you will be without
is your man in blue. My Mobile Patrol
(RMP), or as they like to call it,
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Bites and stings: Have you ever been bitten by an insect and the next thing you know are you are itching and breaking out? If you have, it is because the insect bite causes an allergy that the cannot be tolerated. Remember: it is not the allergen that causes the symptoms, it is the way the body reacts to it. Drugs and medication: Another common kind of allergies. Ever watched a commercial that advertised a drug? Do you notice that towards the end they list a bunch of “side effects” are these allergy triggers. Since different people have different allergies, the warning is-caution because the symptoms are not easy to treat and if allowed, can lead to chronic disease. How are Allergies Treated? The pharmacist or doctor will advise you to try an allergic reaction to see if the symptoms are disease or allergy related. If allergy related, they might treat you or refer you to an allergist. The allergist usually asks a series of questions about family history and previous ailments to con-

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Meredith LeVande gave a lecture titled “Women, Pop Music, and Pornography” on March 10 in the Anna Maria Ciccone Theatre. The talk addressed the current media environment which, she feels, depicts a “hyper-sexualization” of women. Full coverage on pg 2.

Francine Prose, noted novelist, essayist, and literary critic addressed the plight of women writers dealing with censorship issues who are unable to express themselves in a full and free manner on March 4.

The Office of Student Life sponsored a trip to bergenPAC to see K.D. Lang, well-known recording artist and champion of gay rights issues, in concert.

Jhumpa Lahiri, Pulitzer Prize winning author of Interpreter of Maladies, and The Namesake (which was made into a motion picture in 2006) will be visiting The Anna Maria Ciccone Theatre on March 20 in conjunction with Bergen's Literary Arts Series to read and discuss passages from The Namesake.
 Amarican Government, is the official student newspaper of Bergen Community College. The purpose of the "The Torch" is to report on the events at BCC, and to offer to the BCC community a forum for expression. The opinions expressed in "The Torch" are the views of the Torch editorial board, and do not necessarily reflect the thoughts of the BCC administration, faculty, or staff.

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The First Amendment, the College Press and the Right to Know
By Bob Nickuss

The recent dispute at Montclair State University over efforts by the student council to control the budget of the school’s newspaper brings into focus the seemingly never-ending problems of press freedom. The Constitution prohibits government interference with the operation of a free press.

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

But in recent years, new threats to press freedom have emerged. The recent quoting of the "Sunshine Laws," which are designed to force government agencies to release information to the public with stringent exceptions. The First Amendment guarantees the right to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. The right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

The Montclair State University’s newspaper is embroiled in a First Amendment issue.

Montclair State University’s newspaper is embroiled in a First Amendment issue.

The Montclarion Newspaper had hired an attorney to present its case for opening the records without student government approval. The court realized in that case, the freedom to print, broadcast or otherwise disseminate that it demands a modicum of fairness towards student behavior. It is human nature to get angry, to get upset, to become frustrated, and to disagree with the values and opinions of others. And sometimes, people are so passionate about their views that they go to great lengths to defend them. But this is not the way means that the greater popula- tion of students thinks about doing harm to anyone who disagrees with their views. Those who seek to do harm are the exception, not the rule.

Yet, it seems that is where the new proposed civility code has come from--from a generation that doesn’t identify with the journalist, but gives sufficient leeway for honest errors. That it demands a modicum of fairness towards student behavior. It is human nature to get angry, to get upset, to become frustrated, and to disagree with the values and opinions of others. And sometimes, people are so passionate about their views that they go to great lengths to defend them. But this is not the way means that the greater popula- tion of students thinks about doing harm to anyone who disagrees with their views. Those who seek to do harm are the exception, not the rule.

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Developmental Math

fall 2008 semester, class size will be limited to the mid-20 range, according to Dr. Porter. Faculty should be offered more flexibility and freedom in the classroom to design text and schedule them. The recommendation. “As of current, the math department is determined to tightly constrain how an instructor should evaluate their students... Everything is stand- ardized, as if it is a magic wand that somehow makes all students achievement equal. This is a house of cards ready to fall.”

New faculty should be hired with special educational background for a better understanding on how to educate developmental math stu- dents. BCC is currently advertis- ing for a developmental math pro- fessor. Additional opportunities should be provided for students to practice and demonstrate course competency. “Existing opportuni- ties are not ample for students to show competency,” the proposal said. “If a student scores low on a quiz, they would realize that they have a particular difficulty that needs to be addressed... Students need the evaluation process to be more extensive and immediate to support their learning.”

The Accuplacer test should not be used as the exit test for each course. “The test has been devel- oped as a placement instrument. It has no proven validity or reliability as a post-test”

The Accuplacer booklets or reviews of math cirricula should be available in the bookstore to assist in preparing for the exam.

Students should spend a maxi- mum of two semesters in a devel- opmental math course, with one additional semester, by permission, in a course with increased time on task. “Students frequently fail courses initially at the remedial level for reason beyond the course... Students deserve a second chance,” according to the proposal.

There should be a maximum of two levels in the remedial math program. Algebra A (MAT-045) should meet graduation require- ments.

Students should have access to an accelerated course if they score at the highest level of remediation in the placement test. Lucy Caruso, dean of the Mathematics and Computer Science department, is now acting as department head since Professor Sandra Silverberg stepped down from that post. Dr. Porter says that Professor Caruso “has been empow- ered to move the recommendations forward as soon as possible.” In addi- tion to the recommendations, a pilot class was added this semester to test different methods of teaching math.

By testing our different methods of teaching, it is anticipated that profes- sors will be able to establish effective ways of presenting material for stu- dents to achieve academic success.

“It is too soon to fully and accu- rately assess the success of the pilot program,” says Professor Linda Kaas, who is trying out the pilot program this semester with her MAT-011 class.

Security Plan

selves and instructs them to do so. BCC’s Board of Trustees is expected to approve a contract this month with an outside vendor to provide the emergency text and voice messaging service to those in the college community who elect to subscribe, according to a letter emailed to the college community by Timothy Dacey, vice president of Administrative Services. There are no separate individual costs for signing up to utilize the service. VP Dacey also stated that sign-ups for this service will begin this April for students, faculty and staff.

BCC is also in the midst of installing telephones in every class- room so that, in the event of an emergency, calls can be made to Public Safety and 911 from within each classroom. The phones are also in the process of being wired so that Public Safety can make announcements throughout the college utilizing the speakerphone feature on the phones.

Security will also be increased on campus. Another County Police officer will be added to the current detail at the college beginning the fall of ’08, and additional public safety officers have been hired this semester. Also, under the supervi- sion of Acting Public Safety Director Marie Jardine, more Public Safety officers will be pres- ent during peak times of student activity on campus. The email also states that the use of security cam- eras on campus will be increased.

Sergeant John LaDuca said the emergency plans involve three phases: “planning, training, and drilling.” Training is the second part of the plan, and includes working with Public Safety officers who provide “auxiliary” functions like basic security and help with traffic issues. The third phase, drilling, includes the table-top exercise that will be conducted over spring break. “Keep in mind that it will be an active shooter table-top exercise,” Sgt. LaDuca said, but it’s also going to be looking to incorporate planning and training for any type of emergency. Whether it be another 911 or large situation nearby, how would Bergen Community College respond?”

Local police departments will also be taking part in the top table exercise, including Paramus Police and Police departments, Glen Rock PD, Ridgewood PD and Fairlawn PD. In addition, mem- bers of the Valley Hospital, Hackensack University Medical Center and NJ State Police will also be represented at the exercise, among other organizations. VP Dacey also said during the same SGC meeting that an active shooter simulation exercise will be taking place the day after com- mencement, and during the fall semester.

“We didn’t want to disrupt or interrupt student life on campus right now,” he stated. The emergency management plan should be treated as a “living document” that needs to be reviewed, updated and constantly revised over time, Sgt. LaDuca said.

Gallery Bergen

Bergen County:” However, as with any art gallery, it takes time to change the shows and it is expensive. Currently, the programming of the gallery is determined by the art faculty,” Prof. Biermann stated. Without a dedicated budget or gallery faculty, members of the art department have taken on the job of are installing a new show each semester. Prof. Biermann said the gallery needs either a professional director or an assistant. To date, the college is not looking for any gallery employees.

“The gallery has no permanent director and no staff,” said Prof. Biermann. “Right now we are just trying to keep things going with one exhibit per semester until our long range plans can be imple- mented. If we can manage that, we would also be able to apply for various arts grants.”

However, he said the gallery has the support of the faculty and administration.

“We are not where we want to be yet, but I am hopeful that there will be exciting developments in the future,” he said. “I believe that Dean Coddington, Vice President Porter and President Ryan can see the tremendous upside of having a bona-fide art gallery on campus, and that we will soon be able to marshal the resources necessary to do continuous and varied art exhib- itions.”
March’s Album Anecdotes: Crows & a Lion & More, Oh My!

BY AMANDA FERRANTE
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Even with pirating power, there are limits on how we can access music prior to its release. Some of March’s picks aren’t released yet (as of press time), but the previews are powerful and the buzz is bright, so, of course, the anticipation is amazing. There are high hopes for these artists. From a relatively new Texas-based rock band to a seasoned diva making her way back to the spotlight, these tunes will make you “march to the beat.”

Ivyline/There Came a Lion (Feb. 5)

If these boys aren’t billed you “march to the beat.” The spotlight, these tunes will make you “march to the beat.”

Writer’s Strike Ends-Finally Shows Are Back On The Air

BY MICHELLE HA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hollywood writers resumed work after a 100-day walkout against the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP). Back in November 2007, the Writer’s Guild of America (WGA) decided to go on strike in order to get fairly paid for their studios. The major issue prompting questions: Were writers going to push for their work through the internet? The WGA was livid against the unfair studio executives, and therefore, decided to go on strike. It was the first walkout in two decades.

On February 17th, 2008, the strike had been settled after reaching a tentative agreement to ratify the writers’ contract. Afterwards, approximately 93% of writers voted to end the strike.

But while most writers were pleased to be back to work, typing away on their keyboards, they believe the strike was necessary. “The strike was necessary in order to win jurisdic- tion and establish a foothold in the digital age,” said president of the WGA west, Pat Verrone. “They had not gone on strike, the writers would not parrake in distributors gross or have any remote power

The strike lasted 100 days over the internet. Corporate greed had to be ceased and demands had to be met.” With that said and done, the writers’ contract confirms that they will collect revenue for work posted online.

The strike put the entertainment industry into a turmoil, both audi- ence and money-wise. Not only were big upcoming movies terminated, popular television shows were brought to a halt, and some were even cancelled for the rest of the season. Shows started to run out of scripts. In cases of Saturday Night Live and The Daily Show with John Stewart, they briefly showed re-runs when the strike was first pioneered, but resumed with new shows (without the writ- ers). Other well-watched shows such as Family Guy, Grey’s Anatomy, and Last will now have a shortened season due to the time lost during the strike. And unfortunately for 24 and Heroes fans, the shows are postponed until later on in the year, if not next year.

The concrete effects of the strike came full circle when the 2008 Golden Globes was cancelled. For what is usually a salient event for Hollywood, there were no film clips of the nominations or the winners. In fact, it was just plain white text on black background as the winning pictures and actors were revealed. There were no tear jerking, heartfelt speeches given, and even the infamous Golden Globes afterparty was nonexistent. It became clear that the strike took a detrimental turn and the entertainment industry was being affected. And the even bigger question hazing everyone’s minds was: Would the Oscars be can- celled as well?

The strike ended just 12 days shy of the ceremony, and the glam and glitz returned. Many actors and actresses who had taken on temp jobs returned to their regular jobs. Although the cost of the strike was $2.5 billion, money is being generated again, now that the strike has ended. In a statement released by NBC, the network said, “We are very happy the strike has been extraordinarily difficult for all of us, but the hardest hit of all have been the many thousands of busi- ness, workers, and families that are economically dependent on this industry.”

Studio executives, producers, and directors need writers— and vice versa. It is imperative that they have settled an agreement. Both parties play a crucial role to the entertainment industry. After all, who else would feed us with such creative vision?

So now that the writers are back in their chains diligently working away for your entertainment, hopefully, the viewers can expect some great new material to make up for lost time.

“Thank God the strike’s over. I’ve been dying without my fix of Patrick Dempsey” exclaimed BCC. “Come on! Gray’s Anatomy fan Aldona Sudol.”
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 07652-1595
Phone: 201-493-3507
email: mkatzman@bergen.edu

George Stickel served as the Bergen Community College photographer for twenty years. His keen and disciplined position was instrumental in developing an historical 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.
Proof That Bergen Community College's
Program Is Broadway Bound

BY AMANDA FERRANTE
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Matt doesn't seem to strike too
many people's fancies, and it cer-
tainly doesn't have an entertaining
appeal to it, but the cast of Proof,
the latest production directed by
Professor Mary Clifford, proved
otherwise.

Catherine (Jennifer Sisco), is the
25-year-old daughter of a mathe-
matical genius, is a college dropout
and is confused about her life. It's
ever clear that she was significantly
more than a mathematician as she writes a
timely and relevant. Her wardrobe
throughout was
to her passion for
math and for her deceased Father.

Although Catherine's character is
meek and almost pathetic, she
played the sympathy card
easy to act whiny and pathetic, but
she pulled it off well. It's not
revealed that this man is dead, and
the sexual tension that's going on,
Rose gave it all
crazy gears going, Rose gave it all
a sure thing. His

Frankenburger was nothing short of
fantastic. She took on an obnox-
ious sister role and delivered.
Throughout the play her sense of
imagination so prominent

Mae Frankenburger as Claire, Michael Meyer as Hal, Joseph Rose as Robert and Jennifer Sisco as Catherine.

proving that checking out by Hal.

Meyer delivered a performance likely
to be seen on a Broadway stage. If
this is Meyer's chosen career path, he's
a sure thing. His performance was
captivating and brilli-

Catherine has lived in the
tender and the sexual ten-

Catherine finds she too might be
crazy gears going, Rose gave it all
a sure thing. His

Pick up a copy of the print edition of March 2008,
TO THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SECTION
OF THE BCC Torch
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www.careerpathfinder.org

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wmn.marchtory.org

LINKIN PARK'S ENCORE ROCKED MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

BY AMANDA FERRANTE & ELSIE CERVONE
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITORS
MANAGING EDITOR

In late February, Linkin Park surprised
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Chic Antique: **The Manhattan Transfer: An Oldie, But a Goodie**

**By Amanda Ferrante**

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT Editor**

Our generation may be forced to think that melody is something found on the last track of NSYNC's *No Strings Attached*, where the then-beloved boy band sang a cappella to "I Thought She Knew." Even if you're not a fan, it's good stuff. But if you really want to talk melody, let's talk about the original harmonizers—The Manhattan Transfer.

More than thirty years ago, marketing executive and New York cab driver Tim Hauser had a dream to create a vocal group. One night in 1972, his fare was an aspiring singer, Laurel Massie, whom he knew

Hauser met Janis Siegel, and although she was already committed to another folk group, Hauser convinced her and Massie to be part of his group. Alan Paul, who appeared in the original production of *Grease on Broadway*, met with Hauser, Siegel, and Massie. In late 1972, the four became The Manhattan Transfer.

In 1975, they cut their self-titled debut album with Atlantic Records and even landed a show on CBS. Europe was full of loyal fans, as their next two albums, *Coming Out* and *Pastiche* brought them many top 10 hits. The Manhattan Transfer Live album followed. Amidst the success, Massie left the group to pursue a solo career, and was replaced by Cheryl Bentyne, who instantly dazzled the group during an audition. Later, the group's signature tune, "Birdland," was born of the album *Extension*, the first to include Bentyne. The song was the most played jazz record of 1980, and it gave the group their first Grammy win.

The group made history the following year when they became the first to win Grammy Awards in both pop and jazz categories in the same year. It was the first of many wins.

This was a turning point for TMT, as they spiraled into success. In 1985, *Vocalese* was an artistic triumph, and it received 12 Grammy nods, coming in right behind Michael Jackson for *Thriller* as the most nominated single album ever. The 90s were years for The Manhattan Transfer Anthology: *Down in Birdland*, The Very Best of Manhattan Transfer, and for the veteran vocalists to revel in their success as a quartet with beautiful harmony, sound, and originality.

Since 2000, TMT has released three albums. From celebrating swing to shades of Latin, the group has it covered.

They're success is based on their unbelievable talent and syncrkhronization that shines through in the dynamic of the group. There's nothing in the world that sounds like TMT.

Download: "On A Little Street in Singapore" and "Birdland"

Ya, Mon! Bergen Says Happy Birthday to Bob Marley

**By Michelle Ha**

**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

Bergen honored the king of reggae by celebrating Bob Marley's 63rd birthday on Feb 7, 2008. The student center was very energetic and the crowd with a detailed biography of Marley's life gave a few lucky winners some prizes if answers were accurate.

"Bob Marley is such a strong icon that many people admire, but personally the event was weak. It was rather [I thought] very short in length, although it was considerate to another folk group, Hauser met Janis Siegel, and although she was already committed to another folk group, Hauser convinced her and Massie to be part of his group. Alan Paul, who appeared in the original production of *Grease on Broadway*, met with Hauser, Siegel, and Massie. In late 1972, the four became The Manhattan Transfer.

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King of Pop" brought music to time, including classics like "Thriller", "Beat It", "Billie Jean", which lists over 65 million copies sold as of 2007. In 1984, Jackson was nominated for twelve Grammy Awards, taking home a record The Bergen Room Treats Campus to Fancy Fare

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 Management program is about.

Hours of Operation are as follows; Wednesdays 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. Thursdays 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. 

The Bergen Room Opens on February 6, 2008, located in C-210 in the Pitkin Education Center. The Bergen Room is going to like to announce the spring opening of The Bergen Room Restaurant, on February 6, 2008, located in C-210 in the Pitkin 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 Management program is about.

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Global Family ...continued from page 2

best friend at Bergen. Her job is to ensure that international students are welcomed at Bergen, that they get familiar with the school and what it’s like to live here, as well as how to navigate their paperwork in order to make the transition easier.

“She is one of the pillars of this institution, a great woman. Her work is crucial because it means seeing to it her interact with the students. At one time she is a mother to them and she is a strict teacher, at all times she is your best friend giving you and guiding you,” says Assistant Dean Roy Subramanian, an international student himself.

Prof. Kiy is responsible for explaining the proper procedures students need to follow in order to maintain their special international status. She organizes an Orientation Week at the beginning of each semester for incoming international students, providing a tour of the grounds and overview of academic requirements and campus regulations.

Anecdotes

On Me? is somewhat of a throwback. It is a conceit, a self-reflection. I feel the same feeling you got when you listen to “Me. Jones.” Adam’s voice is one of the best, and these boys know how to make great music. “1492” will serve as the perfect backdrop music for your house parties this spring break. It’s the last track on the album and Adam says, “It’s about utter disinterest and pride.”

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Creer Propels BCC Men’s Basketball to Home Court Advantage in the Playoffs

By Matt Yanofsky
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hackensack native Chris Creer helped Bergen Community College gain home court advantage in the Garden State Athletic Conference Playoffs by defeating Camden County Community College 85-76 on T ues. Feb. 19, 2008. The Bulldogs jumped out to an early lead before a late run by the visitors left Bergen trailing by one point at halftime. Bergen’s coach Sean Kelly had his team energized heading into the second half.

“IT was a special night for Chris Creer, Andre Silva, and Damir Hot as this was their final regular season home game. We had to win it for them, because they put in so much hard work and dedication,” said the second-year head coach.

The Bulldogs, paced by Creer’s 26 points, 12 rebounds, and seven assists, began the second half playing much more efficient basketball. Point guard Aaron Dorrell, who scored 11 points and dished out five assists, used an up-tempo pace and good ball movement to help Bergen regain the lead for good in the second half. Sydney Anderson’s team-high 15 points was not enough to fuel Camden’s attempt at a late rally. The Bulldogs nine-point victory was as close as the final score indicated.

Bergen concluded the regular season with a record of 10-8 (14-14 in the conference). The two teams met at BCC for the first round of the GSCC Playoffs on Sat., Feb. 23, however, Bergen did not advance beyond that, losing in overtime to Camden by 10 points.

The Man No One Wanted May Be Bound For Cooperstown

By Elisa Cervone
MANAGING EDITOR

Right now, someone in Major League Baseball is contemplating retirement. Thoughts of putting away his bat, glove and catching gear are probably a daily occurrence. He has 427 lifetime home runs-396 as a catcher. Who is he? He is Mike Piazza.

At the age of 16, hall of famer Ted Williams gave him batting tips. Now, at 40 years old, Piazza is a man without a ball club to call home. The Los Angeles Dodgers, selected Piazza in as a favor to his close friend, Mike’s dad. Piazza has proven that he was the only favor he needed.

In 1993, he was named Rookie of the Year, and in 1996 he was the only player to make the All-Star Game. He finished second in the voting for season MVP that year as well. In 1997, he again finished second in the running for MVP. With five home runs, 396 as a catcher. Piazza has proven that he was the only favor he needed.

In 1993, he was named Rookie of the Year, and in 1996 he was named MVP of the All-Star Game. He finished second in his career now, and Piazza remains a free agent. It looks as if we can start counting down to his induction into the baseball Hall of Fame for 2012. For now, Piazza is waiting to see if he will join a new team, or call it quits and focus on his family life, something he has expressed wanting to do. Given all he has done for the Mets, every Met fan should stand and give Piazza the ovation he deserves.

We all bow our gloves down for you, Mike.
Sports

TORCH Sports Top 10
Women's History Month Edition

By Billie Jean King

Billie Jean King-Born in Nov. of 1943, King is one of the most famous American woman athletes of all time. Throughout her enormously successful career, she won 12 Grand Slam titles, 16 Grand Slam Doubles titles, and 11 Mixed Doubles titles. In 1979, King took place in the ultimate “battle of the sexes” match against former tennis star Bobby Riggs- and won. In 1980, she became the first female athlete to publicly reveal herself as a lesbian, citing a lawsuit that stated she was involved intimately with her secretary. King’s utterly unbelievable tennis career was never overshadowed by her admission, and she is still to this day regarded as one of the greatest women in tennis history.

4. Mary Lou Retton- One of America's greatest Olympic athletes, Retton has inspired many young American female athletes in gymnastics. Winning the American Classic in 1983 and 1984, Retton qualified for the women's team, which won a gold medal. She is also remembered for her gold medal win at the 1984 Summer Olympics. Retton was the first woman gymnast to win 47 Grand Slam titles and an Olympic Games medal. She was also America's top-ranked tennis woman, bringing home the gold. Her achievements and the title of National Women's Coach of the Year follow- ing that victory. She also appeared on What's the Weather for worldwide. In 1996, Retton became the first female athlete to be inducted to the College's Hall of Fame.

3. Martina Navratilova- Once regarded by Billie Jean King as the greatest women’s player ever to live, Navratilova has won a record 18 Grand Slam titles, 61 Grand Slam Doubles titles, and 11 Grand Slam Mixed doubles titles. Navratilova holds the world record for the longest winning streak at 37 matches won. Martina Navratilova has accumulated far too many titles to mention here, earning her the top spot on our list of women athletes. She is also the greatest woman in tennis history.

2. Judy Conrad- The iconic Conrad benchmark for all women’s basketball and was a four-time all-PAC-TEN selection. In 1996, 2000, and 2004, Conrad led her teams to the NCAA Final Four. In 1993, Conrad led her teams to the NCAA Final Four. In 1993, Stringer was honored as Naismith College's Coach of the Year and was also the Naismith Coach of the Year. In 1994, she also appeared on the list of Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. She is remembered for her gold medal win at the 1984 Summer Olympics. Retton was the first woman gymnast to win 47 Grand Slam titles and an Olympic Games medal. She was also America's top-ranked tennis woman, bringing home the gold. Her achievements and the title of National Women’s Coach of the Year follow- ing that victory. She also appeared on What's the Weather for worldwide. In 1996, Retton became the first female athlete to be inducted to the College's Hall of Fame.

1.navra333a- Born in Sweden, Annika Sorenstam has become the preeminent face of the LPGA. With ten major victories and her status as number one in the world, Annika has revolutionized women's golf. In 2000, she won the Gold Medal at the Olympics, becoming the first female athlete to win a gold medal in 1928, and is also a member of the World Golf Hall of Fame. In 1996, she won the gold medal at the Olympics, becoming the first female athlete to win a gold medal in 1928. In 1998, she won the gold medal at the Olympics, becoming the first female athlete to win a gold medal in 1928. In 1998, she won the gold medal at the Olympics, becoming the first female athlete to win a gold medal in 1928. In 1998, she won the gold medal at the Olympics, becoming the first female athlete to win a gold medal in 1928. In 1998, she won the gold medal at the Olympics, becoming the first female athlete to win a gold medal in 1928. In 1998, she won the gold medal at the Olympics, becoming the first female athlete to win a gold medal in 1928. In 1998, she won the gold medal at the Olympics, becoming the first female athlete to win a gold medal in 1928.