October 2009

Waive Tuition Goodbye

Native American Week At Bergen

Tuition waivers can be considered an option for students who are having a hard time financing their college education. During these troubled economic times, it seems extremely difficult for students to find a way to pay for college without breaking the bank. The rising costs of tuition, coupled with textbook prices and mandatory fees, are causing a financial burden for many of our students. “I became unemployed earlier this summer. My textbooks alone cost a quarter of my tuition. I also have to pay the fees for the nursing exams I have to take. That and the tuition itself is going to be impossible to pay without any financial aid,” remarked one nursing student at BCC. This is not an unlikely situation at the college; many students have been wondering exactly how they are going to cover their tuition costs without taking on more and more debt.

Tuition Waivers are readily available to students at Bergen Community College. As stated by the school, tuition waivers are available to senior citizens, Bergen County employees, unemployed persons, and National Guard who have completed their active training are also eligible for a tuition waiver if their Guard commander has completed a written certification. Even if you are not eligible for financial aid, you may still be able to obtain a tuition waiver. Bergen students who are currently unemployed should take an interest in this opportunity. Information on Unemployment Tuition Waivers can be obtained here: http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2075.asp.

An exclamation notice on the Financial Aid web link earlier this semester warned students that because of the enormous influx of new students this year, financial aid awards would be delayed if the FAFSA or any other mandatory paperwork was not completed on time. It would be wise to make sure that you research and obtain the necessary documentation as far ahead as possible.

See Tuition Waivers on pg 2

Native American Week At Bergen

Many Native American students have noticed is that there were a few events on campus that included performances which was set up in the Student American shop. It was an incredible display of American culture. There are many versions of this flute and each is made of different wood that gives each instrument its own unique sound.

I was fortunate enough to sit down with Mary in an interview where she claimed it was her “rebellious nature” that caused her to pick up the Native American flute in the first place. Her talent combined with the unique and the beat for her and add to her incredible music. She played some improvisational jazz that was absolutely magnificent. She started off a bit chaotic but later raised in Brooklyn. He believes that growing up in such a diverse environment has helped him connect to people easily. Growing up, he was filled with many dreams. “My dream was to become an actor and I even appeared in a number of plays at my university during my early days. “It helped me build my confidence and is now helping him at his work. His everyday schedule entails meeting new people and experiencing new cultures. “It’s a blessing to have people feel comfortable around me. They challenge themselves to rise above and beyond any situation,” says Melendez.

His purpose as a director of Student Life is “to teach students about the world outside of the classroom. To show them how the world really is and the different" 

New Semester Brings New Faces

The Torch
THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Natalia Ciesla
Staff Writer

The new director of student life, Nestor Melendez.

Travis James
Contributing Writer

New Native American week returned once again to Bergen to celebrate the importance of Native American culture. Most of you probably noticed the Native American shop that was set up in the Student Center the week of September 21st–25th. What most of you may not have noticed is that there were a few events on campus that truly captured the essence of Native American week. These events included performances from Native Americans who embraced their heritage and built their careers on sharing their culture.

Unfortunately, one incredible event was not. Mary Youngblood, a two time Grammy Award winning artist performed on Thursday, September 24th at 7: 00 P.M. in Bergen Community College’s Ciccone Theatre. Mary entertained the crowd with the musical compositions she had created on the Native American flute. She even let the audience in on the action by giving out percussion instruments so everyone could keep up with the beat for her and add to her incredible music. She played some improvisational jazz that was absolutely magnificent.

“Echoes” “Beneath the Raven Moon”, and many more. The night was very entertaining to everyone who attended. Mary Youngblood’s music was nothing short of powerful and outstanding. An interesting fact about Mary is that she is the first woman to ever take up the Native American flute. The Native American flute is an instrument mainly played by men in traditional Native American culture. There are many different versions of this flute and each is made of different wood that gives each instrument its own unique sound.

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Scholarships You Can’t Pass Up

BY WYNDELL COOK • CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WENDY COOK • EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Bergen Community College foundation offers many great opportunities in the shape of grants, scholarships and essay contests. All full and part-time students are encouraged to apply for these awards regardless of their financial aid status. Each award has a separate set of qualifying criteria. Thus, in most cases, it is possible to qualify for one or more awards.

The BCC Foundation Board of Directors is comprised of community leaders from the public and private sector, who work closely with the College to develop fundraising opportunities to meet the needs of the institution. Since its inception in 1982, total contributions received by the BCC Foundation have surpassed the $11.4 million mark.

The Fall Spring 2010-2011 Scholarship awards carry monetary amounts, most ranging from $500 to $2,500 per year, but with some even larger. Applications may be downloaded at the college’s website (www bergen.edu) or picked up from the following locations: The Office of the Vice President of Student Services in Room A-128B or the Financial Aid Office in Room A-123. Before applying for this scholarship, you should complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). According to their site, “most states, colleges and universities use the FAFSA to award other types of institutional financial aid, including state- and college-sponsored financial aid, such as grants, educational loans, and work-study programs.” BCC is no exception to accepting FAFSA forms. To learn more visit <http://www.bergen.edu/pages/4735.aspx>. You can also consult the Financial Aid (A-123) or Bursar’s Office (A-229) for any questions regarding FAFSA.

If you plan to apply for the scholarship offered at BCC, you must do so in the Fall 2009 Semester to be awarded for the following academic year (Fall 2010 through Spring 2011 Semesters). The review process for your scholarship application can take several weeks. Therefore, it is imperative that you submit your application before the deadline date, Friday December 18th, 2009. You can turn in your completed applications to Financial Aid Office A-123 or the Office of the Vice President of Student Services Office in A-128B. If you are accepted, you will be notified by mail that you have been chosen for the scholarship. You will also be given information on the workshop that you must attend to learn more about your responsibilities as a scholarship recipient.

Another wonderful opportunity for BCC students is provided in the shape of essay contests. The deadline for the 2009 essay contest is October 8th. The essay topic is simple and straightforward: “The meaning of education to me.” The essay must be between 600 to 800 words.

First place students will receive $2,500, while the second and third will receive $1000. Fourth and fifth place will be allotted $750 each and sixth and seventh will receive $500 each. The essay must be hand-delivered to the office of BCC Student Services Office in A-128B. The O’Henry Prize Stories 2009.

By Mitali Sharma, a student of BCC, says, “Whenever I attend events like this, I feel that I would not have been able to experience the beauty of the event if I was living in a different country. The beauty of the event is that it brings people together who would not have been able to meet otherwise.”

The Garba was held in the BCC gym. The Garba, held in the BCC gym.

SADAF KHURSHID

On Saturday, September 19, 2009, Bergen Community College held a dance in the gymnasium. This event was called “Garba” (traditional Indian dance), and was hosted by the BCC Office of Student Services, Inc., which is a nonprofit organization.

Attendance was counted to be around 700 people and among those people were Dr. Ralph Choonoon (Dean of Student life); and Julie O’Brien from the Board of Freeholders. Garba is an Indian dance that originated in the Gujarat region of India. Many traditional Garbas are performed around a central lit lamp. Traditionally, it is performed during the nine-day Hindu festival called Navratri, which celebrates slaying of the demon by the Goddess, Amba. Either the lamp or in place of the Goddess is placed in the center. People dance around the center, swinging side to side and clapping their hands.

This event was held in Bergen to promote the Indian culture and to raise money for the Scholarship for Indian Americans of Paramus. This scholarship awards $10,000 to a person of Indian decent and good academic standing. The cost was kept low and low-income and folk singers were invited so more money came in than went out. Mukesh J. Malhan, head of the Indian American of Paramus scholarship, said that the BCC president, Dr. G. Jeremiah Ryan; Mukesh J. Malhan, head of the Indian American of Paramus scholarship.

Mukesh said, “Ralph has been a big inspiration and a big help to our community. Also President G. Ryan has shown a lot of support and has helped us tremendously. Without these people this event would not have been possible.”

From 8 p.m. to 12 midnight, people were dancing around the center in the center of the gym, an idol (the Goddess Amba) was placed in the center. In the center of the circle, people stood and sang. This lasted about ten minutes and then the dancing resumed.

Overall, the event was very enjoyable. If anyone gets the chance to attend one of these events, they will be very pleased. However, one needs a lot of energy to participate in an event like this where dancing continues for hours.

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Mental Health 101 with Sean Campbell

FRANK ROVELLI CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“To get through the hardest journey, we need to take only one step at a time, but we must keep stepping,” as stated by a Chinese Proverb. This quote typifies the presentation given on September 23rd by a motivational guest speaker, Sean Campbell, to BCC students. What is unique about Mr. Campbell is that he is as old as many of the students he met. Sean’s journey is one of struggle, strength, and determination.

In spite of the difficulties and mental health advocate, Sean Campbell did not just overcome them. He became a successful man and he tries to set a positive example for his younger brother. When asked by a member of the audience about his struggle, Sean responded, “It isn’t about the destination, but the journey.”

The event itself was set up like a daytime talk show, almost like Oprah Winfrey’s. Sean was asked questions by a representative of BCC as well as members of the audience. One member of the audience shared a story in which she needed to ask for outside help with a complicated romantic relationship. The audience applauded her for her actions, and the moderator added that asking for help can be misinterpreted as a sign of weakness, but it is actually a demonstration of responsibility for one’s self.

Another audience member asked what one should have in order to succeed. Mr. Campbell remarked the “need to self-advocate.” He added that any trial in life that needs outside help may not always pan out on its own. The ability to know when outside help is appropriate is priceless when pursuing your own goals.

Sean Campbell’s story of an adolescent who overcame significant troubles in his life is remarkable. It shows that everything is possible if you are determined and open to learning new things. After all “it isn’t the destination, but the journey.”

The Honors Association here at BCC was able to kick off the start of Bergen Community College’s 2009 academic school year productively, with an exceptionally fortunate and informative event. On September 23rd, Tina Magrabi, a BCC alumni and later Yale graduate, gave a very enlightening and motivational speech to a large crowd of determined honors students.

The Honors Association was grateful to have had the privilege of witnessing, first hand, an Ivy League graduate who had transferred to Yale University from Bergen Community College.

Tina began her speech by emphasizing that she represents a BCC transfer student who graduated in transferring from Yale, and continued by stating, “I am not the only one.” She spoke about other students she knew that also graduated from BCC and advanced to the next level by attending Ivy League schools.

Her first example was that of BCC alumni, Catherine Barrera. Catherine was a young girl who grew up with virtually nothing at all. The food in her fridge was scarce and her funds were extremely budgeted, but the hope in this young girl’s heart was overwhelming. Catherine attended BCC and placed all her time and effort into making something productive of her future. Catherine succeeded in graduating BCC as Valedictorian and went on to pursue her studies at Columbia University.

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BCC to Yale: Story of Endless Opportunities

AYELET SHARONI CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Honors Association of Bergen Community College plans to kick off the start of the 2009 academic school year with an event that will be both informative and inspirational. On September 23rd, Tina Magrabi, a BCC alumni and later Yale graduate, gave a very enlightening and motivational speech to a large crowd of determined honors students.

Tina began her speech by emphasizing that she represents a BCC transfer student who graduated in transferring from Yale, and continued by stating, “I am not the only one.” She spoke about other students she knew that also graduated from BCC and advanced to the next level by attending Ivy League schools.

Her first example was that of BCC alumni, Catherine Barrera. Catherine was a young girl who grew up with virtually nothing at all. The food in her fridge was scarce and her funds were extremely budgeted, but the hope in this young girl’s heart was overwhelming. Catherine attended BCC and placed all her time and effort into making something productive of her future. Catherine succeeded in graduating BCC as Valedictorian and went on to pursue her studies at Columbia University.

PHOTO BY ERWIN DEL PINO

See Alumni on pg 14
Opening of Ender Hall Cafeteria

It is interesting to see the entire and server, cook and so forth. chance to be manager, cashier, positions, so that each has a to the public. to run a cafeteria that is open take this course to learn how are business-oriented, students courses under this curriculum for the up-coming lunch. make their delicious recipes student chefs working hard to make their delicious recipes for the up-coming lunch. This is a class within the Hospitality Management Program, which is called Quantity Food Production. Although a majority of the courses under this curriculum are business-oriented, students take this course to learn how to run a cafeteria that is open to the public. All students rotate positions, so that each has a chance to be manager, cashier, and server, cook and so forth. It is interesting to see the entire process come alive. Watching them all harmoniously work together, it felt much like a family-owned business. I had the privilege to go inside the kitchen and see all the students bustling around, cooking chicken, ziti, pizza, apple pie, and even chocolate mouse! Everything is homemade, down to the marinara sauce.

Professor Del Nero, who teaches this class, briefs the students on a particular recipe, and then, they have to repeat it. “The class is very hands-on,” says Derrick Gagner, one of the managers that week, along with Sarah Hoffman. Gagner has had seven years’ worth experience in cooking, but one new lesson he did learn here was time-management. “You have to learn how to manage your time. Sometimes you have six or seven orders, and you have to think, what’s going to come out first,” Gagner explained.

Aside from breakfast bagels, cold sandwiches, and other snacks, the Cafeteria also had a Six-Dollar-Deal special, which applied to lunch or dinner meals. This included an appetizer or salad, a soup, a main course, and even dessert. There is a wide selection of drinks, and they cost less than those in the vending machine. Other than the delicious Chicken Parmigiana, to my delight, dessert was a strawberry-chocolate mouse that was to die for!

Sarah Hoffman, one of the student managers, explained that there would be different ethnic dishes offered each week. In the third week, there will be Mexican food, with burritos and fajitas. It is obvious that the Cafeteria is hungry to serve students, as much as students are hungry for a satisfying meal between classes.

With its opening, not many yet know about this hidden gem, but the word is spreading. When asked what improvements you would hope to see, Professor Del Nero simply replied, “More faculty and student support showing up, and the Cafeteria growing more.”

One should note that E-Hall Cafeteria is not to be confused with Cyber Café, a commercially-run business that is also located in Ender Hall. The E-Hall Cafeteria operates around the class schedule. It is open approximately 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. on Wednesdays serving breakfast and lunch; and 2:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. on Thursdays serving dinner.

Opening of Ender Hall Cafeteria.

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Stay protected this fall.

Swine Flu Forecast: What You Need to Expect

According to the presidential panel, swine flu is on the rise again this fall. The panel “expects to see a resurgence in the virus coinciding with the start of the school...and peaking by mid-October,” the Daily News reports. The flu forecast is said to impact millions of Americans, especially children in schools. The government is investing billions of dollars into preventative measures, such as vaccines. However, this anticipated “antidote will not be available until mid-October when the pandemic is expected to be in full swing,” as reported by Daily News.

Unfortunately, the government’s plan for prevention may be too late to help what is suspected to be an overwhelming outbreak of the H1N1 virus. Reports estimate that the virus will claim close to 100,000 victims nationwide this coming fall. Not only does this strike fear among all Americans, but school systems and parents need to be especially cautious, as children seem to be the swine flu’s most afflicted demographic.

Hospitals and emergency rooms also need to be prepared. With millions of Americans sick, the panel predicts ICUs will be completely overwhelmed. “Importantly, the emergency departments could occupy 50% to 100% of all ICU beds in affected regions of the country at the peak of the epidemic and could place enormous stress on ICU units, which normally operate close to capacity,” the report predicts.

In addition to children, college students need to exercise extreme caution in the upcoming months. No swine flu-related deaths have been reported amongst college students yet, but several students have been affected at colleges nationwide. Symptoms are often so bad that students require hospitalization for proper care. “In a normal flu season, about PHOTO COURTESY OF...
Students Initiate the Green Movement

Members of the Environmental Club and Dr. Ricatto's Committee represent their cause for sustainability at the conference.

Carpina Tesone
News Editor

Going Green has become more popular than ever, and has surprisingly been student-driven across New Jersey's colleges, one of them being Bergen Community College. However, many new green missions are needed to be addressed and thus, the New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability (NJHEPS) and Ramapo College held the Regional Climate Change Alliance Conference at Ramapo College on Friday, September 25th.

At the President's Panel, Dr. Peter Mercer of Ramapo College moderated the discussion and introduced Dr. Ryan of BCC, Davis Cortes of Berkeley College, Dr. Edward Yaw of County College of Morris, and Dr. Rosemary Jeffries of Georgian Court University. Each has signed the President’s Climate Commitment, and spoke about their college’s progress towards becoming green.

When asked about BCC’s environmental efforts, President G. Jeremiah Ryan mentioned how students have impacted the institution: “Two years ago or a year and a half ago, that Fall, just like somebody had lit a fire on the campus, students that came...were energized like no other students to really push the institution to be greener than it had ever envisioned (to be). And I thank those kids, and they are still there, and they are still pushing.”

He went on to say, “I think the enthusiasm in those student kind of going Green Movement on pg 14

Hypnotist Joshua Seth Comes to BCC

Rachel Kammer
Copy Editor

Hypnosis can be used for a lot of different things. Some people consider it to be a cure for diseases or to curb addictions. However, hypnosis is mostly used for entertainment nowadays. On September 8th, hypnotist Joshua Seth came to BCC to perform a show and I was lucky enough to go see it.

The show started out with “mind games”. One of the most entertaining demonstrations was the Money Envelope. Seth had four envelopes. Three of them had little slips of paper in them. One of the envelopes had a hundred-dollar bill. Seth asked for three people to come up and pick an envelope. I went up and picked envelope #1, which unfortunately had nothing in it. The two people whose envelopes were empty had to sit down.

Then, Seth tried to trick the person who had the remaining envelope to switch with him. Seth said, that at the last three shows, he kept the money because the person who had the last envelope never switched with him. The boy who had the remaining envelope--which didn’t have the money in it—would not switch. It turned out that the hundred-dollar bill was in the envelope that Seth was holding and Seth turned out to successfully keep the hundred dollars.

Then, the hypnotizing actually began. Seth explained the hypnotizing process after he picked people to come up onstage. According to him, it is very easy to go into a trance. All that the person has to do to go into a trance is to calm down and relax. The person has to be comfortable and safe. Once the person is hypnotized, positive reinforcement (such as clapping and cheering) is essential, but during the hypnotizing process, there had to be absolute silence. Seth was able to pick out the people who could not be hypnotized, and sent them back to their seats. At the end of the hypnotizing process, there were only three people left onstage.

The first scenario that Seth created was a tropical vacation. As the sun got hotter, the people got more and more uncomfortable and thirstier. Then, Seth came around and pretended to hand them some water. The participants got more and more “drunk” until they were laughing hysterically at everything. Then, as it got “colder”, Seth made the participants huddle amongst each other for warmth.

The second scenario was an orchestra. The participants played instruments for the audience. The instruments got smaller or bigger according to the music. Seth picked one of the participants to be an extremely passionate conductor. He went on to deliver one of the most passionate conducting performances I have ever seen!

One of the funnier scenarios was when one of the participants suddenly forgot how to speak English and was only able to say “Alien”. He was an alien who came down to earth to give a big speech. Because none of the humans could understand it, Seth made another participant be the “interpreter” for the alien. The alien made a big speech and it turned out to mean that the human alien came from space and that human beings lived on the earth. Seth’s response was “Thank you, Captain Obvious!”

Going Back was also one of the best ones. The participants got to drive the car of their dreams. They were even given a hundred-dollar bill. When a policeman stopped them, they had to “sweet talk” their way out of the ticket. The scenario was so realistic that it was the only female participant: “Can you blame me? I like a fast ride!” Seth claimed that this was one of the best lines that he had heard!

The show itself was extremely entertaining, and I highly enjoyed myself. You can find Joshua Seth on Facebook, or on his website: http://www.joshuaseth.com

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OPINIONS AND EDITORIALS

BCC Needs to Step It Up

If you have not noticed the cars parked on the grass, the overwhelming number of bodies swirling around campus and the exhausted faces of student services staff, then you probably aren’t observant.

Just kidding! It only means that The Torch was a little late in updating you on what is really going on at Bergen Community College.

First of all, there is a 17 percent increase in the number of students enrolled this semester. As a result, some of us are forced to leave the house an hour early to find parking and get to class on time.

The line of cars waiting to be parked has caused a bit of a road rage problem at BCC. It is a frustrating situation when you have ten minutes before your class begins, and you are stuck behind cars that do not seem to be moving anywhere.

Imagine that you have managed to park your car and you feel rejoiced at the fact that you have five minutes to start. “It is unbelievable how many cars are parked on grass,” said Merino who was 40 minutes late for his class and missed more than half the lecture.

Another issue at BCC this semester is that there are more students and less staff that can effectively help them. The student-to-counselor ratio is extremely disproportional. There are only 20 to 30 counselors available to assist 17,000 students currently enrolled at BCC.

That is approximately 500 students to each counselor. And in peak times, it is much worse. “It is time to finally hear the collective voice of students, resonating our administration,” said Andrew Merino, Sophomore at BCC.

Strong initiatives are needed at this point from our college administration. They need to find more parking for students or simply decrease the escalating number of enrollment every semester. In addition to that they also need to hire more student services staff and train them in a way that is both effective and less time-consuming for students.

Our administration owes us, the students, a great deal of responsibility and dedication. It is about time they realized that students are not willing to go through this frustration anymore. It is time to finally hear the collective voice of students, resonating throughout the campus, calling for more parking and more staff.

Students are forced to park in “No Parking” zones, because of growing number of enrollment at BCC.
Roving Reporter

“How do you feel about the current parking situation?”

Raven Bryant - Contributing Writer

Paulina Mascunana
Major: Undecided

“I think it’s horrible and they need to act fast. I leave an hour before class and it takes me 20 minutes to find parking.”

Sean Dunn
Major: Undecided

“I’ve gotten two tickets for parking on the grass. It takes me an hour from New Milford to get to class on time.”

Maria A. Balacco
Major: Criminal Justice

“They should have people to accommodate you. I’ve been to public safety and they didn’t help.”

Michael Baker
Major: Liberal Arts

“The traffic is packed and I leave from home an hour before school. I have never parked illegally so I have to park all the way by Ender.”

Eleni Woleamuef
Major: Nursing

“They need more parking spaces. I would be willing to relocate to the school in Lyndhurst to help relieve the congestion.”

Is Obama’s Healthcare Plan the Healthy Choice for Our Wallets?

Jessica Stroh
Layout Editor

President Obama has big ideas for healthcare reform for the upcoming years. As American citizens, it is important for us to question if his intentions will be beneficial or more costly to our health and economy.

The present time, for our country, calls for educated and accurate decisions. America is in no position to make any mistakes. Will something as drastic as implementing a national healthcare plan help or hurt us in the long run?

President Obama believes that “comprehensive health care reform can no longer wait. Rapidly escalating health care costs are crushing family, business, and government budgets.” His proposals aim to help families, children and all Americans without deepening our country’s deficit. Will it work? You decide:

Pros of Obama’s Plan:
- Control the rising costs of health care under private insurance companies
- Guarantee choice of doctor
- High quality care for all Americans:
“Beginning in 2013, the Exchange [new marketplace for insurance] will give Americans without access to affordable insurance on the job, and small businesses one-stop shopping for insurance where they can easily compare options based on price, benefits, and quality,” reported by the White House
- Reduce costs for businesses and families
- Invest in prevention and wellness:
“The President’s plan ensures that all Americans have access to free preventive services under their health insurance plans” - Whitehouse
- Allows coverage to be retained while unemployed or between jobs
- Ends discrimination among people with pre-existing medical conditions:
“Over the last three years, 12 million Americans have access to free preventive services under their health insurance plans” - Whitehouse

Will This Junk Impress Anyone In The Real World?

Michelle Mia
Features Editor

Don’t let Tyra Banks or Heidi Klum tell you what to wear and what personality to develop. Don’t let MTV’s gyrating rap videos, filled with oily skin and exposed breasts grinding up against talentless men, make you think that the standard of female dominance is only sexual, and only a size zero.

With mediums strewn all over everything, it is undeniable that media plays a strong influence in the lives of many people these days. Through it, the way people live, act and pretends, this nonsense away from these false portrayals. When they portray these women in the media, they try to make them look as good as possible. They are thinner, wrinkle-free, perfectly tanned, with unblemished skin. The fact is that, most average women do not look this seamless all the time. The truth is that people can still be beautiful without all the make-up, the excessive dieting and all the perfect designer garbs. True beauty is not based on what the media portrays.

It is essential to cut away from these false pretenses, this nonsense of standing in front of the mirror every night with your stomach sucked in. It should not be about defining yourself based on what the media portrays.
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Youth in Revolt Review

GUY WEISS
SPORTS EDITOR

The title “Youth in Revolt” may sound familiar because of the upcoming motion picture starring Justin Long, Zach Galifianakis, Ray Liotta, Justin Long, and Steve Buscemi. If you have not heard of this star-studded movie, you may have heard of the classic 1993 novel by C.D. Payne. It could simply be that you have never heard of the title “Youth in Revolt.”

In that case, Youth in Revolt is a book written by C.D. Payne, which contains the first three segments in a series that chronicles the life and happenings of Nick Twisp. There are seven parts in total. Twisp is a 14-year-old boy, living in California, who becomes obsessed with a girl he met while “vacationing” with his parents. The book follows the extraordinary efforts he makes to get the girl to be his girlfriend. These efforts include developing an alter-ego name Francois Dillinger – a suave teen with a French accent who is not afraid to do anything. These sort of juvenile efforts often land Nick in shaky situations.

Nick’s parents, both of whom are active characters in the story, are divorced. His father considers him more of an expense than a son and often bickers about the amount of child support he has to pay. His mother changes boyfriends frequently throughout the book, each with a mutual disdain of Nick. The story focuses on other plot lines as well, such as faked suicides, cross-dressing, and being chased by the F.B.I.

Youth in Revolt is considered a “Black Comedy” of a type of comedy that disregards sensitivity towards any subject. To get the full effect of the story the book must be read regardless of whether you have any interest in seeing the movie. The book contains some outrageous content that will probably never make it into theaters. Overall, Youth in Revolt is a historical book, containing tons of controversial and taboo content. Before you start reading make sure you have some free time on your hands because you may be able to stop.

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Does Social Networking Trigger Relationship Problems?

MICHELLE HA
FEATURES EDITOR

The exploitation of social networking sites, which has become quick addictive nowadays. Networking sites, such as Facebook, make it easier to connect with friends, new friends, old friends, and...even exes. Although engaging with friends sounds like a great idea, is there too much information divulged through all the user profiles, pictures, and publicly displayed conversations? Is connecting with people from your past on Facebook healthy for your present relationship? Facebook performs as a display place for interaction that can lead, almost inadvertently, to relationship problems.

Today, in a society pervaded by social networking sites, a simple click of your mouse can document the beginning and end of a relationship. Facebook triggers curiosity since people tend to be able to acquire access to personal information about their significant others, that otherwise may not be accessible. Through this information, one might gather insights about their significant other’s friendships, social interactions, and more specifically, interactions with previous exes and sexual partners.

Jay-Z “The Blueprint 3”

WYNDELL COOK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Jay-Z’s latest album is a surefire classic. It is a brand new sound and a whole new edge. This third installment of The Blueprint series, released on September 8th, 2009, was anticipated by many fans before it was even released.

Once again, Jay-Z successfully managed to place his thoughts down as he allowed the listener to cross the threshold in his world. You have no choice but to be enticed by his flow, as well as his delivery.

The instrumental supplied are classic as well as beautiful. The album offers both fast and slow tempos. In some songs, the lyrics are easier to comprehend while in others you may have to press the repeat button once or twice to actually catch on to what’s being said.

One of the songs, “Run this town,” features Kanye West and Rihanna. Other songs like “Young Forever” and “So Ambitious” also feature other well-known artists like Pharrell and Mr. Hudson. Even though it may have seemed that Jay-Z was likely to stay retired, he proved us all wrong and jumped right back into the game. He delivered another classic album that everyone can listen to through their speakers. Although he was out of the music world and rapped for a period of time, it did not mean that he did not have what it took to jump right back to the number one spot.

Currently, Jay-Z’s videos for “D.O.A. (Death of Auto-Tune)” and “Run This Town” can be viewed on MTV and BET. Since these two singles seem to be doing well on the billboard charts, who is to say that he will not come out with another single and video? Just keep your eyes and ears open and see what happens.

Rock of Ages

Tiffany Martin
STAFF WRITER

“I wanna rock! (Rock!),” Rock of ages is a musical built upon memorable 80’s rock songs that set you right into the action at the legendary Bourbon Room on Sunset strip. As the show opens with teased hair, shredding guitars, blinding lights, and intense rhythmic drumming, the audience get the feeling of being at an awesome rock concert. With infamous rock songs such as “Cum on Feel the Noize” by Quiet Riot and Journey’s famous hit “Don’t Stop Believin” – you will find yourself singing along and waving your LED lighter in the air in harmony with every 80’s rock fan in the crowd.

The main characters of the hit musical are Drew, Constantine Maroulis of American Idol, who plays a young rocker from the mid-west working as a bus-boy at the Bourbon Room and is trying to make it big as a rock star. Then we have Amy Spangler who plays Sherrie, a young girl from Kansas, fresh-off-the-bus and is trying to make it big as a rock star. Then we have Amy Spangler who plays Sherrie, a young girl from Kansas, fresh-off-the-bus and is trying to make it big as a rock star. Then we have Amy Spangler who plays Sherrie, a young girl from Kansas, fresh-off-the-bus and is trying to make it big as a rock star.

As the musical goes on, we soon find the bar in jeopardy when a German city developer comes to town to give up his sea, drugs, and “rock-n-roll” lifestyle for a more pristine image of Sunset strip. With all the despair, it seems that the 80’s is going to lose one of the most famous bars in rock history. Yet, through the power of love, protests, and “rock-n-roll,” the Bourbon room is spared demolition, and the city that was built on rock-n-roll never dies.

Rock of Ages is a rockin’ 80’s metal show. However, its colorful language, sexual innuendoes, and tiny flashy costumes, make the musical a bit provocative to be a family show. It is a power ballad, hair-metal rocking experience meant for the rocker in us.
Sorority Row

with the carnage at Theta Pi.

The acting is not going to win any academy awards soon, but kudos to the ladies (Leah Pipes and Rumer Willis) for having the chops to curse like sailors and fight to death instead of being the running darkness, waiting to be rescued. It is a bit sad to see that the slasher genre has come up with no new ideas but milking every remake that they can get their hands on. As we all know, remakes for the most part are not worth it but this picture, along with My Bloody Valentine, have revitalized once-thought dying breed. It is guaranteed that you will be kept on the edge of your seat, thanks to the horrifying kills. However, some will be turned off by the flawed finale. Either way, Sorority Row is just plain fun, so come on and join the Sisters of Theta Pi in their gruesome adventure. They are waiting for you.

If you ever find yourself in a Kia dealership, be sure to test drive it.

The Best Car Under $20,000

If you are lucky, we are able to find a car that is not too expensive and combines the factors most important to us. The Kia Forte comes standard equipped with automatic transmission, Bluetooth connectivity with steering wheel mounted controls, 6-speaker sound system, 17-inch wheels, and 173 horsepower (more than Honda Civic, VW Jetta, Toyota Corolla, Scion tC, Mazda 3, and Mini Cooper S models).

This car (or in four-door Kia Forte Koup (two doors). The reason you have probably never heard of the Kia Forte is because 2009 was the first year of its production by a company that is trying to improve its image from cheap cars to a legitimate competitor of Volkswagen and Honda. Despite being stronger than all of its listed competitors, the overall fuel economy of this vehicle is still better than all of theirs. This car is priced at less than $18,000 stock and, with leather and sunroof; it is priced at less than $21,000. The Forte is a great car for the money that comes in an array of different vibrant colors like Copperhead (dark orange), Racing Red, and Corsa Blue. Also available are: colors like Titanium, Bright Silver, and Ebony Black.

Available options besides the leather and sunroof packages (if you get one, you have to get the other) include: An auto dimming rearview mirror with compass (with or without home link), a cargo net, and wheel lock.

In the near future, Kia Forte is going to become more appealing to student drivers as it offers more options at an affordable price. Next time you are at Kia’s, do not forget to test drive it.

The Zune HD Challenges the iPod Touch

When people hear the word Zune, they usually think of the boxy, spaced-out shape device by Microsoft, in an attempt to get their foot into the Apple-dominated MP3/PMP player business. But now, like a precocious little brother, the Zune has transformed into a worthy competitor on the market.

If you are looking for – a car that makes you smile

The Zune HD has transformed into a worthy competitor on the market. It is the first PMP with an organic light-emitting diode screen. The interface design and movement is smooth, highly responsive, and beautiful. The screen takes up most of the face, along with a single home/quick-play menu button on the bottom and a volume control on the side. The only downfall, however, is that the Zune HD does not include an external speaker. Besides being it a music and video player, games and applications will be available to download as well. As per its name, the Zune HD features HD radio, with songs and artist information transmitted from the station. It also has 720p HD output, which is perfect for connecting to an HDTV.

All Zunes have wi-fi for sharing media with nearby Zune players, wireless syncing with a PC, and Zune Marketplace access. However, on the Zune HD, you can use its Wi-Fi capability to surf the internet with the included Internet Explorer web browser. It has been tweaked to work with the Zune optimally and has a touch-screen QWERTY keyboard, with a built-in accelerometer for landscape viewing. Next month, an update will be released for viewing Flash-based web pages, such as YouTube.

With all of the Zune’s extra goodies, it gives Apple a run for its money. The competition is great for consumers because it gives us better products year after year. The Zune HD looks like a very enticing choice for those looking for something different on the PMP market.

The Zune HD became available September 15th in 16GB and 32GB models which cost $219 and $289 respectively.

Device finishes come in platinum in stores and black, blue, lime green, maroon, and white are available online.

In 2 Minutes and 17 Seconds, Your World Will Change

Imagine if your world turned into utter darkness and all you saw were glimpses of yourself in an unfamiliar place and time. That is exactly what happens in the new, much-awaited, ABC series Flash Forward, which aired on September 24th, 2009. Directed by the marvelous David S. Goyer, we once again are ready to be dazzled by this gut-wrenching Sci-fi thriller, which is a spin-off compared to the TV series, Lost.

The show contains some interesting twists, as it unfolds some of the mysteries of the future for each of the characters. For example, Olivia Benford (Sonya Walger) is married to Mark Benford (Joseph Fiennes) sees herself cheating on her husband with another man. When she was asked who the man was, she replied that she had never seen the man before. Demetri Noh, (John Cho) also sees himself in an unfamiliar place and time.

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80’s Style Revolution Is Taking Over Fall 2009

**Final Fantasy Dissidia**

Throughout the years, SquareSoft, now known as SquareEnix, has garnered much fame and fortune with what was supposedly going to be their last game: a Role-Playing game called Final Fantasy. Final Fantasy’s unexpected success later brought about a series of Final Fantasy games, leading up to the current Final Fantasy XIII. In addition to that, they have had other Final Fantasy side projects that touch up on different genres of gaming or provide side stories to the other main stories in the series. One such side project is their new fighting game: Final Fantasy Dissidia.

At first, I wondered if this game would only appeal to the existing fan base. Surprisingly, the game has enough substance and variety which would help new players not feel too alienated by the game’s many references to the past games. SquareEnix combines fighting with strategy and RPG. The fighting mechanics are fluid and fast. Dissidia is not the most common format of 3D fighting games. It feels more like a Mech game where you can move and fly all over the map, shooting out magic instead of rockets and bullets. As far as the controls go, they are pretty responsive.

Since the story line of Dissidia does not really try and connect its stories to the past games, you will not need much knowledge of the past games to understand what is going on. Although the battle between the gods of light and dark is a bit cliché, story mode gets you somewhat engaged by going through the story through the perspective of ten different characters.

The music brings back many of the series’ notable and familiar themes while the voice acting is acceptable, if not great. The game is a decent pack overall. Though, I don’t recommend it to all, the game is flexible enough to suit semi-hardcore and casual gamers.

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Social Problems continued from pg 10

less time on Facebook and more time interacting with your actual relationships. We must try to resist the temptation to monitor our partner’s page constantly and realize that a site such as Facebook is not really the real world, but merely an online bulletin.

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**The Decemberists Perform at the Wellmont Theater**

DAWN FOSTER

**Contributing Writer**

“I think we are becoming fast friends,” says front man Colin Meloy, of The Decemberists, who brought their folk rock and roll to The Wellmont Theater in Montclair on September 21, 2009.

Their latest album, The Hazards of Love, is a concept album that is meant to be listened to as a whole. The album’s story starts with a woman named Margaret, who falls in love with a shape-shifting character named William, who incurs the wrath of an evil forest queen.

Jenny Conlee began building up notes on the organ until the rest of the seven band members took the stage. Becky Stark and Shara Worden were guests on the album and the live tour. They played the voices of Margaret and the forest queen. The performance of the album was perfect; they went through uncountable instrument changes and kept true to every element of the album’s sound from beginning to end. “The Rake’s Song” was a definite standout – only containing guitar and bass; the energetic remaining five members all crammed on their own pair of drums as the resounding beat shook the whole theater.

At the end of the hour long set, the original five member band returned to play some older songs such as: “Billy Liar”, “The Sporting Life”, and “O, Valentia!”. The band even improvised a song about Billy Joel and New Jersey.

On a fake-out finale, Meloy played an intro to something that no one recognized as a Decemberists song, until the classic riff from “Crazy on You” by Heart was heard. Stark and Worden returned to the stage to whip out their vocal chops once more. Stark hit the high, powerful note and the crowd went wild. However, their top notch performance was not over yet. Meloy returned to the stage once more to play a new acoustic song. He had great command of the crowd. On their absolute final song, “Sons and Daughters”, the audience – young and old – sang the last bars with them until the end, repeating “Here come the bombs, fade away…”

**Photo by Dawn Foster**

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**Fall fashion for men and women**

From skinny jeans to knee-high tights, there is no excuse to not look good this fall, when teenagers can dress up for their old fanatic – time to go through your closets for your old blazers, suits, leggings, and shoulder pads to give this season a fashion kick! Layering throughout the years a fashion revolution is taking over Fall 2009.

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**Features October 2009**

**Dissidia.** The game has enough substance and variety which appeal to the existing fan base. Surprisingly, the game is a decent package overall. Though, I don’t recommend it to all, the game is flexible enough to suit semi-hardcore and casual gamers.

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**80’s Style Revolution Is Taking Over Fall 2009**

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**Contributing Writer**

Islam El-Shami

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**Contributing Writer**

Brendon Miel

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The Decemberists at Montclair.
TURN YOUR ASSOCIATE INTO A BACHELOR’S AND your future into a success

Join us at our Paramus Center Transfer Open House, to learn more about DeVry, tour the campus, meet with a financial aid advisor, and have your transcript evaluated. If you’ve earned your associate degree, you can apply those qualifying credits and earn your bachelor’s degree at DeVry University in as few as 1-1/2 years.

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To reserve your space, call 201.556.2840 or email dwilliams3@devry.edu.
Alumni
Every endeavor Catherine put into her schoolwork provides clear evidence that BCC is not merely your typical community college. It is a place where students become inspire to succeed. "I attended a particular instance in regards to her experience at BCC. She explained, "The Honors Association and I really prepares you to compete with your peers and allows you to interact with other classmates at Ivy League schools. I remember as a sophomore student, I was required to write a twenty-paged paper, which I had never in my life done before. To top it off, the professor was a very difficult and rigorous professors on campus. I completed the paper and a few semester later, earned my degree from BCC and realized never in my life done before.

Ten years ago, if someone were to have told her that she would be transferring to Yale, she never would have believed it. The simple idea of going to Yale, this exceptionally well-recognized Ivy League school, just seemed too unrealistic. "That is when I decided my next move is to BCC. You can wipe your slate clean here," Tina declared.

Tina’s moving speech was in itself an address to BCC students. “I would advise you all strongly to keep negative memories far away and fill your life with positive forces,” she said.

Understanding her speech, Tina left off with an inspirational quote stating, “Are you ready to work? Are you ready to do all that you can to meet your educational and your future? I think the answer is yes. That is why you are all a part of the Ivy League schools look for talent that defines you as an individual. Extracurricular opportunities and activities should be meaningful. If you see you as a fulfillment, not as hard work. Look up to the Berkeley Community College alumni who have succeeded before you, and follow in their footsteps.”

Mary Youngblood

swooning sound of this special kind of flute led to her success of winning a place in the Senior Flute Awards in 2002 and again in 2006. Mary has been interested in the arts ever since she was a little girl. She grew up just outside of Sacramento, California. To keep this being adopted by a Non-Native American couple. Mary explained the difficulty of growing up “dark skinned”, in her words, in a world that was mostly white.

Her talents in the arts gave way to her participation in dance and theater because of different influences in her music. Mary picked up the Native American flute in her 30s and realized that was not a single course she did not feel prepared for.”

Mary discovered that she was mostly outside in the woods playing games and listening to the rain. It was a magical place for a young girl to grow up. In a recent trip back to her hometown, she discovered that a little girl was living in the same house. She wrote a letter to the house that Mary herself had grown up in. The most eerie part of this is that the young girl also wants to grow up to become a musician. When I asked what advice Mary would give to this little girl or else striving to become an artist, she expressed that “with something that you dream to do or be, you must be able to visualize yourself doing what you want and becoming who you want to be. If you can visualize achieving your goals, they will soon come to you, along with great success.”

For more information about Mary Youngblood, you can visit her at her website, <www.maryyoungblood.com>

Health Care

people were denied coverage directly or indirectly through high premiums due to a pre-existing condition," reported by the White House.

Prevents insurance companies from dropping coverage: A "recent Congressional investigation found that over five years, three large insurance companies dropped coverage for 20,000 people, saving them from paying $300 million in medical claims, $200 million that became either an obligation for the patient’s family or bad debt for doctors and hospitals."

"Does not add to the deficit: "The plan fully pays for this investment through health system savings and new revenue. Included in a fee on insurance companies that sell very expensive plans." -Whitehouse.

All of these points make the President’s plan seem almost too good to be true. However, according to some sources, it is. CNN wonders whether it will really slow the disasters that will strike unless the current system or actually increase it while hiding the real costs of the new system.

Many other sources agree that inevitably, the plan will cost more than it is worth. Cons of Obama’s Plan: 

"Inevitable tax increases on the middle class: "The only way to pay for what is really a completely new health care system is to include a fee on insurance companies that sell very expensive plans." -Whitehouse.

All of these points make the President’s plan seem almost too good to be true. However, according to some sources, it is. CNN wonders whether it will really slow the disasters that will strike unless the current system or actually increase it while hiding the real costs of the new system.

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Green Movement

woke up what was already there, kind of latent desire and enthusiasm of the faculty to get really involved in this particular area, and they did well!” He also said that about twenty-four students signed up for the first meeting, which put forth green efforts for the college of which the Board approved.

"The biggest challenge behind going green is tremendous, becoming more of a commitment than just a trend that academic institutions adopt. Dr. Jeffries of Georgetown Court said it best. "I think that is a testament to how much a change we are going to make."

So do the pros outweigh the cons? I believe the answer is yes. That is why you are all committed to doing this every day. It is not something that was signed in agreement, we put it on a shelf, and we hope that we meet the guidelines towards the year 2014.

The Student Government Association, the Green Team and the Environmental Club are all working very hard to get environmental concerns realized and acted upon. So what is on BCC’s agenda for a “greener” community college? Well for starters, right after signing the American President Ryan Rees for the green movement.

The Torch

Stereotypes

on the interests of the media. It should not be about popular music versus obscure music defining a persona. Break away from regurgitating the current trend from punk rock bands that hate the government, without realizing that you are essentially throwing yourself into some political knowledge beforehand. Have your own convictions and be aware of that do not derive too much from the regular flu; "Affected people often come down with a fever, cough, and sore throat and, some also suffer nausea or vomiting," as reported by Wall Street Journal.

Swine Flu

36,000 Americans die annually and 200,000 require hospitalization, reports the Daily News. With the new emergence of the H1N1 virus, the amount of Americans who become sick during flu season is estimated to rise exponentially.

In order to protect yourself from becoming sick, there are some precautionary measures you can take. Get a regular flu vaccine to prevent against the seasonal flu. Wash frequently, keep your hands and clothes clean. Most importantly, if you are not feeling well, stay home from work and school. There are certain specific symptoms to be aware of that do not differ too much from the regular flu: “Affected people often come down with a fever, cough, and sore throat and, some also suffer nausea or vomiting,” as reported by Wall Street Journal.

All these distorted notions, trying to adapt modern people into trendy, urban beings are not necessarily true. The media should present their audience with more solid figures that heighten the self-assurance of people rather than influencing them to feel the pressure to overeat and the garbage that compresses it. “The “Thinspiration” and “Barbie Doll” paradigms have got to go. Too often, the media is manipulative, deceptive and wrong perceptions. Distinguishing skepticism from practicality is the best way to self-improve rather than self-destruct.

Break the barrier and remove the standards. It is discouraged not to capitulate to being a subservient catter to unaffable and untruthful standards where there is a great deal of pressure to be a certain way. In other words, it is important to be yourself. People should stop making excuses for their own inabilities to be thin. People must learn to appreciate what they have and realize that they can be an island. They can stand on their own two feet and have different, with distinctive ideas and real interests, without feeding into too much trivia.

continued from pg 7 rather than self-destruct.

“Free medical government care to more than 45 million uninsured people in America – a significant portion of whom are illegal aliens.” -Newsmax.

So do the pros outweigh the cons? I believe the answer is yes. That is why you are all committed to doing this every day. It is not something that was signed in agreement, we put it on a shelf, and we hope that we meet the guidelines towards the year 2014.

continued from pg 5 that sell very expensive plans. “-

"The hospitals and physicians simply won’t be able to demand for the services that look like a bargain.”-CNN.

"Free care for illegal immigrants, which increase illegal immigration:...
Cross Country Hopes

A. Martinez

Staff Writer

Now that students have returned to campus, engaged in their commitments toward nothing short of academic greatness, other students are also equally involved in the same scheme of things as well. With the hopes of elevating themselves toward stardom in academics and sports, student athletes gain a great extent of experience, responsibility, and a great repertoire of conditioning from the rigorous devotion to hard work.

From beginning to end, with the mentorship of BCC’s own Coach Randy Brazil, feats are attainable with the guidance and inspiration he instills into his athletes and achieving on and off the field. Students with the willingness of this type of commitment are sure to benefit greatly and others are encouraged by the coaching staff to give athletics an opportunity in their stride to gaining personal triumphs.

As some may already know, Coach Randy Brazil has coached for more than twenty years. In the past, coach Brazil has held head and assistant coaching positions at Teaneck, Tenafly, and Passyck Valley High Schools. At Teaneck High School, coach Brazil led his team to a County Champs title in the indoor 4x4 relays, which catapulted them into the 1995 junior Olympics at San Jose University in California.

As a football line coach, he assisted in helping Passyck Valley High School win back to back league championships, which qualified his teams for chances in the state championship tournaments held at Giant Stadium.

Here at Bergen, coach Brazil has been coaching for more 13 years, leading a young cross country team into a new season. He has also been involved in track and field, where he has done extremely well. He applies that same commitment of excellence to his promising young cross country team program. For the cross country team, the hopes are to infuse a level of consistent performance, which will hopefully drive his athletes toward many future successes.

One returning runner, ninan “Howie” by coach Brazil is back for his second year. Howie has competed against several community colleges, as well as elite Division 1 and 2 universities. As a cross country player, Howie has excelled, earning himself an opportunity in a long year’s district championship. The expectations for Howie this year are not only to get to and compete at nationals, but to also help in the mentoring of a young bulldog team.

The upcoming schedule began on the 16th of September, over at Queensborough Community College in Bayside, New York. At this event Howell Lopez, Ismael Garcia and Chris placed 31st, 34th and 37th respectively out of total 64 competitors. Looking ahead, players will have opportunities to compete in nine more district cross country meets, granted they qualify for national tournaments. When asked what his players need to know about the season ahead, coach Brazil replied, “Keep practicing hard, don’t expect to run down opponents, stay on course, learn from the meets, dedication,determination, and sacrifice, if you have those three things you are going to make it.”

Men’s Soccer

by Sal Guillen has made me more aware of my surroundings playing in a college level atmosphere, and experiencing the change of speed and force of other players.” Lopez also warned teams about his teammate Osorio, stating that “One force people should be real careful against is the Services, sincehidden kicking Mark Gettsinger, he had a game high of eleven points and was named New Jersey Athletic Conference Special Teams Player of the Week. He now leads the Conference in field goals.

Rider University

Rider University’s men’s soccer team fell short to High Point University in a 0-1 loss. Both teams have never competed before since they are not in the same conference. However, the Broncs still have a competitive team despite the loss against High Point.

William Paterson University

Senior, Amanda Mitchell, served seven consecutive points during the first set, which helped the Women’s Volleyball team win the matchup against Cedar Crest. They hosted two other matches against York and Polytechnic.

Richard Stockton College

Having a good season to date, (5-1) the Men’s Soccer team beat New York University in a 3-0 shut out, which makes this their 3rd consecutive win. The Stockton Owls have three different players score in their win.

Rutgers University

After the humiliating loss against Cincinnati, the Scarlet Knights emerged victorious against Howard 45-7, almost the same score they were defeated by on their season opener. Sure, Rutgers does seem like they are back on track but they will have to prove themselves worthy to compete against powerhouse teams as they go against the Maryland Terps. They have a lot of time to recuperate and get back on the ball as they go against another Big East team in mid-October.

The College of New Jersey

Men’s Tennis Sophomore, Dan Lee, helped the Lions to an impressive victory; winning both his singles matches against NCAA Division 1 Villanova. The Lions are a force that is not to be taken lightly.

New Jersey City University

Having five consecutive wins, NCU’s Women’s soccer proves to be a fierce force after their last triumph against Lancaster Bible, with a score of 4-2. With a very young squad, the ladies soccer team will host Richard Stockton College to try and keep their winning streak alive.

Saint Peters College

Men’s and women’s cross country began September 5th in the Marist Invitational. The best finishing position by a Saint Peter’s runner was 16th place by Albert Mendez. Other team members fell short in the other races. The Peacocks and Peahens strut their way into action again, competing in the NJIT Classic on September 20th.

Monmouth University

The Muhawks have been having trouble for the last two games. They tried to break their losing streak (0-2) when they competed against Daquesne on September 19th. Winning their upcoming game will surely boost their morale as they face off in their first conference game with Daquesne.

Ramapo College

Ramapo Roadrunners’ Women’s tennis team picks up their season record to 4-1 as the ladies defeat the FDU Devils. They will be back to compete when they host their NJAC rival TCNJ.

Princeton University

Tigers’ men’s cross country competed for the first time this season on September 20th at the Fordham Flasque. The Ivy League team earned 300 points as they came in 11th place. Freshmen Tigers got a feel of the sense of competition while the veterans on the team used the race to their advantage to get back into the flow of things before their next race. Next, they will compete in the Cppy Anderson Invitational's.
High Hopes For Men’s Basketball

GUY WEISS
SPORTS EDITOR

The Bergen men’s basketball team had their most successful season last year, winning region 19 and representing their conference at the national tournament. This year, although several of the key players have returned, other factors have changed, specifically the circumstances surrounding the team. Last year, the team was coming off a mediocre season. This year it is the powerhouse that won 20 games and went to nationals. Other teams have come to learn that the men’s basketball program cannot be underestimated, and that a game against us warrants just as much preparation and planning as it takes to compete against any good basketball team in the state.

Coach Kelly for a few minutes in mid-September stating that I would like to write a preview for the upcoming Men’s Basketball season, and was invited to come and talk to him. I chatted with Coach Kelly for a few minutes about last season, upcoming expectations, returning players, and the mental aspect of being taken very seriously as one of the more dominant teams in the league. Among the returning players on this year’s team are Elgin (15ppg/13rpg) and Jayvon Beatty (13ppg/10rpg), two forwards that are among the best in the conference. Last year, Brown set a record in the national Semi-Finals by grabbing 27 rebounds. Derrick Ross (11ppg) is another player who can catch fire in the middle of a game and prove to be a defensive headache for other teams.

Jimmy Schmitt (6ppg/3apg) is the floor coach and a great shooter. Jimmy Schmitt’s numbers and role on the team is that of Jason Kidd when he was on the New Jersey Nets. There were games where he did not have to score; he simply had to be there. His basketball IQ and knowledge of the game and of his teammates’ abilities was enough for him to make his teammates better.

Bergen’s basic offensive strategy is to run as much as possible and tire out the opposing team as quickly as possible. Coach Kelly takes pride in being one of the best-conditioned teams in the conference and uses that to his advantage. He also believes in having a sufficient half-court game and being able to run set plays. “Execution is key to being successful,” he said. Execution should not be as hard to achieve as it was last year, when Bergen was a predominantly freshmen team.

This year, the bulk of the reigning champions are back as sophomores, and ready to pick up where they left off.

Bergen would really have to buckle down and close out every close game that comes down to the last few minutes, something Coach Kelly thinks the team had trouble with last season, specifically during the beginning of the schedule while teammates are still getting acquainted with each other’s playing styles.

Again, because of the added experience gained from last season for all of the returning veterans, the level of maturity that the team plays with should be significantly higher than last year, and will ultimately help the team close out close games.

Overall, it looks like a very optimistic season for Bergen Community College with all of the returning players from last year’s squad as well as students who transferred here specifically to be part of this team. Although they reached Nationals last year, they are hungrier than ever and determined to go even farther this time around.

Guillen explains, “From the keepers to midfield, they are very swift and fast on their feet. The only problem they have is putting the ball in the goal. Their problem comes from being a young team but they are communicating better and better.

So that’s the only internal problem they have.” The team is making communication their primary focus, trying to synergize their offense by converting opportunities into goals.

One of the key players, #3 Johan Lopez, who is in company with: #15 Francisco Andia - freshman Midfielder, #4 Darwin Flores sophomore defensive back (2008 Division III Men’s soccer all-G.S.A.C. second team and all region second team his freshmen year) and #9 David Osorio freshmen forward, mirrored his coach’s concerns. “The main problem is communicating with each other on the field during crucial times.” Lopez said of his personal experience. “Being coached by Jimmy Schmitt of the Men’s Basketball Team PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE BCC ATHLETIC DEPT

Men’s Soccer Season Underway

PHOTOS BY ERWIN DEL PINO

Francisco Andia and Michel Parisi (in white) of the Men’s Soccer Team

Guillen explains, “They are a respectful, loyal, [team] and don’t play dirty. Their morale is high despite their losses.”

The coach reflects on last year’s loss as an example of our Bulldogs’ ability to come from behind. He goes on to say the team is “better” than last year, and they plan to prove that.

Having a strong, skilled and fast defense, the team is always in a good position to win. However, as Coach Guillen explains, “From the keepers to midfield, they are very swift and fast on their feet. The only problem they have is putting the ball in the goal. Their problem comes from being a young team but they are communicating better and better. So that’s the only internal problem they have.” The team is making communication their primary focus, trying to synergize their offense by converting opportunities into goals.

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Goalkeeper Justin Higgins