Mourners Gather to Commemorate Anniversary of WTC Attack

BY KALEILA PFOLKES

“...I experienced a feeling of warmth and closeness with the community,” said NYC Parks and Recreation Commissioner Estelle Cooper.

September 11, 2002 was no ordinary day for anyone in New York City. A veil of solemnity and sorrow covered the city as mourners flashed back to the horrifying events of a September morning one year earlier. Pronounced by gusty winds, the anniversary of the World Trade Center attack was marked in all five boroughs. One such memorial took place at the Flushing Meadows-Corona Park Unisphere.

With flags, candles and photos of loved ones lost in their hands, thousands of mourners, young and old, gathered at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park to listen to the sounds of the Queens Symphony Orchestra and remember the victims of the World Trade Center attacks with a candlelight vigil. The Queens commemoration was one of many similar events in the other boroughs. At the Bayside High School Concert Choir and the Queens Symphony Orchestra began playing in the shadow of the Unisphere, the crowd watched a live satellite feed from Lower Manhattan of world leaders lighting an eternal flame; an image reflective of the lighted flame of patriotism that burned in the hearts of the mass of mourners.

“I experienced a feeling of warmth and closeness with the community,” said NYC Parks and Recreation Commissioner Estelle Cooper. Many people wore red, white and blue for the occasion as they struggled to cope and heal in words, silence and song. Some Chanted “USA” and some sat in silence with tears flowing as the satellite projected Governor George E. Pataki’s voice throughout the Park. “Just as we will never forget September 11, 2001,” said Pataki, “we should all, on September 11, 2002, take time to pause and reflect, to give thanks to the heroes, to pray for those we lost and to commit ourselves to defending the freedoms and advancing the people’s interests in this great city and this great state.”

“...Even though it’s been a year, it feels like it never ended,” said QCC student Yelena Nayda, who missed a day of classes to attend the memorial. Many others missed that day of work or school as well. Community Activist Bryan Pu-Folkes said, “There was a sense of community that I wanted to be a part of. This was a historic moment that recognized a significant memorial day. I felt like it was the right thing to do.”

Former Queens Director of Cultural Affairs Aida Gonzalez-Jarrin said, “I was happy to see the crossing of racial, ethnic and cultural lines to support the country. The backdrop of the Unisphere was especially symbolic of America’s strong sense of unity during difficult times.” “It was a completely multi-ethnic concert in the park,” said Commissioner Cooper.

State Committeewoman Jessica Gonzalez stood amongst the crowd, flag in one hand, candle in the other and reflected on the aftermath of it all, “Although the tragedy brought out a disturbing ignorance in some people, the positive thing is that many tragedies bring people together and this is no exception. America was brought together in a spirit, a togetherness, a sense of Unity that was truly warming in the near future, Queensborough Community College students maintain very diverse opinions on the issue and its ramifications. Of those interviewed there were an equal number of students who either endorsed or opposed an invasion while the majority were undecided, and the remaining students were apathetic.

“I think Hussein is definitely a threat to the US,” said Jim Coates, 55, a student of Telecommunication Technology’s ‘Next Step Program’, a sentiment reflected by those in favor of the US’s proposed policy against Iraq. However, the reason for such an endorsement differed from student to student. Coates, for example, stated, “I think initially it’s going to make the situation worse but in the long term I think it’s better for the security of the country,” while David Gonzalez, 19, said, “I’m in favor because Iraq and all those other countries that are over there that are in the same area and that have the same ideals, they’re doing a lot of things that are against their own religions without realizing it, I guess, they have their Muslims and they have a lot of anti-Muslims, they’re a lot of those over there, basically...with the wrong ideals.”

Other students had a much more personal attachment to the issue, such as Alex Mermelstein, 21, “…we’ve seen video evidence that they were celebrating when the World Trade Center was bombed. Of course being Jewish and having a heritage in Israel, I favor disposing of all the countries continued on page 3

For Sayu Bhoyjani, Commissioner of the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs, the message is clear, “This first anniversary let us initiate an exploration of what it will take to bring healing and wholeness to our world, for it is in our grief that we shape our future with hope for peaceful tomorrows.”

The Flushing memorial was supported by Michael R. Bloomberg, NYC Mayor; Queens Delegation; NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, NYS Governor’s Office; NYS Council of the Arts; Queens Members of the Senate and Assembly; and Queens Representatives to the United States House of Representatives and Senate. Special guests included Queens Borough President Helen Marshall, Former Borough President Claire Schulman, NYC Comptroller Alan Hevesi, Council Member Melinda Katz, Council Member Leroy Comrie, and Council Member John Liu.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL
O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountains majesties
And crown they good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.
O beautiful for heroes prov’d
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
America! America! God shed’s His grace on thee
And crown they good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.
O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears
America! America! God shed’s His grace on thee
And crown they good with brotherhood

Commemorative Gathering
September 11, 2002
FLUSHING MEADOWS, QUEENS
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

HIGHLIGHTS ON:
Education          pg 5
CUNY Proficiency Exam          pg 5
Instructional Support Services          pg 5
Health          pg 6
Teens Face Medical Risks          pg 6
Meningitis More Fatal Than
You Think          pg 6
Leisure          pg 8
Student-nomics          pg 8
Reviews          pg 9
Business          pg 7
Bootleggers: A Threat
Fashion          pg 10
Denim: What’s Hot
Sports          pg 11
QCC Tigers
Patrick Ewing Retires
A Season of Disgust
Q U E E N S B O R O U G H
COMMUNIQUE
Volume XV, No. 16
PRODUCED BY AND FOR THE STUDENTS OF QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
October 2002
Rockefeller Center Chooses to Remove Ghastly Statue

By Kaleila Pufolkes

Thank you, Rockefeller Center, for removing Eric Fischl’s “Tumbling Woman” from public display. The disturbing piece, which depicts a woman falling to her death from the World Trade Center on 9/11, was recently and rightfully removed in response to public outcry.

Some call this ejection a disservice to art, comparing the statue to a work by Goya which depicts the Spanish battlefields, or to the videos of the attacks which aired on TV. One such critic is New York Post writer Nick Monteleone, who argues that art is meant to evoke emotion as well as serve as a social commentator and historical interpreter. However, while this idea is true in theory, the solid presence of “Tumbling Woman” speaks with an urgency that cannot be dismissed as easily as a scene painting or a news feed.

The fact is the piece is shocking, disturbing, and even repulsing to many people. The piece chooses to capture a tragic moment in time, one that jarringly reminds many of the carnage experienced on 9/11. In a still sore New York City, a piece as graphic as Fischl’s should not be displayed in such a public and often-visited place such as Rockefeller Center. It is one thing to display the piece at a gallery or an art show perhaps, a place where one can opt to see it if they choose. However, by putting “Tumbling Woman” on public display, many people are forced to see an image they would rather forget. To me, this is a travesty.

Due to its personal and unnerving nature, it would be insensitive and impertinent if Rockefeller Center continued to keep it on display. The removal of the statue is not a disservice to art, it is a service to the people. We must consider the loved ones of those lost on 9/11 and be sensitive to the emotions this statue cannot help but evoke. While art is intended to evoke emotion, it is the viewer’s choice whether or not they choose to evoke these emotions, not Rockefeller Center’s.

Who’s Standing Up For Us?

By David Malayev

Gamers are well aware that their passion is routinely brought under fire by opportunistic legislators and simple-minded public-interest groups. We all cringe when a senator unveils proposals to sensor games and restrict our access to them. And we all shake our heads as yet another TV critic unapproves the contents of new games.

But few gamers are aware that a dedicated lobbying organization exists to fight on Capitol Hill and around the country on behalf of the gaming industry.

The Interactive Digital Software Association was formed in 1994 as a trade association to defend the interests of game publishers. Its president is Doug Lowenstein, who has been in the trenches for IDSA since the beginning. Along that road, he’s seen gaming from novelty to mass medium, and has fought many of the battles faced by the gaming industry.

When Senator Joe Lieberman proposed government regulation restricting the content of the games, it was IDSA that challenged him on constitutional grounds. When retired colonel David Grossman trapped the news network decrying first-person shooters as “muder simulations,” it was the IDSA that challenged him to produce any compelling study to back up his outrageous claims (which of course, Grossman was unable to do).

Lowenstein’s job involves a lot of lunches and dinner parties spent interacting with government legislators. At the Congressional Entertainment Software Day, IDSA invites lawmakers to a banquet that includes demonstrations of new games and explains of the game ratings system. In short, it’s a daily grind of evangelizing gaming industry for the nation’s most influential people.

While the IDSA deals with a wide spectrum of issues ranging from piracy to maintenance of the Electronic Software Ratings Board (ESRB), the organization’s most significant contribution is to represent gaming among Washington lawmakers and on the national media circuit.
Threat of War Concerns Students

continued from page 1

around there, well, at least most of them also Egypt is pretty cool but with Iraq, it’s been proven that they have the means to take us out, and it’s also been proven that they have had offensive tendencies, but then again, if I say that and we do invade, we are no better than they are.”

Feelings of ambivalence were noted in a few supporters of the policy but were more prevalent in those who described themselves as ‘undecided.’ “...your hurting innocent people regardless of the fact that you’re trying to get one person. You’re still hurting innocent people,” remarked Shakeema Buckley, 18, a Nursing major, but was also concerned about the chances of another attack on America. Unlike Ms. Buckley most ‘undecided’ students were unwilling to go on the record but they shared similar concerns.

In addition many believed that the policy put forth by the Bush administration lacked careful consideration, others thought the policy might actually serve to increase terrorist activity in the future and some believed that the media was not providing a comprehensive view of the issue. As one student expressed, “I think they [the media] have some information they are withholding from society,” and therefore felt that they could not make a decision.

Students opposing the policy voiced the same suspicion about information provided on the issue. “They didn’t give us a valid reason to go over there and start trying to smash things up to bits. They just really need to leave him [Saddam Hussein] alone. As far as I’m concerned, I spoke to my brother online about some of those things and he told me it’s a lot deeper than what a lot a people think,” said Corey Simpson, 20, Fine Arts. Mr. Simpson’s brother served in the Gulf War. He went on to say, “As small as the area is they probably have something we don’t have. We don’t know what’s really going on over there.”

Economic concerns were also a contributing factor in students’ criticism of the policy “Because it’s going to cost the economy more...I’m worried about how it’s going to affect me... if you look at the war in Afghanistan, the US wasted about 80 billion dollars which made the economy worse; it’s going to be worse – another 60 or 70 billion dollars and worse so...that’s pretty bad and the unemployment rate is increasing,” stated Computer Science major Mokammel Khan, 21.

Practical considerations as well as moral ones were also a factor. “...they have no reason to invade unless they think they really want to find Osama over there... he’s the man that they want; why else invade any other place. If they should invade that should be the motive, [not] anything other than that, and it shouldn’t be to destroy the whole country. It should be to search for one person,” stated Peter Danraj, 22.

Some were outraged at the mere mention of a possible invasion of Iraq. As one student described it as not being “...morally right...I just don’t think it’s right to go, they should negotiate something. A lot of people are going to die it they fight.”

The one aspect of this issue that most all of those interviewed agreed upon, despite their position on the issue, was that it would set a dangerous precedent for other nations if the US were to launch a military attack without UN approval. For Liberal Arts Major B. C. Nawde, 17, who responded that the issue was “Not really a concern [for him]” and stated “because we have a lot of other countries looking at us and if we were to invade a country without proper procedure, without UN directive then it’s like we’re breaking our own laws. We’re setting an example like ‘hey, it’s okay to go in to someone’s country and do whatever we do.”

It is not surprising that this issue produces such variegated opinions or that these views are shared with many who influence the shaping of a policy to deal with Iraq. Since the attacks on September 11, 2001 many anticipated that America’s “War on Terrorism” would include a plan on dealing with Iraqi president Saddam Hussein. However, the Bush administration did not begin developing an approach of removing Saddam Hussein from power until April of this year when it eliminated the possibility of a coup or using local forces in toppling Iraq president because it deemed such means as ineffectual.

In June, President Bush requested the drafting of a doctrine on pre-emptive action against terrorist groups or states attempting to develop weapons of mass destruction with Iraq at the top of the list. Since then the Bush administration has had the arduous task of gaining the endorsement of the international community as well as Congress.

On the international front the Bush administration has received opposition from nations including Germany, Russia and France (which is a member of the UN’s Security Council) to name a few, each with their own reason for urging caution. However, the Bush administration had made it clear that it intends to proceed with its plans with or without the UN’s endorsement.

Within Congress the debate has not been on whether or not there should be a change in the Iraqi leadership but on the means used to bring about that change. Some of the leading concerns are the affects of war on an already lagging economy, while others including retired military generals such as General John P. Hoar worry about the casualties a war would produce. Perhaps a guiding rule of all present discourse on the issue came from Senator Chuck Hagel, as quoted in James Dao’s article on July 18, 2002 of the New York Times, “If the United States decides to take action against Iraq, Americans need to understand the risk and the objectives.”
First-Year Students Make the Transition into Higher Education

BY DEMITRI DIAKANTONIS

Many people think it is very difficult to make the transition from high school to college. Students at Queensborough think a little differently. Despite the fact that Queensborough might be a little smaller than other colleges and universities, there are those students who have the potential to do far more than what Queensborough gives them, and there are others who do find it very challenging.

Most people seem to like the school and get adjusted very quickly. The only major complaint voiced so far is from freshman Shawn Johnson who had a hard time finding his classes for a couple of days here but got used to it shortly after. Exactly what is the most difficult thing about Queensborough? “Finding the classes, but other than that its ok,” said Shaw, as he was sitting on the steps in front of the Science Building. When asked how he likes the school compared to high school, he was very relieved to get out of high school to come to a peaceful environment at Queensborough: “Compared to my high school, anything is better,” Johnson added.

While some find the work very easy, there are others who find the work very difficult.

Joe Drakakis is one of the students who can excel beyond what Queensborough can offer. “I love this school, it’s very easy,” said Joe, an Engineering major. For some the work may be very easy, but they choose to come to this school anyway just so that they can make a smooth transition from high school to college and to make sure they choose the right direction in their lives. Many people enter college with an undecided major. It might be too much pressure for them to be hit with a heavy workload at a bigger four-year university.

BY MARIA INGOGLIA

Have you been wondering why it is so hard to find parking, especially in the morning and daytime hours? Well, many things are to blame. The new Q27 bus stop (formally parking field 5) on campus is one of the reasons along with a larger number of students attending QC and alternate side of the street parking.

There are about 11,500 students enrolled this semester. About 80% are day students and many use public transportation. The new bus stop is very useful especially for evening students. Since it is on campus, it makes it safer to walk to. But for many students who drive, it is one less parking space.

Hey, That's My Spot!

BY MARIA INGOGLIA

Getting to school early will help. Even though Queensborough does not guarantee parking for all students, alternate side parking off campus is also a nuisance.

When I asked Vincenza Patti, a senior here at QCC, how she felt about the parking issue she said, "I get to school about a half hour before my classes begin to find a spot and I barely make it to class on time." Another student Nicole Saviano said, "In my four semesters here I’ve gotten four parking tickets, that’s about one every semester!" However, some students gave me some helpful tips about what they feel could improve the parking problem.

Getting to school early will help. Even though the parking lots may be full, you have a better chance of finding a spot in the street and still make it to class on time.

Carpooling is also a helpful idea. Many students have friends that share the same time schedules. By going to school together, that is one or even two cars less (depending on how many people) that need to find parking.

Most students that live in the vicinity of the college say they walk, take the bus or get a ride to school. Although parking is limited here at QCC, following some of these helpful tips will help improve the situation. We just have to make the best of what is available to us.

Queensborough Keeps Pace with Minority Enrollments

BY TY LEE BUTLER

With reports of minority enrollment at all American colleges and universities on the rise, Queensborough Community College continues that rich CUNY tradition of opening the doors to higher education for many minorities and immigrant communities.

Queensborough ranks 4th among the community colleges and 7th out of 20 schools system-wide in overall CUNY system minority enrollment, and 7th out of 32 in the CUNY system minority enrollment among CUNY undergraduate schools in Queens, while it beats six (6) out of the 20 schools system-wide.

For years now, especially since the early part of this century, CUNY has been a beacon for providing educational opportunities for those immigrant communities in the city who could not seek elsewhere for a chance at an education. Records for fall 2000 show that at QC a full 50.7% of first time freshman were not born in the U.S. or Puerto Rico or U.S. territories and 54.6% spoke a native language not English. Queensborough is outpacing both the CUNY senior colleges and other community colleges in enrollment of Asians & Pacific Islanders, one of the fastest growing ethnic populations in New York.

Reports from the United States Department of Education show that while the numbers of minority students attending colleges had increased, there are problems in retention and graduation especially among blacks and Latinos. The American Council on Education, which represents about 1800 institutions of higher learning, is calling for sustained efforts nationwide to “improve the success of minorities in higher education.”

CUNY seems to be slightly more successful than the national average with numbers of minority students graduating and earning degrees. A significant factor contributing to this may be the many support services offered to students such as the tutoring and training offered at the Instructional Support Services department here at Queensborough. We also have academic advising and counseling services which help students with a wide variety of academic and life-related issues.

Fall Open House

Addressing the need to provide admission information, Mercy College is hosting an Open House at its Dobbs Ferry campus. Take a look around, talk to advisors, and discover the wide variety of great opportunities that we offer. Many classes are available nights and weekends and our tuition is among the lowest in metro NY. Drop by and see Mercy for yourself.

Fall Open House — Saturday, Oct. 19, 11 am - 2 pm
All those attending will be eligible to enter a drawing to win two $500 Savings Bonds, generously donated by the Union State Bank.

To request tickets to attend the Open House, call 1-800-MERCY NY.
E-mail: admissions@mercy.edu
Dobbs Ferry 555 Broadway
Instructional Support Services: Sharing & Preparing

On September 13th, 2002, Instructional Support Services hosted a full-day CUNY-wide professional development event: SHARING & PREPARING: The 1st Annual ACT/CPE Best Practices Symposium, facilitated by Dion Pincus, Director of Instructional Support Services, and Bridget Orozco, Assistant Director of Instructional Support Services.

Over the last 2 years, QCC’s department of Instructional Support Services has been developing its facilitator training regimen and refining its original materials development for the test preparation workshops it has run for the ACT Writing Exam and the CPE Exam with remarkable success:

- over FY 2001-2002, 68% of students who took the ISS ACT Writing Prep workshops passed their retest; and
- while 86.7% of all CUNY senior college students and 77% of all CUNY community college students passed the CPE during Spring 2002, students who participated in the ISS Spring 2002 CPE Exam Prep Workshops achieved an 88% pass-rate.

Believing that students are best served when individual CUNY campus’ best practices can be shared so that together we provide the most effective services to our students, ISS inaugurated what it hopes will be an ongoing venue to share successful ACT/CPE test prep workshop methods and materials with interested faculty, staff, and administrators from across the CUNY campuses.

Attended by approximately 90 members of the CUNY community, the morning agenda was devoted to sharing ISS methods and materials for supporting students taking the ACT Writing Exam, and the afternoon agenda was devoted to sharing ISS methods and materials for supporting students taking the CPE Exam. Issues such as training facilitators to integrate learning styles into their workshops; utilizing the ISS team-teaching pedagogy; integrating individual, paired, small group, and entire class activities into workshop time; exploring administrative concerns in implementing prep workshops; demonstrating how to use the four ACT and CPE Handbooks and Toolkits which ISS has created; and understanding game theory and using interactive classroom games to buttress skills acquisition were introduced during the Symposium.

With special thanks to Robin Levine, Test Preparation Coordinator, and Joe Labozetta, Materials Developer/Workshop Facilitator, the 1st Annual ACT/CPE Best Practices Symposium was an important first step toward bringing together the best efforts of individual campuses to ensure student retention and academic success. It is the hope of Instructional Support Services that this inaugural Best Practices Symposium will continue in the future, building on the foundations this inaugural Best Practices Symposium will construct.

Bill Proposed to Stop Exploitation of Child Models

BY JEREMY SACHER

Mark Foley, a Republican United States Representative from Florida, is trying to pass a bill that would prohibit child-modeling websites from emerging on the Internet. Foley argues that exposing underage pictures of child-models on Internet sites provides pedophiles with a chance to access and abuse these images. The bill has not been passed, but is going before the House-Judiciary Committee, and he intends to shut down these sites for exploitation of child models. Foley’s bill would impose prison terms of up to 10 years for exploitive child modeling, defined as “marketing the child himself or herself in lascivious positions and acts, rather than actually marketing products.”

A Florida based Web Corporation, which is one of the biggest child-modeling websites on the Internet, was started by Marc Greenberg who states, “I can’t vouch for the motives of my customers.” Greenberg also insists that no child featured on his sites has suffered any physical harm. I am sure that some people who are pedophiles look at the Internet site whether we choose to believe it or not, but for the most part, people who are accessing the sites are good people.

In an interview with Sharon Lynn, a 37-year-old mother from Bayside, Queens who has a 13 year-old daughter who models, she stated, “My daughter has been modeling for over three years now. When she first started, I was skeptical about approaching Internet sites for exposure. As I learned more about this industry, the more people that see your child’s profile, the better your chances are at getting noticed.” When a service like the Internet is worldwide, the publicity can be immeasurable. Model Corporations all over the world would get a chance to access her daughter’s profile and pictures and decide whether or not she is a valid candidate for their ads.

There will always be deviant behavior in our society, so maybe Foley’s bill will never be passed to law, but issues like this always tend to inform the public.
American teenagers face major health issues and may receive the worst health care in the country. Teens today have to deal with issues concerning pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, eating disorders, drug use, depression, obesity, stress, anxiety, and peer pressure. Much of why teens face these issues has to do with society, anxiety, and the ignorant, risky behaviors that we as a society have created. Teens are developing at a faster rate now than ever. There are too many adolescents, too many bodies with immature minds. According to Joyce Gabriel, author of For Teens, The Issue Is Trust, “More that half of teens aged 15 to 19 have had sexual intercourse, nearly a million become pregnant each year, and an estimated 3 million contract an STD (sexually transmitted disease) annually.”

Teens today face eating disorders which are very common in America. Between 5 and 10 million people have an eating disorder. According to a recent study, approximately 1-in-10 college girls has an eating disorder, such as bulimia and anorexia nervosa. These numbers are growing in girls as well as boys. Many teens are also obese. Some are born or develop a medical condition, but many cases have to do with bad eating habits and lack of exercise. Pediatrician Dr. Margaret Blythe states that obesity and eating disorders are on the rise for a number of reasons, for example our sedentary and busy lifestyles that don’t allow us to plan and fix healthy meals, and idealized images telling us we will only be happy if we’re a certain weight and body type. Teens engage in risky activities, do things to and have things happen to them that are harmful to their bodies. Teens may experiment with illegal drugs, anabolic steroids, cigarettes and alcohol. Teens may also acquire sports related injuries which can have an adverse impact on their development and on quality of life for the rest of their lives.

Many teenagers may also be interested in body piercing. If they choose to have a body part pierced, they run the risk of chronic infection, prolonged bleeding, scarring, Hepatitis B and C, Tetanus, skin allergies, chipped or broken teeth (oral piercing) and speech impediments. Many of these cases can be fatal or a person may be left with a permanent disability, such as deafness, blindness, amputations of the legs or arms or brain damage even with prompt treatment. However, if diagnosed early and treated promptly, the majority of people make a complete recovery.

Unlike the flu, bacterial meningitis does not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with the illness has been. They spread when people exchange saliva such as kissing or sharing containers and utensils. That’s why college students living in dorms are at a higher risk of contracting the disease.

It is too horrifying to experience the physical pain as well as the emotional pain of this illness, just ask Milnor, a sophomore in physiology from Decatur who contracted bacterial meningitis. She had a fever of 102 degrees and was then airlifted to the Intensive Care Unit of Springfield Memorial Medical Center where several spinal taps were done, the fluid around her spinal cord determined she had contracted the illness. Milnor was in the ICU for a good month after being released, she said the worst part of the illness was immobility from muscle stiffness. Dr. James Goodrich of the SIU Medical Center where several spinal taps were done, the fluid around her spinal cord determined she had contracted the illness. Milnor was in the ICU for a good month after being released, she said the worst part of the illness was immobility from muscle stiffness. Dr. James Goodrich of the SIU Medical Center who conducted bacterial meningitis patients are administered intravenous antibiotics and hospitalization is required for patients, but there is a vaccine available to prevent the disease and it only costs about eighty dollars per shot, not too much to prevent you from a more or less fatal disease.

For more information your local or regional health department offices are excellent sources for information on this communicable disease.

Meningitis

BY DEONARINE BALGOBIND

Imagine an illness that begins with flu-like symptoms, a sore throat and a runny nose. Yes, you think to yourself I’m going to be sick, but never will you think that you can die in a matter of days. Well, it is known as Bacterial Meningitis which causes an inflammation of the covering of the brain and spinal cord, which is caused by several types of bacteria. The most common in young adults like ourselves are Neisseria meningitidis or “meningoccus,” and two other types called Hemophilus influenzae type b and pneumococcius which account for about 80% of bacterial meningitis cases in the United States today. Some of these cases can be fatal or a person may be left with a permanent disability, such as deafness, blindness, amputations of the legs or arms or brain damage even with prompt treatment.

If diagnosed early and treated promptly, the majority of people make a complete recovery. Unlike the flu, bacterial meningitis does not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with the illness has been. They spread when people exchange saliva such as kissing or sharing containers and utensils. That’s why college students living in dorms are at a higher risk of contracting the disease.

It is too horrifying to experience the physical pain as well as the emotional pain of this illness, just ask Milnor, a sophomore in physiology from Decatur who contracted bacterial meningitis. She had a fever of 102 degrees and was then airlifted to the Intensive Care Unit of Springfield Memorial Medical Center where several spinal taps were done, the fluid around her spinal cord determined she had contracted the illness. Milnor was in the ICU for a good month after being released, she said the worst part of the illness was immobility from muscle stiffness. Dr. James Goodrich of the SIU Medical Center who conducted bacterial meningitis patients are administered intravenous antibiotics and hospitalization is required for patients, but there is a vaccine available to prevent the disease and it only costs about eighty dollars per shot, not too much to prevent you from a more or less fatal disease.

For more information your local or regional health department offices are excellent sources for information on this communicable disease.

You may also call your local health department or Regional Texas Department of Health offices to ask about meningococcal Vaccine. (Sources from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. www.cdc.gov and Texas Department of Health: www.thd.state.tx.us.)
The Schemer stepped off an escalator at the crowded Jamaica Center subway exit. He had just completed a three-hour trek to and from Manhattan. Not that he is least worried about the long time spent traveling, he was in fact making one of his weekly traverses to the city.

Less than 30 minutes later on a crowded street off bustling Jamaica Avenue, he was hastily scanning the crowd for undercover cops. None were in sight. He grinned, and anxiously began unloading his wares. Armed with a practiced sales pitch, he pounced on his first customer, “Only five dollars Baby, rap, reggae, R&B, all the hot flava,” he beckoned. The customer responded by hawking up three mixed-CDs, no doubt a sweet deal, with the more than 100 songs at his disposal for only $15.

But for established businesses, their sales have been cut drastically due to the proliferation of many like The Schemer. At Original Records, a retail distributor store located a few blocks away from The Schemer’s stronghold, coping with the method of marketing by ‘Bootleggers’, is similar to a baby trying to subdue a raging bull. “We are not selling like we used to do five years ago,” stated Shane, manager of the nine-year-old establishment. According to him if the practice persists, “It will only be matter of time before stores like his close their doors.” The difference between his business and the free-styling approach of the ‘Bootleggers’, is primarily responsibility and accountability. Whereas he pays taxes, employees, and other overhead expenses, ‘Bootleggers’ are not subjected to such demands. At least, so it would seem. But The Schemer strongly disagrees.

“Look man, I’ve been arrested three times, and ticketed,” he lamented. What’s the charge? The selling of unauthorized merchandise. He has been ‘bootlegging’ for six years, and states his biggest problem is not sales but the presence of the police. In fact, most, if not all of his colleagues have at least spent a night in jail. “It depends on the police sometimes they warn you, about selling on the streets other times they give you a ticket or take you to jail,” he stated.

The five tickets the Schemer was issued totaled $2500, each racking up a tall $500. However, it does not deter him from hitting the streets. “It’s all about music; furthermore, we promote the artists, and if the buyers likes the song, ten he’ll buy the album,” explains the Schemer.

The impact sluggish sales has had on retailers locally is reflective in a recent survey the Recording Industry Association of America, RIAA, carried out, revealing that during the last two years, there has been a 15-20% drop in registered record sales nationwide.

This was supported by Aaron Talbert, Director of Sales at VP Records, a Jamaica based independent distribution company. “We are doing some work with the RIAA, to curb the plagiarizing of works, and so far they are carrying out raids in warehouses,” he informed. But this has had no big dent in an industry which has been around for a long time.

Pirating is a global problem, and from our side of the coin, once the people of Hollywood get involved, then maybe we’ll see some positive results,” Talbert theorized. His bosses have embarked on a public awareness drive to tackle the problem from a New York perspective. Currently, they have a tag line: Support your retailers, don’t buy bootleg, and this is emblazoned on all of their company vehicles while stickers are distributed to other retailers.

However, not every one is lured into the bootlegger’s trap. “If I like the artist, I’ll buy his record from the licensed distributors,” said Judene Greaves, a student at Queensborough Community College, also a rabid fan of reggae music. Some people suggested it is unfair to the artists, whose profits are short changed by the widespread practice of bootlegging.
Prior to 1996 the WQCC Radio was housed in the premises of the Shadow Box Theater. Since then, it has been locked within empty walls until one year and five months ago. In April 2001, Mr. Adam Del Valle, a former graduate of QCC, brought QCC Radio back to reality. The sounds, voices and beats that once came out of the big speakers hanging on the walls have now been reborn through the new technology of the Internet. The new WQCC Radio not only attracts sleepy walkers on an early morning, or the busy faculty staff moving from class to class, but also a bigger and more diverse crowd, transposing the distant borders of a single campus, to a wider and more diverse audience.

The new QCC radio has been up and running since April 2001. It wasn’t easy at all; it took a lot of effort, persistence and team work to reconquer this illusion again. Students, faculty and staff are what “makes up this community,” as Natasha Ayanah Thomas, Manager/Faculty Advisor refers to it. But what is behind the radio and those energetic and multicul
tural shows they offer us? A lot of cooperation and enthusiasm is put on. As their ad says, “Tune into WQCC Radio at www.wqccradio.com and hear the hottest mix of music from every genre. There is a little something for everyone.” Offering a modernistic concept, the WQCC meets twice a week to decide how many DJs they are going to have for the week and what genre of music will be played because as Ms. Thomas adds, “We play anything from classical to hip hop, jazz, rock or local bands; if you want to hear it, we will play it.”

For the recording and production process they count on the cooperation of Professor Ron Carters and the music department faculty and students, who in cooperation with the WQCC team produce the shows. “This gives the students the practice they need and also teaches the club members more about music technology,” explained Ms. Thomas. The radio presents pre-recorded shows, that run for a week and also offers clips of individual genres of music for your preference to pick. Since the running of the station, they have had great ratings. “On an average day I receive 30 e-mails for requests and about 3-5 people requesting to participate and become DJs of the station,” commented Ms. Thomas, who is very happy with the early results, results that are clearly drawn by the rating line. The radio has also reached 129,000+ listeners for their first anniversary on air, a number that recently increased to 190,000+ listeners. As a merit for their hard work and success, the WQCC has won the best new media award in 2001 and the QSA media award in 2002. With the bootleggers’ approach, it would have been more difficult to have the radio station serve not only the students, but the Music Department and the Technology Department as well, also to create unity among students, faculty staff and administra
tion. I strongly intend on achieving that goal. With the college community’s help we can make this station cross many boundaries. If you are interested, feel free to visit Ms. Thomas at the Union Lounge or call her at 718-631-6632. She will be very happy to talk to you because she believes “we are not professionals, we are all in a learning experience together.”

Bootsleggers

Kirk ‘Lunatic’ Lawes, an up-and-coming rapper and recording engineer who operates the Black Judah Recording Studio in the Sutphin Boulevard area said that the practice is good for the artists and a promotional point of view, but simultaneously weakens their potential sales ability. “It’s like having a plate of food,” he opined, “and a man comes and takes what he wants and you can’t do anything about it.”

With the bootleggers’ approach, it would appear they have no respect for the copyright law. The law seeks to protect the intellectual rights and properties of creators of original works in both music and the performing arts. The law enforcement officers are concerned about the rapid and constant growth of bootleggers on the streets, some of whom are even selling from the trunks of motor vehicles, others disguised as students. The Downtown Squad, a unit operating out of the precinct at 168 Street and Jamaica Avenue, have been trying to rid the streets of the secondary market. However, trying to get a comment from one of the officers involved was impossible.

At the crowded street off Jamaica Avenue, the Schener sold approximately 40 cds, with still another 110 in his possession, a decent day’s sales, considering the leftovers, which should be sold within the next 5 days. “This is my bread and butter,” he gushed, “this is what I do for a living.”

“Student-nomics”

As college students we are not in the position to always splurge every time we want to go out and chill with our friends, or rather yet, go out on a date. So instead, we stay home broke. Different ways for students to have fun for free at the same time without being economical is as important as a student to get a job. And with the energy the student’s pockets, wallets, or purses have to go through when paying for classes, textbooks, and required materials for school, we can’t give us with any dough to make bread and to splatter some butter on it. Well, now there are alternatives to pleasing our want for leisure that is creative, imaginative, and stimulating to the mind as well as to the lazy senses of our pockets.

Let’s first start of in Queens, which has never lacked for major art institutions and where one of the most exhilarating places has set a momentary instance Rockefeller Center, for the fraction of the cost one could easily enjoy city park rinks, such as The Rockefeller Center’s Laser Rink at 107th Street, Wollman Rink in Central Park at 63rd Street and The Ice-Skating Rink in the New York City Building Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, which its $4 on the weekdays and $7.50 on the weekends. Other than going to high price rinks, for instance Rockefeller Center, for the fraction of the cost one could easily enjoy city park rinks, which its $4 and adult admission is only $4 on the weekdays and $7.50 on the weekends.

Learning about places to go, how to and how much it will cost is fun. But getting up and doing it is where the excitement is. Entertain yourself by investigating different ways of art in an esthetic and nomical fashion, and then complete the exploration by having fun doing it.
Movie Review
Fish out of Water
BY FRANK CUSIMANO

Yes guys, I’m not going to lie to you. Sweet Home Alabama is more of a “chick flick” than anything, but it’s definitely a good movie to bring a date to. It’s a fairly straightforward romantic comedy, but it has enough to keep you attentive, and enjoying yourself throughout the entire movie.

Melanie Carmichael, played by Reese Witherspoon, was a wild southerner in her youth, and now as you see her in the movie, she is an up and coming fashion designer who resides in New York. Unfortunately, she is riddled with a tainted past filled with some intriguing secrets.

In this film Carmichael gets engaged to the mayor of New York’s son, but there is only one problem; she is still married to her childhood sweetheart from Alabama. So in order for her to get married to her new sweetheart, she needs to get divorced from her current husband that she left down in Alabama. So she takes a trip down memory lane to confront her past. This includes her family, friends as well as her ex-husband, all of which has something to offer to this picture.

Upon going back down she meets her stubborn husband who won’t sign her divorce papers, her family whom she hasn’t seen in seven years, the friends she left behind and the townsfolk she terrorized, who still to this day fear her. It’s a fairly common fish out of water story where someone leaves behind what they think is holding them back and has nothing to offer them, only to return and realize what they left behind.

With little plot twists keeping you laughing and on your toes you come to appreciate the intricacies of how a classic love story comes together. I went in expecting nothing from this movie and walked out with a smile. It’s a good alternative to your typical love story even though it’s been done before. The whole southern twist puts a nice spin on things. So take a friend and enjoy.

© Touchstone Pictures: All rights reserved. Sweet Home Alabama

Television Review:
The Twilight Zone
BY DAVID HARRIS

Very recently, WWOR-TV UPN 9 began airing an updated version of the classic late 1950s TV show The Twilight Zone. This original version aired from 1959 until 1962 on CBS. Rod Sterling hosted the original series where the host version is now being hosted by Forest Whitaker. Holding true to the original series, it tells stories of events that happen in a fifth dimension. This dimension is said to be like our world, but different at the same time.

This past Wednesday, September 25th, I watched the show. This particular episode was called “Shades Of Guilt.” In this episode, the story revolves around a man named Matt McGreevey. McGreevey undergoes a transformation after driving away from a black man that was trying to escape a mob of racists, therefore leaving this man, John Woodrow to die. This transformation makes McGreevey look exactly like Woodrow. At the end of the episode, he had the chance to set the record straight and prevent the tragedy from happening. In the end, he rescues Woodrow from being beaten to death. This was after he had spent time as Woodrow and tried to explain what happened to Woodrow’s family, with little success as they ignored him.

UPN’s version of the show is catchy, but being a Sci-Fi fan myself, I cannot bring myself to watch the new show. On a rating of 1 to 10 doors, 10 being the best, I give The Twilight Zone 3 1/2 doors.

© Touchstone Pictures: All rights reserved. Sweet Home Alabama
If you enjoy the Pulitzer Prize winning play, *Death Of A Salesman*, then you’d probably want to catch Queensborough’s performance of *A View From The Bridge* this November. From the same award-winning author, Arthur Miller, our own production can be seen this fall 2002.

The play, which shined on and off Broadway, in Chicago and London throughout the 1950s and 1960s, is a post World War II story about an Italian-American family, in which a man named Eddie develops incestuous feelings toward his niece, Catherine. Eddie becomes possessive and protective when Rodolpho, one of the illegal immigrants he and his wife Beatrice are harboring, falls in love and tries to marry Catherine. It has even been compared to stories of Greek tragedy.

To make sure you can attend at least one show, there will be 11 different performances...

- November 1 (Friday) & 2 (Saturday) at 8 PM
- November 7 (Thursday) at 6:30 PM
- November 8 (Friday) & 9 (Saturday) at 8 PM
- November 14 (Thursday) at 6:30 PM
- November 15 (Friday) & 16 (Saturday) at 8 PM
- November 21 (Thursday) at 6:30 PM
- November 22 (Friday) & 23 (Saturday) at 8 PM

All shows, which are being directed by Robert Simons and produced by Michael Cesarano, can be seen at the Shadowbox Theatre in the Z building.

For all ticket information, call the QCC Box Office at 718-631-6311.

---

**What’s Hot for Fall**

*By Vincenza Patti*

What is denim? Denim is more than a cotton fabric with a continuous use of interest. It is the fabric which is hailed as “eternally young.” Denim was born in Europe and found a place in the hearts of nineteenth century Americans.

How did it change from era to era? Looking back the first people to wear denim were coal miners. In the 1920s, denim overalls were the major work apparel in men’s work. By the 1930s, denim was associated less often with laborers and more with the rugged American cowboy apparel. After World War II denim became associated with leisure activities and was mostly worn by teenage boys and college-age men.

During the 50s denim began selling as a national product for the first time. By the 60s, the new young hippies adopted denim as a trademark. Denim had become a symbol of the young, active, informal American way of life in the 60s. In the 70s, denim went through a decorative phase. By the 80s, what was once only used for work clothes had become an important fabric to express freedom and play for all types. Now a day’s denim is not only a fabric but also an attitude about lifestyle.

This fall, denim is at its peak from daywear to nighttime; it’s all over. Denim is the new black of the season. From pants to skirts and jackets to coats, it is trendy and hot. This season we can find it in all shades and designs. The denim we once saw as laid back and relaxed is now sleek and sexy.

This fall college students can be relaxed, yet trendy while on campus. Denim, preferred for its comfort and flexibility, is the clothing desired by all students. From low rise dark denim jeans to stone washed denim skirts and faded pea coats, these styles can be found at affordable prices that are sure to fit any student’s budget. This season any old pair of jeans can be turned stylish with the right accessories. Besides denim being stylish and affordable, it’s indestructible.
OCC Tigers Head For a New Season

BY DENNIS PEREIRA

College sports fans get ready because it’s that time again. Head coaches all over the country are getting their teams ready for another exciting season of college basketball. Tom Sinnickson is in his 8th season as head coach of the Queensborough Tigers and has enjoyed success in his first few years, but has seen his squad end up with a losing record for the last three seasons. Size and talent have been the problem in the last few years but with help on the way, the Tigers should be more competitive.

Last season, Queensborough finished tied for 8th place in their division but lost an important tiebreaker game that kept them out of the playoffs. Guard Teron Simpson stepped up at the end of last season and has generated excitement at the point guard position. Teron is a sophomore from Cardoza and joins Demitris Dimitropoulos who is also a second year player from Cardoza in the backcourt. Other returning players from last years team include a guard from Newtown named Justin Dubin who is a long distance treat, along with forward Johann Yorke who brings some size and ability to the court.

Although the returning players from last year are going to go a long way in deciding how good a season the Tigers have, Mr. Sinnickson feels the rookies are going to provide much needed size and strength. These are two major ingredients the team has lacked in previous years. With a 6’6” forward named Danny Ibne, and another 6’8” center, Joe Szucs from Grover Cleveland, this new team should rebound and defend the basketball a lot better. Junior Fuller is a freshman guard from Forest Hills who looks to join Malik Frazier, and Carl Enengo who are first year players, and Canarisse in helping Queensborough turn around their 9 and 15 record from a year ago into a winning season and hopefully advancing in the playoffs.

Mr. Sinnickson is a coach who adapts to his talent and creates his system around his athletes. This is the mark of a good coach because he plays to his team’s strengths and is able to get the most out of his players. The Tigers’ goal is the same it’s been in previous ears and that is to win the junior conference and from thee hopefully advance into the playoffs. Although none of coach Sinnicksons players have graduated and advanced to play in division one basketball, others have continued their basketball careers in division two schools and are playing overseas as well. It’s a new year and a new team with a promising class of freshman, along with a solid group of second year players returning for another run. The true test comes during the season, let’s see if the Tigers can pass.

 Lore

Bigger, Tougher Rangers Finally A Contender?

BY ANTHONY ZUIMO

Expectations are certainly high as the New York Rangers begin a brand new season getting under way in October. The Rangers have made a couple of key off-season acquisitions, along with a few resignations, which make them a tougher, grittier team than in years past.

The free-agent signings of Bobby Holik and Darius Kasparatis instantly make the Rangers a team to be reckoned with. Bobby Holik, a center, was one of the most prized free-agents on the market this past off-season. The Rangers stepped up to the plate and homered with Holik’s acquisition by signing the veteran to a $45 million, five-year contract.

Holik was a key player on the New Jersey Devil’s ’95 and ’00 Stanley Cup championship teams. Last season Holik tallied 25 goals, 29 assists, 54 points and 97 penalty minutes in 81 games played. Although Holik does possess scoring capabilities, the Rangers acquired the center for his toughness, attitude and work ethic more than anything else.

Darius Kasparatis was also acquired by the Rangers via free agency and was awarded a multi-year contract as well. Clearly not known to continued on page 12

Patrick Ewing Retires

BY WAI WONG

Given the effort of Patrick Ewing in his career, no one can contest Ewing’s thrust for an NBA title. As he announced his retirement on September 17th, he will continue to dream of winning that elusive championship ring. Although the ring is missing from his hand, he still maintained a level of performance and consistency that kept New York fans excited for the better part of his tenure with the Knicks.

Ewing’s illustrious career spans 17 years, with 15 of those in New York. It started in ’85, when the Knicks made Ewing their first ever draft pick of the NBA lottery. His impressions were felt immediately as he won the rookie of the year award. Defenders saw his offensive and defensive improvements. During the 1989-90 season, he posted a career high of 28.6 points per game, along with 10.9 rebounds per game.

Known, throughout the league, as the big man with a soft outside shot, he was considered the best pure shooting center in the game. That’s the main reason why he’s been the centerpiece of the Knicks’ offense for so many years. The mismatch he creates with his offensive prowess, makes him difficult to contain. Added to that, his presence off the glass and his shot blocking ability makes him difficult for opposing coaches to solve. His leadership role with the Knicks makes him invaluable, especially during a tough playoff series.

Ewing puts up tremendous numbers every year with the Knicks, and that has earned him 11 All-Star selections and named as one of the 50 greatest players in NBA history. Although a championship has eluded him as a pro, he has won an NCAA championship with Georgetown in 1984. He won the ’92 Olympic gold as part of the first Dream Team, and also won gold in the ’84 Olympic games during his college days, when they actually allowed the amateurs to play. He has also put major dents into many of the Knicks’ team records. As reported by the Knicks’ official website (www.knicks.com), Ewing holds the team records for total points scored (23,665), total rebounds (10,759) and total blocked shots (2,758) as well as many others.

Playing in The Big Apple can be a challenge to any professional player. The fans and the media in New York have been known to be more demanding and critical of their sports figures than anywhere else. But Patrick Ewing has dealt with the pressures and expectations remarkably well. “A love hate relationship” as he puts it at his retirement press conference (as seen on www.espn.com), sums up the feelings of his time spent in New York. When asked how he would like to be remembered, he said simply, “As a hard hat, a hard nose. The work ethic I brought, I gave it 110 percent.”

Although Patrick is retiring, he won’t be home watching the games on TV. He has already secured a position as an assistant coach with the Washington Wizards. He had approached the Knicks for a position with their coaching staff, but there were no open positions available at the time. Now, he’ll be working alongside Michael Jordan, Patrick’s long time friend and adversary. In many years where they met in the playoffs, Jordan and the Chicago Bulls were the usual roadblock that kept the Knicks from the championship.

He was asked whether his decision to retire is definite or would he reinstatement himself once the right offer presented itself. He replied, “A few teams have called me that they needed a center, but I made my decision anyway. Unless someone on the Wizards goes down and they need me, I’ll be on the bench.”

Patrick Ewing has been a dominant figure in New York basketball, and some consider him to be the best player to have worn a Knick uniform. His attitude and work ethic towards the game of basketball have been well respected throughout the league. There have already been discussions on retiring his number (33) at Madison Square Garden as well as in the Hall Of Fame.

The fans of New York will remember his will, heart, and determination. Always a warrior to the end, Ewing did his best to bring a championship to the city he loves most. On behalf of the fans of New York, thank you for the wonderful ride.
Another disappointing season came to an end for the Mets, the first losing season for the former skipper, Bobby Valentine. The Mets finished below .500 crushing high hopes brought on by an aggressive off-season. They were favored to win the NL East and possibly make it to the World Series. After a total retool through trades and free agency the opposite happened more than ten games behind the Atlanta Braves, who once again found a way to walk away with the NL East.

Many questions have been brought up through radio and the media on who should stay and who should go. The biggest predicament for the Mets most likely will be should the franchise resign third baseman Edgardo Alfonzo? Alfonzo has been a very productive hitter since coming up through the Mets’ farm system, but his power numbers have been lower than expected for the past two years. Roberto Alomar who was seen as a key addition in the off season has an option for next year, but this past season may affect his future with the team. Alomar was not as advertised. The Mets’ second baseman didn’t come through during key plays. He failed to hit from the right side, bunted when a clutch hit was in order and made a basket full of errors.

Another issue for the Mets is the defense of Mo Vaughn. The first baseman has been slow and uncoordinated around the bag, making simple plays look challenging. On the other hand Vaughn has put up nice numbers, which slowly increased as he shook the rust of a 2001 season lost to an arm injury. Vaughn started out slow but after the All Star Break kicked his offense up a notch.

A perennial hole for the Mets has been centerfield. The team tried Jay Payton and Timo Perez but neither put up the numbers that the Met’s were looking for. There are some options available such as Randy Winn of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, who would be a good fit for a team lacking speed and stability in the outfield. Winn, one of the most underrated centerfielders in baseball batted over .300 for most of the season. He would bring a desperately needed spark to the lineup. Winn may be available for a reasonable price considering the Devil Rays are one of the least productive teams in baseball. The Rays make a living by going with young prospects in the majors each year.

Steve Trachsel has been one of the stronger starters for the Mets. Trachsel has been successful since retooling his pitching near the 2001 All Star break. He would be a solid third or fourth starter and would fit into the rotation nicely next year. Trachsel stated after a game that he would like to continue to pitch for the Mets in the 2003 season. There are at least two spots in the Mets’ starting rotation which are up for grabs. Rookie pitchers Jason Middlebrook or Mike Bacsik who performed well when called up in September could fill them. Better yet, if the organization wants an experienced #1 starter they can look to the free agency market, which contains Greg Maddux and Tom Glavine of the Atlanta Braves. Both pitchers dominated the National League and once again had over fourteen wins and an ERA lower than 3.25. Another prime candidate is Bartolo Colon who racked up twenty wins pitching for both the Indians and Expos.

Mets’ captain and veteran reliever John Franco will be a big question going into spring training. After having Tommy John surgery in May Franco found himself on the beginning of a long road to recovery. It is expected that Franco will not be able to play baseball for another eight months.

Even with Franco in question the Mets still have a solid bullpen. With names like David Weathers, Scott Strickland, Mark Guthrie, Steve Reed and Armando Benitez, the Mets can lean on the bullpen if the starters remain sparse.

Rangers are Contenders

(continued from page 11)

be a goal scorer, Kasperatis was signed for his gritty and tough play on the ice as well as for added protection for his new teammates.

Last season Kasperatis split time between Pittsburgh and Colorado, being traded at the mid-season deadline from the Penguins to the Avalanche. The defensemen registered two goals and twelve assists for fourteen points along with 142 penalty minutes last season. He ranked second in the NHL with 373 hits. During the playoffs Kasperatis put up three assists and 18 penalty minutes. He was rated first on the Avalanche and second in the NHL with 112 hits in the post-season.

In the off-season the Rangers resigned center Mark Messier to a one-year contract extension and veteran goalie Mike Richter was also resigned. The talented Radek Dvorak resigned with the team also.

ONLY SUPERSTAR ATHLETES SHOULD COME OUT OF RETIREMENT.

There’s nothing romantic about lacing up the wingtips for your big comeback. An SRA is an economical, tax-deferred way to ensure you don’t run out of retirement savings. Contact us before you decide to hang it up.

TIAA-CREF.org or call (800) 842-2775

Managing money for people with other things to think about.