Neither Snow, Nor Rain, . . .

By GERALD LEDBETTER

"Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, or gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

It’s a convenience to have two mailboxes at Queensborough Community College. Approximately a month ago, starting the spring 2001 semester, the Post Office bestowed two mailboxes to Queensborough Community College. One mailbox is located at the right side of the entrance of Cloverdale Boulevard, and the other is located at the entrance of Cloverdale Boulevard, 53rd Avenue.

Overall, having the convenience, such as mailboxes, made it easier for the students, faculty, and whoever might be visiting Queensborough Community College to mail applications, cards, checks, letters, and other various mail items to various places, and of course, all around the world.

The idea of the two additional mailboxes came from Brian Harper of the Queensborough Community College’s mailroom. Thank you Brian Harper. If any students have any feedback with regard to the two new mailboxes, contact Brian Harper at 718-631-5363.

On the other hand, for anyone who is always getting things done at the last minute, there’s always the chance of not getting it done. Well, if a last minute mishap happens to be prompt mail delivery, don’t worry. In New York City, right here in our own backyard, we have a 24-hour post office.

The General Post Office, or the James A. Farley Post Office is open to serve your last minute needs. “JAMES A. FARLEY was a post master,” said a postal clerk at the station.

Most post offices close at 5:00 p.m., and not a moment later. The J.A.F. is open 24 hours, and it’s the largest in the world. A postal employee at the Post Office has been quoted saying that it was a joke to deal with. A more important issue; however, still remains vague among the students- what exactly is the role of the student government and what have they done for the students?

The Student Government’s main functions, as quoted from the constitution of the Queensborough Student Association (QSA) is to, “continuously expand and coordinate a program of student activities, to stimulate student interests and support in the development, assessment and execution of educational, social, cultural and recreational programs, to develop communication amongst students, administration and faculty in order to further the goals of this educational facility.”

Many responsibilities are embedded in the constitution, and the members realize that a bulk of their time will be required in order to carry out these jobs with the ultimate beneficiaries being the student body. Many of the members of the student government also realize how the positions they hold would look good on their resume, some to a greater extent than others.

Angelo Kambits is, a former student at QCC. Continued on page 2
Should students attending a two-year community college feel inferior in any way to students of a four-year school? Should I be scared when I eventually transfer to a four-year school that I will be working harder than I am now?

Being a student of a two-year college I have wondered many times whether four-year schools are more difficult. Whether the students of four-year schools have to work harder to get their grades. Are the teachers of four-year schools better qualified?

What it comes down to is this, to get into a four-year school out of high school a student needs a good GPA and SAT scores. What if a teenager just was not interested during his her high school years? Or if they were going through a hard time during those years? Or they are from another country? Does this reflect on the person’s intellectual capabilities? Absolutely not.

The way that I look at community college is like a probation. If you screwed up in high school here is your chance to redeem yourself. If you do well and show that now you are willing to put in the hard work necessary to succeed then you are rewarded with the ability to move on to a four-year school.

According to my theory, the professors and the courses taught at a two-year school cannot be made easier or held to lower standards. On the contrary, it would be an injustice to hold us to lower standards. If this is the gateway to a four-year school, it would make sense for it to be on the same level as that school.

Professor Linda Reesman has taught both at QCC and a four-year school and she said, “not only are students of two-year schools not inferior, but students attending two-year colleges come to class with more enthusiasm than the four-year students.” Professor Reesman also stated, “Originally, I held two-year students to a little lower standard, but right away I realized they can and should be held to the same standards.”

Professor Reesman has given the same course in EN102 to students that she has taught at a four-year school.

The courses that I have attended and the teachers I have studied under are extremely qualified. In my courses I cannot imagine how these courses could be made more difficult. The students that I have met in Queensborough are not “dumber” or “stupider” than those in a four-year school. When I asked my classmates whether they feel “dumber” or why they are in a two-year program, all replied they didn’t feel dumber. At least half had attended four-year schools and either it was too expensive or they didn’t like it. Some replied they had just “****ed up” in high school.

My question is answered. Four-year schools are not any more difficult than two-year schools. Students at two-year schools should hold their heads up high. Whatever the circumstances are that we are attending a two-year school is a sign that we are willing to overcome the obstacles that have challenged us until now. This show of resilience is a weapon that we can carry throughout our lives. For one I am proud to be attending Queensborough Community College.
CUNY Tuition Rises As Government Cuts Funding

BY YEHUDA A. JACOBOWITZ

Over the last decade the New York City and State governments have cut funding to city universities resulting in higher tuition for students.

Originally, funding for city universities came from the city and state governments and the students, each paying a third of the funding equally. The numbers from 1997-98 indicate the city paying 23.2 percent, the state 34.4 percent, and tuition covering 42.4 percent of the universities funding,” reports Miriam Kramer, NYPIRG’s Higher Education Coordinator.

Adds Ms. Kramer, “The city and state originally cut back on their funding to the universities due to the recession in the early 90s but now that the economy is flourishing, it is ridiculous that the government continues to hold back funding that is mandated by law.”

Other program and funding cuts by the government include remedial courses from the four-year schools and 2.3 million dollars from child care in the universities. Cutting targeted solely at the city community colleges is 200,000 dollars from College Discovery programs.

USE THE NYPIRG BOOK EXCHANGE!

By SAMANTHA GRAY

Turn your used books into money and buy the books you need for less. The New York Public Interest Research Group is offering an alternative way for you to purchase and sell your books directly to fellow students through the NYPIRG Book Exchange.

The NYPIRG office is located in the Student Union Building on the lower level. This is where you can pick up the NYPIRG Book Exchange card.

Fill out one card per book with the book’s information printed clearly including the title, class, author, edition, and the selling price. Complete the NYPIRG Book Exchange process by filling out the seller’s information which includes your name, address, city, state, zip, phone number, and date.

Drop off the completed cards to the NYPIRG office where they will be kept on file.

To purchase books simply look through the book exchange file in the NYPIRG Office, copy the name of the students who are selling the books you need and then call them directly.

“I hate spending hundreds of dollars each semester on books at the bookstore,” said Camille Rivera, a QCC senior. “I bought my English book through NYPIRG’s exchange last semester and saved twenty-five dollars.”

Results of the cuts have led to 44 percent of the teachers on city campuses being full time teachers and the other 54 percent adjuncts. Full time teachers have more time to help students in need.

Students can help their cause by getting in touch with NYPIRG. Queensborough Community College has a NYPIRG office in the Student Union building on the lower level. Theresa Cassiack, the QCC NYPIRG project coordinator, declares, “It is very important for the students to fight for things that are due to them and to show the government that they will not be allowed to cheat students out of their money.”

NYPIRG.org and PSC.org are sights on the internet that inform students of government cuts and what students can do to help their cause.

Student Activism: Alive and Well at QCC

BY THERESA CASSIACK

On Wednesday, February 14, the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) held its semi-annual Student Action Meeting. With over forty students in attendance, the event proved to be a huge success for the name of student activism at Queensborough Community College. Students attended the meeting in MI 36 to find out more about issues surfacing around hunger and homelessness, higher education, consumer action, environmental protection, sweatshops, and campaign finance reform. As a student organizer, it is refreshing to know that my job is a little less trying with the help of concerned QCC students.

Various QCC students who are project leaders for the various campaigns and services that NYPIRG is sponsoring this semester presented the meeting. The keynote speaker was John Flanagan, a NYPIRG organizer who addressed the corporatization of America and the new student movement that is emerging on college campuses all over the nation. He stressed the urgency for QCC students to educate and inform the communities around them about pressing social issues and the need for more people to get involved and take action.

This semester should prove to be very productive and exciting. Students had seen the quality of work that NYPIRG produced last semester, including our voter registration campaign, which was the largest at QCC to date, with over 600 students registered for the November elections. NYPIRG made it a top priority to insure that no student was disenfranchised at the polls and could make their voices heard. Those in attendance signed up to volunteer for every project.

If you are interested in learning new leadership, organizing, advocacy, and writing skills and want to meet people who are as dedicated and hard working as you are, then stop by the NYPIRG office in the lower level of the Student Union Building or call 225-9121 for more details.
PUBLIC SAFETY CORNER
BY JOSEPH CUNNINGHAM
DIRECTOR OF SECURITY AND PUBLIC SAFETY

I would like to welcome all our new and returning students, faculty and staff back to Queensborough Community College. We are all ready for a safe and productive term.

In October, copies of the Annual Crime Statistics Report were mailed to all students, staff and faculty. If you did not receive this important report, please contact the Director of Security at 222-05 56th Avenue, Bayside, NY 11364 or, stop by the Security Office, located on the third floor of the Library on the Southwest corner at the top of the stairs.

PARKING: (Students) is available in Parking Lots 2 - 5 and 6 during the day, in the evening, Parking Lots 2 - 6, and after 5 p.m. in Main Lot 1. You will need tokens to enter and they can be purchased from token machines located in the Lobbies of the Administration Building, the Humanities Building and in the Medical Arts/Science Building. They may also be purchased on the second floor of the Library. Copies of College parking regulations are available in the Security Office.

NOTE: If you are parking on the public streets around the Campus, be sure to read the parking signs carefully. Traffic and parking regulations are strictly enforced.

COMMUNITY POLICING: In order to get to know your Security Officers and they in turn get to know you, we will be visiting with you during your Club Hours. If you would like to have someone from the Security Office, please call our office. Our number is 631-6320.

ON CAMPUS: During the evening, if you are concerned about going to the parking lot or walking on Campus please call the Security Office at the above listed number and we will provide you with an escort.

The Security Office is on Campus seven days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 a year. so if you have a problem or a concern or need information regarding your security and safety while you are on our Campus, please call us or visit our office.

Counseling Helps College Students
BY JENNIFER DENIS

College students today encounter a great deal of stress not only due to academic problems but also due to daily living. These problems are not easy to solve alone, especially if they can affect a person’s emotional, mental and physical state. The staff of Queensborough Community College Counseling Department provides plenty of available workshops and therapies for those who are in these situations. They accommodate services according to needs of a student or a staff member.

The Counseling Department is a group of trained psychologists who can give professional guidance promoting a better condition for a person. They set up workshops concerning issues on controlling anger, dealing with abusive relationships, a student friendly atmosphere between students and staff members, date rape, HIV and AIDS issues and concerns, coping with prejudice, time management and many more. The main purpose of these workshops is to create awareness, knowledge and support.

The director of the department, Stanley Rustin, Ph.D., as well as other staff psychologists also provide private therapy counseling to those who need the most attention. They have time allotted for interview appointments and walk-in emergencies. They assure all of the students that “all information is strictly confidential.” It is only between the counselor and the student. If specific problems cannot be met by the staff, the counselors personally connect a student to a qualified hospital to assure that he or she receives the proper counseling, therapy or rehabilitation.

In addition to these, they administer help on academic issues concerning GPAs or transferring to other schools, to name a few. They also give evaluation tests to students. These tests offer better insights in determining which college curriculum, or even profession, a specific student may pursue. They assist students in applying to appropriate college schools for their intended career choices. The Introduction to College course is one of the many ways the Counseling Department tries to educate students into understanding the technicalities and responsibilities of being in a college atmosphere.

College students who are in need for any kind of guidance should consider the QCC Counseling staff. “We are here to help and guide students,” were words often repeated by Dr. Rustin. They do try hard in creating a better college life for every single one of their students, so take advantage of these services! They are located at the Library Building, Room 428 and their telephone number is (718) 631-6370.

And remember the Security and Public Safety Department is here to make your stay at Queensborough a pleasant and safe experience. We can always use your help, so if there is a problem or a concern, please inform us of it.

Thank you.
Keep a great thing going.

Queensborough Community College and Adelphi University Connection Program

Adelphi gives you the credit you deserve—more than 80 credits accepted.


- Learn how to get your piece of a very big financial aid pie. (Average per student: $12,600 last year)
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For more information www.adelphi.edu 1-800-ADELPHI
Disabled Services Offer Students a Way to Education

He also stated that, “It’s personally satisfying and gratifying to know that your efforts do make a difference in the life of so many students.”

Leam and Earn is a program for students with learning disabilities. It is a one-year transitional program for high school graduates that have learning disabilities. It prepares students for employment. Students take reading, writing, and career courses.

Barbara Bookman, the director of Learn and Earn Program said, “They (the students) are provided with employment or an internship in their field of interest.”

She also stated, “The main outcomes of the program after two semesters of Learn and Earn are that students are ready to make a successful transition into either employment career training or continuing with college.”

The Learn and Earn Program is sponsored through VESID (the Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities). They have a partnership between Queensborough Community College, VESID, and Abilities Inc.

Homebound is a program for students with disabilities who cannot attend classes on campus. Students participate through telephone, Internet, and faxing. Homebound students are also provided with individualized services such as: home visits, counseling, mentoring, membership in the Homebound Organization and participation in an internship program. Furthermore, students who attend classes are provided with the back up if they are not able to attend class in person. It is a connection between homebound students and all aspects of their academic experience. The Homebound Program is funded through the United States Department of Education. It started in 1973 before the American with Disabilities Act was passed, and over thousands of students had participated in the program.

Merrill D. Parra, the director of Homebound said, “Homebound program provides unique opportunities for students with disabilities who can not get to the college campus to participate in higher education. For many of our students the program is a lifeline connecting the students to the larger community. Many of our graduates have gone on to become successfully employed as teachers and in business and industry.”

The twenty kinds of equipment that are available for students are as listed: talking calculators, cassette recorders, 4-track tape recorders, large print dictionaries, opticles 20-20, kurweil reading machine, raised line drawing kits, vert and vista which give visually impaired and blind students access to computers, dragons edge, phonic ear, readers edge, visual tek machine, computer with Braille printout, Apollo lazier, large print typewriters, Mobil laboratory station, Omni 3000 reader, photoscopy enlargements, books on tape, Mobil labs, FM amplifying device, computer evaluations and computer with large print display.

Moreover, this program offers students a priority registration, academic advisement, counseling, vocational counseling, student life courses, tutors, SSD resource center, testing accommodation, elevator keys, parking permits, library services IRC (Instructional Resource Center), SSD (Student Organization for Disabled), note-taker services, readers, writers, room changes, large print exams, lab assistants, interpreters, advocacy, workshops, outside referrals, and campus tours.

Continued on page 7
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is regarded as the most sweeping civil rights legislation since 1964. Signed July 26, 1990, by President George Bush, it is a federal legislation that protects the civil rights of disabled persons by guaranteeing equal access to employment, state and local government services, public and private transportation, public facilities open to the general public, and telephone services.

This legislation is as follows:

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 was originally passed in 1973 to ensure that disabled individuals were provided equal educational and employment opportunities on all levels. This federally mandated law had the greatest impact on all secondary institutions that received any type of federal funds. Specific to the law, no special or separate program was required. However, all programs were to be made accessible to disabled students, and in addition all educational options available to non-disabled students were to be made available to the disabled.

Queensborough Career Changers

By Stephanie Edwards

Here at Queensborough most anyone can pursue the career change as well as the degree path that might have been put off due to marriage, or children can proceed on fast forward.

Career changers are the students here who have decided that their present situation is in need of change. There is no specific definition or description just the desire for another lifestyle and the will to achieve the goal.

I spoke with a few students of Queensborough who shared their experience of going after a new lifestyle and career. We have all heard of the term displaced homemaker and full time mother. Well one student was a homemaker for five children and had never worked before in her life until an automobile accident drastically altered her family existence, as she knew it. Her husband had passed away as a result of the accident while her son was blinded. Indecisive and full of sorrow she decided that continuing her education would be the answer. Enrolling was the hardest step but the beginning of an experience of personal epiphanies. This student graduated last summer from Queensborough with an associate’s degree heading toward a very bright future.

Another student left a career in law enforcement as a tenured officer in the New York City Police Department, walking straight into the office of career services in the library building eager to obtain the information she needed to pursue her long lost dream of becoming an elementary school teacher. Realizing that high school graduation was some time ago, she utilized faculty advising and counseling to complete the transfer of curricula. Many individuals looking to reach personal achievement while overcoming life obstacles have enrolled and triumphed scholastically as well as personally.

Changing careers is a challenging decision that demands a person to develop skills needed to present confident mannerisms to match career opportunities within a hostile job market. To find out more, contact Ms. Constance Peluso, director. Located in the Library Building, Room 429 or by calling 718-631-6297.

Queensborough

Disabled Services

Continued from page 6

From left to right: Elliot Rosman, Merrill D. Parra, Barbara Bookman

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Movie Review

Does Hannibal Bring Silence to the Lambs?
BY GLENN MURAWSKI

The long awaited and highly anticipated sequel to the 1991 thriller classic, Silence of the Lambs, has been released in theaters as of February 9. So the question is – how does this film measure up to its predecessor ten years later? Well there have been definite differences. Perhaps, predominately, the star and Oscar winning actress of the “Lambs,” Jodie Foster, has decided not to shoot the movie. Her character Clarice Starling, portrayed by Julianne Moore, is an exploited, righteous, and determined FBI agent who falls back on the trail of the demented psychopathic killer doctor Hannibal “the cannibal” Lecter played by actor Anthony Hopkins. The director of the original, Jonathan Demme, has also decided not to shoot the movie, and it has been speculated that the gruesome content of the screenplay has influenced Demme and Foster as well.

Perhaps, predominately, the star and Oscar winning actress of the “Lambs,” Jodie Foster, has decided not to shoot the movie. Her character Clarice Starling, portrayed by Julianne Moore, is an exploited, righteous, and determined FBI agent who falls back on the trail of the demented psychopathic killer doctor Hannibal “the cannibal” Lecter played by actor Anthony Hopkins. The director of the original, Jonathan Demme, has also decided not to shoot the movie, and it has been speculated that the gruesome content of the screenplay has influenced Demme and Foster as well. Director Ridley Scott, responsible for Alien and the more recent Gladiator, decided to take on the project and the difference in movie style is very clear.

More of Hannibal’s credit is due to its raw violent nature than the intense plot and character development seen in the first movie. Scenes of graphic violence include acts of self-mutilation, of their new single “The Call” and a great anchor of their hit single “Shape of my Heart.”

On the other hand, fans of slasher flicks may get bored with the plot or the longevity of the movie. When the movie switches plots and characters are wantonly disposed of , under-developed, or over-developed leading to dissatisfaction or lack of emotional impact. If you’re a “Lambs” fan, you might want to wait until this one comes out for rental on DVD or you can even try reading the book Hannibal, written by author Thomas Harris, which is said to contain different plot twists and also to be much more gruesome than the screen adaptation (but the book is always better, right?).

Concert Review

“The Boys are Back in Town”
BY BRAD REITER

Take a great stage set-up, throw in some fast-paced choreography and add a dash of five teen idols and the latest tour from Pop sensations The Backstreet Boys. The Black & Blue Tour, also the name of their chart topping third album, hit Nassau Coliseum on Sunday, February 4, 2001.

“The Boys” put on an almost 2 hour set of old classics like “I Want it That Way,” “Everybody (Backstreet’s Back),” and “Larger Than Life,” and new favorites like “The Call” and “Shape of my Heart.” While not doing fan favorites “As Long As You Love Me” and “The One.”

Thousands of screaming fans gave the concert a Beatle-esque atmosphere, although not many groups can come close to the Beatles in talent.

The concert ended with a great performance of their new single “The Call” and a great anchor of their hit single “Shape of my Heart.”

The night opened with a performance from Krystal, the first signing to “The Boys’” record label called “The L.A.B.E.L.” She performed a 20 minute set of songs from her soon-to-be released album called Me and My Piano. Her sound is a mix between Pink and Natalie Imbruglia. Her set started on a good note, but ended with a not so great remake of Michael Jackson’s “I’ll Be There.”

Overall a good night of music from these very charismatic fan pleasing singers. If you are a fan of The Backstreet Boys I recommend not missing this concert. They really know how to work a crowd. On a scale of 1-10, I give this concert a score of 8, losing points for a very long 45 minute intermission and for not so good acoustics at the beginning of the concert.

The J.A.F., or the general post office is located at 33rd Street and 8th Avenue, centrally located in New York City and accessible by public transportation. Geographically, it’s adjacent to Madison Square Garden - the home of the New York Knicks, and the Rangers.

I encourage all you late planners to utilize these grand opportunities: like the two new added mail boxes at Queensborough Community College, and the 24 hour post office in New York City. The J.A.F. is the only place in the world, other than Chicago, that’s open 24 hours. The J.A.F. is known by its cliché marked right outside: “Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.

Queensborough Communiqué, March 2001
From Best Friend:
I need your help badly! I slept with my best friend’s girl. I had noticed her checking me out but played it off. See two years ago, he had slept with this girl. I was chasin with. I was pissed, still he was my dog so I let it go. He loves this girl, so I don’t know if I should tell him. He might think its pay back but its not. What should I do?

Answer:
yo, best friend- what were you thinking? Your man’s girl is off limits no matter the situation. If it wasn’t pay back then why bring that up. You were man enough to get his girl, so you should be man enough to tell him the truth. You have thought about the friendship before unzipping your pants.

From Need to be please:
TAG, I have a situation and I don’t know how to handle it. I’ve been with this guy for 6 months and he ain’t doing his thing in bed. Its like a minute drill, no huddle offense with this guy. I’ve been patient for four months and nothing has changed. I need to be pleased! Should I get a toy or get a replacement player?

Answer:
As DMX said “Do You.” It all depends on how you feel about this guy. Try talking to him, let him know wassup. Show him how you want to be pleased without killing his ego. If he cares about you, he will be willing to learn new avenues. In regards to “The Toy,” you can still get one for rainy days. If that don’t work give me a buzz. (Email / Pic.)

From Crying for Help:
Tears coming down my face as I am emailing this to you. I ashamed and blame myself for what is happening to me. My boyfriend / babydaddy beats on me constantly. It started about a year ago and I don’t what to do. I love him and hate him at the same time. He can be a nice guy at times. Every morning I wake up I am thankful I get to see another day. I don’t want my son growing up without a father if I press charges or leave. What can I do? Should I stay or go? I need help!

Answer:
Ask yourself this one question. Do you want your son growing up without a mother? Cause at this rate he will be. I may not know exactly what you’re going through but I do know he has no right to lay a finger on you. think of your son first! I don’t wish for anyone to grow up without a father but in this situation it looks like you and your son would be better off without him. In fact think of your son without both parents — you gone and him locked up in jail for ending your life.— there is no shame in seeking counseling but a lot of shame if you don’t seek counseling.

The choice is yours.

I want to thank you for the emails that I received. I do apologize if your questions didn’t Get posted. I am limited on space but be assured that your response will be returned via Email. Keep’em coming!

T_A_G_001@HOTMAIL.COM

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**ADVICE COLUMN**

**The State of Hip-Hop**

BY MARINO PANCHANO

In a lecture held on Wednesday, February 20, in the Science Building at Queensborough Community College, Dr. Tricia Rose, associate professor of History and African-American Studies at New York University discussed and gave her thoughts on the actual state of Hip-Hop and how it is viewed by the American culture.

Dr. Rose talked about how Rap and Hip-Hop in its short-lived history has evolved from a regional and underground style of music to a now more commercial and very lucrative genre. Therefore lately, Hip-Hop has been wearing two completely different faces. One is the commercial face, where every artist is “iced-out” and talks about all the cars, women and houses that they supposedly have. This is the side that the industry is trying to exploit the most because it sells more units. While the “less popular” side of Hip-Hop there are artists that talk about the problems in society, criticize the government and hope for a better future; and do not get much exposure on the mainstream level.

In the lecture it was also mentioned that Hip-Hop is not only selling music, but now is selling images. So the most popular and profitable images are the images of the “Playa,” Hustler and “Gangsta.”

Dr. Rose explained that within these images there was also the attitude of degrading women and homosexuals. But in fact, these are reflections of a patriarchal and homophobic modern society, according to Dr. Rose. But the fact that shows up in Hip-Hop, it becomes more evident and as a result ends up under the microscope of all the critics. Regarding this problem Dr. Rose said that it is more criticized in Hip-Hop as a reason to “dis-enfranchise blacks and other minorities.”

However, other artists stood out because they do not follow the trend and write about reality and everyday problems. Mos Def and Talib Kweli (BlackStar), Common, Dead Prez, among others are seen as Hip-Hop activists and remain part of the underground scene and are not well known by the mainstream audience.

Towards the end of the lecture, the question of how Hip-Hop could change for the better was raised, and many interesting suggestions were given. But I believe that it depends on what the public, the mainstream, and real Hip-Hop fans prefer.
XFL-VIEWS ON THE NEW FOOTBALL
(Send your opinions to the Communiqué, English Department, Humanities Room 428.)

New Breed of Football - The XFL

By DEVON N. ROBERTS

Are you in the mood for some hard-hitting, gridiron-in-your-face action? Well, if you are, this is definitely for YOU. This just isn't football like the NFL. It's all that and more. It promises to be fresh, new and cooler than ever in addition to just watching regular season football.

The company of the XFL, invented by the owner of the WWE (World Wrestling Federation) Vince McMahon, had been established last year with the help of other people managing this huge league to become what it is now.

In game coverage, it features the players from both teams looking into the cameras and saying their names, where they were recruited from and sending messages, like saying hi to their families and other people they know. When the players are in their huddle, you can hear the kind of play they’re going to, which I something you can barely hear when watching the NFL. There isn’t even a coin toss for the games. When the football is dropped, whichever team gets it, starts to play offense first.

The XFL games seem tame, but from time to time as these players are out on the field, they’ll get into a scuffle and no one is ejected since this is allowed. These scuffles are a part of the XFL, which of course, adds flavor to what the leagues is all about.

A few changes for this new league are these: There are no fair catches within 25 yards and once a team gets a touchdown, they do not kick for a field goal. Instead, they set themselves up for another catch at the endzone. If it is no good, the teams will be in for field goals, receiving points just like in the NFL.

Since cameras are practically all over the field where these teams are playing against each other, you can see the emotion and their attitude, as well as the type of the fans when they are watching also.

The cameras also capture the kinds of strategies drawn from the coordinators on the sidelines. It seems as if nothing can be hidden since cameras are everywhere as these games take place.

For each XFL team, there is a salary increase if they win games. If not, the salary is still the same, so it’s basically a win-win situation for these players.

These eight teams of the XFL, Birmingham Thunderbolts, Chicago Enforcers, New York/New Jersey Hitmen, Orlando Rage, Las Vegas Outlaws, Los Angeles Xtreme, Memphis Maniax, and San Francisco Demons, will play 10 regular season games. This week is round two and the two teams with outstanding records will advance to the post-season.

Playoff games leading to postseason will begin the weekend of April 14-15. On Saturday April 21, “The Big Game At The End” - the XFL Championship game, will take place, bringing an end to this spectacular new league that has brought new meaning to football. Winners of “The Big Game At The End” will receive $1 million for their efforts. So if football’s your craving, come and get a piece of the XFL. It’s good stuff to watch!

For more details, log onto xfl.com

XFL: Is It Really Football?

By CRAIG WREMAN

Are you ready for some more football? The newly formed XFL season is underway. Created last year by Vince McMahon who owns, runs, and participates as a character in the World Wrestling Federation. The main focus of the XFL was to shy away from traditional and boring football, as the inception of the league. Vince McMahon, had been established last year with the help of other people managing this huge league to become what it is now.

The XFL rules are a big reason why the biggest football enthusiast would become interested in this new phenomenon. Simple and concrete rules such as the coin toss for possession before the game starts and fair catches during the game just do not exist. Instead of a coin toss, one player from each team must race against each other. Whichever team representative can effectively gain possession of the ball will be the opposing team, after the ball travels past twenty-five yards, it is considered fair territory for either team.

Fair catches in the NFL has been such a simple rule for decades that the mere thought of changing that would boggle the mind of any NFL official. The XFL however disagrees. After punts are made toward the opposing team, after the ball travels past twenty-five yards, it is considered fair territory for either team.

Point-after attempts when a touchdown is scored have also been eliminated. Simple rules that exist in the NFL that allow a team that just scored a touchdown to have all but dropped out of sight since. This past week The XFL was offering free airtime during their shows so they would have sponsors.

To be perfectly honest, I watched the inaugural game for the home team NY/NJ Hitmen and wasn’t especially satisfied. For more than most of the show it seemed like a lesser version of the NFL. As a sports fan, I’ve come to expect more than was presented to me when the XFL debuted. With such impressive predecessors as the NBA, NHL, and Major League Baseball, new sports franchises and leagues have almost had a template to follow in order to properly appease the typical and atypical sports fan.

I keep on watching the XFL week after week, and I keep asking myself why? The more and more that the rules are changed or modified to better suit the NFL, the more it stops being football and more like the World Wrestling Federation. I’ll just chalk it up to morbid curiosity, but even morbid curiosity has its breaking points. Will this new league end up staying put, or will the tradition and stability of the NFL rule in the end? Only time will tell.
It’s spring again, and the spring 2001 season for Queensborough Community College Lady Tigers softball team kicks off its first game March 31 at 1 p.m. on campus at the soccer field directly behind the Student Union building.

This is a team that built their own field and while practicing as hard as any men’s team, in rain or shine was ranked eighth in the country with a record of 15 wins and 7 losses.

In his first season as head coach of the Queensborough Community College Lady in 1997, Pete Marchitello was overwhelmed by the struggling program and a disappointing 2 and 18 season. But Pete’s perseverance, hard work, and positive energy paid off. In his second season the Lady Tigers made the playoffs with a record of 15 and 7 to place fourth in region xv. A graduate of Queensborough Community College, former player of Pete Marchitello’s 1997 season and current assistant coach Christine Dondero has contributed tremendously to the Lady Tigers success. Pete Marchitello stated that Christine has a great connection with the athletes and is able to convey to him their needs.

This year the Lady Tigers are led by three former players who bring leadership to this young team. Kim Lee Moy will play third base and can easily work the field if needed. Kim batted an average of .320 last season. Christina Quirk also plays third base. Last season Christina had an average of .861 fielding percentage. Laura Cantatore plays the outfield and you’ll see her back catching giving the Lady Tigers versatility. The rest of the players are in their first season.

Jamee Blandergo, an outstanding pitcher from Bayside High School, will pitch and play first base. Gaudy Reyes, a recruit from Bushwick High School, will also pitch and catch. Jamie Vicario, who attended L. I. C. High School, will be playing second base while Jen Fisher, a recruit from LaGuardia Community College, will run the outfield. A graduate from Bushwick High School, Anclin Perez played on the women’s basketball team. Now she will play shortstop for the Lady Tigers. Anita Stanton, a former track runner at QCC, will give the Lady Tigers extra stolen bases while cleaning up the outfield due to her great quickness and skill.

Pete Marchitello, Lady Tigers First Softball Coach

Ask the Question Marquis: My girlfriend seems distant lately. And I can’t get her to open up to me. I wonder if she’s thinking about someone else. What should I do? — Peter from Dallas

A: Ah, yes, and I think I can help you with this. Your girlfriend is probably feeling that you spend more time with the library than with her darling, someone else. (I am making this confession about her, but for your benefit, I hope that I am right, you know?) Did you not have many of the persons of papers, courtesies? Do you have two options to avoid on the path toward a relationship, a meaningful evening, though? Option 1. When you are writing the research papers, you can come time by going to consult with your. Listen, this is how she was. You can skip all of the hundred words, because the E1 text of the books and personal articles is all same. Search the research, highlight the text. Also, you can use some language, but if you want to quote something, you can click a button and Quasia puts it in your paper, footnotes it, and forward the bibliography automatically. And right now you can get ten papers of Quasia free. So try it. When your girlfriend want to cut her papers because and how much more time you have for the, she will be looking at you with her usual eyes that even to any “Thanks. I like you, much, much more than I like Peter in this game.” Or whatever is these girls like now.

Option 2. You can challenge her to a duel.

Ask the Question Marquis: What are mushrooms? — John from Kansas

A: “It is the joke of an imbécile who longs to have my knowledge and looks. Challenge the pig to a duel.” — Quasia in Grand Rapids

Q: Ask the Question Marquis: How can you have more knowledge and data, but you’re never heard of mushrooms? — Michelle in Boston

March Calendar of Events

March 1 through June 30, 2001: CUNY’s Holocaust Resource Center & Archives will present “Janusz Korczak’s Warsaw.” Exhibit traces the career of Janusz Korczak in Warsaw until his death at Treblinka in August, 1942. Consists of narrative text, photographs and documents. Library Basement, Room 30. Hours: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free event. For information, call (718) 631-1617.


Wednesday, March 14, 1 p.m.: CUNY’s spring Healht Lecture Series will present “Women and AIDS.” Mrs. Marci Egel will discuss the latest trends and information about HIV/AIDS with a focus on women. Sponsored by the Health, Physical Education and Dance Department. Room G201/G202. Free event. For information, call (718) 631-6322.


QCC Hosts CUNY Basketball Championships

The 36th annual CUNY Athletics Conference/ConEdison Basketball Championships were hosted at Queensborough Community College. The women’s semifinals began on February 12 with our Queensborough Community College’s finest for -

March 12: Kingsborough Community College in an overtime thriller. Kingsborough Community College clinched the win 77 to 66. KBCC will now pos -

Tuesday, March 20, 12-2 p.m.: “Women’s Hidden Cancers.” QCC resident physician, Dr. Mavis Polidor, will discuss the precautions and actions that all women can take to prevent hard-to-diagnose Cancers. Student Union, Lower Level. In celebration of Women’s History Month. Free event. For information, call (718) 631-6233.

Wednesday, March 21, 1 p.m.: “Environmental Health Awareness.” Theresa Cassiack of New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) will discuss how toxins in the environment, the use of pestic -

Wednesday, March 21, 1:15 p.m.: “David Holzman, Pianist. Internationally recognized pianist will present legendary works of the 20th Century, colorful works of three exciting composers (including Wolpe’s Sonata), and the rich lyricism of Brahms. Kurzweil Recital Hall, Room 144. Free event. For information, call (718) 631-6311.

Wednesday, March 21, 8 p.m.: Jurry Irish Cabaret, pre -

Friday, March 23, 8 p.m.: Jurys Irish Cabaret, presented by CUNY’s Professional Performing Arts Series. This enjoyable variety act will present outstanding performers from Ireland in a celebration of song, dance, music and comedy. QCC Theater. Tickets: $29, $26 and $23. For information, call (718) 631-6311.

Wednesday, March 28: “Total Woman’s Fair.” QCC’s Women’s History Month Program will fea -

Saturday, March 31, 8 p.m.: The Queensborough Orchestra. Martin Canelikakis, conductor, will present a vibrant Spring Concert of favorites including Mendelssohn’s Herbrides Overture and Rossini’s Overture to the Barber of Seville. Cellist Nicholas Canelikakis is the soloist in Dvorak’s Magnificent Cello Concert in B Minor. QCC Theater. Tickets: $14; senior citizens $12. For information, call (718) 631-6311.

MORE SPORTS

Baruch College’s Jewelry Show

Selected jewelry and accessories for the 1999-2000 academic year. At Queensborough Community College Art Gallery, 225-1617.

Selections include necklaces, earrings, pins, brooches and bracelets. The jewelry is made from precious metals and semi-precious stones. Selections are priced from $10 to $1200.

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