

THE CATALYST

OWCatalystwriters@gmail.com

“IGNITING THE MIND”

FREE

OW's 48th Commencement

Old Westbury will celebrate its 48th commencement on Sunday, May 18th. It is believed to be the first time in the school's history that there will be two commencement ceremonies. The purpose is to accommodate all students who are expected to graduate as part of the Class of 2014 and to safely and comfortably accommodate their family, friends, and guests. At last year's ceremony there were problems of overcrowding.

The first ceremony will start at 9 a.m. and will only include degree candidates graduating from academic programs that are delivered primarily through departments within the School of Arts and Sciences. The afternoon ceremony will begin at 3 p.m. and will only include degree candidates graduating from academic programs that are delivered primarily through departments within the School of Business and the School of Education.

Approximately 600 students are expected to graduate in the morning and approximately 400 in the afternoon.

The featured speaker at both ceremonies will be Donald Meltzer who received a BA in management from Old Westbury in 1977. He also holds an MBA from the New York Institute of Technology. Currently he is president and CEO of the Tensar Corporation, which specializes in products and solutions for development and construction such as grade changes requiring retaining walls and poor soil conditions affecting the cost of roadways, parking lots, and building structures. **(Cont. on page 3.)**



THE MAC AWARDS

Student Media Arts Celebration

The Student 7th annual

MAC 2014 AWARDS

Digital Arts Television Print Radio New Media

Wed May 7, 2014 7:00pm Maguire Theatre

preview the nominees  works at macawards.org

Future Academic Plans for Old Westbury

By Traci Newman

Old Westbury's Office of Academic Affairs is considering making major changes to the class schedule. No official changes have yet been made but they are in the works and the Provost's Council is taking steps to move forward.

At Old Westbury the most popular class times with students are the 10:20 a.m., 1 p.m. and the 4:40 p.m. slots. These classes are crowded and fill up immediately and departments can't offer all their classes at these times. Dr. Patrick O'Sullivan, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said, "An indispensable component to schools is the class schedule. The school ought to provide students enough access to classes so they can graduate on time."

O'Sullivan said that the New Academic Building is not being used to its full potential. Most of the classrooms are empty during the 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. time slots. The possible new schedule will have classes beginning at 8 a.m. and the final class would begin in the evening at 8:30 p.m. With other changes this would allow eight class time slots as opposed to the current seven. Students would have more options when making their schedules.

Old Westbury is the only SUNY school to offer a Common Hour four days a week, which is currently from 12:01 p.m. to 12:59 p.m. **(Cont. on page 3.)**

A highlight of every spring at Old Westbury is the annual Media Arts Celebration (MAC Awards) which will be held this year on Wednesday, May 7th. The awards ceremony honors outstanding student work. It began seven years ago by Joseph Manfredi, OWR station manager and a faculty member in the Media and Communications department, he realized that students at Old Westbury in the arts were not being recognized for their accomplishments the way a college can honor their achievements Manfredi said recently, "All students should have their work celebrated and recognized not only by us in a classroom environment, but also by the indus- **(Cont. on page 3.)**

SPORTS PAGES 15-16

Farewell Letter

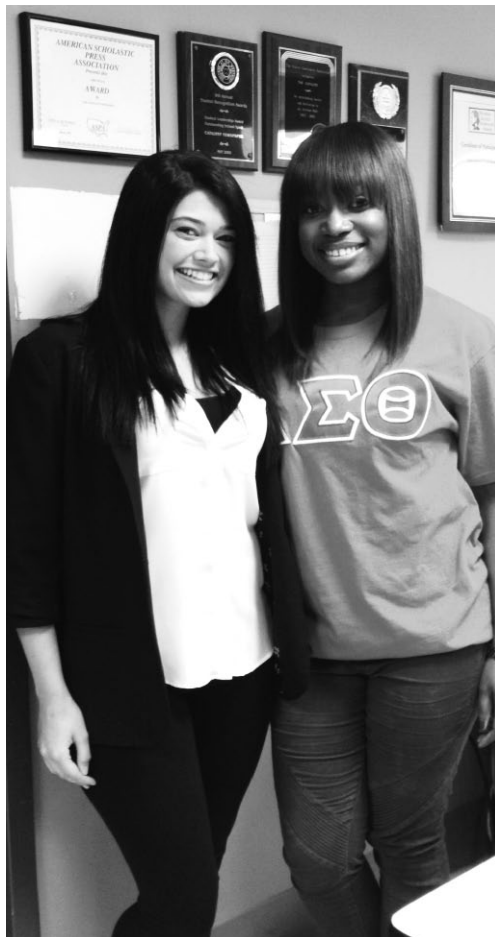
Putting together my final issue of *The Catalyst* has been a bittersweet experience for me. I'm excited to graduate and move on to the next chapter in my life. But I'm also sad to be closing the door on my time at Old Westbury. I transferred to Old Westbury in 2012, and was surprised that as a commuter I was able to make so many friends here and enjoy my time at school.

I'm so thankful to Professor John Friedman for giving me the opportunity to be the Managing Editor of *The Catalyst* and pushing us to always put out our best work. It's been a great learning experience working with fellow student writers every month, I'm so thankful to have been able to work with so many talented people.

I believe that Old Westbury is what you make of it. We have great professors and staff here, and you should take advantage of everything they offer. The more you put in to this school the more you will get back.

Good luck fellow graduates!

Traci Newman
Managing Editor



Traci Newman and Nzingha Z. Crusoe

Farewell Old Westbury

My time at Old Westbury has truly been a time of growth, learning, and awareness. I transferred to Old Westbury in the Fall of 2012 from Bronx Community College and have become a different person ever since. Through Old Westbury's small yet dynamic setting, I have had the opportunity to gain fruitful relationships, nurture my passions, and to take on leadership roles that have truly shaped my overall development as a person. As graduation approaches, I can't help but reflect on my time here and be grateful for an awesome college experience.

What I am most grateful for here at SUNY College at Old Westbury are the relationships I have gained with the students, faculty, and staff. First and foremost, I have to thank John Friedman for giving me the opportunity to be the Executive Editor of *The Catalyst* and to serve others from such a thought provoking platform. I also want to thank Joe Manfredi for mentoring me and helping me to better understand the field of Media and Communications.

As a Sociology major not only have I enjoyed and been challenged in all my major courses but I have also gained valuable relationships with professors such as Jacob Heller and Aubrey Bonnett, who push me to broaden my view of the world and to never settle. These two professors have supported my entire time here by opening their office hours to me, pushing me to understand the value of higher education, and writing recommendation letters whenever I've needed them.

Not only have I enjoyed my classes but my time working at the Writing Center will be an experience I will never forget. Thank you to Jody Cardinal and Robert Mundy for fostering deep conversations about language acquisition and literacy, and for allowing me to engage with and tutor students on a one on one basis.

Old Westbury may be a small place but it truly has a lot to offer and a lot of golden opportunities for students to take advantage of.

Nzingha Z. Crusoe
Executive Editor

Executive Editor: Nzingha Z. Crusoe

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Faculty Advisor: John S. Friedman

Bonilla and DeMarzo Named to top Editorial Positions

Marilynn Bonilla has been promoted to executive editor. She successfully undertook numerous assignments for *The Catalyst* this year and was nominated for a MAC award in news writing. She is an English major and a media and communications minor and enters her sophomore year this fall.

Laura DeMarzo, currently a junior majoring in media and communications and minoring in women's studies, has been promoted to managing editor. She has written a number of articles for *The Catalyst* and was nominated for two MAC awards in the categories of review and opinion. She has written about urban feminism and music for various outlets, including the *Treazy Radio Show*, the National Women's Studies Conference, and Bad Boy studios.

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Future Academic Plans for Old Westbury

But at a recent Town Hall meeting, students expressed their desire to keep Common Hour. With the schedule changes, Common Hour would be moved to 2:30 p.m. and still be four days a week. O'Sullivan said, "We took input from students and staff and if we move Common Hour to 2:30 p.m., it allows us to offer three classes in the morning instead of two as well as adding another night class."

With the schedule change, time spent in class may decrease from one hour and forty minutes to one hour and thirty minutes,

Old Westbury will be keeping its four credit per course system. More assignments may be required to make up for lost time. O'Sullivan added, "We as an administration need to be mindful of

putting the students first. Wherever departments need to add sections they have the resources to do so. It is up to us to provide students with the classes."

Other future possible changes include increasing the maximum amount of transferable credits from other institutions. Currently Old Westbury allows 72 transfer credits, while other SUNY schools like Albany and Brockport are accepting up to 90. Old Westbury is considering accepting 80 transfer credits. Individual departments will still have the final say on their requirements and what courses need to be fulfilled. Changes proposed could benefit transfer students.

There are also talks about reducing the amount of General Education courses required at Old Westbury. Presently, students need to take 48 Gen. Ed.

credits to graduate but the administration may lower the number to 36.

Lastly, in the works from Academic Affairs is the possible addition of several new undergraduate and graduate degrees. They are still in the beginning stages but the School of Business may be adding: Forensic Accounting (MS), Health Care Management (MS), and Entrepreneurship: Family Owned Business (MS) to its list of degrees. The School of Education may gain: Adolescence Education-Special Ed (MS), and Literacy Education-- Childhood and Adolescence (MS). The School of Arts and Sciences might add: Environmental Science and Sustainability (BS), Public Health (BS and MS), Entertainment, Media and Sports Management (BS), and Applied Social Statistics and Data Analysis (MS). None of those degrees are set in stone as of yet,

and other possible degrees could be added as well.

Dr. O'Sullivan concluded, "To make the school effective we need to provide students with access to degrees that will help them in life, degrees that will be in such demand that we will have full enrollment and meet all of SUNY standards." He also explained that he liked hearing the student feedback at the Town Hall meetings because it helps Academic Affairs make these kinds of decisions.

All of these future schedule changes and new degrees at Old Westbury are still in the works, and it is a very slow process. The earliest students and staff will see any changes would be in spring 2015 but it is more likely official changes won't be made until the fall 2015 semester.

Cont. from Page 1

OW's 48th Commencement

Previously he worked for companies that included Johns Manville and the Ingersoll-Dresser Pump Co.

Should inclement weather occur, students are still expected to report to the Campus Center for check-in and robing while their guests should enter the Clark Athletic Center.

Cont. from Page 1

The Mac Awards

try we are preparing them for". The awards honor achievements of students throughout the college majoring in multiple disciplines. The categories include new media, digital arts, video, television, print, and radio. There are about a hundred nominations, including multiple nominations for some students in different categories. Twenty-nine plaques and

certificates will be given.

In addition to the presenters and winners who will appear on stage, there will be a live DJ, and student performers.

The Red Carpet ceremony and photo shoot begins at 6 p.m. in the Campus Center near the Atrium, webcast live online at www.ustream.com, keyword: OWTV1. The award ceremony will begin at 7 p.m. in the Maguire Theater, webcast live on www.ustream.com keyword: MAC_

AWARDS.

The show is free and open to all members of the campus community and their guests.

The works of all the nominees can be seen in their entirety at www.macawards.org.

(Meriyel David contributed reporting.)

A Visit with Alumnus Richard Best

By R.S.Phelps

It was a cool damp Friday morning when seven students from SUNY Old Westbury accompanied by then Old Westbury Vice President for Student Affairs, ML Langlie and our host, SUNY Old Westbury Class of 1990 alumnus

Richard Best stepped onto the polished marble floors of 48 Wall Street, the former headquarters of the Bank of New York.

The lower floors of 48 Wall Street now house the Museum of American Finance. This was a SCOPE visit, one of a series of alumni student events offered by the Office of Career Planning & Development to help students develop relationships and insight into the working world throughout their time at Old Westbury. Richard Best welcomed the students and gave a brief description of the responsibilities that come with his position.

As Chief Counsel in the Department of Enforcement of FINRA, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Richard is able to put the idealism that is at the core of many experiences at Old Westbury into practice. FINRA is a part of how the financial industry polices itself. FINRA devel-

ops rules and monitors the activities of the thousands of people and companies registered to work in finance in the

United States. When things go wrong, FINRA conducts investigations and works with government prosecutors when it finds criminal activity. Best leads those investigations.

During a break in the tour, Best and Langlie shared important thoughts with the students. As an educator responsible for student life on campus Langlie stressed the importance of focusing on the work itself, and not on the rungs of the job ladder:

"In my experience, it's doing the work that matters."

Building on Best's advice that it is by trying things that people learn what works for them, Langlie urged students to take advantage of the Career Planning and Development Office and to seek out internships.

Best drew on his experience when he advised students to use their time in college to try out different things. At Old Westbury, Best was a commuter and, as his schedule permitted worked at UPS in Hempstead and at the Manufacturers

Hanover branch by the Hicksville

LIRR station. A computer science major, when he started law school he planned to use his computer science background to protect the intellectual property rights of people and companies making software.

A summer job in the U.S. Congress with Rep. Charles Rangel was "transformative," and Best's path took him next to the Bronx District Attorney's office and from there to protecting investors and investments including our pensions by enforcing financial regulations.

Best said: "Since leaving Old Westbury, I have had to face the uncertainty of competing with students from more well-known institutions for grades, in competitions (moot court) and for jobs. What I have found is that many people assume that because of where they attended school they only have to show up and an opportunity will be presented to them. I have never had that illusion.

Therefore, I approach every day as one in which I have to plan for my success, execute the plan, deal with the inevitable setbacks and keep pushing forward."

A marathon runner, Best at work is a person on a team, "Most of my day is spent making sure my team has the



Photo by Richard Best

resources and tools that they need and then getting out of the way." Those students fortunate enough to stand that day in his office took his business card and were sincerely urged to contact him. In a later email to the author, he wrote, "Hopefully everyone understood that my primary message was internships, internships and more internships."

For those interested in learning more about the Office of Career Planning and Development, they should contact Jerily Marinan, the new director, at marinanj@oldwestbury.edu.

DIGITAL ARTS

Introduced by **Patty Harris, Visual Arts Department**

PRINT DESIGN

Lina Almont – “Out of Hand”
Erik Alvarado – “1984”
Corey Counsell – “Benefit Poster”

DIGITAL IMAGING

Zachary Cole – “Imaginary Architecture”
Ron Capobianco – “4 Beatles into 1”
Juan Malcolm – “Being Someone Else”

INTERACTIVE WEB DESIGN

Erik Alvarado – “Pet’s With Disabilities”
Alex Filippone – “Personal site”
Lina Almonte – “Personal site”

3D DIGITAL DESIGN

Megan Jewell – “DNA”
Laura Sabatini-Cabrera – “Untitled”
Stephen Slaby – “Anxiety”

ANIMATION

Erik Alvarado – “TEXT”
Steve Gomez – “We Serve”
Gabrielle Young – “Forrest Gump”

VIDEO ART

Paul Avila – “Untitled”
Corey Counsell – “Street Fighter”
Christina Rinaldo – “The Jenessa Journey”

VIDEO

Introduced by **Samara Smith, Media & Communications**

BEST PORTRAIT OF A PLACE

Kasey Lightfoot – “A Walk Through Babylon”
Brittney Bass – “Mt. Misery & Sweet Hollow Road”
Jazmin Tompkins – “Panthers Café”

BEST PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Alex Susskind, Malcolm Zamor, Rebecca Alexandre, Shenelle Ramsay – “Long Walk Home”
Victoria Dehel, Maygan Chasteen, Beverly Hooper – “Confidence From Within”
John Rickenbacker, Jazmin Tompkins, Maria Romaro, Errol Brown – “Reconnect”

BEST DOCUMENTARY

Xi Wang, Kyung Kim – “Stylesz Media”
Michelle Purpura – “The Game of Life”
Harryana Walker – “Tafari Tribe Fine Arts Shop”

BEST CREATIVE VIDEO

Karina Rodriguez – “Mood”
David White – “RevelsBay Band”
Tori Dehel, Beverly Hooper – “NIGHTS ALONE”

BEST SOCIAL JUSTICE VIDEO

DeAndra Scott – “John Lebron”
Todd McDaniels, Alexa Rigazio, Staphonie Vernard – “Rape Culture In the Media”

NEW MEDIA

Introduced by **Laura Chipley, Media & Communications**

BEST WEB PORTFOLIO

Ty Moore – “Mula Filmz”
Sukhmani Jasuja – “Reporter”
Dieusita Jean – “Entertainment Reporter”

BEST BLOG

Shaakirah Medford – “Redefining Our Beauty”
Catherine Leiva – “Catherine Leiva”
Harryana Walker – “Urban Minority Report”

BEST SLIDESHOW

DeAndra Scott – “Urban Communities”
Jakin Beaufort – “Working Hard at our Passions”
Shannon Mullen – “Kickboxing is for Women Too”

TELEVISION

Introduced by **Sherralynn Baker, OWTV Station Manager**

BEST NEWS PACKAGE:

Alex Susskind, Ehi Edobor – “New Academic Building's LEED® Gold Certification”
Michelle Purpura, Meriyel David, Taj Adore – “Conscious Scapes Photography Exhibit-FALL 2013”
Avery Williams, Michelle Purpura, Garrison Gloade, Ehi Edobor – “The Student Symposium on Gender and Sexuality”
Ehi Edobor, Sukhmani Jasuja, Stephen Vandelli – “Panther Pride 2013 Ceremonial Dinner”
Maygan Chasteen, Tashiya Baptiste – “Town Hall Meeting 2-18-14”

BEST FIELD REPORTER:

Sukhmani Jasuja, Ehi Edobor – “Panther Pride 2013 County Fair”
Dieusita Jean, Ehi Edobor – “Snow Conditions Spring 2014”
Victoria Dehel, Ehi Edobor – “BBQ Throwdown”
Meriyel David, Ehi Edobor, Avery Williams, Xi Wang – “Casino Night”
Eryca Powell, Ehi Edobor, Taj Adore – “Black History Month”

MAC AWARDS

BEST CREATIVE TELEVISION SEGMENT:

Dieusita Jean, Harryana Walker, Ehi Edobor, Taj Adore – “Old Westbury Hair Show”

Eryca Powell, Ehi Edobor, Jonathan Dausner, Shemia Smalls – “OWTV Celebrates Its Members”

Ehi Edobor, Victoria Dehel – “Student vs. Faculty/Staff Softball”

Michelle Purpura, Taj Adore – “Club Bash Spring 2014”

Alex Susskind, Ehi Edobor, Lee Manarte – “Old Westbury Panther Pride Homecoming

Week 2013: Cake Off”

BEST SPECIAL EVENTS PACKAGE:

Michelle Purpura, Meriyel David, Taj Adore – “Author Talk and Book Signing: Junot Diaz”

Oluwatoni Olusanyna, Ehi Edobor – “PEL Club: Get Involved Event”

Meriyel David, Taj Adore, Ehi Edobor – “Body Conscious”

Michelle Purpura, Ehi Edobor – “Artist Lecture Series”

Rebecca Alexandre, Malcolm Zamor – “Counter Memories”

BEST TELEVISION PROMO:

Alex Susskind, Ehi Edobor, Xi Wang, Taj Adore – “Support the Kid 2014”

Francesco Milito – “I Am TKE”

Avery Williams – “Hispanic/Latino Cultural Center Symposium”

Eryca Powell, Ehi Edobor, Taj Adore, Alex Susskind – “Women's History Month”

Maygan Chasteen, Garrison Gloade, Ehi Edobor, Tashiya Baptiste – “2014 MAC Awards”

PRINT

Introduced by: John Friedman, *The Catalyst* Advisor

BEST FEATURE ARTICLE:

Virginia Coles – “5 Essentials All Women Should Own”

Meleika Amos – “Spring Beauty Trends”

Bianca Barnes – “How Safe Are We on Campus?”

Joe Randazzo – “My Grandfather”

Traci Newman – “Hair Addict”

BEST REVIEW PIECE:

Donna Makar – “Signs of Existence: Biotech Art”

Joe Randazzo – “The Wolf of Wall Street”

Destini Hornbuckle – “‘Body Conscious’: Art Exhibition at the Amelie A. Wallace Gallery”

Laura DeMarzo – “Carter Covert Ops: Beyonce's Surprise Release”

Evelyn Ortiz – “Mike Posner Live at Old Westbury”

BEST OPINION PIECE:

Traci Newman – “Once Upon a Gap”

Evelyn Ortiz – “Our Unspoken Duty to Man”

Laura DeMarzo – “Not My Uncle, Sugar”

Joe Randazzo – “Eminem”

Cassandra Oliver – “Look But Don't Touch”

BEST SPORTS STORY:

Ian Hnatov – “2014 Yankee Preview”

Scott Clinco – “A Look at the Local Teams as the NHL Season Gets Underway”

Alex Susskind – “Doc: A Memoir”

Evelyn Otiz – “Laura Schneider: More than Your Average Lacrosse Coach”

Kai Stoll – “Steps in the Right Direction”

BEST NEWS STORY:

Traci Newman – “Fire in Woodlands Residence Halls”

Nzingha Z. Crusoe – “Financial Cancellations: Recommendations for the Future”

Marilynnn Bonilla – “Old Westbury Goes Google”

Kai Stoll – “Driving in Circles”

Andrew Hinkson – “SUNY Plans Tobacco-Free Environment”

RADIO

Introduced by Joseph Manfredi, OWWR Station Manager

BEST NEWS SEGMENT:

Chad Kirschbaum – “Tommy the Razor Rainone Interview – OWWR Sports News Special”

Staphonie Vernard – “Fitness – TNT”

Tessa Stefanello – “Karl Grossman Interview – In The Know”

BEST EVENT PROMO:

Staphonie Vernard – “OWWR March Meeting”

Jessica Russo – “Panther's vs. Knights”

DeShaun Riddick – “MAC Award Auditions Night”

BEST STATION PROMO:

Christopher Ortiz, Staphonie Vernard – “TNT”

Jessica Russo – “Fishnets & Leather”

Qwacian Gregory, Jessica Skinner, John Hannigan, Jessica Russo – “TNT”

BEST CREATIVE PRODUCTION:

Qwacian Gregory – “Too Who Interview”

Christopher Ortiz – “Music in the South Bronx”

Jessica Russo – “Rock n Roll – OWWR”

BEST SHOW:

Chad Kirschbaum – “What's The Score?”

Darold Bien-Aime – “Class Act Radio”

Jessica Russo – “Fishnets & Leather”

Christopher Ortiz – “Kool Kidz Radio”

Bio Major Earns SUNY Chancellor's Award



Photo Credit: SUNY/Joe Putrock

Susan Ramirez (center) receives her award from SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher (left) while SUNY Old Westbury Provost Patrick O'Sullivan looks on.

Susan Ramirez, a senior at SUNY College at Old Westbury, was recently honored by SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher with the 2014 Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.

A resident of Brentwood, New York, Ramirez studies as part of the Honors College at Old Westbury and will graduate this May with a degree in Biological Sciences.

"Students honored with the Chancellor's Award for Excellence truly embody the power of SUNY," said Chancellor Zimpher. "As proven leaders and role models, scholar athletes, creative artists, and civic volunteers, each student is recognized not just for academic achievement, but also for the profound impact they have on college campuses and local communities across New York State."

In addition to being a high-achiever academically, Ramirez has demonstrated leadership and involvement both on and off campus. Having actively conducted research alongside faculty member Many Dhar-Mascareno into signaling

indicators that may serve as early alerts for those with prostate cancer, Ramirez has presented her findings at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students and is a co-author on a paper being prepared for inclusion in the journal *Molecular Cancer Research*.

The Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence was created in 1997 to recognize students who have best demonstrated, and have been recognized for, the integration of academic excellence with accomplishments in the areas of leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts, campus involvement, or career achievement.

Each year, campus presidents establish a selection committee, which reviews exemplary students. Nominees are then forwarded to the Chancellor's Office and are subject to a second round of review. Finalists are then recommended to the Chancellor to become recipients of the award. Each recipient receives a framed certificate and medallion, which is traditionally worn at commencement.

New SGA President Earl Thomason



By Marilynn Bonilla

Earl Thomason was elected as the new Student Government Association (SGA) president.

Thomason has been in SGA since his freshman year. He was freshman class president, then sophomore class president, then PEL Senator, and then Vice President of Business and Finance. Taking a leadership position was always a passion for him.

"Since I was eight-years-old, I was into politics. I actually wanted to become the first black president, said Thomason. "I was jealous when Barack Obama took office."

Thomason felt that he was the one for the SGA position due to his experience in being a leader and his pride in Old Westbury. With all the mistakes and ideas that have failed throughout his time in SGA, he plans to propose better ideas.

Thomason's campaign he went "all out." He spent about \$200 on flyers to spread around campus. Thomason stated that it was a political tactic to post flyers to show his passion and commit-

ment. He reached out to school clubs to persuade them to vote for him. Thomason also went to different classrooms to give speeches for his campaign. The classrooms consisted of many commuters, people he did not know. "I was surprised many of them did not even know about SGA. I just wanted them to go and at least vote, even if it is wasn't for me," said Thomason.

As president, one change Thomason wants to see is an increase in campus pride. Thomason believes that not enough students are involved on campus. He wants more students to support programs and teams. He also wants to work on a change for Old Westbury's upcoming homecoming. Thomason has already met with President Butts to convince him that Old Westbury has a mature student body so they can eliminate some restrictions they had on the previous homecoming. Thomason suggested that they can work together to make Old Westbury a better community.

Thomason has passion to advocate and believes his new position is a stepping stone for his career. Thomason wants the student voices to be heard.

Library Construction Update

By Nzingha Z. Crusoe

The library at Old Westbury has been under construction since the spring of 2012. Although we have had failed timelines of when the library was expected to be finished in the past, in a recent interview Stephen Kirkpatrick, Library Director, explains why he has become more optimistic about the progress of the construction.

Kirkpatrick is excited about the progress that has been made on the library and says he is being told "the main floor should be ready to flip sides by the end of June." The area where students are currently working on the main floor will be under construction and the newly renovated computer space will be open to students which will consist of ninety computers. Kirkpatrick has seen the new carpet on the

floors, the terrazzo floors, the ceramic tiles on the walls, the reference offices that are all glass, and new furniture, this makes him very optimistic!" By the end of the fall semester the entire main floor should be finished.

The plan is when the main floor flips sides at the end of June; there will be a period in the summer when the circulation department at the entrance will be pushed back into the areas that are currently closed off. The tunnel that students currently walk through to access the computers on the main floor will be slightly longer in order to accommodate the next phases of construction.

A new staircase at the front is being worked on and the current staircase in the middle of the main floor will be removed. The library will also have a new elevator

that will be available to use by the fall semester.

PowerTrack Math, the Math Learning Center, and the Writing Center are all expected to be moving back into the library in the Fall of 2014. PowerTrack Math is currently located in the New Academic Building basement. When PowerTrack Math moves back into the library, it will free up computers in the NAB computer lab for students to use as it is located in the largest student lab, locking up computer access for students. During the fall semester there was flood due to the construction that destroyed the carpet in the Writing Center causing them to move into the H Wing of the Campus Center. The staff of the Writing Center is excited to be moving back to their home in the library.

Currently on third floor of the library, open classrooms that will be used for library instruction are being finished. Kirkpatrick hopes by the spring of 2015 the library will be able to host library instruction events during common hour in these

classrooms. Kirkpatrick hopes to be able to host a variety of events ranging from "financial literacy and using photo shop elements" in order to engage the students. "We want to do more than just going to the classrooms and doing library instruction, there are all sorts of things people need to learn, even it's learning about some new software that's free," says Kirkpatrick.

When The Catalyst last reported on the construction of the library in the fall, we reported there was a lot of complaints from student and staff about the conduct and foul language of the construction workers. Kirkpatrick is happy these issues have since subsided.

According to Kirkpatrick, "the construction of the library is about ten months behind and the reason for this is there were problems that were not expected to be encountered causing the timeline of the construction to be thrown off." He remains optimistic that the construction of the library will be completely finished this coming winter.

Illmatically Ours: Celebrating 20 Years of Nasty Nas

By Laura DeMarzo

"I didn't think it meant the world, I just thought it was the bridge." Those words were spoken by Jabari, brother of legendary rapper Nasir "Nas" Jones, referencing their infamous Queens bridge neighborhood. The words are not only reflective of the surprising tenacity of Jones' 1994's pivotal debut *Illmatic* but are also emblematic of what hip-hop has become and its mutually beneficial relationship with Nas through the twenty years since its release.

On April 16th that relationship was celebrated at Manhattan's Beacon Theatre with the documentary premiere of *Time is Illmatic*.

Kicking off the Tribeca Film Festival, the biopic delves into the making of one of the most important pieces of hip-hop's discography, from the carefully selected beats, to the stories behind the lyrics, and the relationships between the legends in their fields who produced it, including Large Professor, DJ Premier, Pete Rock, Q-Tip and L.E.S. The credit of ensuring Hip-Hop fans and non-Hip-Hop fans alike remained interested goes to director One9 and writer Erik Parker; With their editing that present moments of joy as well as those of despondency and their poignant introduction—which had attendees enthralled before the title (taken from a lyric on the album) even appeared on the screen. The production ensured people could grasp the significance of every lyric by featuring them as text along with the soundtrack. Even more significantly, audiences are provided a full sensory experience into what created the man who created the masterpiece and the gritty elegance that is Nasir Jones. Beginning with his musical roots starting in Mississippi with Jazz musician father Olu Dara, to the failings of the New

York City public school system and the devastating knowledge that comes with losing loved ones at the hands of those you've most likely once played with as children.

Hoads of Nas followers sat, captivated—some with original *Illmatic* vinyl copies in hand—as they watched Nas explain how the crack epidemic shortened his childhood and the resentment that came from his younger brother, when their mother kept them in the projects even after Jungle was shot. It's in these scenes it's clear—as Jungle jokes, that although he was grazed and his friend lay dead, that his first instinct was to hide the wound from his mom—that in their neighborhood levity was often lined parallel with devastation, as a means of survival. It was the utilization of this survival tactic that allowed Nas' loss of his best friend and musical partner Willie "Ill Will" Graham to only push him to work harder.

The film then begins to explain that for its time, *Illmatic* acted as a textbook for what inner city life was becoming for kids, with its many references to children having to become adults before their time, case in point on *N.Y. State of Mind*:

"And it was full of children probably couldn't see as high as I be/....It's like the game ain't the same/Got younger [kids] pulling the triggers/Bringing fame to they name..."

The rare lyrical abilities of Nas, were highlighted as well when his acapella raps were played, showing how melodically he rhymes even without a beat. In addition his peers discuss his differentiating inflections, rhyme cadences, and multi-syllabic metaphors to exude his frustration at government assistance programs which encourage broken homes, the misappropriated minority population in prison institutions, that



seem to break up families as well (as he explains on the Q-Tip featured *One Love*: "I heard you got a son/ I heard he looks like ya/why don't your lady write ya?/ I told her to visit, that's when she got hyper" and living in a society where the homicides of your peers are considered mundanely symptomatic of being a minority living in housing projects.

The movie was followed by the veteran New York MC performing the classic album in its entirety to a crowd so in-sync with every line, breath and ad-lib, one would assume they had producer credits in the liner notes. However, this crowd was simply the representation of your average Nas fan. His fans are true, because Nasir Jones is true. Unlike in the cases of other popular rappers such as Jay-Z, Dr. Dre or Common, there has never been the grumbling from Hip-Hop fundamentalists that Jones conformed somehow. And inversely, there isn't a blind loyalty that prevents fans from cri-

tiquing Nas. They will always hold *Ether* (the legendary Jay-Z diss record) in the highest esteem and respect him enough to honestly admit when Jones is off (For instance his haphazard response to 50 Cent's *Piggy Bank*). For these fans that waited with baited breath to relay the breakthrough album he is the most intelligent and educational of the rappers in the long-debated "*Top Five, Dead or Alive*" conversation and the answer to the question of what happens when an artist of the caliber and struggle of a Biggie Smalls, Tupac Shakur, Kurt Cobain or even the ever admitted and committed fan, Amy Winehouse (See: *Me & Mr. Jones*) gets to see their potential play out along the course of decades.

Twenty years later Nas is still educating generations, continuing to make us more conscious of the way we raise our daughters, churning out relevant street anthems and reminding us: "**The World is Yours.**"

OPINION

The Learning Brain

By Evelyn Ortiz

In his book *Teaching with the Brain in Mind*, Eric Jensen describes the brain as a process that uses symbolic representations. He wants readers to understand this process to improve success with children in the classroom.

"By understanding how the brain learns, we can better allocate educational resources," he writes in the first chapter, "Learning in the Brain." Even though humans may have an option to be flexible in their learning, not everyone starts off with the correct resources which allow them to form various neural pathways. Neurons are responsible for converting electrical and chemicals and are the cell bodies that process information.

Brain cells are lost through disuse: if students are not exposed to certain path-

ways then they lose them. I think that this is a very interesting fact. Those who have limited resources are already at a disadvantage and may lose out on opportunities of myelination, the process by which nerves transmit information faster after repeated usage.

Oxygen and water are important to the proper functioning of the brain yet there are teachers who try to limit students frequent urgencies to get up for a drink of water: another common issue in classrooms is the limit on bathroom usage, students cannot focus if they have to relieve themselves.

Stimulation can either be excitatory or inhibitory. However, it is quite intriguing in how a stimulus can also be considered negative. What is interesting is the possibility of having a gene that may partially control memory which would be

a huge breakthrough. This may also help teachers assess students who come to class prepared everyday and are attentive yet seem as though they have trouble grasping concepts. It would be an asset to see which students really have difficulty learning and remembering versus those students who are not stimulated enough to take interest and attempt to learn and retain information. If this supposed gene that controls critical memory function indeed does what the author thinks then not everyone can remember and store information the same.

Learning and behavior may sometimes be "combined" for example - if we learn and read something on how to act we automatically think our behavior will change but that is not necessarily true. Even though we have one billion neurons, other cells such as monoamines and peptides have more of an internal communication power that controls how one reacts in everyday life and classroom situations when under stress, essentially

overpowering what has been learned. It is not always that simple to change a normal behavior to a new, learned behavior.

It is perplexing that "it is estimated that we use less than one percent of one percent of our brain's projected processing capacity," according to Jensen. This number is extremely low. Why then are we constantly feeling so overwhelmed, overworked and stressed when there is a large sector of the brain that is not being utilized?

Half a million neurons can be lost per day yet it would take centuries for one to literally lose their mind. Yet have you ever felt like you were about to lose your mind? I have. It is due to the overload of college, working, and commuting which use up the maximum of one percent of one percent of my brain especially during the first week of school, midterms, and finals week.

The Neighbors Exhibit at The New Museum

By Meleika Amos

To take advantage of a lovely Friday afternoon I decided to take a trip into Manhattan and ventured to The New Museum. I had seen an advertisement some time ago that intrigued me and I decided to see what it entailed. This was my first time at this museum, it was smaller than I had imagined but I believe that's what made it more authentic, not that stuffy institutional feeling other museums often exude. Once I reached the fourth floor and walked through the doorway, I was in awe as from floor to ceiling was covered in drawings, paintings, possibly even spray paint.

I stumbled around perplexed trying to embrace everything in front of me, around me and even below me. There were so many vivid colors and imaginative images from graffiti type illustrations to lively sayings marked on the ground as, "don't step on me I'm art!" it was hard to focus on just one spot. After I gathered my thoughts I walked over to ask the curator more about the exhibit. I was once again blown away to find out that the installation was in fact created by all who had visited the museum. Everyone who has come through this exhibit had been asked to paint whatever they please; of course I immediately began searching for a paint brush and smock!

I was like a child in a candy store once I managed to get my hands on a paintbrush, I just didn't know where to begin. I wasn't sure what to draw or where to place it so that it could stand out and be its own in this sea of vivid individuals. I decided I leave a few messages for other visitors to feel encouraged as they walked through. It was a great thing Althamer has installed for people to create with no boundaries, very rarely will you go to an institution where art is dis-



Paweł Althamer, *The Neighbors: Draftsmen's Congress 2014*



My doodles in Paweł Althamer, *The Neighbors: Draftsmen's Congress 2014*

played and you become the genius behind the work, this idea creates a feeling of free expression and liberation.

In a sense, this exhibit was a metaphor for New York City. People from all walks of life had come and left their mark, some were strange doodles, some were quotes, some were just things only that person would ever understand but they were all beautiful because they were original and they represented what makes New York unique, all the city's people.



Paweł Althamer, *The Neighbors: Draftsmen's Congress 2014*

Support the Kid Telethon A Resounding Success



By Alex Susskind

On April 23rd, OWTV put on its third annual Support the Kid Telethon. The event, which was hosted by Old Westbury alumni/event founder Ali Tutino and OWTV vice president, Taj Adore-Young, raised over \$4,000 in donations for children with cancer.

“I want to save the world,” Adore-Young said, “but I know I have to start one person at a time.” One person at a time is exactly how Support the Kid began. Support the Kid for Cancer Inc.,

founded by the late Nick Wolber in 2010 shortly before his passing, started with the goal of supporting one kid suffering from cancer each month. Now that it has grown and currently span four states (New York, Texas, Colorado, California), the charity supports two kids a month—giving between \$1,000-\$3,000 depending on the family’s needs.

After successful events the previous two years, the 2014 Support the Kid Telethon raised the bar yet again as people in attendance, as well as “U Stream” viewers from around the country, donated

\$4,406—\$696 more than the \$3,710 raised during last year’s telethon. “A lot of work went into this telethon,” OWTV president Ehi Edobor said. “We had to sell raffle tickets and get donations—in addition to all the technical work.”

Just a few months earlier though, there was apprehension about whether or not there would even be another Support the Kid Telethon once Ali had graduated. “I was nervous that no one seemed to be ‘taking the reigns’ last year,” Tutino said, “But then at the beginning of this semester I got a message from Taja. After our

first meeting I knew she was definitely the girl for the job!”

“I looked into Support the Kid and realized how important this was,” Adore-Young said, “so I wanted to continue the telethon.”

In addition to the banter of hosts Ali and Taj, as well as “Tori’s Trivia Show” hosted by Tori Dehel; an acoustic performance by Ogee Wawa; covers by Angelle; and a stand up set by SUNY Old Westbury’s own John “Fudge” Rickenbacker, the audience was entertained throughout the two-hour show.

“It was intense,” said a student named Christina about being a contestant on “Tori’s Trivia Show.” “I wasn’t expecting to be on camera, but I’m glad I got the chance.” Christina went on to express how impressed she was at the show and by how much was raised for the cause.

After three consecutive successful telethons OWTV has its eyes on going bigger and better. “Next year we plan on doing it for three hours,” Tutino exclaimed. “We want more guests and more donations!” If history is any indication, the bar will be raised again in 2015.

Didn’t get a chance to donate during the show? Support the Kid accepts donations all year round. Go to supportthekid.org and click on the donate tab.



The Inside Scoop on Past SGA President Nick Savva

By Evelyn Ortiz

I remember shadowing Patricia Fretes, the former modern language enator for the school year of 2012-2013, and seeing the SGA Executive Board and being intimidated. I was shy at first and this opportunity has allowed me to break out of my shell, become a better leader and a better advocate for myself and those around me. It was not until I was elected that I slowly became friendlier with the SGA members and more actively involved and “showing face.”

Then I started to get to know the Executive Board, senators and CSLI interns. I noticed that Nick Savva was almost always present in the office and I was under the impression that he was a residential student, but then found out that he was a commuter student like myself. I was baffled yet impressed, I thought to myself: How can he be a commuter if he is always here and so actively involved and a full time student?

Once he gave some insight into his daily activities and life, I gained a new found respect. I guess everyone has his own capabilities and responsibilities that they are able to handle. I have quite an amount of responsibility but, I would not be able to last more than a week in the shoes of Nick. I do not think that people really acknowledge the amount of time that he spends on campus, working and advocating for the students, studying and preparing for class-

es, and a commitment outside of school that is just as time consuming.

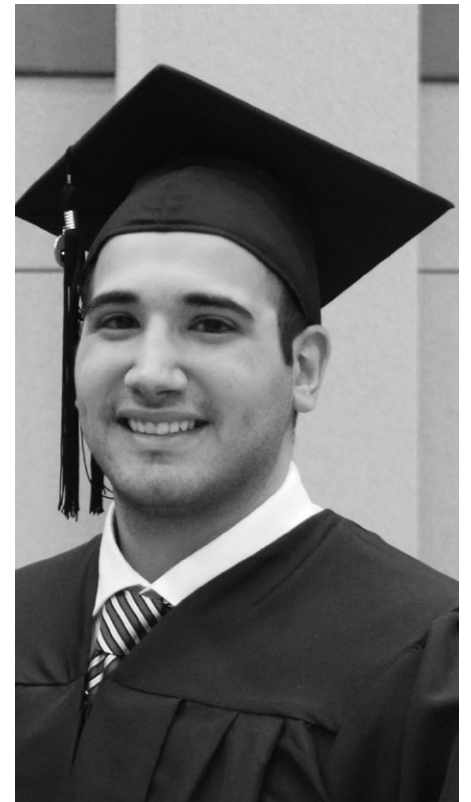
Nick took office as SGA President on May 1, 2013. However, prior to his reign as president, he previously served on SGA for three years. From his freshman year he was active as a commuter senator. As his sophomore year approached, Nick was appointed to the position executive secretary, followed by executive vice president the following year. He was inspired to join SGA due to two professors, Dr. Kaplan and Dr. Barrett. Dr. Kaplan taught an Ethics and Engagement course for the First Year Experience, in which he participated in a “Pay Forward to Old Westbury” project: this focused on ways for students to give back to the campus. Nick helped organize a clean up with his fellow students as a way to “pay it forward” to Old Westbury. Dr. Barrett’s course was called Community Psychology, which focused on community outreach and how to spark change with any given community. These courses helped shape Nick into the President that he is today.

Nick’s position on SGA has been one that is encouraging. He ensures that the students are aware of what is occurring on campus, he advocates on their behalf, and makes sure their voices are heard. You do not need to be around Nick often to hear him say, “Is it in the best interest for the students?” or “The students are entitled to this.” Nick is involved in over 26 committees campus-wide; he is the student “Guru.” He believes that if you are not knowledgeable in many areas of the

campus, then you cannot truly understand and impact decisions that are made on behalf of the student body. If you have a problem or issue and do not know who to speak to or where to start, 99% of the time he can direct you to the right person and or committee.

Nick said that he is “extremely grateful to the Division of Student Affairs for allowing him to progress and gain the experience and insight into a career that he now wants to participate in.” At the Honors Convocation, he was awarded the Carol M. Bailey Humanitarian Award for “his exceptional contribution, dignity, and caring in promoting the quality of student life.” This award itself demonstrates Nick’s commitment to bettering student life and his dedication to community service. Not only has Dr. Kaplan and Dr. Barrett influenced Nick to take an active role in leadership, but he would also like to acknowledge Dr. ML Langlie, Suzanne McLoughlin and Veronica Gerosimo for the roles they played in his life.

Unfortunately (for me), Nick is a senior and will be graduating with a Bachelors Degree in Politics, Economics, and Law. It will be hard to fill the shoes of someone so genuine, patient and passionate for the students. Despite the hectic schedules, meetings, stress, good or bad days, Nick seemed to keep his composure and always managed to wear a smile. He quite often put the students before himself and believed very much in an “open door policy” - anyone could walk into his office



to vent, ask questions, etc. and I loved that. I am thankful for my journey this year within SGA and for the people that I have met that are now embarking on a new journey in their lives, such as Nzingha Z. Crusoe, Christian Amaro and “Camilla Swasey.” I wish these student leaders the best of luck and may they continue to be blessed in everything they do.

DATING IN THE DIGITAL ERA

By Jessica Blair

Dead-end relationships. Mixed signals. Lack of conversation. Sound familiar? Let’s face it. Dating in general can be a daunting and confusing process for many of us. When you add social media, texting and all things digital communication to the mix, your opinion of dating and perhaps even the opposite sex becomes a highly negative one. Phone conversations which usually would lead to dinner and a movie have been replaced by indistinct relationships and last-minute texts. Gone are the days where interactions between men and women were healthy and consisted of both sexes putting in real work without the assistance of social media, manipulating images, and crafting personas through a slew of texts. Dating sites and apps have all taken the forefront, making miscommunication all the more welcome.

For those of us who need a little help in the dating game and refer to the help of dating sites and apps such like Plenty of Fish (POF), OK Cupid (OKC), Tinder, and Match (the list is endless really) texting and exchanging pic-

tures relentlessly before meeting may seem like a great idea at first, but if done on a frequent basis before an actual meeting, it can definitely backfire. I am guilty of this when late last year, I started talking to a guy who worked between 10-12 hour shifts, 5 days per week. We would text all day, every day (yes, even after meeting). The type of work he did left him drained and maybe he wasn’t up for an hour-long conversation (sarcasm)



on the phone. I could easily relate to that, but we did go out a few times and the time spent was what it was.

Through these outlets, indi-

viduals are able to present themselves in whatever light they choose, whether it be with or without photo filters and talking in a way that makes you seem a certain way, when in reality, you’re nothing like that. Building up an image of what you want to be or who you think your interest may be, only to find out they are the complete opposite of what was presented can throw both or either of you for quite a loop. If your intentions are to truly get to know the person, texting may feel like a good way of doing so. However, it could be a false sense of intimacy-and you’re only setting yourself up for disappointment.

Instead, talk on the phone, Skype, and keep the conversations to a minimum so that you have things of substance to discuss once you’re face-to-face. Do not rely solely on texting. There are those who use these mediums strictly as a means of hooking up. No relationships, no chit chat, just sex. This fact can make it that much harder for those who are hoping to find something meaningful and long-lasting. For those who may be in something that progressed into a real



relationship, there are still hurdles.

If you find yourself feeling jaded due to a lack of progression, and if that is what you want but feel you’re not getting it from any one or two, or maybe even three of the aforementioned outlets, give the online dating thing a rest and go out and meet people the good old-fashioned way. Strike up a conversation with that attractive person standing a few feet away from you. Meet someone through a friend, a concert, a bar (this one’s a little tricky). Just do yourself a favor and don’t go out looking for a relationship. As the old adage goes, what’s meant to be will be. Don’t stress and just let the chips fall where they may.

My Typical End of College Advice Article

By Joe Randazzo

I'm supposed to hand out some fancy words of advice since this is my last article as a student but to be honest, I don't believe in words of wisdom. I believe in the idea that aliens supplied rakes and bottles of Hemp flavored Gatorade to Egyptians while they built pyramids more than I do some Facebook philosopher's status about positivity.

Okay, I lied. All you really need to know in terms of advice is that anybody who boasts about being positive is probably full of crap. If you're a woman and a guy is talking about being positive and the atmosphere then he is trying to get you into his cult so he can sleep with you. (So yeah, to be fair that's not as much advice as it is words we should be telling our daughters so they don't get roofied at college parties. Those are the guys we should be worried about.)

All you really need to know about life is to just be yourself. Granted, being myself hasn't exactly paid off in my bank account but it one day could. While your

pockets won't be filled by being honest, at least I know I can go to sleep at night.

If you're righteous with your ideas, and not the type to carry roofies in your back pocket (I can't stress that enough in this article) then apparently good things happen. The only reason I know this is because I have followed guys like Patrice O'Neal and Opie & Anthony throughout their careers and at their best they didn't comply too some middle management idea of political correctness.

What I noticed about being honest is it gives your life more incentive to live than making money. I feel bad for anybody without a real message who just wants to get paid. They aren't really themselves but more just a slave to the dollar. (Although if you want to get paid by any means necessary then I guess I just wasted your time. Kudos to you for getting this far though; I'm impressed.)

Patrice O'Neal, one of the greatest comics of our time, always said the loneliest road is the honest road. While that's true I should also add that it always feels

great when I get a compliment for my work or find myself in a job opportunity without having to make sure I watched my language with something I wrote.

I guess "being yourself" is advice too, so that first statement I made is also full of crap. The only reason I say this is because we're entering strange times where college kids are writing articles about what offends them.

Duke University is running a campaign about words that "hurt." Apparently we shouldn't use terms like "man up", "tranny", or "don't be a p*ssy." College students are saying this! Students used to be known for dropping acid. Now we are starting to become the Grandma generation. If you ever wonder why everything in radio, print and television sucks then look no further than the types of people leaving college and entering the world of broadcasting.

It's important to be yourself because now more than ever people should be standing up against these idiotic ideas. Nobody is perfect and anybody fighting

for societal perfection by getting rid of the word "man up" is hindering fun. Fun is pretty important. It keeps us from being the type of boring edgeless sticklers who say "man up." Plus what does banning words get us but banning more words? It's an endless cycle.

Of course if you fight against the "man up" people they'll jump on you. They'll try everything to kill your credibility. The beauty of being honest right off the bat though is these people have nothing on you. You were up front about everything from the beginning.

These people are actually the ones who need to be worried. One wrong move or a drunken tweet that offends some Asian group spells the end of their career and glass house credibility.

I'm not sure if this helped anybody. If anything it'll probably get overlooked. You can't say I didn't try giving that generic "words of wisdom" article every college writer gives toward the end of their scholastic career.

What is the Sickle Cell Disease?

By Biji Thomas

While the human body is undoubtedly an intricate and complex structure, within it lies various secrets. There are things that lurk inside the human body that are sometimes even unbeknownst to the individual. One such thing is the Sickle Cell disease. Surprisingly, many people who have the disease, have no knowledge that they possess it, simply because there are no external symptoms. Another vast majority of people have never heard of Sickle Cell disease. It is a grim reality that the disease and the effects of the disease go unnoticed until it is too late.

Thousands of children and young adults pass away from the Sickle Cell disease, mainly because they remain unaware that they possess the disease or because of late treatment. While the Sickle cell disease is known to be most common in Africans and African-Americans, it is also widely found in people from South and Central America, the Caribbean, Mediterranean countries, and India.

What is the Sickle Cell Disease? Typically, the human red blood cells are disc shaped and can easily move through the blood vessels. However, an individual affect-

ed with the Sickle Cell disease have cells that are sickle shaped which obstructs the flow of blood in the blood vessels. This can cause great pain, organ damage and infections. Fatigues and excessive tiredness are common effects as well. While normal red blood cells live approximately 120 days, sickle cells live from 10-12 days. In order for an individual to have the disease, he or she must have inherited two sickle cell genes, one from each parent. Those with the sickle cell trait, possess one normal gene and one sickle cell gene. It is important to note that individuals with the sickle cell trait do not have the actual disease.

As a current intern at the Queens Sickle Cell Advocacy Network (QSCAN) located in Queens, my knowledge of sickle cell has broadened immensely through conversations with people about their experiences with the disease. QSCAN attempts to raise awareness of the disease within the community and offers help, support and resources to individuals and families afflicted with the disease. Banquets, walkathons and social events and gathering are organized to get people involved. Only by raising awareness, can individuals and



family take active actions to combat this disease. Sadly, the lack of adequate knowledge, information, resources and awareness leads to the staggering deaths of many people. While there are no known cures for this disease, treatments are available. One such treatment is bone marrow transplant. However, it can be quite expensive and risky. The best method of dealing with this disease is to find it at an early age. Many hospitals test babies for

this disease once they are born. By finding it at an early age, medicine such as penicillin can be taken to lessen the effects. Hydroxyurea is the only FDA approved medication that averts painful episodes in sickle cell disease. Vaccines, fluids and immunizations are given as well. It is important to realize that individuals afflicted with this disease can most definitely lead active and productive lives.

OLD WESTBURY PUZZLES

MEDIUM

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						5		9
	2		1					
	4	7	5	9			1	

HARD

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					7			
	4			1		3		
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	3				9	1		
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		2		9	1			
				3				

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9	1	8	7	4	5	2	3	6
2	7	5	3	1	6	8	9	4
4	5	6	9	2	3	7	8	1
8	3	1	6	7	4	9	5	2
7	9	2	8	5	1	4	6	3

MEDIUM

Graduation

C T U W A D S F J L S A S O O
 E O S N C E A E P E M T U D A
 T Y M E H M L D N O D S C C N
 A T U M I Y C S L I I R C E W
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 D O Y Y V N I O T A M R S N G
 A O Z A E D C U M P T W S Z H
 R K F U M P N E L E C P Z G I
 G H C E E P S I M W R O T M S
 M R S J N S S S X E Z E J O B
 O Y P D T H R H M S N R C A V
 M A S T E R S W R D R T D X L
 C C I E J D T N U A A F L Y U
 I D C S R O L E H C A B A B Z
 Q G S X L L T K O P A N I B O

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2	3	8	6	7	9	1	4	5
5	7	1	4	8	3	6	9	2
9	4	6	2	1	5	3	8	7
8	5	3	1	2	7	4	6	9
1	2	7	9	4	6	5	3	8
6	9	4	3	5	8	2	7	1

HARD

ANSWERS:

SPEECH
 SUCCESS
 TASSLE

GOWN
 GRADUATE
 MASTERS
 SENIORS

CEREMONY
 COMMENCEMENT
 DIPLOMA
 FAMILY

ACCOMPLISH
 ACHIEVEMENT
 BACHELORS
 CAP

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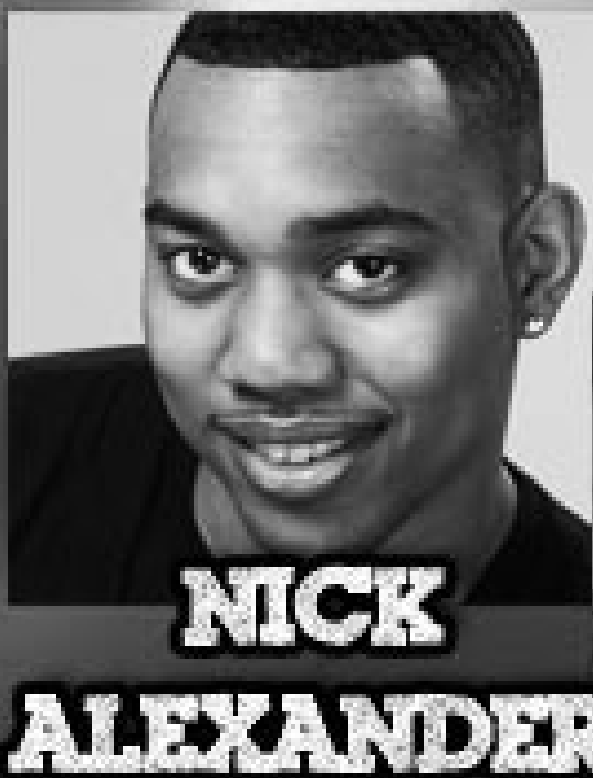
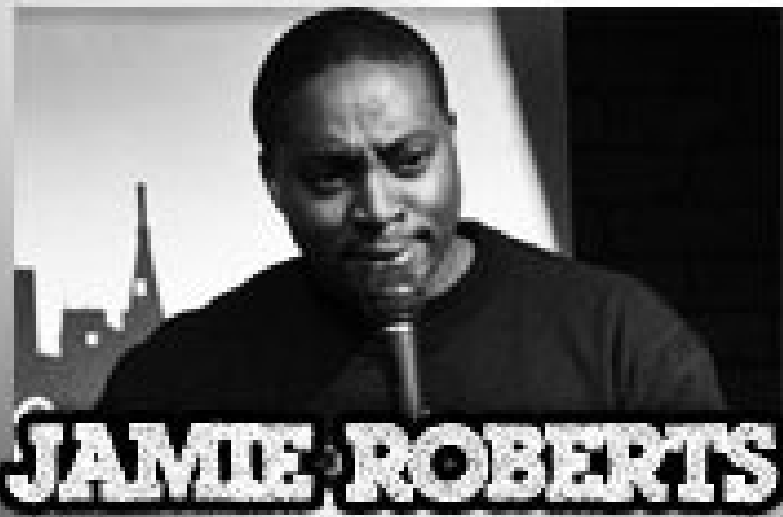
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Multipurpose Room

11 pm - 2 am

Wang Negotiating to Sell Islanders

By Scott Clinco

Late in March, news came out that Islander fans had been waiting to hear for a long time. It was reported by TSN in Canada that Islanders owner Charles B. Wang was negotiating to sell the team.

Wang purchased the Islanders in 2000 with a partner of his with hopes of redoing the real estate around the Coliseum and getting a new building as well. Wang took majority ownership of the team in 2004 after his partner went to jail. For around eight years Wang fought through politics and such to try and get something done to get a new arena. However, the politicians in the Town of Hempstead and Nassau County never allowed it to happen because they care more about their respective political parties than what is best for the community.

After his attempts to get a new arena failed Wang's interest in the team took a real big hit. For the last seven seasons Wang has been running the team on a shoe string at best budget only hiring people he is able to control rather than hiring the most qualified people for a given position. Over the last seven seasons the Islanders have been bottom three in payroll each year and of the 21 teams to be in that position over the last seven years only a handful have made the playoffs including the Islanders in last year's lockout shortened season. As one can tell though having such a small payroll isn't a good recipe for winning which management claims is their goal.

This explains the fans excitement for a new owner. With the team preparing to say goodbye to Nassau County after this upcoming season, a new owner would give fans hope that they would move out of the proverbial death grip

that Charles Wang has had them under restricting their finances for so long and be on the road back to being a legitimate NHL team as their time in Brooklyn gets underway.

The reported front runner to purchase the team is former Philadelphia lawyer turned hedge fund man Andrew Barroway. Barroway was also interested in purchasing the New Jersey Devils last summer but turned away from the team after seeing their books and not liking what he saw. Larry Brooks from the *New York Post* reported that Barroway approached Brendan Shanahan about taking a position with the team should a sale to him go through before Shanahan took a job with the Toronto Maple Leafs. To further on that, Chris Botta from the Sports Business Daily Journal said that Barroway wants to just hire the best staff he can and just sit in his owners box and just enjoy hockey. That would be a welcomed change for Islanders fans from Charles Wang who is arguably one of the most hands on owners in the entire league. Reports have recently suggested that a sale to Barroway is close and could be finished as soon as this summer.

Another group that was reportedly interested in making a bid for the Islanders included Howard Dolgon who owns the Syracuse Crunch from the American Hockey League. Dolgon reportedly had a wealthy investor lined up to make a bid but the investor later backed out so Dolgon's potential bid is on hold for now according to Syracuse.com

It doesn't really matter when it happens; however, the sooner a sale takes place the better it will be for the Islanders organization and their fans because they deserve to have management that cares about winning which is something they haven't had for a while under



Wang with his partner when they bought the team in 2000

An Interview with Lacrosse Star Sara Bey



By Kai Stoll

Sara Bey scored a program record six hat tricks during the season; concluded the year with program records of 37 goals, 38 points and 51 draw controls; and earned OW's first ever Skyline Conference Rookie of the Week honor on March 10.

What was one thing you can take away from this past season?

"I am happy to say that our team, despite the numbers that we had, played really well together. We never let our situation of not having substitutes get the best of us and we kept playing each game with a lot of heart. This season the team really came together and it helped us accomplish our individual and team goals."

What is something you feel contributed to your stellar play this season?

"I was really dedicated to working outside of practice time on the things I did not feel were my strengths. I also am very lucky to have had 3 coaches this season who each contributed to my success in their own way. I learned a lot from them that I was able to implement into my game play. I had a great team of dedicated girls that made playing fun and more enjoyable. Something that helped me keep working hard in each game was the gift that the coaches gave to us at the beginning of the season. They asked us to write down a word that gets us motivated and they placed these on our lacrosse sticks to remind us each game why we play and what we need to get accomplished. The word I chose really got me excited to play and to push myself harder and harder as the season went on."

What do your numerous accolades this season mean to you? Any one of them you are most proud of?

"Coming into the lacrosse season I did not expect to have much success. I

always played lacrosse to stay in shape for soccer and track. When I received Rookie of the Week I did not expect it in the slightest. I think that this season I was able to use all of the knowledge that I have been given in a way that really benefitted the way I play lacrosse. I recently found out that I was named to the All-Conference First Team for this season. I am very happy and excited about this and hope that I can continue to help the team over the time that I will spend as a lacrosse player at Old Westbury."

Where do you see yourself in five years when you graduate?

"I am pursuing a dual major of a Bachelor of Science in both Mathematics and Chemistry. After graduation I plan to go to graduate school for chemical engineering, hopefully at Cornell University."

What is one thing you feel you need to maybe work harder at?

"I recently had my meeting with my coach and we went over some of the things I need to focus on. I need to improve my stick skills with my weak hand and also not let my mistakes get to my head and get in the way of working 100% on the field. I think if I continue to work I can only go up from here."

Moving forward, what is one thing you feel is most important to achieving consistent success, both in lacrosse and in academics?

"I think that it is important to be around people that are as excited about my success as I am. In school it is important to do the things you love and to challenge yourself. In lacrosse I have a great team of girls who work hard and challenge me to be a better player. The team really came together this season and accomplished amazing things. I could not have achieved this success without them and without my coaches."

GOING INTO THE PLAYOFFS

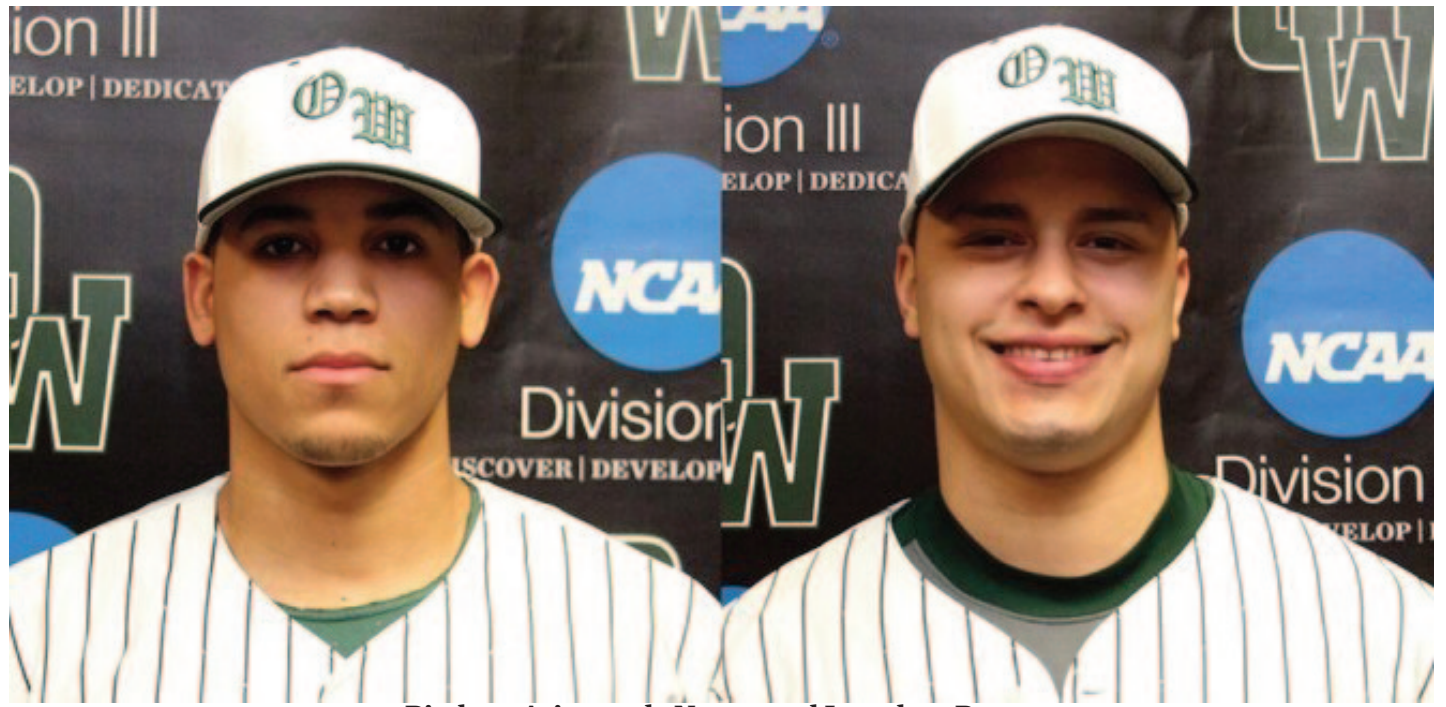
By Kai Stoll

The 2014 men's baseball team had a "roller coaster" season. The Panthers saw ups and downs, several injuries hampering key players, along with a very tough schedule against some of the top teams in the country. After starting the season 0-8, the Panthers maintained the heart and tenacity to right the ship, going 16-11 from that point, finding themselves in a position they haven't found themselves in years: hosting the conference tournament on their own field. The Panthers hit their stride, with bats and arms getting hot at the right time, positioning them for a very strong playoff run.

When asked what factors contributed to such a strong finish to the season, Head Coach Rod Stephan attributes it to both the talent, plus the strength of schedule: "We do an outstanding job recruiting. Since I became the coach in 2007, we've gotten some very talented players over here to Old Westbury. Every year we play a harder schedule, facing better teams to challenge our players. The fact that we have brought more talent gets us ready for that."

The rotation saw immense talent at the top, bolstered this season by the one two punch of ace pitchers Tim Ingram and Arismendy Nunez, who combined to win nine of the teams sixteen victories this season. Ingram finished the season 5-2, with a 2.74 ERA and an amazing 56 strikeouts in just seven starts. Nunez finished 4-2 with a 2.30 ERA and 47 strikeouts, highlighted by a no-hitter against Stevens Tech on April 17th.

"They have both done an outstanding job. Having them at the top of the rotation is such a confidence boost to our team," coach Stephan explains. "The confidence of the team behind them keeps players more alert, throwing constant strikes and balls in play. We know they're going to give us a good game and, most



Pitchers Arismendy Nunez and Jonathan Pagan

importantly, a chance to win."

Winning was no easy task this season. The Panthers were challenged game after game by some of the top ranked teams in the country. While the overall record and batting averages may not have stood out in comparison to teams that played a softer schedule, Coach Stephan is confident that the challenge was beneficial moving into the postseason.

"Playing those good teams really paid off," he said. "Seeing it on an everyday basis, it put pressure on our guys, challenging them to stay focused. We've hit this playoff run on a high note."

Despite nagging injuries to key players such as first baseman Kevin Licul, the team was able to rally around the productive bats of third baseman Nick Yip, and outfielders Jonathan Pagan and Jacob Connors, all collecting weekly awards for their outstanding performances this season. The team was also sparked by the impressive play of freshman shortstop Tommy Ziegen, handling the middle

infield in his first year. Ziegen's play has provided a very optimistic outlook for the Panthers moving forward.

In the complex game of baseball, they are so many factors that play a part in maintaining consistent success. Yes, the home runs are great, the complete game shutouts separate the good from the great. However moving toward the playoffs, and that ultimate goal of winning a championship, the coach emphasized the little things that play such a huge part in winning baseball games.

"I always tell them, if we do the little things, the big things will come," he said. "Getting runners over, bunting, getting an out when we need an out. That's what makes the difference. If we can manufacture runs and give our pitchers a lead to work with, they will roll."

Hosting the conference tournament on their own field would be a victory in its own right, and would mark the first time in seven years that the Panther's archival Farmingdale State College did not host the tournament. The importance of home

field advantage would be pivotal.

"Playing on our own field, we have a better chance of winning," explained Stephan. "We're a grass field team and we're used to playing here. Most of the other teams play on turf, so it gives us an advantage. Plus playing at home in front of our fans, the support helps."

While this season will be remembered by the success on the field, the chemistry and humanity of the Panthers was a story all its own. With winning games and conference tournaments talked about regularly, their sportsmanship and community interactions were just as gratifying.

"We did the regional Special Olympics this season, something that gives our guys some humility and brings them together," the coach said. "Those are the kinds of things that build our players as people. I was very impressed with the way we went about the game. We played like men. If we won we won, if not, we knew we played hard. That's all I could really ask for."

Coach Stephan stresses the importance of building relationships during the players college baseball career. He noted the camaraderie of a baseball team is unique, and so very important to the shaping of young student-athletes on the brink of the rest of their lives.

"I want them to come away with a positive feeling about playing college baseball, and we showed [this season] that we have a love for the game. I just hope for a positive experience. I tell them all the time that the relationships I built playing college ball still remain strong to this day. I still go to dinner with the guys I played with."

Stephan summed up the true success of this season with the most pivotal goal that any athlete could hope to achieve: "Most of all, I want them to have fun. Go out there, give it your all, but in the end, have fun."



Nick Yip