

# Vocational Voice

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Queens Vocational and Technical High School, Long Island City, NY 11101

Summer, 2005

## Honor Society Inducts 100

by Sumon Miah

A hundred Queens Voc students were inducted into the 2005 Presidential Honor Society on Thursday, May 19, from 6 pm to 8 pm. The Presidential Honor Society acknowledges students who have a cumulative average of 85 or above.

The installation ceremony was attended by students, parents, faculty and staff, as well as guest performers.

The Presidential Honor Society Installation was coordinated by Ms. Dattner, 9th grade guidance counselor, and by Mrs. Basirico, a cosmetology teacher and Project Learn coordinator.

The ceremony opener was the processional song, "Battle without Honor or Humanity." Wade Cameron, Kashif Malik, and Chansok Seng served as the color guard, bringing in the flag for the Pledge of Allegiance. This year, Gabriel Ortiz, a sophomore in electrical installation, sang the National Anthem.

Sumon Miah, Rattan "Ruby" Kaur, and Jessica Rios served as Master and Mistresses of the Ceremony.

Ms. Vittor acknowledged the parents for being there and supporting their children.

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## Regents Schedule

	9:15am	1:15pm
<b>THURSDAY</b> June 16	Comprehensive English Session One  RCT in Science	Math A
<b>FRIDAY</b> June 17	Comprehensive English Session Two	RCT in Mathematics
<b>MONDAY</b> June 20		RCT in Writing
<b>TUESDAY</b> June 21	Regents in Global History & Geography  RCT in Reading	Regents in U.S. History & Govt.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> June 22	Physical Setting/ Earth Science  Living Environment	Physical Setting/ Chemistry  Physical Setting/ Physics  RCT in Global Studies
<b>THURSDAY</b> June 23	Math B  RCT in U.S. History and Government	<b>Good Luck!</b>



*New building set to open in September.*

## The Annex: From Start to Almost Finished

by Alberto "Zuzu" Aspiazu

Students and staff at Queens Vocational Technical High School are looking forward with excitement and anticipation to the completion of the new addition to the school by September of 2005.

"We're about ninety-seven percent complete with all the construction," said Dean Johanson, project officer for New York City School Construction Authority.

Since the last edition of *Vocational Voice*, there have been many changes that have occurred. Construction has been completed in the lunchroom, bathrooms, classrooms, gymnasium, and hallways. Danny Lopez, a junior in electrical installation, and Loraine Alba, a sophomore business student, are both eager to see what the new addition looks like.

An increase in the number of lockers is something that can be expected next year, as there will be about one hundred new lockers per floor. The gym will have locker rooms with showers.

"There are only a few minor details that need to be done before the annex is complete," said Mr. Johanson, "such as the gym floor and the connection of the two buildings." This construction will be done at the end of the school year.

Ms. Vittor, principal of Queens Voc said, "we're expecting to have the new addition open for orientation; we would like to give students coming to our school a look at their future."

When the new annex opens, students will have gained more than a gym and a cafeteria. There will be 14 new classrooms and a new library. Each classroom will be fully air conditioned and will include windows from one end of the room to the other. There will also be a new plumbing

shop, 2 electrical installation shops, a robotics lab, and a new cosmetology room. "The equipment in the shop rooms still hasn't been installed, said Mr. Johanson.

Students aren't the only ones who will benefit from the new addition, so will teachers and staff members. Teachers and staff will be able to enjoy their lunch in their own cafeteria, as well use the new elevator.



*A look back in time.*

"The new addition to Queens Voc promises to fill the needs of both students and teachers alike," said Ms. Vittor.

## Prom: A Night To Remember

by Germania Collado  
and Anabella Fortuny

Many people dream of that special event at the end of high school. It's a day of which they dress in stunning outfits and celebrate the end of their high school experience and the beginning of a new journey.

That event is known as the Senior Prom. "Prom is an event that I dreamt of since freshman year. To dress up and feel pretty," said Israt Anima.

Members of the class of 2005 and their guests—two hundred and ten in all—partied all night at the senior prom on Friday, June 3, at "Castle in the Sky" in Terrace on the Park at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. According to Mr. Vega this prom was the largest turn out in many years. This was their last celebration with friends and teachers before their long awaited graduation. Miller Riascos said, "It was a great experience because I was with the people I've been close to for the past three years and it was a night I'll never forget." Sandy Rodriguez agrees. "I enjoyed partying with all my friends and the teachers that have helped and taught me throughout the past three years."

The prom began at 8pm and concluded at 1am. "As I entered 'Castle in the Sky' I saw how beautiful the scenery was and the view from the top was amazing," said Jessica Fera.

The buffet opened at 9:15pm and closed at 11pm. The menu consisted of eggplant, rollatini, fried calamari, paella valencia, veal marsala, beef bourguignon, seafood newburg, chicken scarpello, rigatoni filletto di romodoro, and ronne a la vodka. For the dessert the students ate chocolate mousse and cake. "The food was really good, my plate was overloaded with food and my date was embarrassed to see me eat all of the food," said Giovanni Cano.

After diner, students enjoyed dancing to the music of DJ Ignacio Perez and Nester

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**"Good enough" is the enemy of "it can be better"**

# Honor Society

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The principal told the audience how proud she was of Queens Voc's top students.

After the principal spoke, numerous students took turns speaking. Alan Casallas, a sophomore in electrical installation, spoke of his Keys to Success and freshman Brandon Drakeford recited an original poem entitled, "Lyrical." Later, he spoke of his passion in rhyming. "Rhyming is a way I express my feelings and thoughts," said Brandon.

Following Brandon was freshman Angelica Rodriguez, who sang, "We Belong Together," by Mariah Carey. After Angelica's performance, Sandy Rodriguez, a senior in electronics, spoke about "Going against a Stereotype," and how being part of the baseball team and maintaining a good average requires a lot of work. Being on a sports team doesn't get students special treatment, he said.

Ms. Basirico then asked all candidates to stand and repeat the Epebic Oath.

The ceremony resumed with student speeches. Sumon Miah, a senior in computer technology, recite his own poem called "Overachiever's Conviction."

After Sumon, Jessica Rios, a junior, recited a poem, "They Called it Luck." "It was very nerve-wracking, but I felt as though that night helped improve speaking in front of a large crowd," said Jessica. Harpreet Singh, senior valedictorian, recited "Life" by Sharma. Arisleida Rodriguez, a junior, then read a poem "Don't Quit," by E.A. Guest.

For the last performance, Adiyasa Kurniadi, a senior in electronics, and his band, Saving Nothing, played several songs. Some of the audience members got into the music. "I saw many students rocking their heads back forth. That was a positive

sign because that meant they enjoyed our performance," said Adiyasa. "I think I even saw Ms. Vittor doing it for a few minutes also," he added.

Ms. Dattner then asked the honor students to walk onto the stage for the lighting of the candles. As the students went up, they were each given a candle and a pin. The candles were lit one by one, from one inductee to another, symbolically passing "the light of knowledge."

"It feels really good standing up there and lighting the candles. I have been doing that three years in a row and it makes me happy to be recognized for my achievement every year," said junior Yesenia Pena. Angelica Rodriguez concurs. "It was an honor being part of the Presidential Honor Society because it is known nationwide."

Once the candles were lit, Ms. Basirico and the inductees repeated the Honor Society Pledge. As the inductees blew out their candles and walked off stage, Ms. Vittor handed each a certificate signed by President George W. Bush and the Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings.

The inductees for the 2005 Presidential Honor Society are:

## Seniors:

Syeda Ali  
David Bonilla  
Christian Douglas  
Cliffon Edouard  
Rattan Kaur  
Adiyasa Kurniadi  
Eliseo Larancuent  
Sumon Miah  
Lillian Nieves  
Johnathan Pena-Bonilla  
Hui Kwan Poon  
Sandy Rodriguez  
Vivian Sanchez  
Harpreet Singh  
Tahjib Zaman

## Juniors:

Rasel Ahmed  
Andres Castno  
Jacqueline Corona  
Edward Duran  
Britney Dutes  
Melissa Encarnacion  
Stephanie Fernandez  
Bruno Gallego

Andres Gallo  
Jenneth Grullon  
Salman Khan  
Sorang Kim  
Kashif Malik  
Jennifer Moy  
Melvin Pena  
Yesenia Pena  
Jessica Rios  
Arisleida Rodriguez  
Jacqueline Rodriguez  
Katiria Rodriguez  
Denise Rosa  
Patsy Sanchez  
Chansok Seng  
Angel Vasquez

## Sophmores:

Arjenis Abreu  
Yolanis Barros  
Alan Casallas  
Lizbeth Colon  
Jacqueline Concepcion  
Karen Diaz  
Nancy Fernandez  
Angel Fung  
Estefania Garcia  
Tatiana Hidalgo  
Gaochao Huang  
Raiza Izquierdo  
Kacy James  
Dairis Jimenez  
Gabriel Ortiz  
Miguel Portillo  
Alfredo Poveda  
Andrea Romero  
Kelvin Smartt  
Gyan Sukhai  
Volodymyr Sulyk  
Joel Tabares  
Alexander Tenf  
Stephanie Valerio  
Herberto Velazquez

## Freshmen:

Edwin Adames  
Melissa Arias  
Andrew Arvelo  
Bartosz Baszynski  
Melanie Bencosme  
David Bermudez  
Wade Cameron  
Jonathan Carsten  
Steven D'elena  
Juan Dela Cruz  
Moushumi Dhar  
Adrienne Dias  
Yara Diaz  
Brandon Drakeford  
Jonathan Felix  
Catherine Gomez  
Nefeteria Ann Hennix  
Mohammed Hossain  
Dayana Jaramillo  
Kendra Jones  
Amanda Juca  
Oscar Mendez  
Lezbeth Modesto  
Jemel Murphy  
Richard Ortiz  
Ada Perez  
Caleb Phillips  
Steven Pinell  
Katherine Punina  
Angelica Rodriguez  
Patrick Soodeen  
Guillermo Taveras  
Angel Tejada  
Ruthie Vegas  
Oscar Vilchez  
Daisy Vivar



Prom attendees gather for group photo.

## Prom: A Night to Remember

continued from front page

Diaz from Musical Madness Entertainment. "The party was a success, everyone was dancing throughout the entire night and the dance floor was never empty," said Alberto Aspiazu. Their selection of music included a variety of bachata, hip hop, merengue, R&B, reggae, reggaeton, and salsa. "The music was very diverse and interesting. It was a good experience for me to be able to dance to the music of other cultures. The music met the crowd's wants," said Kevin Depass.

At 11:15pm the music was paused and everyone patiently waited for the announcement of duke and duchess, prince and princess, king and queen. Ms. Vittor announced the male royalties: Augusto Santana as duke, Alex Cruz as prince, and Francisco Fiallos as king. Mr.

Vega announced the female royalties: Rosa Garcia as duchess, Ruby Kaur as princess, and Ambar Marrero as Queen. "It was a memorable moment because aside from being duke it was also my birthday," said Augusto Santana. "When they announced my name I was surprised because I didn't feel I had a chance to be chosen. I don't have that kind of luck everyday," said Rosa Garcia.

The prom was enjoyable for many students. Senior officers helped Mr. Vega whom coordinated the event. All the work and time invested in the prom paid off. They enjoyed it more then they expected. Ramona Bencosme and Richard Franklin said, "we had a wonderful night, the prom was better than the after party. We had a lot more fun than we expected."



King and Queen agree that this prom rules!

## The Epebic Oath

The Epebic Oath is recited by all Presidential Honor Society inductees during the installation ceremony.

We will never bring disgrace to our nation, by any act of dishonesty or cowardice, nor ever desert our relatives or friends, we will fight for the ideals of our land, both alone and with many; we will revere and obey our country's laws and do our best to incite a like respect and reverence in those about us who are prone to annul them; we will strive unceasingly to quicken the public's sense of civic duty, and in all these ways we will transmit this city, state, and nation greater, better, and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us.



Stars light the way for good grades.



# DO THE BABY WALK

by Germania Collado

People from throughout the five boroughs including students from Queens Voc gathered at Lincoln Center in Manhattan on Sunday, April 24, and Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in Queens on Saturday, April 30, to participate in the March of Dimes WalkAmerica.

This walk, for premature babies, helps raise money for research, public and professional education, and community programs promoting help for premature babies. A baby born before its 40 week full term is considered premature; one in every eight babies is born premature in the United States. "I chose to volunteer for this walk to help save at least one life," said senior Jessica Fera.

Mr. Vega, the coordinator of student activities, has been coordinating Queens Voc's participation in the walk since he became COSA in 2002. Mr. Vega hosts the walk, he said, because it's a way for the students to express their interest by volunteering their time and effort. The students agree.

"Walking for premature babies was one of the best things I've ever done and I'm glad I could help make a difference," said senior Ambar Marrero.

Participants obtain sponsors such as teachers, friends, and family. Approximately \$1,500 was raised by Queens Voc students, staff, and volunteers. Eighteen students obtained sponsors to help fund for premature babies, Olmery Aguero, Israt Anima, Suhail Ashraf, David Bonilla, Giovanni Cano, Germania Collado, Cindy Fernandez, Stephanie Fernandez, Jessica Fera, Anabella Fortuny, Amber Kaur, Rattan Kaur, Ambar Marrero, Vanessa Reyna, Jessica Rios, Juana Rosario, Amada Velez, and Daryl Villavicencio.

The students enjoyed walking as a group to help raise funds for premature babies. "I had fun raising money for the babies, and my sponsors motivated me to continue getting sponsors to walk. Walking with such a large group of people who volunteered at Lincoln Center motivated me to complete the entire walk and it seemed as if everyone alongside me were inspired to walk the whole 10k," said Juana Rosario. Giovanni Cano agreed. "I enjoyed walking in Flushing Meadows with a large group of people who care for premature babies because they motivated me to finish the walk."



Students march for babies.

## SLAMMIN' POETRY

by Harpreet Singh

Ms. Addoo and Ms. Himmel coordinated a Poetry Slam on Wednesday, May 4. Their classes and other students participated in the poetry contest. Mr. Cadico from Def Jam was the special host.

The Poetry Slam, held during 5th period in room 204B (the old library), celebrated poetry month.

Ten students participated in the poetry contest. Junior Alex Compere won first place with his poem called *D.Rugs*. "I felt happy winning first place but I didn't I deserved to win, there were a lot of talented students

who had great poems. I am very grateful because this poem really means a lot to me." *D.Rugs* is about a girl who left home and gets hooked on drugs. The poem describes how drugs took control of her and eventually took her life. The poem was written for young people who leave home and get caught up in problems such as drugs. Ms. Addoo was "really happy having the first Poetry Slam in Queens Vocational." She added that "This was the first time we ever had Poetry Slam in Queens Vocational. The Poetry Slam was very successful. I'd like to make the Poetry Slam an annual event."

# SO News



Representing Queens Voc in Philly.

by Francisco Fiallos

Along with the help of the leadership class, senior officers, and Mr. Vega, the SO officers planned many events throughout the year.

The Honor roll trip took place on May 24 at Lazer Park on Broadway and lunch was at TGI Friday's.

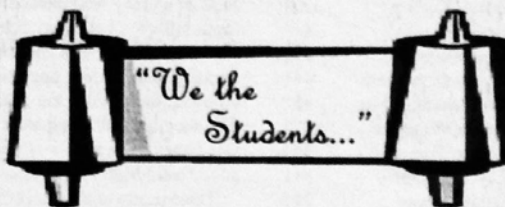
Mr. Vega and the SO organized a trip to Philadelphia. The Franklin Institute Science Museum and The National Constitution Center were the places visited there. The students left at 7am and took a charter bus to Philadelphia.

"It was a lot of fun, the museum was fun and my friends and I took pictures, we went inside a fake heart to learn about

its parts," said Jessica Martinez. "The sports challenge and the train factory were also fun activities," she added.

Spirit Week was held from May 9 through May 13. Monday was Cartoon Character Day, Tuesday was Shop Day, Wednesday was Twin Day, Thursday was Hat Day, and Jersey Day was on Friday.

"Spirit Week is always good because we get to wear our hats and they can't be taken away. We can also come to school dressed silly," Patricia Koslab said. Richard Nguyen enjoyed Cartoon Character day. "It was really fun, I saw people wearing t-shirts of their favorite shows like Dragonball Z, and I was surprised no one came as Pikachu."



by Lillian Nieves

Mr. Davidson's Honors US History and Government class participated in the annual *We the People...The Citizen and the Constitution* contest.

The class did not go to the citywide competition. "It was the students' choice not to go citywide, they preferred the school," said Mr. Davidson.

The students responded to a simulated congressional hearing. The class was divided into six groups and each group chose a topic that consisted of three questions. Mr. Davidson gave them the option to present the answers in essay form to him or to present them to the judges at the citywide level. The class chose to write the essays.

"The contest was a very educational and good activity to help students learn more about the US Constitution," said Alan Casallas, who won first place in the contest.

To prepare for the contest, the students were taught 40 lessons covering the major parts of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. After the lessons, they took a national test to see who had mastered the material.

There were four winners in the contest, which was held on November 19, 2004, in Mr. Davidson's class. First place went to Alan with a score of 92. Second place was Salman Khan with an 82. Third place was a tie between Jacqueline Corona and Jeremy Lorenzi with a score of 70. The winners were presented with certificates signed by Queens Congressman Joseph Crowley.

Mr. Davidson's Honors class participates in the contest every year because the students learn a lot from this experience. "I have a good sense of understanding the Constitution and the morals behind it," said Jeremy Lorenzi, one of the contest winners. Mr. Davidson agrees.

"It sharpens their skills and they gain a greater understanding of how our government works," he said.

The contest has been held since 1987, which was the 200th anniversary of the Constitution. "There was a bicentennial commission to honor the Constitution and one activity was a national contest to last from 1987-1991 (the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights). The contest was so successful that Congress decided to continue funding it," said Mr. Davidson.

## Snow Place Like School

by Tahjib Zaman

Coming to school everyday even in snow, rain, and cold seasons may be hard, but a group of Queens Voc students has proven that coming to school every single day can be done.

According to the attendance records, 29 students attended school everyday from September 9, 2004 through June 2005. With the help of Mr. Daniel, Queens Voc's attendance coordinator, *Vocational Voice* presents the students who have made a tremendous effort to come to school daily.

Here is the list of students who have perfect attendance since the first day of school:

Student	Off c.
Adames, Edwin	104
Amato, Michael	306
Baszynski, Bartosz	111
Butera, Christopher	311
Gallego, Bruno	311
Garcia, Rosa	371
Hobson Kareem	103
Huazhco, William	311
Livecchi, Joseph	411
Malik, Kashif	312
McCooy, Matthew	301
Mejia, Jovany	311
Mendez, Fernando	201
Munoz, Ivan	302
Riascos, Miller	361
Rios, Arielle	221
Rosario, Stephanie	223
Samedi, Reid	261
Seng, Chansok	311
Singh Harpreet	411
Tejada, Angel	111
Truong, Jeffrey	212
Vasquez, Angel	301
Zaman, Tahjib	421



# Honor Roll Trip

by Oscar Gutierrez

Queens Voc students who received an 85 or above on their January 2005 report card were rewarded with an Honor Roll trip on Tuesday, May 24.

This year's trip included a visit to Lazer Park, for a morning of laser tag followed by lunch at TGI Friday's. The trip was organized by Mr. Vega, coordinator of student activities. "The trip was very nice," Mr. Vega said. "I felt the students enjoyed it, and it was the first time we went laser tagging."

The Honor Roll trip motivates students to do better in their classes. "Every year I want to work on my grades and the Honor Roll trip is an incentive for me to do it," said Clifton Edouard, a senior. Giovanni Cano concurred. "It was fun and interesting, everyone behaved well, the food was good, especially the ice cream," he said.

Eighty-four students went to the trip. "I was very excited, it was my first time going on the honor roll trip and the laser tagging was really fun," said Brandon Drakeford, a freshman.

Previous trips have been a boat cruise around Manhattan. "We were planning the trip, and laser tag came into our minds, and we thought it would be really cool, fun, and different for the students," said Suhail Ashraf, a SO member.

Many of the students appreciated the reward. "This trip makes me appreciate all the time and effort that I put into schoolwork," said William Huazhco, a junior. The Honor Roll is comprised of students who earned an 85 average during an entire term. Congratulations to the following students who are on the fall term Honor Roll list:

Adames, Edwin	104
Aguilar, Crista	223
Ahmed, Bristy	223
Ahmed, Rasel	301
Anima, Israt	421
Arias, Melissa	101
Artiles, Tania	322
Arvelo, Andrew	102
Aspiazu, Alberto	401
Barros, Yolanis	221
Baszynski, Bartosz	111
Bator, Andrew	312
Bencosme, Melanie	101
Bermudez, David	102
Bernal, Erika	211
Bharath, Rajendra	311
Cameron, Wade	102
Carsten, Jonathan	101
Casallas, Alan	201
Céspedes, Michelle	321
Chang, Chia Hsien	221
Chen, Min Xin	261
Colon, Lizbeth	222
Colon, Valentina	321
Concepcion, Jacqueline	221
Concepcion, Jessica	371
Corona, Jacqueline	312
D'Elena, Steven	112
Dawkins, Sheriece	322
Dela Cruz, Juan	105
Dhar, Moushumi	112
Diaz, Adrienne	102
Diaz, Anadia	221
Diaz, Gail	104
Diaz, Karen	222
Diaz, Yara	112
Drakeford, Brandon	102
Edouard, Clifton	411
Elidrissi, Naoual	321
Encarnacion, Melissa	322
Fernandez, Nandy	222
Fernandez, Stephanie	322
Fortuny, Anabella	421
Fung, Angel	211
Garcia, Estefania	221
Gomez, Catherine	103
Gonzalez, Diomedes	201
Grullon, Jenneth	322
Hennix, Nefertaria Ann	112
Hidalgo, Tatiana	222
Holmes, Anisha	321
Hossain, Mohammed	104
Huang, Gaochao	211
Huazhco, William	311
Inniss, Russell	401
Irala, Luisa	221
Izquierdo, Raiza	211
James, Kacy	211
Jaramillo, Dayana	104
Jenkins, Tasia	321
Jimenez, Dairis	222
Jones, Kendra	104
Juca, Amanda	111
Kim, Sorang	312
Kurniadi, Adiyasa	411
Larancuent, Eliseo	421
Lopez, Angelica	372
Lopez, Jose	203
Lorenzi, Jeremy	311
Lulaj, Renato	211
Mason, Bismark	421
Medina, Daniel	222
Mendez, Oscar	103
Miah, Sumon	411
Modesto, Lizbeth	101
Montes, Alyssa	322
Moy, Jennifer	322
Nieves, Lillian	421
Ortiz, Gabriel	202
Ortiz, Richard	102
Pena, Melvin	311
Pena, Yesenia	322
Perez, Ada	104
Perez, Albi	302
Phillips, Caleb	101
Pinell, Steve	104
Poveda, Alfredo	212
Powell, Pleasant	322
Punina, Katherine	112
Ramirez, David	312
Rios, Arielle	221
Rodriguez, Angelica	112
Rodriguez, Arisleida	322
Rodriguez, Diana	322
Rodriguez, Jacqueline	321
Rodriguez, Katiria	312
Romero, Andrea	212
Rosa, Denise	322
Samedi, Reid	261
Sanchez, Jonathan	411

Sanchez, Patsy	312
Sanchez, Vivian	421
Sarria, Aura	382
Seng, Chansok	311
Singh, Hapreet	411
Smartt, Kelvin	211
Smith, Shameka	371
Sorrentino, Darryl	351
Sukhai, Gyan	212
Sulyk, Volodymyr	203
Tabares, Joel	211
Tejada, Angel	111
Tenf, Alexander	211
Valerio, Stephanie	211
Vargas, Geraldine	322
Vasquez, Angel	301
Vegas, Ruthie	112
Velazquez, Heriberto	201
Velez, Amada	381
Vilchez, Oscar	103
Vivar, Daisy	104
Zaman, Tahjib	421

## Senior Luncheon

by Syeda Ali

Queens Voc rolled out the red carpet on Friday, April 1, for the senior luncheon, which took place at Bruno's on the Boulevard in Astoria.

For the second year in a row, the theme of the luncheon was Celebrity Look Alike. Many students dressed as celebrities and participated in the Look Alike Contest.

The luncheon, which ran from 12 noon to 4pm cost seniors only \$10 if they had paid their dues, and \$20 if they hadn't.

Students were served lunch as soon as they were settled at their tables. Lasagna, fried chicken, broccoli with chicken, steamed vegetables, beef and broccoli, baked ziti, and spare ribs were served along with a salad bar. "The food was very good," said Miller Riascos.

The winners of the Celebrity Look Alike Contest were determined by the teachers who served as judges. In first place was Joseph Livecchi, who dressed up as the Undertaker, Stephen Papadimitriou took second place as the Incredible. Michelle Pena as Jennifer Lopez along with security Ronny Vega and Jairo Fernandez took third place. The winners were given gift certificates.

Following the Look Alike Contest were two dance contests. There was a Salsa contest, in which Yury Olivares and Jason Brunder won first place. Yury Olivares and Ronny Vega won first place in the Merengue contest. The winners were given trophies.

Alejandro Arango had fun at the luncheon he said "I had a good time, I danced, I laughed it was all good."

The luncheon was a success according to senior class president Shameika Linen. She said "it was fun, and very creative."

## Principal for a day

by Addison Davis

Pierre Percy is the Financial Manager for the Turner Construction Company. He also was the Principal for a Day at Queens Voc.

It so happens that the Turner Construction Company is building our new annex. When Mr. Percy first learned he was selected as Principal for a Day he said he was "happy about being selected."

During his visit, Mr. Percy was ecstatic about the students in our school. "I've gone to middle schools in the Bronx; this was a piece of cake." Mr. Percy really enjoys vocational schools and thinks they are great places for a high school students to find a career might be interested in, rather than waiting until college to find out.

During the day, Mr. Percy visited all the shop classes and said that he observed a lot of positive education and student-teacher interaction. "I like everything about the shop classes, especially plumbing because when I was younger I really enjoyed hands-on work and experiments." Mr. Percy's tour guide for the day was Ms. Vittor, who said she really enjoyed working with Mr. Percy. "It was a great experience. I enjoyed that he got a chance to see what the school is like from the inside, it gave him a chance to see how the teachers and students operate, also to see how we operate with the supplies we use in the school." Mr. Percy enjoyed his visit so much he came back for Career Day on May 6.

As the Financial Manager for Turner Construction, Mr. Percy was one of the first people in the company to be notified about the new addition to Queens Voc. "I was happy to hear that we would be able to build a new section of school that has been needed for quite some time now. This is a crucial project" said Mr. Percy, who has worked on the Seahawks stadium in Seattle, the Knicks training facility, and the proposed Nets stadium in Brooklyn.

Mr. Percy began his career in smaller companies. He said this was an important lesson: "You start off at the bottom and work your way up to the top, so never give up."

Students or staff or staff who would like to know more about the Turner Construction Company can visit the web site [www.turnerconstruction.com](http://www.turnerconstruction.com) or visit the company's main headquarters in Manhattan, at 375 Hudson Street across the street from Hot 97 Radio.



## Midsummer Night's Dream

by Michael Saldarriaga and Daryl Villavicencio

Ms. Addoo and her 6th period English class had a special presentation on Tuesday, May 24. The class presented *Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare. The presentation took place in room 318 and consisted of 3 scenes.

The students worked on this presentation with directors Matt Cowart and Jerzy Gwiazdowski from Lincoln Center who were invited by Ms. Addoo. "We have been working for about 3 weeks with these kids and I am very proud of the way they performed today," said Matt Cowart. The students who presented were Catalino Rodriguez, Abner Garcia, Maria Taveras, Shaun Hernandez, Eliza Maldonado, and Patricia Sena which portrayed characters from the play such as Puck, Lysander, Hermia, Demetrius, Helena, Theseus, and Hippolyta. They used masks to identify their character. "I thought the masks were funny," said Jacqueline Rodriguez, a student in the class.

The purpose of the presentation was for the students to get a better understanding of Shakespeare and his writing. The students rewrote the play in their own words. Ms. Burg, Assistant Principal for Instructional Support Services, attended the presentation. "I think it's a terrific idea having these kids do Shakespeare, it allows them to get experience Shakespeare and understand it. It was very creative how they turned *Midsummer Night's Dream* into their own words," she said "I think it was terrific for the Lincoln Center directors to come in and work with New York City high school students," Ms. Burg added.

The students in the class liked the show. Ms. Addoo was a also please with her students work. "I really enjoyed the play because the presenters were really entertaining," said Leonel Garcia, a student in Ms. Addoo's class. Maria, one of the presenters in the play, learned a lot from Shakespeare. "I learned to understand Shakespeare better because of this play," she said.

"They surprised me; they did very well," said Ms. Addoo. "The kids were very cooperative, I had a lot of fun with them," she added.





Ms. Himmel congratulates festival participants.

## Black History Festival Makes History

by Daryl Villavicencio

Queens Voc. Held its first annual Black History Festival on Wednesday, February 16, from 4:30pm to 6:30pm in the auditorium. English teacher, Ms. Himmel, our Drama Club Advisor, coordinated the festival. Ms. Roberson, Mr. Cadet, and Mr. Vega were the teachers who assisted. Bradley Murphy and Luis Valencia were part of the stage crew.

The purpose of the Black History Festival was "to celebrate the cultural achievements of African Americans and all Americans who were part of the struggle, because it's not just Black History, it's American History," said Ms. Himmel. This year's theme was the Niagara Movement, in honor of the first African American meeting held to end racial discrimination, which took place at Niagara Falls, in 1905.

The Black History Festival which was introduced by Mistress of Ceremony, Shameika Linen, consisted of two acts. In the first act, the cast included Alex Compere, Kawandy Dixon, Felicia Franco, Yolanda Griffith, Shannon Hamilton. The students portrayed famous African-Americans such as John Henry, Madam C.J. Walker, Josephine Baker, Rosa Parks, and Henry (Hank) Aaron. Raymond Chiu recited a thoughtful poem about brotherhood. Jim Zwerg, a white civil rights activist, was played by Darryl Sorrentino. "It was an honor to be part of this multicultural event," he said.

"I liked the way Felicia dressed up as Rosa Parks because she really looked like her," said Anniesha Ramsabai. Students who attended the festival said it was productive because it showed students "a part of black history, that we aren't always taught," said William Huazhco, a junior who attended the festival.

The second act was more like a talent show. Students sang and

danced. Yolanda Griffith sang "Proud Mary" by Tina Turner. "Samira Lesure sang really well, she was able to hit the high notes, I was impressed," said Jaqueline Rodriguez. Other students who performed were Naoul Eldirissi, Jennifer Cabezas, Jazmine Carr, Jade Duncan, Danielle Deryp, Raven Symone Harris, Raven Jamison, Tanasia Williams, Katherine Punina, Angelica Rodriguez, Dalissa Caussade, Shakima Davis, Yolanda Griffith, Shameika Lined, Sannon Hamilton, Sherell Murray, Brett Mosley, Michael Perry, and Jarvis Alexis.

"I was truly impressed with the performances and the hard work that went into the festival," said Ms. Vittor. "We are establishing a new tradition."

"It was a wonderful experience to see the students working so hard to pull a good show together," said Ms. Roberson.

"It was great! I was very happy with the performance. I would have liked it better if there was a bigger audience. That was that was the only thing that disappointed me," said Mr. Cadet. "I hope this is a beginning of an annual event," he added.

Many people were thrilled with the outcome of the show. "It was a tremendous success everyone worked together to make this one of the best celebrations of Black History so far," said Ms. Himmel.



Samira sings solo.

# CTE Awards

by Matthew Bermudez

Every year, the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) Career & Technical Education (CTE) Committee celebrates Career & Technical Week, in which one shop teacher from each NYC CTE school is awarded for outstanding performance as a teacher. Queens Voc is a CTE school, and CTE schools teach a vocation, such as automotive, or a trade, such as plumbing. Brilliantly named "The Frankies," after Frank Carucci, the UFT CTE Vice President, the awards were presented on February 16, to teachers from 23 CTE schools, including Art & Design, Aviation, Edison, Fashion, LIC, Queens Voc, and Transit Tech. Mr. Maloney, the 12th grade El teacher, was this year's recipient from Queens Voc.

Mr. Maloney was a student at Queens Voc and graduated with an Endorsed Diploma in Electrical Installation. He became an SVA (student vocational assistant) and is currently teaching industrial motor control to the 12th grade

electrical installation students. The hard work that he puts into teaching his students has led some of them to win awards in the industrial motor control area. One of his students, Matthew Bermudez, was taught everything he knows about motor control by Mr. Maloney, and succeeded in winning first place in the New York Statewide competition, VICA. Matthew thanks Mr. Maloney for his efforts in teaching the class, and in helping to further sharpen his skills and knowledge for the competition.

Mr. Maloney is chairperson of elections for the Queens Voc UFT Chapter, and was a dean in Queens Voc for many years. He is the coach of the Boys Varsity Basketball team, and the Boys Varsity Handball team, both of which made the playoffs this year. He has a great reputation among other schools as both a dean and a coach, and is a great role model for the athletes on his team. "He has taught me a lot more than just basketball, and he's a great role model," says Hapreet Singh.

At the UFT headquarters in Manhattan, teachers, students,

and UFT officials gathered together to honor the award recipients. The people who attended from Queens Voc were student Matthew Bermudez, who presented Mr. Maloney with his award, and teachers Mr. Boyle, Mr. Garrison, and Mr. Schimenz.

Mr. Schimenz was "thrilled to be there. It's important to honor teachers who are outstanding, and it couldn't have gone to a better person." Mr. Maloney feels honored to be chosen for such an award, and said, "I'm just doing my job, and I'm glad that I can make an impact the kids futures."

Matthew is grateful to Mr. Boyle for being selected to present the award to Mr. Maloney. "It isn't often that you get to really thank your coach, teacher, mentor, and friend. He deserves so much more thanks and appreciation than what he gets because of what he has done in the past 4 years of my high school career, and I think that this award is a prize well earned." Matthew also enjoyed the night with the teachers. He said "It's not often you get a chance to see the 'hangout side' of your teachers. And sometimes it's hard to picture teachers having fun until you're there with them."

## FBLA: Sweet Success

by Russell Inniss

Future Business Leaders of America is a nonprofit education association of students preparing for careers in business and business-related fields. Members of the FBLA chapter at Queens Voc have worked to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs.

The FBLA advisor, Ms. Sweet-McNeil, has been working this year with the members of the FBLA chapter, raising money for charitable events such as March of Dimes and the Lymphoma Society. FBLA members have also been raising money to attend trips and conferences that will prepare them for a career in business. "Principal Vittor and Mr. Vega have been very helpful, providing transportation and the support we need," said Ms. Sweet-McNeil.

In February, Ms. Sweet-McNeil and her students attended the Spring Leadership Contest and brought back seven trophies for our school in various business areas. Members of Queens Voc's FBLA chapter also represented the school at the state level in April's Spring Leadership

Conference at Kutcher's Country Club in Monticello, NY. Jacqueline Concepcion won first place in Business Procedures, Dairis Jimenez won first place in Introduction to Business Communication, Jennifer May won first place in Accounting I and first place in Word Processing, Hui Kwan (Haze) Poon won first place in Accounting II and first place in Business, and Andrea Romero won second place in Business Math.

The students in attendance for April's Spring Leadership Conference were, Haze Poon, President, Jacqueline Concepcion, Secretary, Alyssa Montes, Treasurer, Jennifer May, Historian, and Andrea Romero. "To prepare for the conference I packed three days

before and used copies from last year's competition as a study guide. All of my preparation paid off because all the questions were easy," said Andrea Romero. According to Ms. Sweet-McNeil, "the students who participated were richly rewarded with a learning experience of representing their school as leaders. They also learned professionalism through keeping appointments, reviewing business meetings, preparing presentations on their own, networking, voting as a membership and much more."

On May 26, the Queens Voc FBLA chapter members attended their final trip of the year. They went to the Brooklyn Academy of Music for a meeting and lunch. This month, the FBLA chapter will have a banquet dinner to recruit more students for Queens Voc's FBLA chapter.



FBLA students raise money for host activities.



Fernando thinks about trading one uniform for another.

## Career Day a Huge Success Principal's Idea Still Runs Strong

by Elvis Collado and  
Adiyasa Kurniadi

The fourth annual Career Day took place on Friday, May 6. Forty-two guest speakers from different fields reached hundreds of students as they spoke to dozens of classes about career choices.

Career Day is an annual event, begun by Ms. Vittor, Queens Voc principal, who says that Career Day is a very important day for students. "Career Day is one of Queens Vocational and Technical High School's most successful yearly event. Partners, industries, representatives, post-secondary institutions, faculty, and students share real world experiences; this adds relevance to everything we do."

Each Career Day, guest speakers visit the school and talk about their professional experiences. This year, guest speakers spoke to over one hundred and twenty classes as the entire school spent the day focusing on career choices and opportunities.

Guest speakers this year were: Xavier Artis (Recycling Inspiration), John Atchinson (Cosmetology), George Blutner and John Sanchez (School Construction Authority), Tony Borna (Con Ed), Stanley Bridgeman (NYC Department of Youth and Community Development), Barbara Brown (US Customs Service), Chris Brown (National Fund for Teaching Entire), Edwin Cadiz (Catherine Nolan's Office),

Gino DeGirolamo (Plumbers Local Union #1), Bill Driscoll (Interboro Institute), Richard France (New York City Police Cadet Corps), Eric Greenberg (Green Mountain Graphics), Everett Harrington (York College-CUNY), Veronica Hamilton (Cosmetology), Bonnie Harper (NYC Transit Lawyer), Kevin Harris (FAA/DOT), William House (Air Force speaker), Robert Kueper (Queensboro Community College), Chelsea Lavington (Queens College-CUNY), Diana Lewis (Wise Plans), Luis Lopez (United States Marine Corps), Rachel Martinez (US Coast Guard), H.D. Mickens (United States Army), Vincent Papandrea (Vaughn College of Aeronautics), Myra Payne (New York City Human Resources Administration).

Also addressing the students were: Pierre Percy (Turner Construction), Mark Peress (DeVry Institute of Learning), Rodolfo Perez (Federal Aviation Administration), Valerie Ricchiuti (Queens College-CUNY), Steve Roberts (Washington Mutual), Angela Roland (Queensboro Community College), Walter Shekman (Air force speaker), David Spiwak (Long Island University), Diane Springer (Construction 2000), Kim Svoboda (USA Today), Harry Tolbert (Quantum Associates), David Whyne (Sunnyside Community Services), Virgilio Wilkes (New York National Guard), Clint Wilson (Vidal Sassoon), Kahmul Yisrael

(School Safety Level III), and Sheldon Zuker (Five Towns College).

Gino DeGirolamo, an instructor in the plumbing union, spoke to the junior plumbing class and the sophomore plumbing class. He spoke about the different opportunities, benefits, and job security the union has to offer. Mr. DeGirolamo believes that Career Day allows students to learn about many career opportunities. "It opens up many careers that are available in the real world," he said. Christian Arias, a sophomore in plumbing, appreciated Mr. DeGirolamo's presentation on the Plumbing Union. "I liked the video he presented about being an apprentice. It inspired me in becoming a plumber."



Cosmo students get tips.

"Career Day was very informative; it helped me learn about what cosmetology outside of school would be like," said Ambar Marrero, a senior in cosmetology. Clint Wilson, a representative for Vidal Sassoon, visited the senior Cosmo class and showed them a few tips about cutting and styling hair. He taught the senior class about the possible problems that might go on in a salon and gave them helpful information in career choices if class about the possible problems that might go on in a salon and gave them helpful information in career choices if they picked a career in cosmetology. This was Mr. Wilson's second time participating in Career Day, which he believes is important to students. "Career Day is helpful to students because it's beneficial to them, which allows them to learn a thing or two about their career choices. In cosmetology, the people learn about hairdressing and I also helped the senior class with directions on what to further their career. I told them about my personal experiences so they can get an idea on how a real working salon is like."

Eric Greenberg, a representative from Green Mountain Graphics, spoke to the Junior E-Commerce business class and spoke to them about his career selling promotional

products. Mr. Greenberg gave the business students tips on how to succeed in the real world and how to overcome the many obstacles that might arise while on a job interview. "I feel Mr. Greenberg prepared us with a real life perspective in the business world," said Jacqueline Rodriguez, a junior. Mr. Greenberg was glad to help the students. "I think Career Day

exposes the students to real life perspectives," he said.

Mr. Garrison, assistant principal of trade and technology, thinks that Career Day was most successful because the guests showed that students have many options. "Career Day informs students about the many options that are available when choosing a career," said Mr. Garrison.



Career Day provided great lessons for students.

## Electronics Certifications Improve Job Opportunities

by Jonathan Sanchez

Queens Voc is one of the few schools to offer Copper and Fiber Optics Certification programs. Mr. Ali, the instructor of both Copper-Based Systems and Fiber Optics Certifications, instructed 29 students for copper-based systems and 18 for fiber optics.

The company through which Mr. Ali certifies the students is called C-Tech Associates, Inc.

Students from computer technology, electrical installation, and electronics were trained by Mr. Ali. These students met in room 307 from periods 1-3 for five weeks to get their Copper-Based Systems Certification and for eight weeks to get their Fiber Optics Certification. "It is a good opportunity to graduate from high school with two certifications that are highly recognized. It also gives us a head start in our career," said Sait Paljevic, an electronics student who was in both programs.

Copper-Based Systems Certification was introduced last year, and of the 26 students enrolled in the program, 18 electrical installation and electronics students were certified.

Although many students successfully completed the Copper-Based Systems Certification this year, only the most responsible students moved on to the Fiber Optics Certification.

"I took the most responsible students from copper because of the safety aspects involved in fiber optics," said Mr. Ali. He also took seven Copper-Based Systems certified students from last year, and placed them in the fiber optics program.

The students in the Copper-based Systems Certification program were: Wildes Arce, Alberto Aspiazu, Raymond Chiu, Armando Contreras, Christian Douglas, Clifton Edouard, James Fernandez, Derrick Guichardo, Gary Hernandez, Hubert Jagodzinski, Quincy Johnson, Adiyasa Kurniadi, Ryan Lai, Azad Miah, Piotr Mlynarczyk, Raynier Nunez, Jose Ortiz, Sait Paljevic, Vivek Panneer, Sandy Rodriguez, Euri Rojas, Christian Rustand, Allen Salazar, Michael Saldarriaga, Jonathan Sanchez, Harpreet Singh, Christopher Tarasenko, Anselmo Vaquero, and Daryl Villavicencio.

Alberto Aspiazu, Ramona Bencosme, Mathew Bermudez, Giovanni Cano, Raymond Chiu, Marvin Cordero, Clifton Edouard, Oscar Gutierrez, Russell Inniss, Michal Lukasik, Sait Paljevic, Vivek Panneer, Sandy Rodriguez, Michael Saldarriaga, Jonathan Sanchez, Harpreet Singh, Anselmo Vaquero, and Daryl Villavicencio also participated in the Fiber Optics Certification program.

At graduation, Mr. Ali will present certificates to the seniors who earned their certifications.



## Short-Term Training for Long-Term Careers



Law enforcement is a good option for HS graduates.





Seniors ready for action!

## Dude, Where'd the Seniors go?

by Francisco Fiallos

As soon as the school year began, rumors about the senior trip surfaced. "The trip is going to be pointless, it's the same every year," or "None of my friends are going to go so why should I go," or "The place is so boring, why should I go to some place called dude ranch." But when the seniors who attended the trip returned, those seniors who didn't attend regretted their decision not to go.

Forty seniors went to Kerhonkson, NY, to the Pinegrove Dude Ranch, from January 28-30. Mr. Vega, Mr. Garofano, and Ms. Muresan and her sister Corina went as chaperones.

The cost of the trip was \$229 per student. Students could reduce the price of their trip by selling boxes of chocolate, which they received from Mr. Vega. The cost covered meals, equipment, and activities such as paintball, laser tag, rock climbing, tennis, pool, snow tubing, skiing, and the night club. Students enjoyed a free snack bar with soft drinks whenever they wanted, until the 1am curfew.

A lot of the students preferred and enjoyed paintball. "It was a good time because we got army jump suits and wore helmets and got to shoot students from the other school that was there," said Stephen Papadimitriou. Paintball consisted of three contests such as capture the flag, capture the base, and mixed teams.

There was some trouble with the equipment, however. "As much as fun as paintball was, the pellets kept getting stuck much of the time," said Ting Lin.

Another activity the students enjoyed was the night club. "It was a great because we got to meet a lot of really cool people, dance and made new friends, and I believe that's what the club was all about, have fun with your friends and the new friends you make," said Juan Moscoso.

As it came time to come home, many became closer and enjoyed each other's company during the trip. Richard Nguyen said, "I went to the trip to hang out with my friends and also have a memorable time with the seniors."

**"It was great because we got to meet a lot of cool people, dance and made new friends..." said Juan Moscoso**

"The kids were great, they behaved and respected all the rules, and they didn't get crazy. I enjoyed going on the trip and I had a lot of fun," said Mr. Garofano.



Singing their hearts out.

# NEW SAT

by David Bonilla

The new SAT Reasoning Test was administered to students for the first time on March 12. There is now a writing segment in the test and the highest possible score increased from 1600 to 2400. Other changes to the exam were the elimination of analogies and quantitative comparisons, and the addition of shorter reading passages and third year college preparatory math.

The writing part of the exam not only includes an essay, but also contains a 35-minute multiple choice segment. For the essay, students are required to take a position on a given issue, then use examples and reasoning to support their position. The 35-minute multiple choice segment requires students to find and correct sentence errors from a small passage, and improve sentences and paragraphs. The math and reading segments of the exam were reduced from 75-minutes to 70-minutes each.

Although the math and reading segments of the exam were reduced, the test is now

longer because of the addition of the essay. The total test time is now 3 hours and 45-minutes, which includes and unscored 25-minute variable section to help the test makers develop future questions. According to the College Board, the SAT was changed in order to better express what students are currently learning in high schools.

Students have mixed feelings about the new SAT. Leonardo Rivas, a senior in C-Tech who took both the old and new versions of the exam said, "The new test is much longer and harder than the previous test. It requires much more from the student." Syeda Ali, a junior in C-Tech agrees. "The new exam is harder to guess on, and you will do badly if you are not a strong writer."

"If kids want to do well on this test, they should learn how to write a good essay and really practice vocabulary. There is a lot of vocabulary in the test and the essay is the hardest part," said Jessica Feria, a senior in Cosmetology who has taken the old and new versions of the SAT. Students who desire help

for the SAT exam can go onlineto College Board.com. The website has practice exams and links to SAT prep courses. Kaplan is very expensive but is not the only course available. Most neighborhoods have small, local establishments for SAT, SAT II, and Regents prep, such as Saya, located at 54-05 Seaburn Street, Elmhurst, Queens. To apply, just visit the establishment and register inside.

This is not the first time that the SAT has changed. Since its introduction in 1926, the SAT reasoning exam has been changed numerous times, the most recent being in 1994. Changes to the test that year were the removal of antonym questions and the addition of longer reading passages, and open-ended math questions. Calculators were also allowed for the first time.

The next test date for the SAT Reasoning Test is in June 2005. To register for the exam, students can ask for an application from their guidance counselor in September, or register online by logging onto College Board.com. The online application is easier and quicker than the handwritten application and is preferred by College Board.

## News Before You Go

by Jessica Rios

This year, the senior officers held several events and activities in order to make this their best year yet. The senior officers included President Shameika Linen, Vice President Jessenia Vasquez, Treasurer Tahjib Zaman, and Secretary Francisco Fiallos.

According to Tahjib, senior participation in these events has been great.

Senior officers, with the approval of Ms. Vittor, arranged graduation plans. The graduation ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 25, at LaGuardia Community College Theater. The ceremony will start at 10am.

The prom, always an important event for seniors, was well attended almost two hundred tickets were sold. The prom took place on June 3, from 8pm to 1am at Terrace on the Park in Queens. According to Shameika, the price for each ticket was \$75 and the theme was "Castle in the Sky."

Another event was the Ring Ceremony, held on Wednesday, May 4 at 10am, in room 204B. Twenty-eight students bought rings. Family members were invited and refreshments were served.

The senior officers successfully organized the

traditional senior luncheon, which was held on Friday, April 1, from 12pm to 4pm at Bruno's on the Boulevard. The luncheon theme was Celebrity Look-A-Like and the seniors could participate in the contest by dressing up as celebrities. Gift cards were given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Merengue and salsa contests were also held. According to Mr. Vega, 135 students attended.

The Senior Trip took place from January 28 to 30. Forty-three students went to Pinegrove Dude Ranch in Kerhonkson, NY. During the trip, students participated in snow tubing, ice skating, skiing, air hockey, laser tag, pool, and tennis. Seniors also enjoyed a night of karaoke and the ever-popular club. They also enjoyed a complementary snack bar which was open the whole day.

The only senior activity that wasn't held was the senior food festival. Shameika and the other senior officers hoped to organize the food festival, but lack of space was an obstacle.

**Congratulations to the senior class of 2005**

## Kudos

Congratulations to the following Queens Voc seniors who have been recognized for their achievements:

Yolanda Griffith (Off. Cl. 421) has won the UFT Albert Shanker College Scholarship Award in the amount \$5,000. Yolanda plans to attend Long Island University - Brooklyn Campus.

David Bonilla (Off. Cl. 411) received a Queens American Legion Press Association Award for Journalism.

Tahjib Zaman (Off. Cl. 421) was awarded the Queens County District Attorney's Certificate of Merit for Citizenship and Scholastic Endeavors in recognition of outstanding achievement.

The following Queens Voc juniors have been recognized for their accomplishments:

Sorang Kim (Off. Cl. 312) was given the American Chemical Society's Outstanding High School Chemistry Student Award.

Yesenia Pena (Off. Cl. 322) received the Top Junior Queens College Presidential Excellence Award on Monday, June 6.

# Tour of the New Building

by Amber Kaur & Matthew Bermudez



*Taking a glance at the new hallway.*

Since the new building is still a construction site, few students and teachers have been able to see inside. Some shop classes have seen the building when the workers were installing the electrical and plumbing, but no one has seen it since. Until now.

Escorted by Mr. Dean Johanson, the School Construction Authority project manager, and accompanied by Queens Voc Principal Ms. Vittor and Mr. David Donaldson, Queens Voc's custodial engineer, journalists for the Vocational Voice were permitted to tour the new building.

Outside the 38th Street side of the annex, there is a garden. It has trees with pink and white flowers which have not yet bloomed, and perennial plants.

This new addition is 100% wheelchair accessible. The front entrance doesn't have stairs leading into the building, rather, it has an entrance ramp. Once you enter the building you will see display cases on both sides of the entrance for displaying trophies and plaques. The school safety desk is straight ahead as are two big red fire alarm system control boxes.

The fire alarm system is integrated with the old building. With state of the art technology, it is interlocked with the air conditioning system, and will close the dampers to limit the spread of smoke in case of a fire. When a fire station is pulled, the air conditioning units shut down, the dampers close, the elevator goes down to the first floor, a fire requirement, but no central station is alerted. This is because New York City public high schools in general have a large amount of false alarms, and alerting the central station every time a false alarm occurs is like crying wolf. In case of a real fire, the heat from the flames will melt the fusible links in the sprinkler heads, sprinkling water on the fire. The fire pump, which pumps water to the sprinkler heads, is connected to the central station, so if the sprinkler

and the kitchen is very roomy. The kitchen is connected with the cafeteria serving area, which also leads into the teachers' lunchroom.

The cafeteria is armed with a local sound system to play music, and holds about five hundred students. With this many students, the air conditioning system must circulate the air several times a minute. The cafeteria serving area will accommodate two lines with separate entrances to quicken the pace at which students get their food. The cafeteria also has a snack bar next to the serving area, with a freezer for ice cream.

On the other side of the third floor, you will find the new cosmetology room. This room was designed to look like a real beauty salon, but it can also be used as an academic classroom, and has data outlets for computers. The room contains about 12 hair wash stations, and a manicure table. Next to the cosmo room is a robotics lab for the electronics students. It has outlets for power and data built into the floor so that students can test their boards and

their tools. It also has work tables on which to draw diagrams.

In the plumbing room, there are two new water heaters and a furnace. It has a place where students can build a bathroom. There is also a lecture room in between the electrical shop and the plumbing shop, to be used by both classes.

Every shop class is required to have a safety eyewash station, a hand wash station, and a safety shower, with the exception of the C-tech room. They all have ground fault interrupter outlets, to protect students from electrocuting themselves (or other students).

On the very end of the fourth floor is a large library. This library will have a book checkout system to monitor the flow of borrowed books. Along with this system, there will be a circulation desk, a book storage room behind the librarian's desk, and a media center, with computers and television sets to watch videos. The library is also fully carpeted. There is a nice view of the Manhattan skyline from inside the library.

Since we are on the fourth floor, you will need to be in

If you leave the gym through the rear exit, you will see the bleachers for the handball court. The handball court is fenced off. The handball wall is wide enough for two courts, but only has one side. There is also an all-season water fountain.

Although the building will not be complete until the end of August, it will open in time for next school year. "After working on it two years, the moment that building opens, it will be major accomplishment for the school," said Ms. Vittor.

## Mock Trial Team

by Vivian Sanchez

Queens Voc's mock trial team, coached by Mr. Davidson, met for their last competition of the year on March 8. Mock trial team members went to Queens Supreme Court to compete in the second round of the Statewide High School Mock Trial Tournament.

Unlike the week before, when the team did well in the first round against Springfield Garden, the Queens Voc team lost to Beach Channel.

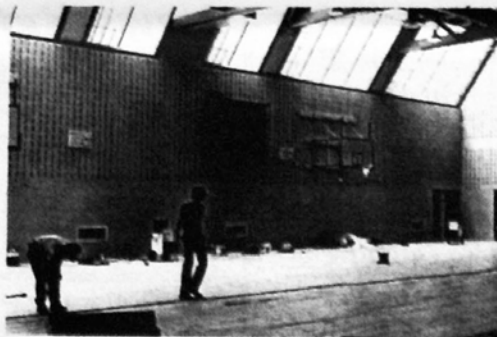
To move on to the third round, a team must be one of the top 48 schools with the highest scores in the first two rounds. The Queens Voc team did not score high enough to compete in the third round.

The mock trial is based on a fictional case given to the teams. The team members play the roles of the fictional characters in the case.

The team members prepared for the tournament during meetings and practice sessions after school. "In order to get used to role playing and be comfortable with their team players, students on the mock trial team practiced with each other. The members also had help from an attorney, Mr. Rubin," said Coach Davidson.

"Mr. Rubin's help was a great way to learn what goes on in a court room and how one should act as an attorney or witness. We also learned what type of questions to ask as attorneys and effective ways to get our objective out of each witness's testimony," said Raymond Chiu, a team member.

"Being part of the team was a great experience; I met new people and had fun role playing," said Rasel Ahmed. The members of Queens Voc Mock Trial Team are Rasel Ahmed, Syeda Ali, Raymond Chiu, Francisco Fiallos, Oscar Gutierrez, Salman Khan, Stephen Papadimitriou, Patsy Sanchez, Vivian Sanchez, and Chansok Seng.



*Adding finishing touches to the gym.*

connect to the internet. At the entrance, there is a big red button that can shut down all the electrical outlets in the classroom in an emergency.

Between the electronics and the cosmo room is a lecture room which will be used for lessons by both the cosmetology shop and the robotics lab. The room will be used by one shop class while the other class is in their shop room.

On the fourth floor, there are two electrical installation rooms. They have separate wall stations for each student, with beams simulating a house without walls. There is no finished ceiling in the electrical shop. It has a rugged factory look with exposed air ducts, electrical pipes, water pipes, and everything else that's above a shop class ceiling. The stations are well lit, and there are lockers for students to store

good shape to run to the basement to see the new gymnasium. The gym has a full high school sized basketball court, two stationary hoops on one side, and two retractable hoops on the other to allow the bleachers to be pulled out. There is a green scoreboard, and the backboards will have shot clocks on them. The center of the court will have a tiger face on it. The gym divides in half by way of an electric partition.

There are two locker rooms, one for the home team and one for the visiting team. The home locker room is slightly larger than the visitors' locker room. The locker rooms have bathrooms in them, complete with showers, which have privacy doors. The bathrooms have three toilets and three showers. The basement also has offices, which can be used for physical education teachers or sports coaches.



# Reppin' The State

by Alberto Aspiroz

"I am happy for him, I know that he worked hard and it paid off," said Mr. Cintron, after Matthew Bermudez took first place in this year's statewide VICA competition.

Matthew was one of ten students from Queens Voc who participated in the VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) competition. VICA activities are run by Mr. Cintron, a computer technology and electrical installation teacher who has been in charge of VICA since 2001.

In addition to Matthew, VICA is made up of nine others students: seniors Daniel Arias, Jonathan Sanchez, and Vivian Sanchez, and juniors Rassel Ahmed, Rajenda Bharath, Jakeline Calle, Salman Khan, Samira Lesure, and Patsy Sanchez. "There are so many juniors this year because I want them to return for next year. This way they will go into VICA with experience that will give them a better chance of winning," said Mr. Cintron.

The students spent a lot of time preparing for the competition. "We met twice a week during period 2 to discuss our progress; the kids worked with their shop teachers on a one-on-one basis, trying to get them as prepared as possible," said Mr. Cintron.

To reduce the cost of transportation and competition fees, VICA members held a bake sale. "We raised about \$400," said Daniel. The bake sale was held in the main lobby during periods four through eight on Friday, March 11.

Each member participated in



**Matt wins first place**

a different competition. Rassel competed in residential wiring, Daniel demonstrated his skills in the plumbing competition, Matthew competed in Industrial motor control, Rajenda competed in computer maintenance, Salman competed in technical computer applications, Patsy Sanchez competed in related technical math, Vivian competed in job dependency, Jackeline job interview skills, and Samira in prepare speech.

Queens Voc was the only school from New York City that entered the VICA competition said Mr. Cintron. Two Queens Voc students finished in the top three in their competition. Matthew finished in first place in industrial motor control, and Rajenda took second place in computer maintenance.

The key to Matthews' success was to remain focused and to use what he learned from Mr. Maloney his shop teacher, he said. The next step for Matthew will be representing New York State in the national competition. The nationals will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, from June 20-24. Queens Voc will pay all the expenses, said Mr. Cintron.

"They better be ready for Matthew, because it's either go hard or go home," Mr. Cintron said.

## A Taste of College

by Lillian Nieves

College Now is a collaborative initiative of the City University of New York and the New York City Department of Education to improve the academic achievement of the city's public high school students and to ensure that graduating students are ready to do college-level work.

"It is part of the CTE approval sequence for the endorsed diploma and provides students with opportunities to earn free college credits. It also gives students first-hand experience of college life," said Ms. Erkins, Queens Voc's College Now coordinator.

Catalina Ramon, a senior who takes Elementary Statistics, says the class is very helpful. "We

do a lot of challenging work and we are more independent because we use the internet most of the time"

This year, courses offered for the Fall 2004 semester at Queens Voc included Accounting I taught by Mr. Grenz, and Basic Writing taught by Mr. Schimenz. Accounting I was offered at LaGuardia for the Fall 2004 semester.

Courses offered for the Spring 2005 semester at Queens Voc include Accounting II taught by Mr. Grenz, Literacy and Propaganda taught by Mr. Ackerman, and Elementary Statistics taught by Ms. Erkins. Accounting II, Web Design, and Introduction to Business are courses offered for the Spring 2005 semester at LaGuardia.

## New Courses

by Sumon Miah

Next year Queens Voc will have more than just a new gym, library, cafeteria, and rooms. Queens Voc will be implementing a few new courses and "enhancements of what we already have," said Ms. Vittor, Queens Voc principal.

According to Ms. Vittor, art will be offered in an actual art studio. The art course will be given to the freshmen entering Queens Voc.

Queens Voc will also implement a program called "Virtual Enterprise," a simulated business that is established and managed by students under the guidance of a teacher and a business partner.

Not only will the students have virtual enterprise as a new course, but Ms. Newman, assistant principal of cosmetology and business said, "We will be focusing on infusing entrepreneurial studies in our business courses, aligned with interdisciplinary projects with academic classes. We will also give a college course, Introduction to Business, to cosmetology students."

The director of the School of Entrepreneurial Studies (SES), Ms. Newman, is trying to put into practice 60 hour work-study for students majoring in cosmetology and business class students so they can graduate with an endorsed diploma, much like the plumbing shop class. Without the 60 hour work-study, they will not be able to graduate with an endorsed diploma.

"Next year," says Ms. Radovich-Gonzalez, assistant principal of humanities, with the expansion of this building, "We will place more emphasis on SAT and Regents preparation." She views the present restructuring as evolution and is always looking for ways to improve. She plans to design and implement electives and interdisciplinary projects that will combine social studies and English.

According to Mr. Gorman, assistant principal for math and science, and director of the School of Computer and Electronics Engineering Technology (SCEET) who is discussing the possibilities of a science research class and expanding the scope of the robotics course. The robotic course will be offered in a designated robotic lab.

Ms. Erkins, College Now Coordinator and Math Coach and College Now coordinator said, "We will try to have a Math A tutorial workshop where students who failed the Regents can get extra help. Students who take College Now Statistics

through college connections in LaGuardia, now will have a choice of whether they want to take the AP exam at the end of the year," she said.

Mr. Gorman, assistant principal for math and science, and director of the School of Computer and Electronics Engineering Technology (SCEET), is discussing the possibilities of a science research class and expanding the scope of the robotics course. The robotic course will be offered in a designated robotic lab.

## Construction 2000

by Russell Inniss

Jobs in the building trades are expanding and skilled workers are in high demand. The Construction Skills 2000 program is designed to help students find a profitable career in the trades. The program offers training to graduating seniors provided by The Consortium for Worker Education.

Students are required to have a math average of 73% or higher to be accepted into the program. Once in the program, students can have only one absence, and they must be on time. Two latenesses are equal to one absence. Although the rules of the program may seem harsh, they're fair. It shows us that we're not there to fool around and we must take the program seriously," said Jassil Diaz, a plumbing major.

According to program coordinator and career advisor Mr. Dorvil, "students accepted to the program can expect to learn about how the construction industry works, get some skills in construction work, meet trades people from all the trades, practice in preparing for job interviews, and access apprenticeships."

The program is divided into two parts, spring and summer. Queens Voc students attend the

program on Tuesdays and they must have attended five or more symposiums during April and May.

Students who successfully complete the spring program will continue to the summer program, where they will attend pre-apprenticeship training in the building trades for four weeks, Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 2:30pm, during July or August. "The schedule is an inconvenience, but I deal with it because I know I will get a good job in the long run," said Justin Long, an electrical installation major.

Each class is three hours long and consists of one hour of trade-related math and two hours of introduction to the building trades. Students are provided assistance for up to three hours on Fridays if they require additional support in math or trades. Depending on the need, students can take extra coursework help them pass Regents exams and their classes so that they can graduate. "The program is helping me improve my math skills. It teaches me a lot about the union and helps me understand what I can expect in the future," said Anthony LiCausi, an electrical major.

According to Mr. Dorvil, "to successfully complete the program, students must participate fully in the spring program to be eligible for the summer program and they must graduate. Students who successfully complete the program will be given access to apprenticeship and training opportunities in one of the construction trade unions."

The students from Queens Voc who have been accepted into the program are Daniel Arias, Elvis Collado, Marvin Cordero, Kevin Depass, Jassil Diaz, Adam Evangelista, Jairo Fernandez, Anthony Guimmo, Edwin Gonzalez, Russell Inniss, Peter Joran, Anthony LiCausi, Justin Long, Michael Lukasik, Balbir Singh, and Jainer Villafone. These students will gain experience in various construction trades, such as, electrical, plumbing, carpentry, plastering, sheet metal worker, laborers, and more.



**Construction 2000 kids.**

## Editorials

### May We Have Your Attention?

For the last couple of months the public address system has not worked properly. Frequently, the daily announcements are not heard in all parts of the building. While it's claimed that repairs have been made, it is clear the repairs haven't been effective.

This problem is a safety hazard. In case of an emergency, the lack of a dependable communication system could lead to confusion and evacuation problems, putting students and teachers in danger.

This problem has damaged school spirit. Because of these cut-offs, students and faculty miss out on important school news and events. We don't find out about what's going on around the school with our clubs and teams. The not so good response to Spirit Week was directly attributable to the announcements that weren't heard.

This problem should not be tolerated. That it hasn't been resolved gives a sense that this is business as usual at Queens Voc. It isn't. But this problem has gone on for too long.

Immediate action has to be taken to repair the sound system. Students and teachers should not have to worry if the public address system will work in an emergency and we should all be aware, through morning announcements, what is going on inside our school.

### Thanks Mayor Bloomberg

Two years ago Mayor Bloomberg came to our school and promised us an addition to the school. Many years had gone by with students going to school in an inadequate facility: no lunchroom and no gym. Many years had gone by with promises by educational and political leaders to correct this. But Mayor Bloomberg delivered.

On June 9, 2003, Mayor Mike Bloomberg came to Queens Voc to announce that an annex would finally be built. Construction began the very next month.

Say what you will about the mayor, but he deserves our thanks for keeping his promise and for delivering the much-needed addition.

Thank you Mayor Bloomberg.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SO CO-PRESIDENTS

Dear Students:

This year has been a very hectic year. A lot of work has been done to accomplish our goals for the school. We participated in school events as well as organizing new destinations for trips, such as going to The Franklin Institute Science Museum and The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, Lazer Park, and Hairspray, a Broadway musical. The SO should continue to organize these activities and many more for the years to come.

While we did not have a talent show this year, Grupo V's celebration of Hispanic

Heritage Month and Ms. Himmel's Black History Month Festival was a success. Hopefully next year will continue the talent show and to see many students involved in various events to show school spirit.

Enjoy your summer, and when you come back next year, work hard, get good grades, set your goals and accomplish them. Also we would like to congratulate the seniors who are graduating and we wish you good luck in life.

Amber Kaur  
Stephanie Ferrer

## Vocational Voice

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"Good enough"  
is the enemy of  
"it can be better."

## Principal's Message



QUEENS VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL  
HIGH SCHOOL

Denise Vittor, Principal

As June marks the end of another school year, there are many things that have changed here at Queens Vocational & Technical High School. The "physical plant" as the actual building is called, is changing every day. The annex is near completion and they are even beginning to move furniture in! Our old building is being surveyed for much needed repairs (due to take place within the next two years), and our "shops" are being dismantled for the first time in decades so that they can "clean house" before they move over to the new building.

Our programs are changing too. I've heard many students say - "we never had to (take a college course, take a technical exam, etc) before," "Why do we have to do these things now?" The answer is straight forward. If you want a CTE endorsed diploma stating your "Major" with the New York State approved gold seal, you must meet the rigorous standards required. That means, completing your academic and CTE course work requirements, passing Regents exams and Technical assessments (NOCTI, NCCER, MOS, A+, C-Tech Fiber optics/Copper cabling, etc) and completing college courses and a work-based learning/internship requirement. Our programs are in the process of being approved by the New York State Education Department, or have already been approved as exemplary programs, so we must follow the guideline for the CTE diploma endorsement, which is recognized by both colleges and industry alike.

Our organization is changing, next year we will have (4) CTE theme based smaller learning communities (SLC's) and those of you going into the 10th grade will be choosing either SCEET (School of Computer and Electronic Engineering Technologies), SSBT (School of Skilled Building Trades) or SES (School of Entrepreneurial Studies). For students who have already chosen their major - your majors clearly put you in one of the 3 schools mentioned. There are special requirements for each of these SLC's, so you must be clear about what it means to be part of each of these theme schools. The standards for success are high, but as one famous person said, "Aim high, land high." You must strive to do both in order to receive the coveted endorsed diploma.

So what hasn't changed here at Queens Vocational & Technical High School? June is still the month for reviewing and studying for finals, Regents exams and CTE assessments. It is still the month to make sure all of your work is done and done well. It's the month for outstanding performances and ceremonial recognition. It is the month you receive your final grades in all of your subjects, which determines whether you'll begin summer vacation or summer school. Here at Queens Vocational & Technical High School we expect you to achieve, we help you achieve, and we applaud and celebrate your achievements. That will never change.

Graduates, you've accomplished the ultimate high school achievement. I wish you much success as you begin the next chapter of your life. To the rest, I wish you a wonderful pleasant summer and await your return to the new Queens Vocational & Technical High School in September.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Vittor



Do you have an opinion on any of the articles in this issue of the Vocational Voice?

Write to us and tell us! Be sure to sign your letter and put it in Mr. Schimenz's mailbox.

Mr. Schimenz  
Main Office





# Queens Voc Features

## Attractions

by David Bonilla

Few places in the world are as well known as New York City. Many people around the world hope to visit the Big Apple at least once in their lifetime. Yet, many New Yorkers take for granted the sites the city has to offer. In order to change that, Queens Voc students should visit the following attractions:

### Chelsea Piers

Admission: Prices range from \$6 to \$50 depending on activity and age.

Parking: \$9 for 1 hour, \$42 for 8 hours.

Directions: Take the 7 train to Queensborough Plaza, transfer to the N or W and stop at Fifth Ave. Take the M23, which stops directly in front of the northern entrance to Chelsea Piers.

Located in Lower Manhattan, the Chelsea Piers Sports Complex is the most complete indoor sporting facility in New York City. Activities at Chelsea Piers range from ice-skating to soccer. The sporting facility has state-of-the-art equipment, sporting fields, and an 18-hole golf course. With so many activities to offer, Chelsea Piers is guaranteed to have something for everyone.

### City Island

Admission: Free (money needed for restaurants)

Directions: Take the 7 train to 42nd/Grand Central, transfer to the 6 train to Pelham Bay Park, then take the BX29 bus to City Island.

City Island is a small community located just outside Pelham Bay Park in the Bronx. The island is surrounded by the Long Island Sound and the East Chester Bay and has a great nautical history, which is displayed in the island's museum. Sailing and jet skiing is allowed around the island, and there are even places to rent boats and jet skis.

### Coney Island

Admission: Free (money needed for rides, games, and food).

Directions: Take the 7 train to 74th St., then take the F and get off at Stillwell Station.

Once a beach-side resort, Coney Island is now one of the greatest attractions for New Yorkers, especially in these hot summer months. Visitors can go to the beach and swim or get a tan, or go to Astroland, a large amusement park. Astroland is home to the famous cyclone

roller-coaster, which has miraculously not claimed any souls, yet.

### New York Aquarium

Admission: \$11 adults, \$8 children, \$8 senior citizens.

Directions: Same directions as Coney Island.

The New York Aquarium is the only aquarium in New York City, and is part of the largest network of metropolitan wildlife parks in the country. The aquarium has over 8,000 animals on exhibit. There are excellent views of the animals, and scientific experts are willing to help with guided tours.



### The Bronx Zoo

Admission: \$11 adults, \$8 children, \$8 senior citizens.

Directions: Take the 7 train to 42nd/Grand Central and transfer to the 2 or 5 train going uptown. Get off at East Tremont Ave./West Farm Square.

The Bronx Zoo is part of the largest network of metropolitan zoos in the United States and is one of the largest wildlife conservation centers in the country. The Bronx Zoo has award winning exhibits featuring 6,000 animals, one of the greatest animal diversities of any zoo around the world. The zoo has man-made habitats created to best reflect the animals' true homes. The zoo also has many attractions and restaurants.

Visiting the Bronx Zoo is a fun and educational trip that is cheap and close to home. The zoo located on Southern Blvd. and 183rd St.

### The Empire State Building

Admission: \$13 adults, \$12 youth, \$8 children, \$12 senior citizens.

Directions: Take the 7 train to 74th St. and transfer to the E or R to 34th St./Penn Station or the F or R to 34th St./Avenue of the Americas.

The Empire State Building, which was built during the depression, was once the tallest building in the world. It is hard to think of NYC and not think of the Empire State Building. It is 102 stories tall and 1,472 feet tall. The building has an observation deck on the 86th floor.



by Anabella Fortuny and Germania Collado

Dear Anamaniacs,

I am so confused, I need your help. I have this guy friend that I was messing with about a year and a half ago. One day he told me that he didn't want to mess anymore because he felt something for someone else, so I just let him go, not telling him what I felt for him. Even if we only messed for about four and a half months, I still felt something strong for him. I started talking to him again about two weeks ago and now I see that we have been getting closer, like we were before. I am scared because I don't know how he will react when I tell him how I feel. He doesn't want to do anything with anyone right now because he says life is hard on him and he has been played many times before. I keep telling him that all girls are not the same, but he doesn't think that way. I really feel something for him but on the inside I don't know how to tell him or when to tell him how I feel, or should I keep this to myself? I NEED YOUR HELP!

La perdida Nena

Dear La Perdida Nena,

We know it must be very hard being around this guy because of your feelings for him, but you have to understand his side of the story, he has been hurt a couple of times and it's hard for him to trust girls again. Not all girls are the same, but he still needs time to figure it out. You should try to get close to him as a friend and see how things go from there, otherwise both of you are going to get hurt.

Anamaniacs

Dear Anamaniacs,

I really like this girl we are both seniors. I have been friends with her for quite a while now and I have a feeling that she likes me too but she doesn't want to admit it. I don't know what to do about my situation. I want to let her know how I feel, but at the same time I don't want it to ruin our friendship.

Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

Even though you really like this girl, you have to think about the reason why she might not want to admit that she likes you. Since it's the end of the year and you're both graduating, she might not want to get into a relationship and end up getting hurt. We think you should enjoy the little time you have with her before you guys graduate and see how things work out.

Anamaniacs

Dear Anamaniacs,

I had been dating my now ex-girlfriend for a year and a half and recently I've discovered that I have feelings for my best friend who is a girl. Although, I know there is no chance of me being with her I still broke up with my girlfriend even though she loves me. I know I hurt her, and I deserve to be punished for it. Now most of my peers blame me for breaking her heart, can you please help me figure out what I should do since now I'm all alone?

Confused guy

Dear Confused guy,

It seems like you have a guilty conscience. And if you are all alone it's because you chose to. It's going to be hard to find someone who would love

you like you said your girlfriend did. The truth is that you are the only one who can fix your problem.

Anamaniacs

Dear Anamaniacs,

I have a girlfriend that I adore and love so much, but there's this other girl that likes me and I don't like her at all. My girlfriend thinks that something is going to happen between me and the other girl, but nothing will happen because my heart belongs to my girlfriend. What can I do?

Bum

Dear Bum,

Have you given your girlfriend a reason of why not to trust you? If you have, then it might take time for her to trust you again. After a while she'll realize that your heart belongs to her and not the other girl. You should try not to give the other girl any hope of a future with her. For now the best you can do is try to avoid making your girlfriend jealous, otherwise she'll suspect you're cheating on her.

Anamaniacs

Thank you for your support throughout the year! We hope our advice has helped you.

## Baseball Search

by Sandy Rodriguez

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

BRVES  
BREWERS  
BLUE JAYS  
DEVIL RAYS  
LADY TIGERS  
MARINERS  
METS  
NATIONALS

ORIOLES  
PHILLIES  
RANGERS  
REDS  
RED SOX  
TIGERS  
WHITE SOX  
YANKEES

# Websites of Interest

by Jonathan Sanchez

Many students have trouble finding information for their classwork, homework, research papers, and projects. In this edition of *Vocational Voice*, we have compiled a list of the most common and frequently needed reference tools that were recommended by faculty members. We would like to thank Queens Voc's staff who contributed websites of interest: Mr. Ali, Mr. Bruce Campbell, Ms. Lewis, and Ms. Baez Medina.

Website Name or Topic	Web Address
Atlapedia Online	<a href="http://www.atlapedia.com/">http://www.atlapedia.com/</a>
Business Manners	<a href="http://www.usnews.com/etiquette/">http://www.usnews.com/etiquette/</a>
Careers	<a href="http://www.usnews.com/career/">http://www.usnews.com/career/</a>
College Board	<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com/">http://www.collegeboard.com/</a>
College Scholarships	<a href="http://www.collegeanswer.com/">http://www.collegeanswer.com/</a>
College Scholarships	<a href="http://www.fastweb.com/">http://www.fastweb.com/</a>
Chemistry	<a href="http://www.lapeer.leb.mi.us/ChemCom/">http://www.lapeer.leb.mi.us/ChemCom/</a>
Central Park Summer Stage	<a href="http://www.summerstage.org/">http://www.summerstage.org/</a>
Earth Science	<a href="http://earth.nasa.gov/education/">http://earth.nasa.gov/education/</a>
Encyclopedia	<a href="http://new.school.eb.com/">http://new.school.eb.com/</a>
Britannica Online	username: nycreg4 password: librarian
Exercise Tips	<a href="http://exercise.lifetips.com/">http://exercise.lifetips.com/</a>
High School Sports	<a href="http://www.psal.org/">http://www.psal.org/</a>
Math Help	<a href="http://www.webmath.com/">http://www.webmath.com/</a>
New York City events	<a href="http://www.ny.com/">http://www.ny.com/</a>
New York State Education Department	<a href="http://www.nysed.gov/">http://www.nysed.gov/</a>
Playbill (Theater Shows)	<a href="http://www.playbill.com/">http://www.playbill.com/</a>
Presidents of the United States	<a href="http://whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/">http://whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/</a>
River to River Festivals	<a href="http://www.rivertorivernyc.org/events/">http://www.rivertorivernyc.org/events/</a>
United States History	<a href="http://www.usahistory.com/">http://www.usahistory.com/</a>
World History	<a href="http://www.hyperhistory.com/">http://www.hyperhistory.com/</a>
World of Mathematics	<a href="http://www.mathworld.wolfram.com/">http://www.mathworld.wolfram.com/</a>

## Music Reviews

by Oscar Gutierrez

### The Donnas - Gold Medal

The Donnas used to wrap up their tracks within two minutes, their songs were cheeky punch lines, and they all had the same set of puns, sneers, and distortion. *Gold Medal* tries to remedy that reputation with richer songwriting and a thicker sonic tune. One of the tracks on the album "Don't Break Me Down" has a slow beat and pays off with a chorus following the bass line which runs throughout the track. Another track "Friends Like Mine" despite a pick-slide opening, it has more going for it than the typical Donnas songs. Much of the credit goes to Allison Roberston, whose guitar work has grown stronger with each album, but she is really tearing it up, giving *Gold Medal* a more dynamic feel. \*\*

### Will Smith - Lost and Found

Ever since he became a mega-box office star, Will Smith has been accused of losing his old rap touch. The Philly native's latest release, *Lost and Found*, is one of his strongest statements yet: Smith goes back to his roots, with songs that combine the party rap

he made famous as the Fresh Prince, an also with songs that reflect a truly mature artist. The track "Tell Me Why," set on the evening of 9/11, features an emotional Smith, backed by Mary J. Blige, as he addresses communicating the harsh side of human behavior to a child, in the vein of Jadakiss' "Why." To demonstrate just what Will Smith is trying to get across, here are some verses from the song "Tell Me Why."

"Tell me why did James Byrd Jr. have to be touched/Tell me why did Martin and Malcolm depart from us/tell me why did the sniper make that little boy shoot/ and why is human life always denied/ tell me why did Mandela have live in a cage/ tell me why my brother Sterling die at that age. What am I supposed to say to my kids when they say Why?"

The hit single "Switch" makes you want to move, with nice hook and a hot drum beat.

With his latest release, Smith proves he is back with a new different style but bringing back his old school rhymes and energetic flow. \*\*\*

### April Sixth-In Memory

The Music on *In Memory* is pretty good; though it is nothing original, it has a consistent rhythm which the band plays very well, each member excels in his instrument. The music is a slightly punkish aggressive rock. April Sixth's two guitar players do quite well, such as on "It's Not Good Enough," where the two guitarists totally complement each other. The vocals *In Memory* are pretty good but lyrically the album is pretty weak. Lots of the songs are overly emotional, such as on the hit single "Dear Angel," which sounds too much like Bon Jovi. Overall April Sixth's new album has great music but lyrics that do not live up to their expectations. \*\*

## X-Box 360 or PS3?

by Michael Saldarriaga

Should I get the X-Box 360 or the PS3? That's the big question game fanatics will be asking themselves next year when these gaming systems come out.

According to [www.major-nelson.com](http://www.major-nelson.com) when you break down the numbers, Xbox 360 probably has more performance than PS3. Sony has a track record of over promising and under delivering on the technical performance. The truth is that both systems pack a lot of power for high definition games and entertainment.

There are also three critical performance aspects of a console:

- Central Processing Unit (CPU) performance. The Xbox 360 CPU architecture has three times the general purpose processing power of the Cell.
- Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) performance, the Xbox 360 GPU design is more flexible and it has more processing power than the PS3 GPU
- Memory System Bandwidth, the memory system bandwidth in Xbox 360 exceeds the PS3 by five times.

Hardware performance however, while important, is only a third of the puzzle." Xbox 360 is a fusion of hardware, software and services. Without the software and services to power it, even the most powerful hardware becomes inconsequential. Xbox 360 games—by leveraging cutting-edge hardware, software, and services—will outperform the PlayStation 3.



## Senior Inquiring Photographer

by Johnathan Pena-Bonilla

For most seniors, their high school experience is about to end. After graduation, the class of 2005 will look back on certain moments and experiences that were exciting or special, making it a moment they will never forget. We decided to ask seniors: "What has been your most memorable moment in high school?"



Ingrid Cotrina  
Business

"It's impossible for me to choose a specific moment. All of my high school experience has been memorable."



Allen Salazar  
Electronics

"My most memorable moment in high school was the Senior Trip. I competed in the Cross-Dressed Contest. I had a good time and an unforgettable experience with my friends and teachers. I'll never forget when I had to wear a THONG!"



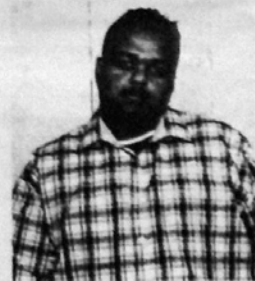
Richard Nguyen  
Business

"My most memorable moment was in my junior year when I was free-styling in my physics class when suddenly I fell down trying to do a handstand."



Ting Lin  
Cosmetology

"My most memorable moment in high school would have to be the senior trip at Pine Grove. I had a lot of fun watching the Cross-Dressed Contest, and watching my friends painting my friend Maria's face with paint because she fell asleep first."



Robert Rodriguez  
Electrical Installation

"My most memorable moment was in 9th grade when my freshmen football team won the 9th Grade Championship by beating the 10th grade champions."



Anniesa Ramsahai  
Computer Technology

"My most memorable moment was the Senior Luncheon. I really enjoyed myself, especially watching the Celebrity Look-A-Like Contest and dancing with my boyfriend and friends."

Queens Voc's  
Tsunami Relief  
fundraising  
activities raised  
\$1,003.36, through  
student, faculty, and  
staff donations, as  
well as proceeds  
from the Leadership  
Students'  
Valentine's Day  
Bake Sale!



# Horoscopes

by Adiyasa Kurniadi

## Aquarius

(January 20-February 18)  
Be sure to take some time off from work and give yourself a little reward after you deserve a break, it'll give you the will to work even harder next time.

## Pisces

(February 19-March 20)  
Your willingness to go with the flow may sometimes be a bad habit. For today try doing what you want to do and not what everyone else wants you to do.

## Aries

(March 21-April 19)  
Your need to achieve may be productive, but blind ambition has its flaws, so try to ease up and clam down.

## Taurus

(April 20-May 20)  
Don't be too hard on people if they make mistakes. They probably made them in the first place because you pushed them too hard.

## Gemini

(May 21-June 21)  
Your multiple personalities may sometimes cause others to wonder who you really are, but don't mind them, that's just how you are. Eventually they'll understand who you really are and learn to accept you just.

## Cancer

(June 22-July 22)  
If you don't appreciate what you have you might accidentally ruin it, so take some time to appreciate what you have. You'll find out it can be the best part of your day.

## Leo

(July 23-August 22)  
There is a possibility that you may have forgotten the people who will always be there for you. Plan something special for them so they see that you're there for them too.

## Virgo

(August 23-September 22)  
You may not feel fulfilled with the way things are unless they go according to your plans, but when they don't go according to your plans be calm, cool, and go with the flow.

## Libra

(September 23-October 22)  
Take some time off and relax, too much hard work can cause you to mess up on things you work so hard on.

## Scorpio

(October 24-November 22)  
Think about how your words may affect others and how they

may have an impact on their feelings.

## Sagittarius

(November 22-December 21)  
Don't be stubborn and try to do everything on your own; you'll find out that working with others is more rewarding.

## Capricorn

(December 22-January 19)  
Sometimes it's best to keep your comments to yourself and not to talk too much.

## Weird But True

by Johnathan Pena-Bonilla

1. A law in Fairbanks, Alaska, does not allow moose to have sex on city streets.
2. The longest recorded flight of a chicken is 13 seconds!
3. Non-dairy creamer is flammable.
4. We have about 5 billion years of sunlight left.
5. The oldest goldfish lived 14,975 days.
6. If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days, you will have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.
7. Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone, never telephoned his wife or mother because they were both deaf.
8. In Atlanta, Georgia, it is illegal to tie a giraffe to a telephone pole or street lamp.
9. Chocolate kills dogs.
10. Donald Duck comics were banned from Finland because he doesn't wear pants.
11. In Israel, picking your nose is illegal.
12. In Thailand, it is illegal to leave your house if you are not wearing underwear.
13. You can't kill yourself by holding your breath.
14. An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
15. Like fingerprints, every one's tongue print is different.
16. Rats and horses can't vomit.
17. It is physically impossible for pigs to look up into the sky.
18. A shrimp's heart is in their head.
19. It is impossible to lick your elbow.
20. Right-handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left-handed people do.
21. It is estimated that at any one time, 0.7% of the world's population are drunk.

Sources:

[www.funnyfact.com](http://www.funnyfact.com)  
[www.weirdfacts.com](http://www.weirdfacts.com)  
[www.amusingfacts.com](http://www.amusingfacts.com)  
[www.icqgreetings.com/facts.htm](http://www.icqgreetings.com/facts.htm)



## Inquiring Photographer



by Johnathan Pena-Bonilla

Queens Voc's annex will be open in September. Students can't wait to use the new building and its features, such as, the gym, cafeteria, and shop rooms. We asked students: "What feature of the new building are you looking forward to the most?"



**Riyan Hidayat**  
Freshman

"I'm looking forward to the new bathrooms because right now, there is only one boys' bathroom in the whole school and it is in unsanitary condition."

have more space, new computers, and it's going to be more business-like."



**Melvin Pena**  
Junior

"The part of new building I'm looking forward the most is the gym because it will have more space and I don't want to spend more time in the two boxes they call Gym 1 and Gym 2."



**Eileen Montana**  
Freshman

"I'm looking forward to the new cafeteria because students will have more space to eat lunch. I'm tired of sitting on those hard, brown seats and eating leftovers."



**Alan Casallas**  
Sophomore

"I'm looking forward to the new shop classes because I'm curious to see what they include. It will be interesting to see what the EI shop classes will look like."



**Jonathan Felix**  
Freshman

"The new shop classes is what I'm looking forward to the most, especially the EI and electronics rooms, because there is more space to do our shop labs and to use the new equipment."



**Jakeline Calle**  
Junior

"The part of the new building that I'm looking forward the most is the computer technology room because students will have more space and better equipment to work with. It will be a better educational environment for not only the students, but the teachers as well."



**Alejandra Lopez**  
Sophomore

"The part of the building I'm looking forward the most is the gym because there will be new activities and more space for students to exercise."



**Syeda Ali**  
Junior

"I'm looking forward to the lunchroom and gym, so it can finally be considered a REAL high school."



**Yesenia Pena**  
Junior

"The part of the building I'm looking forward the most is the business rooms because we will have new computers and the classes will be more business-like. We will also have more space and it won't be overcrowded."



**Estefania Garcia**  
Sophomore

"I'm looking forward to the new business rooms because right now, the business rooms aren't really good. We are going to



Who will  
be next,  
next year?

## And the Winners Are...

by Sumon Miah

This semester 9th graders participated in the Dream Job Essay Contest sponsored by USA Today. The USA Today team has chosen the following students to participate in their Dream Job this spring:

Ana Jimenez: Architect  
 Andrew Arvelo: Electrician  
 Victor Pena: Astronomer  
 Nicole O'Toole: Cosmetologist  
 Lisbeth Modesto: Vocational Education Teacher

"Thanks to all the 9th grade teachers for encouraging their students to participate in this contest. Special thanks to Esta Abrons, the New York City Department of Education Director of Career and Technical Education Programs, for making this opportunity possible," said Ms. Peteroy.

The following two students are the winners of the "Woman I Admire" contest:  
 1st Place: Eva Jimenez  
 2nd Place: Santiago Seguro

The students received their awards recently during period 7 at the 9th grade Student Council meeting in Room 204B.

The winners for the Poem in Your Pocket are:

1st Place: Daishon Jones  
 2nd Place: Ricardo Abelard

### Locked Up

By Ricardo Abelard

If you looked in my eyes, you wouldn't see glory.

You would see a little boy's eyes filled with horror stories.

Any person I didn't like, I'd be quick to bang.

My so called friends liked my style, so I got into a gang.

I was doing my dirt and I was widely hated.

I started thinking straight when I was

*continued on next page, last column*

## Queens Voc's Seniors: Accepted

by Tahjib Zaman

To recognize our seniors, each year *Vocational Voice* compiles a comprehensive list of colleges or universities to which Queens Voc seniors have been accepted. *Vocational Voice* congratulates those seniors who have applied to college. (Bold = college student has decided to attend)

Name of Senior	College / University
Alexis, Jarvis	<b>Georgia Tech</b>
Ali, Syeda	CUNY: Queens College, <b>Baruch College</b>
Anima, Israt	CUNY: <b>New York City College of Technology</b> , John Jay College; St. John's University
Arango, Alejandro	<b>High Tech Institute of Technology - Florida</b>
Ashraf, Suhail	SUNY: <b>Stony Brook</b>
Aspiazu, Alberto	Hudson Valley Community College, Sullivan Community College, City College of New York (Undecided)
Barias, Freddy	CUNY: <b>Queensborough Community College</b>
Belliard, Freddy	CUNY: <b>John Jay College</b>
Bonilla, David	CUNY: <b>Baruch College</b> , Brooklyn College, City College
Caba, Francisco	SUNY: <b>Nassau Community College</b>
Caba, Juan	<b>Lincoln Tech Institute</b>
Calderon, Cesarina	CUNY: Queensborough Community College, New York City College of Technology, Baruch College (Undecided)
Cano, Giovanni	SUNY: <b>Oswego</b> , ESF, Cobleskill; CUNY: LaGuardia Community College, Hunter College
Chiu, Raymond	<b>Polytechnic University</b>
Collado, Abel	CUNY: <b>John Jay College</b> , LaGuardia Community College
Collado, Germania	CUNY: <b>Queens College</b> , New York City College of Technology, John Jay College
Concepcion, Jessica	CUNY: <b>LaGuardia Community College</b>
Contreras, Armando	SUNY: <b>Stony Brook</b> ; St. John's University (Undecided)
Coraizaca, Liliana	CUNY: <b>John Jay College</b> , Borough of Manhattan Community College, Queens College, LaGuardia Community College
Cotrina, Ingrid	CUNY: <b>Queens College</b> , York College, John Jay College, Queensborough Community College; Pen State
Davis, Addison	CUNY: York College, Queensborough Community College, <b>LaGuardia Community College</b>
Douglas, Christain	CUNY: <b>York College</b> , Howard University
Duhaney, Clifton	SUNY: <b>Delhi</b>
Edouard, Clifton	CUNY: Hunter College, City College, York College (Undecided)
Estevez, Kimberly	CUNY: <b>Queensborough Community College</b>
Fernandez, James	<b>Polytechnic University</b>
Fiallos, Francisco	Long Island University: Brooklyn, Pace University, <b>Berkeley College</b>
Fortuny, Anabella	CUNY: <b>College of Staten Island</b> , LaGuardia Community College
Franco, Felicia	<b>Savannah State University</b> , Clark Atlanta University
Garcia, Rosa	CUNY: <b>Queens College</b> , New York City College of Technology, John Jay College
Giummo, Anthony	<b>New York Institute of Technology</b>
Gonzalez, Zinnia	CUNY: <b>College of Staten Island</b> , <b>New York City College of Technology</b>
Gray, Donald	<b>Lincoln Tech Institute</b>
Guzman, Melvin	<b>Lincoln Tech Institute</b>
Jorge, Stephanie	CUNY: LaGuardia Community College; <b>Devry Institute</b>
Kaur, Amritjoty	CUNY: <b>Lehman College</b> , York College, New York City College of Technology
Kaur, Rattan	CUNY: <b>Queens College</b> , York College, John Jay College, <b>Baruch College</b>
Khan, Ali	CUNY: <b>New York College of Technology</b>
Kurniadi, Adiyasa	CUNY: <b>City College</b> , New York City College of Technology
Kwasnik, Stanislaw	CUNY: <b>LaGuardia Community College</b>
Larancuent, Eliseo	CUNY: York College (Undecided)
Lin, Ting	CUNY: Queensborough Community College, York College, New York City College of Technology, LaGuardia Community College (Undecided)



# to Colleges and Ready to Go



Name of Senior	College / University
Linen, Shameika	Long Island University: Brooklyn
LiVecchi, Joseph	CUNY: Queensborough Community College, Queens College
Lopez, Angelica	CUNY: Long Island University: Brooklyn, St. John's University
Lopez, Luz Maria	Barry University
Mason, Bismark	CUNY: York College, Queensborough Community College, LaGuardia Community College
Miah, Sumon	CUNY: Hunter College, Brooklyn College; St. John's University
Mohammed, Candice	Long Island University: Brooklyn
Moscoso, Juan	CUNY: Baruch College, Queens College, LaGuardia Community College
Nguyen, Richard	CUNY: LaGuardia Community College
Nieves, Lillian	CUNY: Brooklyn College, LaGuardia Community College
Nunez, Fernando	Sullivan Community College
Olivares, Yurly	CUNY: New York City College of Technology, York College; SUNY: Farmingdale University
O'Neill, Danny	CUNY: Borough of Manhattan Community College
Ortiz, Jose	CUNY: Queensborough Community College
Paljevic, Sait	CUNY: City College
Panneer, Vivek	CUNY: City College
Panora, Janet	CUNY: John Jay College, LaGuardia Community College, Queensborough College
Parker, Ava	CUNY: LaGuardia Community College
Pena, Michelle	CUNY: John Jay College, LaGuardia Community College, Lehman College, Baruch College (Undecided)
Pena-Bonilla, Johnathan	CUNY: Queens College, York College, Queensborough Community College, LaGuardia Community College; Iona College (Undecided)
Poon, Hiu Kwan	CUNY: John Jay College
Ramon, Catalina	CUNY: Queensborough Community College, Hostos Community College, John Jay College
Ramsahai, Anniesa	CUNY: New York City College of Technology, Borough of Manhattan Community College, York College
Remache, Carlos	CUNY: John Jay College
Riascos, Miller	CUNY: Borough of Manhattan Community College, Queensborough Community College, Medger Evers College
Rivas, Leonardo	High-Tech. Institute
Rosas, Ariana	CUNY: John Jay College, New York City College of Technology, Borough of Manhattan Community College; Long Island University: Long Island
Saldarriaga, Michael	New York Institute of Technology
Sanchez, Jonathan	CUNY: Brooklyn College, New York City College of Technology
Sanchez, Vivian	CUNY: Hunter College, Lehman College, Brooklyn College; SUNY: Albany University; Long Island University: Brooklyn (Undecided)
Santos, Fabian	Universal Technical Institute
Singh, Harpreet	CUNY: Baruch College, York College, Brooklyn College; St. John's University
Smith, Shameka	CUNY: LaGuardia Community College
Solis, Jennifer	CUNY: Queens College, York College, John Jay College
Tejada, Arianny	CUNY: LaGuardia Community College, New York City
Telegrafi, Ildi	CUNY: Baruch College, City College; Polytechnic University
Vasquez, Ruth	CUNY: John Jay College, LaGuardia Community College, Borough of Manhattan Community College (Undecided)
Villavicencio, Daryl	City Tech, Hunter, Queensborough Community College
Zaman, Tahjib	CUNY: Hunter College, LaGuardia Community College

**Congratulations on Your College Acceptances!**

continued from  
last page, first  
column

## And the Winners Are...

incarcerated.  
Straight hands, no  
knives, no one got  
guns.  
Locked up doing  
push-ups for fun.  
I'm glad this horror  
movie is done.  
Cops were beating me  
down spraying with  
mace.  
This kid hit me hard  
when he punched me  
in my face.  
My cousin fought for  
me a few times.  
I almost got cut 2  
times.  
You wouldn't survive  
if your insides are  
tender.  
It was nasty seeing  
males liking their own  
gender.  
Despite that they were  
quick to attack.  
I'm glad I'm out of  
this place and I am  
not going back.

## God's Hands by Daishon Jones

The darkness falls  
with high octave  
If you look in my  
eyes, you see  
frustration and pain  
My soul burns slow  
with hatred and  
sorrow  
Not knowing if I am  
going to live to see  
tomorrow  
As I watch myself  
walk upon the streets  
and Rome  
I guess it was God's  
help and pray for a  
lift  
We call today the  
present  
Because it is a gift  
I'm letting God carry  
my soul  
His blessings will  
keep my heart from  
turning cold  
As I watch my life  
goes around then  
twirls  
Now me myself and I  
are against the world  
When people have  
jealousy and envy  
against me all they  
are doing is  
commencing a sin  
I just realized that  
God is my only friend  
and he knows where  
I've been  
As I take this solo  
journey to be the man  
I'm going to put life  
in God's hands

# Video Game Reviews

by Elvis Collado

## Gran Turismo 4

Genre: Racing  
Ratings: 9 out of 10  
Presentation: 9 out of 10  
Graphics: 10 out of 10  
Sound 10 out of 10  
USRB: Everyone

This is the best car game I have ever played. It's even better than Need for Speed Underground 2.

It's pretty obvious that the Gran Turismo series has set the standard for what's possible in a racing game. The graphics are superior to any car game and if compared with any other car game, Gran Turismo will clearly be better. The game contains license tests, circuits, missions, hundreds of cars, and dozens of tracks that add up to what is still an addictive car game. The amount of cars is outstanding. There are over 700 cars in the game. They sound very realistic, as though the player were inside an actual car. The player has to take various driving tests in order to obtain special licenses that will allow him or her to race on different race courses. When the players win races, they obtain prize money, which can be used to either buy more cars or upgrade any car. The game is phenomenal and is worth the \$50 it sells for.

## MVP Baseball 2005

Genre: Sports  
Ratings: 10 out of 10  
Presentation: 10 out of 10  
Graphics: 10 out of 10  
Sound 10 out of 10  
USRB: Everyone

MVP Baseball 2005 is the best game I have ever played.

Electronic Arts has never been this creative. The game's presentation is outstanding and the graphics are very realistic. A baseball game has never looked this good. The game has a few glitches, but they are not a big concern. When Manny Ramirez, who is on the cover of the game, bats, he has the same batting stance he uses in real life, as do most of the other baseball players in the game. The game announcers actually sound as though they are real game announcers. Owner mode is a new feature that allows the player to control every aspect of the team. Another new feature to the game is mini games. This allows the players to practice batting and pitching so that their skills can improve. The cost of the game is a bargain at \$30.

by Israt Anima

# Senior & Junior

Teachers have many good students in their classes, but there are always some students who stand out because they are dedicated, and motivated to do their best in class. In this edition of *Vocational Voice*, we highlight juniors and seniors who have been selected by their teachers for being outstanding in their shop or business classes. The following questions were asked to the students:

What have you learned in your shop class that you can carry on to the future?

1. Why did you choose this shop class?
2. Why do you think your teacher selected you?
3. What attracted you to this field?
4. Do you have any regrets?
5. Where do you plan to take your shop skills after high school?

## Electrical Installation (senior)

Michal Lukasik was selected by his teacher Mr. Maloney. Mr. Maloney said, "Michal has great hand skills and has ability to handle all situations that are presented to him."

### Michal Lukasik

1. I have learned how to respect other people on the job and have learned electrical work.
2. I chose this shop because I have always liked to work with my hands and wires.
3. I think that my teacher selected me because I am always on time, I do my work, and I help others.
4. The money that I can earn in the future as an electrician attracted me to this field.
5. No, I never had any regrets because I have always wanted to work as an electrician.
6. After high school I plan to take my shop skills to electrical local unions.



## Electrical Installation (junior)

Rasel Ahmed was selected by his teacher Mr. Vega. Mr. Vega said, "Rasel motivates himself to be the best and actually cares about what he is doing and always has pride in his work. I see him being very successful in the electrical field."

### Rasel Ahmed

1. In my shop class I am learning about electrical installation and in the future I can be an electrician.
2. I chose this shop because I want to know about electricity and also I like to work with my hands.
3. I think Mr. Vega selected me because I do my work and I am a hard worker.
4. The knowledge about electricity, working with my hands, and the money attracted me to this field.
5. No, I like the shop and I have no regrets.
6. I want to go to college and also want to be in a union.



## Electronics (senior)

Sait Palkavic was selected by Mr. Ali. Mr. Ali said, "Sait is very willing to learn and help others with out begin asked to. He enjoys what he does in the class and is going to go to college to continue his studies in electronics."

### Sait Paljevic

1. I have learned the basic engineering concepts, and since I am going to study engineering, I already have a head start.
2. I wanted to study something that makes me think beyond what I know. Plus technology is very interesting.



3. I think Mr. Ali chose me because I am a hard worker, and I spend my remaining time helping others in different ways.
4. Technology was the main attraction.
5. I never had any regrets because I have had many great experiences.
6. I plan to go to college and study engineering.

## Electronics (junior)

Mr. Ali selected William Huazhco. "William is a hard worker, determined to do his best, and always tries to be on time with his assignments. William enjoys electronics and is interested in learning. He indicates to me that he will advance his career in this field to study," said Mr. Ali.

### William Huazhco

1. I learned how to measure voltage, how to properly solder, and certain logic behind electronics.
2. Electronics seemed interesting and challenging and very exciting.
3. I think Mr. Ali selected me because I do my work on time and do a good job in class.
4. I was attracted to this field because I want to learn about future robotics and fiber optics in my senior year.
5. I have no regrets at all.
6. To be a future engineer in computers or just a technician to help improve technology.



## Cosmetology (senior)

Mr. Grochala selected Diane Hernandez. "Diane performs professional beauty services to many clients and receives many requests for her service. Diane is multi-talented in the field of cosmetology. She would be an asset to any employer," said Mr. Grochala.

### Diane Hernandez

1. I have learned a lot of skills such as hair coloring, hair cutting, hair styling and how to be professional with clients.
2. I love to create beauty services to make women more beautiful and confident with their new look.
3. My teacher selected me because I practice what I learned, I have good attendance, and I work very hard in class.
4. I enjoy working with people and in the beauty industry.
5. No, I have no regrets.
6. I plan to go to college and I am sure cosmetology will help in a future career.



## Cosmetology (junior)

Ashley Valerio was selected by Mrs. Quartuccio. Mrs. Quartuccio said, "Ashley has excellent attendance and works everyday. She does not only complete her required work but also chooses to do additional jobs, and is always striving to improve. Ashley is learning through class work and job shadowing that the cosmetology profession has many different areas of concentration. After college, I see Ashley using the experience she has had, and the skills she has learned to work in some area of the cosmetology field. Ashley will make a good decision as to what direction to go into based on the knowledge she collects."

### Ashley Valerio

1. I have learned not only to cooperate with my teacher and classmates, but this class also taught me to become less hyper.
2. I have always loved making people look good.
3. I think my teacher chose me because she knows how much effort I put in every assignment I am required to do and I am



# Shop Profiles

- very dedicated to the class.
- A lot of things attracted me to this field, for example, the salary most professionals in the field receive.
- For the moment, I don't have any regrets, regardless of if I use these skills in the future or not, it's a great learning experience.
- After high school I might open my own salon and day spa.



## Computer Technology (senior)

Mr. Rodriguez selected Harpreet Singh. "Harpreet's dedication and patience are probably his strongest attributes. His leadership skills and competency of the subject are the driving force behind his performance. I am not sure if Harpreet will continue pursue a career in technology. However, it would be a shame if he didn't," said Mr. Rodriguez.

### Harpreet Singh

- I have learned to fix computers and I will carry on my shop skills to a computer company after college.
- I chose this shop class because I was interested in computers and I wanted to learn how it worked.
- My teacher selected me because I try really hard to learn the materials that seems difficult to me. I am also very motivated to learn about computers.
- The idea of how computers work.
- No, I don't have any regrets. It is a challenging class and fun to be in.
- I plan to work in a computer company while I major in business at St. John's University.

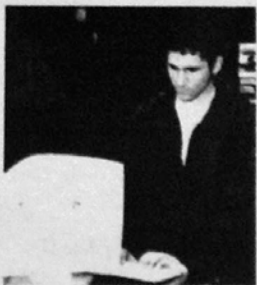


## Computer Technology (junior)

Christopher Butera was selected by Mr. Stigliano. Mr. Stigliano said "Chris works so hard, he is never satisfied. He cares about what he is learning and fights through his frustrations. Chris's persistence and hard work will serve him well in the computer technology field. I expect Chris to continue his education in college."

### Christopher Butera

- In computer technology I have learned about the various types of network topologies, and how to set them up.
- I chose this shop class because it seemed like something I would like to do.
- I think Mr. Stigliano selected me because I try hard to get good grades.
- The fact that I had a computer and could not fix it really made me want to learn how the computers work and how to fix them.
- I have no regrets.
- I guess I will if all else isn't available to me.



## Plumbing (senior)

Mr. Garrison selected Daniel Arias. "Daniel wants to learn and is will to help others. He will excel at whatever occupation he chooses."

### Daniel Arias

- I have learned many things like responsibility, pride in my work, math skills and many others thanks to Mr. Garrison and Mr. McCarthy.
- I chose plumbing as my shop because it interests me the most and I feel this is the hardest shop out of them all.

- I think my teacher selected me because I do my work and try my best to help others when they ask me. I also have a lot of qualities that will make me a great plumber in the future.
- What attracted me to this field was helping my dad around the house, which made me want to learn more about plumbing.
- No, I don't have any regrets because I love coming to school just to go to my shop.
- I plan to go into the Union Local 1 and start my journey to become a master plumber.



## Plumbing (junior)

Mr. McCarthy selected Jose Perez. "Jose has worked very hard this marking period. Jose has the skills to be a good plumber if he keeps up the hard work," said Mr. McCarthy.

### Jose Perez

- I learned how to pour lead into a cast iron, use PVC, and I have also learned how to calculate the 45° offset of a job.
- I am interested in how water systems work and I have always worked in the construction field. I think plumbing brings out all of my construction skills.
- The reason my teacher picked me is because I am one of the best students from my class and I am good at the plumbing work.
- Fixing pipes and stopping leaks using the torch to connect copper pipes with solder attracted me to this field.
- I have absolutely no regrets of joining this program.
- If I get accepted to the union or a training program after I graduate then I will pursue my career as a plumber.



## Business (senior)

Mr. Persuad selected Michelle Pena. "Michelle always completes her class assignment within the class period and her work is always done with high standard. She has a passion for the subject and has the ability to continue her career in web design," said Mr. Persuad.

### Michelle Pena

- I have learned a lot of useful material in my business classes. Everything I have been learning will be part of my future.
- I chose this shop class because I benefit a lot from working with computers. I am specializing in many Microsoft programs, and I know I can earn a lot in the business field.
- I think my teacher selected me because I am always on task. I complete all class assignments, and I can be very creative in this field.
- The use of computers attracted me to this field. I am very familiar with computers.
- I do not have any regrets.
- After I finish high school, I plan to attend college and use all of my shop skills there.



## Business (junior)

Ms. Siegel selected Jacqueline Rodriguez. "Jacqueline has shown ability to reason, decipher, and analyze the material in business law. She is extremely focused and able to assist others. Her ability to recognize case studies and understand the root of the problems involved shows me that she has excellent potential in this field."

### Jacqueline Rodriguez

- I have learned how to present myself in a business like way also I have learned the do's and don'ts of an interview.
- I chose this shop because I was very interested and business is the career that I want to follow.
- I think that my teacher selected me because I am always involved in everything. Also, because I do good in all my business classes and enjoy them.



- I have been working with my father in his business for about 7 years. I love business and have passion for it.
- No, I do not regret choosing business as my shop class. In business classes, I have developed more skills for the outside world. Business has been preparing me for the future.
- After high school, I plan to take my skills and go to Baurch. After that, I plan to open my own business.

## Who's the Teacher?

by Israt Anima

This six year teacher played the American equivalent to Field Hockey in her home country of India. She went Queens College and Hunter College and has no favorite sports teams. Standing 5'2" tall, she has dark brown hair and eyes, drives a 2001 Nissan Quest, and has been married for 12 years.

This math teacher of seven years went to college in Wisconsin, Chicago, and New York. A Spanish minor, she participate track and field in high school. She is a Met fan, from Greece, married for more than 10 years, and is anti-pollution.

[Ms. Mochar, Mrs. Nguyen]

# Voice Grams: Reaching

compiled by Syeda Ali & Jessica Rios

To my baseball players: this has been a very special year. You worked hard, you behaved with dignity, you represented your school well. You went to the playoffs for the fourth year in a row. You took first place in your division. You made me proud. Thank you for your dedication, your support, your love.  
Your coach, Rob Schimenz

I love Ingrid because she's mad hot!!  
-Kevin

I LOVE Syeda  
-Oscar

Congrats 05  
-Gonzalo

Thank you to all the members of the School Leadership Team for your hard work this year! Have a great summer!  
-Mr. Vela

Good luck graduating seniors. I LOVE you Ting and Jen.  
-Maria Faller

Congratulations class of 2005. Wish you all God's utmost blessings and protection.  
-Mr. Alohán

I love Ariana  
-Oscar

Good Luck to my MOUSE Squad people.  
-Kacy

I'm goin 2 miss you guyz. Good Luck!  
-Denise

Thank you to all my friends for all your help and support.  
-Ms. Bekelnitzky

Wishing our graduates the brightest future and happiness.  
-Mrs. Bloom

Congrats to all of 05's seniors, especially the C-Tech and EI classes. I wish you all the best. Make us proud!  
-Mr. Cintron

Good Luck to all my past health students. Always be responsible, in school and in life.  
-Dean Cadet

Congratulations to all members of The School of Exploration & Discovery. Who will "fly away" to 10th grade SLCs.  
-Ms. Dattner

It was so cool to work in Queens Vocational High School. I'm very sure that I'll see you around.  
-Edison Rosales

Graduation. -Mrs. Flynn  
Flatter me... and I may not believe you! Criticize me... and I may not forgive you. Encourage me... and I will never forget you. Live well. Love well.  
-Ms. Gurka

Congrats to the class of 2005. Good Luck and I wish you all the best in your endeavors.  
-Mr. Holder

To all my girls Good Luck Ariana R, Jessica F, Syeda A, Ruby K, Amber K, Ruth, Israt, Cinthia. Luvya.  
-Janet Panora

Congratulation to all graduating seniors. All the best next year.  
-Mr. Korman

To the coaches: Mr. Ali, Mr. Boyle, Mr. Devaux, Mr. Garofano, Mr. Maloney, & Mr. Schimenz: Thank You for your great effort and support!  
-T. Lerro

Congratulations to all the seniors that are graduating. Wishing you "Good Luck" in all your future endeavors.  
-Margaret Dusha, Principal's Secretary

We wish you the best to all senior retirees.  
-Marie Adduo

Thanks for the four years of happy and fun memories.  
-Matthew Bermudez

Good Luck Seniors! And have fun in summer school.  
-Ms. Muresan

Cindy, Jassil and Amber all y'all graduating I hope you the best for you guys! All together.  
-Ronny

I am really really really really sorry Ingrid.  
-Ronny

Good luck in college or elsewhere, seniors. Congratulations.  
-Mr. Ryan

To all my girls you know who you are I love you guys good luck in the future 2zies.  
-Samira

To my journalism students: I hope you have gained something from this class. I hope you learned that life is not quite so easy as Queens Voc. I hope you learned that grades are occasionally commensurate with the level of effort you bring to a task. I hope you have learned that good enough is the

enemy of it can be better.  
-Rob Schimenz

Seniors: Congratulations! Success!  
-T. Lerro

Rob, thanks for always pushing me to do my best and not settling for anything less.  
-Sumon Miah

Alex, thank you for all your hard work and help. You will be hard to replace. Good Luck  
-The Secretaries

Alyssa, have a great summer thank you for all your help.  
-The Secretaries

Cece, my best I love you soo much. Ima miss you!  
-Shalimar Ruiz

"Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing themselves."  
-Sumon Miah

Good luck to all graduating seniors from the softball team. I really enjoyed all the fun we had. I will miss you guys very much!  
-Stephanie F. #2

Goodbye to my favorite Statue of Liberty class CT12!  
-Mr. Stigliano

Congratulations to my seniors. It has been great. Good luck.  
-Mrs. Watkins

Dear Alex, Remember what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas's.  
-You Know Who!

I wish good luck to all my friends in college.  
-Andrea Cevallos

Good luck to my little crew I love you guys and I wish you best of luck in the future.  
-Rosa Garcia

High school whomps, sometimes. But I am going to miss all the good times I had here with all the friends I made here.  
-HERO

Sexy Sumon. Ima miss you soo much I'll always remember Shalalalamar!!  
-Shalimar Ruiz

Good luck to all my friends in college and in life. Hope to see you guys in the future.  
-Johnathan P-B

To my friend Ingrid, I will miss you.  
-Jonathan Pena Bonilla

To the graduating class of 2005:

BLAH! and good riddance.  
-Sumon Miah

Let's go Lady Tigers. Good luck friends I'll miss you. Never forget you have a real friend in me.  
-Vanessa Macareno

Janet, Ruby, Nisa, thanks so much for everything, good luck, love you guys  
-Ariana

Congratulations seniors! Good luck and have fun. Miss you.  
-Haze

Good luck to all my girls. I love you guys. Thank you for always being there. Good Luck! Hugs & Kisses!  
-Anabella Fortuny

To my Ana n Bibi, I will miss you. Love you  
-Lorraine

To Zuzu: remember the longest walk... It began more than four years ago. During that time you have shown me so much dedication and so much loyalty. You have worked so hard for the team. I'll forever appreciate that I got the chance to know you and to become friends. I'll remember God's gift to me... Thanks for being a great leader and a great captain. And thanks for your work on the school newspaper. I know it would have been easier to walk away. I'm grateful you didn't.  
-Rob

To Bhaiya, Cookie Monster, Grace, Habibi, Homie G, Izzy, Lil One, and Ms Ramsahai: Thanks for being my backbone, allowing me to stand strong.  
-Sumon Miah

Chris D., Agosto, and Sean thanks for all them laughs and crazy times. Good luck. Love you guys.  
-Ariana

Congratulations to the class of 2005!  
-Sanders

To: Jessica, Sumon, David, Anniesa, Syeda, Suhail, Kimberly, Ariana, Israt, Chris, Sean, Harpreet, Janet, Cinthia Good Luck!  
-Ruby

Good luck to all of our graduating seniors! You're the best!  
-Mr. Vela, Asst. Principal

I will miss all my friends. Hope you have a great last year with us. Luv you all. Good Luck!  
-Cindy

For my best friend, Addy:

You've always been the best in EVERYTHING! 126 for eternity. Always ur Nyce.  
-Denise

To Denise: I love you very much more and more everyday for eternity. 126 Amen! Amen!  
-Addison Davis

Thank you to Mr. Vega and all of the students who helped me find my wife when I lost her on our trip to the Knicks game!  
-Mr. Vela, Asst. Principal

To Sandy: I'm glad you preferred Queens Voc over LIC. Harley will never know what he lost. I knew you were special when you took Willie's number. You've contributed so much—your positive attitude kept us going throughout the seasons. Thanks for all your work and your support. Thank you too for your work on the school paper. I know it was from your heart.  
-Rob

To: Sumon and to my sis Shalalalamar, congrats and good luck!  
-Sheila Ruiz

HaHa  
-M-Time

To the Senior Lady Tigers: Best of Luck in the future  
-Mr. Boyle

Yo Sandy you mah boy I love you Mayimbe!!  
-Eggroll

I LOVE Sumon & I will miss him. Love Ingrid  
-Ingrid

To all the seniors, good luck in life. Ima miss you.  
-Diana E.

Thank you to all of our deans, school aides, and school safety agents for keeping our school safe!  
-Mr. Vela, Asst. Principal

Good job to Mr. Ali and the soccer team, for making the 2nd round playoffs.  
-Bryan Llorente

To: Zinnia, I didn't like this school but once I met you, I loved it. I luv you Zinnia. With love.  
-Wildes Arce

Juana, Rosa, Bibi, Anabella, and the rest. I love you and will miss you dearly.  
-Yurly Olivares

To Fernando: I'm proud that you are graduating and I'm proud that you are seriously thinking about college. And I,



# Out To Tell Someone...

compiled by Syeda Ali & Jessica Rios

am so very glad I got to know you. From "my little one" you have become a young man. Thanks for your friendship throughout the past four years. I have truly appreciated you.  
-Rob

Good Luck to all seniors. Have a great summer!  
-Denise

Dear Ms. Muresan, I'm glad you are here in this school and not in Communist Romania. I hope this message helps the students make their Voice Gram quota. Democracy Rules.  
-Mr. Hammond

To everyone I failed-Good luck in summer school! Punks  
-Korman

Special Day!  
Unique gifts  
Crafting your future  
Creating your feature  
Creating a new world  
Everyday a new hope  
Sharing your dreams  
Success to all of you!  
-Ms. Burg

Good Luck to all seniors. Hope you succeed in all you do  
-Agent Graham and Agent Sanders

Senior baseball players: Fernando, Sandy, Zuzu, Joe, Gio, Gary, Daryl, Elvis, Miller, Addison.  
-Peter Rodriguez

Angelica I love you!  
-Agusto

I love you more, Agusto!  
-Angelica Nicole Lopez

Addison: four years ago, you earned my respect as a 9th grader who became a team captain. You have always been a source of sound, mature advice. I'm a better coach because of you. Thank you for your support and your friendship.  
-Rob

Seniors are the best!! Congratulations, again, again, and again.  
-Ms. Soraghan

Good Luck to all seniors.  
-David

What time is it?.....  
Miller time!!! #33  
-You Know Who

Christopher, I love you very much.  
-Amanda

Shout out to the one who wrote the list, Yurly  
-Gary

Yo, what's up soon to be.  
-Ruthie Vegas

Oscar, I love you I'm going to miss you bothering me! Much Love.  
-Jackie

I love Yurly. I'm gonna miss you.  
-Rene Cruz

Get ready for an exciting new year in September, FBLA. Have a great summer.  
-Mrs. Sweet-McNeil

Seniors, best wishes in all of your endeavors.  
-Mr. Nadler

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2005! Best of luck!  
-Mr. Ali

Since I met you my life changed! I love you Ralph! Shout out to everyone in Queens Voc!  
-Yesenia Pena

To my friends Jackie, Estefania, Leslye, James, and Johnathan Math was crazy funny and fun with you guys love you all!  
-HERO

I'm going to miss everyone so much. Thanks for the memories and good luck!  
-Amber Kaur

Good luck graduating seniors.  
-Mrs. Sweet-McNeil

Miller you're the man. Thanks for everything. Matt thanks for being a great friend to me.  
-Amber Kaur

Mr. Rodriguez, thanks for the advice and overwhelming speeches.  
-Ariana

Rob I'm going to miss you. Thanks for everything and also to Mr. Rodriguez.  
-Amber Kaur

To the people who were true friends of mine, you know who you are, I will miss you guys! Good Luck!  
-Leonardo Rivas

Rob and fellow baseball players: Thanks for the great memories and great times for the past two years. Queens Voc Tigers baby!!!  
-Joe LiVecchi #34

Sumon: Thanks for your efforts and your dedication. I know you put your heart into the school newspaper, even at times no one else did. Think of how much was accomplished and you will realize that this was a very successful year. I hope I have

taught you, as I have learned a lot from you.  
-Rob

Thanks to all teachers and students that made my four years at Queens Voc exciting and memorable.  
-Joe LiVecchi #34

To my friends Adiyasa, Oscar, Jonathan, Harpreet, Sumon, & Gio. High school was fun with you guys. Good luck in college!  
-Johnathan Pena-Bonilla

Dear Ms. Adler: Enjoy your retirement. We will miss you! "Don't forget Room 206"  
-Nguyen, Cilia, Mohan

Congratulations, best wishes and much love to the class of 2005! Sincerely,  
-Mrs. Cheree Himmel

I love Anabella, Ambar, Amber, Bibi, Juna, Ingrid, Yurly.  
-Miller #33

To David my boo, I'll miss not being in the same school. However it wont stop me from loving you.  
-Anniesa

To my friends Jackie, Estefania, and my dear sister Leslye, I will miss you all. Love you girls.  
-Johnathan Pena-Bonilla

Congratulations graduating seniors- Class of 2005.  
-Mrs. Florio

To mommy Kema, we will miss you next year! Good Luck don't forget to visit us.  
-Anisha, Tasia, and Sheriece

Sumon you're my best friend forever and ever.....I luv u!!  
-Israt

Thanks Rob for strengthening my character and the person I am.  
-Sumon Miah

Ruby, my school mother, I remember when I just met u. U & I have changed so much & I love u for being the "honest" friend u've always been. U better not forget me.  
-LiDdleWun

Dear Mr. Schimenz, See you in Vermont.  
-Judy Siegal

Syeda, Sumon, Ruby, Janet, David, Suhail, Tahjib, and Zinnia congrats you guys!!  
-Israt

Dear Mr. Vega, thank you for being you and caring for us!  
-Bibi and Ana

My other half, you have helped me so much the past 3 years & for that I will always be thankful. Ur support and un-conditional love have helped me grow into what I am now. I will miss u dearly & don't 4get that u still have one person 2 come back 2 in Queens Voc.  
-LiDdleWun

To Izzy, the girl I drive crazy. My love for you is unconditional and I hope we grow old and stupid together. Despite how much I make fun of you, I truly cherish you for the person you are. You became a part of me. Life would be a bit empty without you.  
-Sumon Miah

To Mr. Schimenz and Mr. Mattei thanks for a wonderful sendoff.  
-Judy Siegal

To the Voc Voice editors: thanks for your hard work and for the efforts to put out another series of quality newspapers. You often worked against the odds: late articles, grammatical mistakes, and yet you produced papers that kept the tradition—papers you can be proud of. I am very glad I got to know you. Thanks for the wonderful memories and for letting me get to know you.  
-Rob Schimenz

To Dave: "Many a person has held close, throughout their entire lives, a friend that will always remain strange to one another, because one of them is attracted by virtue of similarity, the other by difference."  
-Sumon Miah

To a wonderful faculty thank you all for making my career here so wonderful.  
-Judy Siegal

To my good friends, you know who you are, it's been great. (I guess)  
-Syeda Ali #1

Congratulation Graduates! I wish all of you the best. Please read a good book this summer  
-Ms Lewis, Librarian

To Vega: The man who makes everything possible. Thanks!  
-Sumon Miah

To Shalalamar, Johnathan, Leslie, Sheila, Ingrid, and everyone else, I will miss you guys!  
-Sumon Miah

To my students I've watched you grow up before my eyes. I wish you all luck and happiness.  
-Ms. Siegal

Dear Ms. Adler, It's been wonderful working with you this term. Let's enjoy retirement together.  
-Judy Siegal

Mr. Schimenz and the Baseball Team: Thanks for everything. We appreciate all the good times we all shared.  
-Elvis Collado & Addison Davis

To Rob Schimenz: Throughout this past year, we've found a mentor that has made us laugh a lot and has been there for us when times were rough. Thank you for everything. You'll always be in our hearts.  
-Your Girls

To my girls: Good luck next year, Bibi and Ana I love you.  
-Loraine Alba

To my coach and friend R. Schimenz: Where do I get started? I have no idea, I want to thank you again for getting me into the school and helping me get through high school. We have countless memories together, all the way from me pitching my first league freshmen year and the red stain on my jersey, to all the way to our disagreement and happy time like the win against RFK this year and the walk across the bridge. I just wanted to tell you thank you for everything. -Love your captain and friend forever Zuzu #8

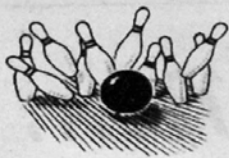
To my brother R. Schimenz, Thanks for not only being my teacher, my coach but also for being my friend. I appreciate you being there for the last three years. You have made my three years in QV unforgettable. I won't say good-bye because I'm not going any where. 21 Tigers, One Family. -Love, your brother, Sandy Rodriguez #59

To my bum: You are my sun on my rainy days. I love you babe.  
-From your bum

To Mr. Schimenz: Thanks for all the lessons you have taught me. I know life will not be given to me on a silver platter and I have to work hard for it. Thanks!  
-Israt

To Mr. Vega: Thanks for everything. You go out of your way to make everything happen for the kids you love. Thanks!  
-Israt

Seniors prove to the world, your not just anybody...  
-Sumon Miah



# Senior Sports

by : Harpreet Singh

**Ambar Marrero**

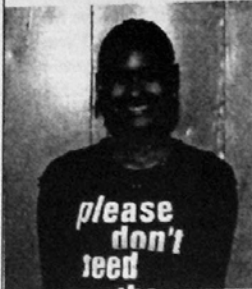


Sport: Bowling  
Age: 18  
Position: B team  
Years on team: 2

"Ambar tried her best to motivate girls during the games. She gave 110 percent when competing against other teams."  
-Stephanie Fernandez

"Her bowling ball didn't move very fast but it was very effective."  
-Coach Garofano

**Germania Collado**



Sport: Bowling  
Age: 17  
Position: B team  
Years on team: 1

"She helps all her teammates and tries her best to keep her average up. She keeps us motivated, especially me."  
-Rosa Garcia

"Germania always kept all of the players upbeat and motivated."  
-Coach Garofano

**Vanessa Macereno**



Sport: Bowling  
Age: 17  
Position: B team  
Years on team: 1

"She is of the people who never gave up, therefore one of our most competitive players."  
-Juana Rosario

"As a first-year player, Vanessa immediately claimed a spot on the B-team."  
-Coach Garofano

**Michael Saldarriaga**



Sport: Soccer  
Age: 17  
Position: Forward  
Years on team: 1

"He contributed in a big way this year. For his first year, he performed really well."  
-Oscar Gutierrez

"Played excellent when on the field and even scored on his efforts."  
-Coach Ali

**Juana Rosario**



Sport: Bowling  
Age: 17  
Position: A team  
Years on team: 2

"Juana motivated other to play and never gave up. She is also was very competitive and was always the bold one."  
-Ambar Marrero

"Juana was one of the team's best players. She was always willing to switch from the A to B team whenever needed."  
-Coach Garofano

**Mathew Bermudez**



Sport: Basketball  
Age: 18  
Position: Forward  
Years on team: 4

"He has been on the team for 4 years. He is a great leader on the court. Matt keeps us focused before we have a game."  
-Harpreet Singh

"In four years Matt has improved his ability and was a key player on this year's playoff team."  
-Coach Maloney

**Clifton Duhaney**



Sport: Basketball  
Age: 17  
Position: Point guard  
Years on team: 3

"He is a great leader on the court. He held us together in tough times."  
-David Bermudez

"Clifton seemed to raise the level of all the players who ran the point. His court awareness and ball handle is what every team needs."  
-Coach Maloney

**Jason Brunder**

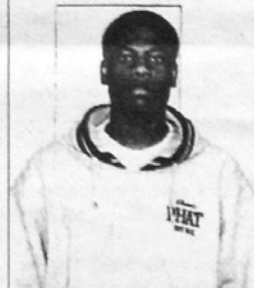


Sport: Basketball  
Age: 17  
Position: Point guard  
Years on team: 4

"He brought positive energy on the court that helped the team through every game."  
-Mathew Bermudez

"Jason played several positions well the last four years. He stepped up his game and was ready for any challenge that he faced."  
-Coach Maloney

**Vional Joseph**



Sport: Basketball  
Age: 18  
Position: Forward  
Years on team: 3

"Has been on the team for three years. Showed complete dedication whenever he stepped on the court."  
-Jason Brunder

"Joseph has come a long way since the first time he stepped on the court for Q.V. He developed into an excellent perimeter player."  
-Coach Maloney

**Timothy Perez**



Sport: Basketball  
Age: 17  
Position: Forward  
Years on team: 2

"He is a hard worker. He was a good role player on the team and played with a lot of heart."  
-Jainer Villafane

"Timothy had some great moments this years, where he played at a high level. Timmy when focused was a great sixth man."  
-Coach Maloney

## Sports Banquet

by Anabella Fortuny

Queens Vocational and Technical High School held its third annual Sports Banquet at Bruno's on the Boulevard on Tuesday June 7, 2005. This event is held to acknowledge our school sports team members for their hard work and achievements throughout the season.

Family members were invited to attend the buffet dinner along with the team

members and coaches. The tickets were \$25 per person; an estimated one hundred and fifty people attended this year.

The ceremony included the distribution of trophies to team members, and to those who received special awards such as MVP.

"Our team had a very successful season, it was great," said Mr. Ali, coach of the soccer team. Mr. Ali chose sophomore

Wilmer Barona as MVP, and freshmen Karol Gumieniak as Rookie of the Year. Mr. Ali also recognized senior Sait Paljevic as the player who showed the most improvement this year.

"Anytime a team makes the playoffs is a successful season, and the fact that we had 11 wins, the highest number of wins in eight years, is even better," said

Mr. Maloney, coach of the boys' basketball team. According to the coach, "this year Armando Contreras showed a lot of effort because he was the most consistent, but all the players had good moments that is why we won eleven games." Armando Contreras was chosen as MVP this year because he "was the go-to-guy, and the team relied on him to score points when there was a critical game-

time situation," said Mr. Maloney. Coach Maloney chose Reid Samedi as Rookie of the Year "because he was the starting center and played the majority of the minutes at that position," said the coach.

Mr. Devaux, coach of the boys' bowling team, awarded Emanuel Dunkley with the MVP award, "Emanuel stepped in his first year and took over as leader as well as leading the team in pin-



# Profiles



**Alberto Aspiazu**

Sport: Baseball  
Age: 18  
Position: Pitcher, Catcher, Captain  
Years on team: 4

"Zuzu has great talent and is a leader on the team. He helps out everyone on the team and helped us win throughout the season." -Diomedes Gonzalez

"Zuzu is a fourth-year senior player who has been a big part of the team since his freshmen year. Zuzu has been a steady leader on and off the field and always given his team 100%. He's one of our all-time greats!" -Coach Schimenz



**Jainer Villafane**

Sport: Basketball  
Age: 18  
Position: Forward  
Years on team: 2

"Jainer always had a positive attitude and used it to create a fun environment for us. We had good times together." -Ildi Telegrafi

"Jainer accepted everything that was asked of him. Whenever the team needed a crunch basket, Jainer was more than willing to take the shot." -Coach Maloney

-Coach Maloney



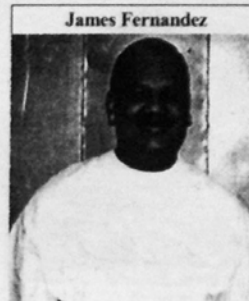
**Giovanni Cano**

Sport: Baseball  
Age: 17  
Position: Catcher  
Years on team: 1

"Gio is hard worker. He plays with a lot of heart when he is on the field." -Daryl Villavicencio

"Gio as a rookie senior at tryouts had a disadvantage; he was a senior and a rookie. But he showed talent, heart, and impressed me. He still does." -Coach Schimenz

-Coach Schimenz



**James Fernandez**

Sport: Soccer  
Age: 18  
Position: Defense  
Years on team: 1

"James keeps the team motivated to play hard. He is determined to play his hardest as much as possible." -Sait Paljevic

"Played soccer for first year. James tries very hard to understand how the game is played, and appreciates learning how the game is played." -Coach Ali

-Coach Ali



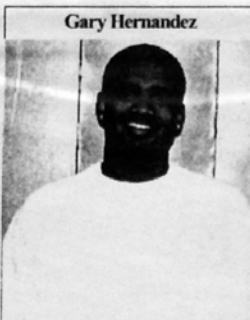
**Ildi Telegrafi**

Sport: Basketball  
Age: 18  
Position: Point guard  
Years on team: 2

"He is always prepared to do his job on the court. He was a good point guard until his injury set him back." -Armando Contreras

"Ildi started the year at point guard until an ankle injury set him back. Sometimes he was put down by the team but always stayed positive about it. Ildi had great penetration ability." -Coach Maloney

-Coach Maloney



**Gary Hernandez**

Sport: Baseball  
Age: 17  
Position: Third Base  
Years on team: 1

"Gary is a very motivated person and he contributed to the team as much as possible. He is a very talented and outgoing person." -Daniel Medina

-Daniel Medina

"At tryouts, Gary impressed me and the team leaders with his hard work and baseball skills. He's done well and I am glad he played for us." -Coach Schimenz

-Coach Schimenz



**Addison Davis**

Sport: Baseball  
Age: 17  
Position: Outfield  
Years on team: 4

"Addison is a player who cares more about the team than of himself. He is always there to help." -Elvis Collado

"Four-year veteran Addison Davis had a mature, calming affect on our team. His dedication to the team was both special and rare." -Coach Schimenz

-Coach Schimenz



**Fernando Nunez**

Sport: Baseball  
Age: 18  
Position: Pitcher, OF, Captain  
Years on team: 4

"Fernando is a great player, a leader, and friend. He has a positive attitude on and off the field." -Peter Rodriguez

"Nando is a 4 year veteran who brought to the team solid skills. He is dedicated to the team and works hard to help me." -Coach Schimenz

-Coach Schimenz



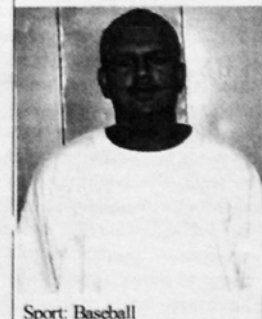
**Joseph Livecchi**

Sport: Baseball  
Age: 18  
Position: First Base  
Years on team: 2

"Joe is a cool guy to be around and he is also a big part of our team. He is very motivated person." -Rene Cruz

"Joe is a steady player and calming influence on the team. Joe has been a strong fielder and a big contribution for two years." -Coach Schimenz

-Coach Schimenz



**Elvis Collado**

Sport: Baseball  
Age: 17  
Position: Second Base  
Years on team: 3

"Elvis not only provided talent to the lineup but provided a positive attitude on the team. He is a true team player." -Sandy Rodriguez

-Sandy Rodriguez

"Elvis is a player who cares so much about our team. His attitude is good. We also rely on him a lot for his skills. He's been a big contributor this year!" -Coach Schimenz

-Coach Schimenz

average," said Coach Devaux. Marios Savva received the Rookie of the Year award. "Marios came in and made what would have been an inconsistent B-team into a strong B team that won several matches for us," said Coach Devaux. The Coach's Award was given to Donald Gray for his outstanding performance as a

player and team member.

The girls' bowling team received the awards from their coach Mr. Garofano. This year Yurly Olivares received the MVP award, "Yurly has not only been a team leader but has also put up great numbers as a player." Coach Garofano decided to award Stephanie Fernandez with the coach's

award. "Stephanie not only has performed well as a player but also as a team leader," said coach Garofano. Mr. Boyle coach of the girls' softball team gave out individual awards and some special awards to his players during the banquet. This year the boys' baseball team had a late ending season making it to the playoffs. Coach Schimenz

dedicated his time at the banquet to say a final good bye to his eleven senior baseball players.

Because the newspaper was printed before the dinner no quotes from attendees are available.



# Senior Sports Profiles

Sandy Rodriguez



Sport: Baseball  
Age: 17  
Position: Pitcher, Captain  
Years on team: 4

"Sandy is a great player who has a heart for the game. He has the ability to play different positions on the field for the team."  
-Fernando Nunez

"Senior Sandy Rodriguez has been a quiet leader on this team since transferring to Queens Voc from LIC his sophomore year. He helped lead us to many victories."  
-Coach Schimenz

Allen Salazar



Sport: Handball  
Age: 18  
Position: First Singles  
Years on team: 2

"He is a really good player. I have a lot of faith in him and he will do really well in the playoffs if we make it."  
-Marvin Cordero

"Allen plays the game at a fast and furious level taking his opponents to the extreme. He could be in the top ten of all players in the PSAL!"  
-Coach Maloney

Miller Riascos



Sport: Baseball  
Age: 17  
Position: Pitcher  
Years on team: 3

"Miller gives it his all when he is on the field. He shows a lot of heart and works hard while performing on the field."  
-Joseph Livecchi

"Miller is a third year senior whose skills and maturity have helped us tremendously."  
-Coach Schimenz

Daryl Villavicencio



Sport: Baseball  
Age: 17  
Position: Outfield  
Years on team: 1

Daryl is the latest member on the team. He is a great contribution to the team. He is always there when help is needed."  
-Alberto Aspiazu

Daryl helped the team so much in his rookie year. I wish he have joined the team early."  
-Coach Schimenz

Amber Kaur



Sport: Softball  
Age: 18  
Position: Pitcher  
Years on team: 3

"Amber has improved a lot since last year. Now that she is pitching, she is the most important player to us. She is a great teammate."  
-Yurly Olivares

"Amber is a third year captain and pitcher, who has worked hard through practices and clinics. Her hard work shows off."  
-Coach Boyle

## JV Baseball

by Michael Saldarriaga

Queens Voc's junior varsity baseball team was excited stepping onto the field when they started their season on May 14. In his first year as coach of the team, Mr. Garofano was eager for the season to start. "I was looking forward to it; I want to give the JV baseball players a chance to develop their skills and be ready for the next level," he said. His players were also excited to get the season started to show off their skills.

Tryouts for the schools varsity and junior varsity baseball teams were held in the first weekend of October and were run by veterans on the varsity baseball team. "Tryouts helped me realize that these players have the potential to be not only on the junior varsity team, but also on the varsity team," said Coach Garofano. "I like the way most players got accustomed to the drills and scrimmages during tryouts," he added.

The junior varsity baseball team consists of freshmen and sophomores only. Coach Garofano's team consists of 12 players, 11 freshmen and 1 sophomore. The freshmen are David Bermudez, Ronald Carrasco, Julian Castro, Steven Delena, Gilbert Estrada, Jorge

Herrera, Riyan Hidayat, Jestis Perez, Steve Pinell, Emmanuel Portorreal, and Angel Tejada. The sophomore is Patrick Williams. Many of the students who originally signed up for the team failed off before the season even started.

Coach Garofano held practices 2 times a week throughout the season. David Bermudez believes having practice helps the team chemistry. "I'm getting to know my teammates a lot better and part of it is because of the practice we have," he said.

The season consists of 10 games and the team will be facing many high schools such as Benjamin Cardozo, Beach Channel, John Bowne, Far Rockway, Flushing, and Bayside high schools. Coach Garofano feels that the schools the team competes against are very challenging. "The schools that compete against us are very competitive and challenging," said the junior varsity coach.

The team defeated Far Rockway 9-8 on May 14 and picked up their first win of the season in their first game. Their record is 2-1 as of May 24. "I was happy that we won that game," coach Garofano said. "There is a lot of room for improvement but overall the boys played well and hung in there," he added.

Sophomore Patrick Williams

Raymond Chiu



Sport: Handball  
Age: 18  
Position: Sub  
Years on team: 2

"He always has a lot of energy on the court. He always gives his best when he plays."  
-Sait Palevic

"Raymond has improved his game and needs to keep on practicing to become better."  
-Coach Maloney

was ecstatic about the inaugural season. "I'm happy to be playing for this team; I gained a lot of experience and I am going to use that experience when tryouts are held next year," he said.

Coach Garofano believes success will come through hard work and dedication. He also hopes to be competitive and consistent this season. "My expectations for this season are to be competitive, but at the same time it's going to be a learning experience for both me and the players," said the coach.

Marvin Cordero



Sport: Handball  
Age: 18  
Position: First Doubles  
Years on team: 4

"Two words: Old school!"  
-Raymond Chiu

"Marvin loves to play handball and has been one of the key players for the past several years."  
-Coach Maloney

Andrea Cevallos



Sport: Softball  
Age: 18  
Position: Outfield  
Years on team: 2

"She is good teammate and she brings in good energy into the team."  
-Vanessa Reyna

"Andrea is a senior we are looking to get in the lineup and get some hits."  
-Coach Boyle

*Congratulations  
to all our  
graduating  
student-athletes*



## Tigers Take Division Championship

continued from back page

"This was a great season, but it's bittersweet," said coach Schimenz. "The sad part is losing so many seniors. It's tough on them, on me personally, and on the remaining players."

"We are all a family and I don't want to leave them," said Sandy. Fernando spent four years on the team and is also not ready to leave. "I enjoyed every minute of it, and it was fun."

"They are good friends and good players. It's sad that they have to leave," said Danny Lopez, a 3-year veteran. Peter Rodriguez, a 2-year veteran agreed. "It's going to be sad for me because I've built a great friendship with each of them. They were very helpful and always there for me when I needed them."

The seniors leaving are Alberto "Zuzu" Aspiazu, Giovanni Cano, Elvis Collado, Addison Davis, Gary Hernandez, Joseph Livecchi, Fernando Nunez, Miller Riascos, Sandy Rodriguez, and Daryl Villavicencio. John Carlos Rodriguez is also leaving as he completed his fourth year of eligibility.

"It's tough to leave the [the team]. They mean a lot to me and my friendship with Schimenz means a lot as well," said "Zuzu."

## Softball Girls Had Fun Season

continued from back page

"This year we got some new players with potential; they'll have to step up next year to replace the seniors we are losing," he said. The addition of the new gym, Coach Boyle believes, "Will help us condition and improve our skills." Junior Stephanie Fernandez is sad about losing 8 players but is anticipating next year because the girls will have the gym to use for workouts. "The new gym should help us improve our skills and with more available space we can work on plays to be more awake on the field," she said.

"This was a very disappointing season but I'm looking forward for next year," Leslye Pena said. She hopes next year the girls will be focused and ready to go.



Coach Maloney thanks team for great effort in playoffs.

## BASKETBALL TEAM SOARS

### Makes first round of playoffs

by Joseph Livecchi

The Queens Voc varsity basketball team had a goal this season: to make it to the playoffs for the first time since the 2001-2002 season. They accomplished that goal, ending the regular season in third place with a record of 10 wins and 7 losses, and advancing to the first round of the playoffs.

The first round ended the 2004-2005 season for the Tigers, in a losing effort against Jane Addams High School on February 15, at Jane Addams High School.

"Jane Addams was a better basketball team," said Mr. Maloney, coach of the varsity basketball team. "They were bigger, stronger, and had a home court advantage. They were comfortable on their home court. Their big men out-rebounded us tremendously. We had spurts where it appeared where we would overcome the height advantage, but in the end, we lacked the stamina to finish," Coach Maloney added.

Matt Bermudez, a 4-year veteran and captain of the varsity basketball team, had a similar outlook. "Our team played extremely well that day. Jane Addams had a better team on the floor than we did. They shot the ball incredibly well, and we couldn't keep up with their scoring."

Despite the loss in the first round of the playoffs, Coach Maloney believes that the team had a successful season. "Any time you make it to the playoffs, it's a successful season. What made it more of a success was seeing the players represent the school well against a team that made it to the quarter-finals, eventually losing to the PSAL B Division Champions," said the coach. Jason Brunder, a 4-year veteran, agrees that the season was a success. "The performance of the team improved game by game," he said. "The players had the necessary skills to lead us to the playoffs."

There were many factors that led to the success of the team this season. According to

Harpreet Singh, a 3-year veteran, "One factor was that we played together as a team instead of playing for ourselves. All team members worked together and played their hearts out. We worked hard to make it to the playoffs because for the seniors, it was our last year."

Coach Maloney believes another factor helped lead to the success of the team this season. "The team was made up of mostly seniors. It was their experience and determination that led to most of the victories."

Throughout the season and the playoff game, the seniors on the team knew it was their last year. Their feelings encouraged them to support their team and strive to achieve their goals. Timothy Perez, a 2-year veteran, felt confident with the team this year. "I believed that we were one of the best teams in the PSAL basketball league. Throughout the season, I felt confident that we were going to win many games, and we won 10 games. Throughout the playoff game, I felt more confident that we were going to be the winning team. We played well, but by the halfway point of the game, we were fatigued. We lost the game, but we walked out with our heads high."

Three-year veteran Vional Joseph felt excited being with the team this year. "It was a special season playing for the team this year because most of us, including myself, are seniors. We had a winning season and we made it to the playoffs. Even though I was disappointed that we didn't make it past the first round of the playoffs, it was an exciting season from the first game to the last. I will remember this season for years to come."

There were many goals that the team accomplished this season. "We accomplished one of our goals that the team had at the beginning of the season, said 2-year veteran Ildi Telegrafi, and that was to make the playoffs. Even though we were defeated, it was a fun season, one that the team will keep in memory."

Coach Maloney said that another goal the team achieved

this year was double digit wins. "The team won the most games of any team in the past several years. At times, we played basketball on a championship level," said Coach Maloney.

Next season, the varsity basketball team must rebuild because 10 seniors on the 13 player team will not be returning. "Hopefully the gym will be ready. There will be open tryouts in September for the first time that I have been coach at Queens Voc. We were never afforded the opportunity to have early tryouts because of space restrictions at Aviation High School," said Coach Maloney.

Reid Samedi, a 2-year veteran, will be one of the returning players. "I can only hope for the best next season. We are losing many key players that will be hard to replace. One of our goals during the off-season is to search for talent for the team. As a returning player next season, I will have to show leadership and dedication to the team and try to develop similar chemistry with the team next season like we had this season," said Reid.

The team consisted of a core of players who led to the playoffs. Those players included seniors Matthew Bermudez, Jason Brunder, Armando Contreras, Clifton Duhaney, Vional Joseph, Timothy Perez, Euri Rojas, Harpreet Singh, Ildi Telegrafi, Jainer Villafane, juniors Reid Samedi, Rafael Valverde, and freshman David Bermudez.

Armando Contreras led the team in scoring with 14.3 points per game. Reid Samedi led the team in rebounding with 7.8 rebounds per game. Clifton Duhaney led the team in assists with 4.2 assists per game.

## Handball Team's Determination To Win Plays -Off

by Jonathan Sanchez

The Queens Voc varsity handball team finished its season with a winning record and made it to the playoffs. The Queens Voc varsity handball team finished its regular season with a record of 6 wins and 4 losses. The playoff game took place at World Fair Playground in where Queens Voc was defeated by Forest Hills 4-1.

This was the first time Mr. Maloney has taken his handball team to the playoffs. He has been the handball coach for 8 years. "This is the first time the handball team has made the playoffs in several years so I think this is a very successful season," said Mr. Maloney.

"I feel really good about myself because of the accomplishments that the team

has made this year," said William Hauzhco who plays third singles.

The prior experience that many of the players had was a crucial factor for this season's success. The handball team's first singles Allen Salazar, second singles Sait Paljevic, and third singles William Hauzhco were veterans. "We learned how to overcome all our difficulties and that's probably why the team made it this far," said Allen Salazar who was also the team captain. "We learned from our own mistakes," Sait Paljevic added.

According to the statistics in the PSAL website, the team's top two players of this season were William Hauzhco and Allen Salazar. William Hauzhco finished with a record of 7 wins, 3 losses, 23 kills, and 17 aces. Allen Salazar finished with a record of 7 wins, 4 losses, 21 kills, and 6 aces.

[A kill is when a player hits the ball and the opponent doesn't return the ball to the wall after one bounce. An ace is when a player serves the ball to the opponent, who is not able to return the ball.]

The handball team consisted of 11 players in which 7 of them were veterans and 4 were rookies. The 11 members of the team were: David Bermudez, Mathew Bermudez, Peter Capo, Raymond Chiu, Marvin Cordero, Leonel Garcia, William Hauzhco, Christopher Hyland, Sait Paljevic, Jose Perez, and Allen Salazar.

With five players graduating this year, the handball team is going to need new talent for next year's season. But there will be returning players such as William Hauzhco, Christopher Hyland, Jose Perez, and Leonel Garcia that will contribute all their experience to the team in the following season.

## What's Wrong with The Yankees?

by Michael Saldarriaga

Baseball fans believed the New York Yankees were going to dominate the MLB with the acquisition of five-time Cy Young award winner Randy Johnson.

Unfortunately, for the New York Yankee fans that is not the story. As of June 6, the Yankees were 28-29 and their key acquisition, Randy Johnson, has not reached team expectations. Owner George Steinbrenner has held meetings with his manager Joe Torre, and general manager Brian Cashman, about what is going on with his \$200 million team.

If the Yankees don't perform to expectations, the playoffs may not be in their future. It will be the first time since 1993 they don't make the playoffs.

## Silver Lining In the Cloud: Girls had Fun Season with Friends

by Sandy Rodriguez

Coach Boyle and the girls' varsity softball team started out year team hoping to have fun and a winning season. The season didn't go well for them but "it was a lot of fun playing softball and being around each other," said junior Carmen Herrera, a rookie on the team.

The season began with 7 veterans joined by 11 rookies. The veterans are: seniors Andrea Cevallos, Rosa Garcia, Amber Kaur, Ambar Marrero, Yurly Olivares, and Juana Rosario, and junior Stephanie Fernandez. The rookies are: seniors Germania Collado and Vivian Sanchez, juniors Naouyal Elidrisi, Carmen Herrera, Leslye Pena, Vanessa Reyna, Yuneidys Rondon, and Patsy Sanchez, and sophomores Dairis Jimenez, Danalyn Nguyen, and Johani Rodriguez.

Despite their 2-14 record, the girls fought hard and played together. "The girls lost and won as a team," said Coach Boyle, "but most of the time we lost this year because we didn't make the plays we had to make." Yet the coach doesn't blame his players. He believes he is to blame as well because he assigns the players to their position.



Amber Kaur attributed the bulk of the losses to concentration problems. "We lost many games because of the lack of focus and when we fought back it was too late," said Amber Kaur. Yuneidys Rondon agrees and added that the girls had potential. "If we all played to 100 % of our ability, this would have been a different season," she said. The lady Tigers defeated Frank Sinatra and Renaissance once each.

The team still had fun. "We had a good time, especially conditioning with the boys' varsity baseball team when the weather wasn't in our favor," said Coach Boyle. Many of the girls agree. "We had a fun time playing and working out," said Stephanie Fernandez and Dairis Jimenez.

The captains of the softball team this year were Rosa Garcia, Amber Kaur, Yurly Olivares, and Stephanie Fernandez. "My captains throughout the year have been doing their jobs and they were very helpful," said Coach Boyle. Juana Rosario and Germania Collado agree. "The captains motivated us and encouraged the team. That helped us do better," they added. But it wasn't only the captains who worked hard. Coach Boyle said "This year the whole team has been very helpful."

Rosa Garcia is one of the girls leaving. She is sad because she is going to miss her teammates and her coach. And she wonders if she'll ever play softball again.

Eight senior players will not be returning next year because they are graduating. But with 10 returning players, the coach believes the team can be competitive.

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## Tigers Take Division Championship Make Playoffs Fourth Year in a Row

by Amber Kaur

Their season didn't get off to a great start. The baseball team's first day of practice, March 1, was a snowy day. Their first game, on March 28, was rescheduled because of rain. But the season went well for the Queens Voc Tigers.

In a dramatic season-ending series, the Tigers varsity baseball team took first place in Queens North B by defeating RFK twice, both times 10-run ruling the Panthers, 12-2.

RFK was the number one team in the division until the Tigers played them. Fernando Nunez, a 4-year veteran and team captain said, "They are a good team and to be number one in the division, we had to win both games against them, and we did."

"First place is always a goal," said Alberto "Zuzu" Aspiazu, a 4-year veteran and team captain. "But actually, winning that final game took my breath away." Zuzu was the winning pitcher of the second RFK game—the game that put the Tigers in first place.

The Tigers also earned a playoff spot, but on Thursday, May 26, the Tigers lost their first-round game at Flushing Meadows Park, to LaGuardia High School, 6-1. "It was a painful loss," said Diomedes Gonzalez, a 2-year veteran and team captain, "but we ended up to be the division champs."

"Every year we always say we are a family, but this year is special. Our record defines how close we are, and how well we are doing as a family. We are stronger this year than ever," said Sandy Rodriguez, a 3-year veteran and team captain.

Playing over thirty games this year, the Tigers faced many challenges. "Every game we are hyped," said Sandy Rodriguez. "In Wagner game, we were down by 6 and won 12-7. We fought back in every game when we were down by couple of runs."

"Mistakes such as miscommunication, errors, and poor base running, were causes of our defeats," said 2-year veteran Joseph LiVecchi. "Our first loss to Frank Sinatra was a wake up call that helped us learn a lot from our mistakes," said Coach Schimenz.

There are some special moments that helped the team to win their division. According to Joey Long, a 3-year veteran, who came back from an injury last year, "The greatest moment in baseball for me was when we were playing against Jamaica. I hit a grand slam and a two-run triple. The score was 13-8. Six of those 13 runs I scored for my team," Joey said who had started the game as a pitcher and moved to the outfield earlier in the game. But Elvis Collado, a 3-year veteran, who has improved a lot throughout his baseball season, said he "really didn't have a real special moment. The whole season was special. Playing with the team and having fun is the best experience ever."

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TIGERS



SPORTS

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