Vax mandate updates and in-person classes this spring stir opinions across BC and CUNY

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Note From The Editors

Greetings Vanguard Readers,

This issue marks our official return to printing on physical newsprint – straight from the press into your hands. After waiting for over a year to have our work hit Brooklyn College's stands, we at The Vanguard are excited for what this spring semester and future hold. Moving forward, as Brooklyn College's halls fill with bustling students, we will continue our goal of informing you, our readers, of all campus-related news. Though the pandemic and the possibility of returning to remote learning persist, we will ensure to keep you informed and updated on the latest turn of events. Whether it be online, through your feeds, or through the copy you're holding now, we intend to hear from all the voices our campus and university carry. If you or someone you know has a story to tell or would like your issues to be investigated, feel free to stop by our office in Roosevelt 118. Or if you’d like to join our paper, and we’re not in the office, please get in touch with us over email (thebcvanguard@gmail.com). Thank you for your support and attention.

Sincerely,
The Vanguard Editorial Team

USS Election Stalemates Again, Chair Seat Remains Empty

By Gabriela Flores
Editor-In-Chief

After elections for new University Student Senate (USS) Steering members began last October, the positions for Chairperson and Vice Chair for Graduate Affairs remain vacant as voting members remain in a stalemate. Only one candidate continues in each race, with Salimatou Doumbouya from the City College of Technology running for Chairperson, and candidate Nerdeen Mohsen, from the CUNY School of Law, running to head Graduate Affairs within USS. An election last Sunday, Jan. 31 led to both Doumbouya and Mohsen garnering 22 votes, only 7 votes away from the minimum 29 needed to elect someone within Steering, the highest body within USS. Each candidate also received 18 abstentions in their respective races, leaving the organization with no winners.

"The lack of a resolution regarding the USS Steering election is not sustainable," Aharon Grama, the Co-President of Brooklyn College's Undergraduate Student Government, wrote in a statement to The Vanguard. "Grama was disqualified from his run for USS Chair last November for allegedly using campus technology, including The Vanguard's website, for "campaign purposes." He was slightly leading against Doumbouya in October's chairperson election. After being disqualified, he appealed his disqualification to CUNY election for the vacant USS Vice Chair position. As of press time, another election for the vacant USS positions has not been announced. Doumbouya and Mohsen did not respond to The Vanguard's request for comment in time for publication.

Candidate Salimatou Doumbouya is running for USS Chairperson. / BMCC Office of Student Activities

Candidate Nerdeen Mohsen is running for USS Vice Chair. /Canary Mission
CUNY Students and Faculty Back on Campus With New Vax Mandates

By Gabriela Flores & Radwan Farraj
Editor-In-Chief & Staff Writer

CUNY campuses have opened with 70% of courses scheduled in person since the shift to online learning nearly two years ago. Under New York State Governor Kathy Hochul, the university has implemented a vaccine mandate for all CUNY faculty and a new booster mandate for fully-vaccinated students. As the spring semester approached, the new guidelines left some students opting for limited remote courses and others calling for the university to implement remote accommodations.

“They definitely need to hear students from all walks of life, with or without disabilities, or whether they come from other marginalized backgrounds,” said Austin Dragos, who worked alongside the University Student Senate's Disabilities Division that contributed in writing the letter, remote accommodations for students with or without disabilities/diagnoses are necessary. “If CUNY’s not gonna be flexible in any way, then why should people still have to continue spending so much money on tuition for an education that’s just gonna keep flip flopping every time the administration wants to keep making changes that just don’t even have any student consensus or anything of that sort,” he said, noting that enrolled students may be immunocompromised, employed, or have other challenges.

Enrolled Brooklyn College students could file for medical or religious exemption via CUNYFirst, where the university would evaluate their claims on a “case by case basis,” per CUNY’s website. “I think they’re very, very strict on the whole medical exemption vaccine. And I do understand why, there are probably other people who are finding any way possible to not get the vaccine or they’re anti-vaxers, you know,” said the anonymous student, who noted she supports vaccines. “But I feel like it’s just not something that should have been denied or looked over,” she stated, regarding her request for medical exemption due to her pregnancy.

Before the start of the spring semester, students across CUNY have signed and sent a letter to CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez calling for remote options to in-person classes. For Dragos, who worked in-person classes. For Dragos, who worked

Unlike students, faculty members are still not required to be fully vaccinated.

Brooklyn College student enrolled students writing the letter, remote accommodations for students with or without disabilities/diagnoses are necessary. “If CUNY’s not gonna be flexible in any way, then why should people still have to continue spending so much money on tuition for an education that’s just gonna keep flip flopping every time the administration wants to keep making changes that just don’t even have any student consensus or anything of that sort,” he said, noting that enrolled students may be immunocompromised, employed, or have other challenges.

CUNY has provided a weekly case tracker across its campuses, with 210 total positive cases across the university and 16 reported for Brooklyn College during the week of Jan. 24.
CUNY Students Respond To Return Of In-Person Learning

By Matt Hirsch & Sydney Rodriguez
News Editor & Staff Writer

Various CUNY student governments expressed their concerns about in-person learning in a letter to CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, requesting the university to reconsider its 70% capacity policy as COVID cases and the Omicron variant persisted. Some demands include more remote options until the end of 2022, an in-person class capacity of 50%, and more transparency as CUNY deals with the pandemic.

“For your administration to dictate that students go back to school resembles how out of touch our leaders are with our situations at home or even the science behind COVID-19,” written in the letter signed by various CUNY student governments.

The letter also demands open communication between CUNY and student government presidents and the University Student Senate Steering on plans to ensure students' safety and health needs.

“My concern is that the Chancellor is not being transparent to the CUNY community about faculty and staff vaccinations status,” Saaif Alam, USS Vice Chair for Disability Affairs, told The Vanguard. “Although the Chancellor mandated students to get their booster shot or they will not be able to enroll in summer and fall 2022 courses, students are not made aware whether or not faculty members and staff members have the same mandate.”

All faculty are required to be fully vaccinated, according to CUNY’s official website, though they were not mandated to during the fall semester. Students without medical or religious exemption, however, were required to get the COVID jab for on-campus access since the fall. Alam, who contributed to USS’s letter to Chancellor Matos Rodríguez had further concerns for CUNY students with disabilities.

“As USS Vice Chair of Disability Affairs, I strongly advocated in the letter with my colleague from School of Professional Studies, Jamie Brecher, USS and CCSD Delegate for more online course flexibility so some students with disabilities can succeed during the pandemic since they do not feel safe taking in person classes,” said Alam. “As student leaders we are expecting the Chancellor to communicate with us more so we can relay his updates to the student body.”

Along with the letters from student governments and University Student Senate Committees across CUNY, a Change.org petition asking Chancellor Matos Rodríguez to “save online classes at CUNY” amassed over 25,000 signatures.

SAVE ONLINE CLASSES AT CUNY!!

The change.org petition aimed at keeping online classes.
By Serin Sarsour
Features Editor

Disaster struck on Jan. 9 when a malfunctioning electric space heater sparked a fire in a 19-story apartment building in the Bronx called Twin Parks North West, leaving 17 people dead. Although the space heater that had been left operating for a few days in a bedroom on the third floor caused the fire, many Brooklyn College students believe others should be held accountable.

“The landlord of the building is to blame for the fire,” said BC sophomore Geoffrey Valenzuela. “There were numerous complaints from renters of the building about lack of heat, and management brushed it off up until the day of the fire, which in return makes the owner of the building completely at fault for not listening and not keeping up maintenance.”

Many tenants throughout the last few years reported their apartments were not supplied with heat, some of their ventilation systems were damaged, and they had faulty radiators, according to BuzzFeed News. The tenants continued to submit reports, though nothing was done about their heating needs, leaving many to use appliances, such as space heaters, to keep warm.

Kristen Valdes, a junior at BC, believes NYC officials must improve the conditions of apartment buildings, especially in areas stricken by poverty, to prevent any future fires and other safety hazards.

“I think NYC buildings should have yearly examinations to see whether or not it is a livable building. Most NYC buildings are decades, possibly even centuries old, so it is important to see if it is up to date with new technologies so people can live without worrying about house fires,” Valdes said.

All of the victims, including eight children, died of smoke inhalation after the front door of the apartment in which the space heater was located did not close, another safety hazard induced by the state of the building.

A mass funeral was held for all but two of the victims on Jan. 16. Since most of the victims were Muslim and West African, the majority being Gambian, they were mourned at a mosque called the Islamic Cultural Center of the Bronx.

“The families affected by the fire should be reimbursed and given a better place to stay, like in a building with proper safety and health conditions,” said a BC junior named Sanaa Bhatti.

Bronx Community College partnered with Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson, State Senator Gustavo Rivera, Congressman Richie Torres, NYC Council Member Sanchez, NYS Assembly Member Yudelka Tapia, and NYC Council Member Feliz to collect donations to help support the families impacted by the fire. The collected items consisted of canned goods, cleaning products or personal hygiene products, water, gift cards, batteries, and flashlights.

Additionally, rapper, Bronx native, and CUNY alumna Cardi B offered to pay the costs for the fire victims’ funerals, according to CNN. “NYC landlords must ensure the tenants are content with the quality of life of their living conditions,” Valdes said.

Twins Parks Tower North West Bronx in Fordham Heights. /bxtimes.com
Locals memorialize Bronx fire victims outside nearby middle school. /New York Times
BC Alumna Goes Viral On TikTok For Art Conservation Efforts

By John Schilling
Managing Editor

From its trendy dance videos to comedy skits, TikTok is not typically thought of as a social network used to raise awareness about art conservation efforts, but a Brooklyn College alumna has done just that.

Ellie Acebo-Hermiller, who graduated from Brooklyn College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art History last year, gained widespread attention from a TikTok video of her cleaning the Cloister Gallery at Ohio’s Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) last summer. The video, which she uploaded on Jan. 12, has earned over 3.5 million views and shows Acebo-Hermiller (@ellie_ah) applying a cleaning gel to various ancient stone artworks before peeling the dirt and grime off of them in what TikTok users have called “satisfying.”

For Acebo-Hermiller, her time in Toledo began while she was still a student at Brooklyn College. Due to COVID-19, Acebo-Hermiller’s classes had been moved online, allowing her to move to Toledo while finishing her degree.

“I was looking for opportunities to get hands-on conservation experience,” Acebo-Hermiller told The Vanguard. “I started my degree in Art History knowing I wanted to go on to a Master’s program in conservation, and all of those programs require hands-on work hours to apply.”

Acebo-Hermiller, who spent over 10 years in New York studying art, began volunteering at TMA shortly after graduating from Brooklyn College. Initially, her TikTok videos began as a creative outlet during COVID-19, but her growing popularity on the platform has been shocking as people from all over have resonated with her passion for art conservation.

In addition to her Cloister Gallery video, Acebo-Hermiller has also uploaded videos talking about various topics in art history, fielding questions from her followers, and painting her own masterpieces, each of which sport a few thousand likes at least.

“The TikTok virality has been surprising and a bit overwhelming but also exciting,” she told The Vanguard. “Hopefully it will lead to more work opportunities for me.”

Even as a rising TikTok star, Acebo-Hermiller still remembers her time at Brooklyn College fondly but regrets that it came to an end during the pandemic. Acebo-Hermiller only spent one and half semesters on campus before the pandemic moved everything online in March 2020. “I really miss it,” Acebo-Hermiller told The Vanguard. “I absolutely loved all of my art history professors. I really loved the program.”
BC Alumna Wins Prize For First Poetry Book

By Michela Arlia
Arts Editor

In early January, adjunct professor and alumna Chelsea Harlan was awarded the American Poetry Review/Honickman First Book Prize by the American Poetry Review for her piece “Bright Shade.” Originally from the Appalachian region, Harlan holds a B.A. in Literature and Visual Art from Bennington College and earned her M.F.A. in Poetry from Brooklyn College in 2017. Her award-winning work “Bright Shade” is a manuscript of poems all created by Harlan, where every individual piece is a retelling of an experience.

Harlan describes her process of creating the manuscript as similar to that of children’s playtime activities. “I’ve never spent years building a toy boat with tiny hammers and nails before, but putting ‘Bright Shade’ together is approximate to what I imagine that hobby must feel like,” said Harlan.

Having spent copious amounts of time working on this overall piece, Harlan says the process of writing “Bright Shade” followed her through cross-country moves, quality time writing in her hometown, as well as the isolation that the pandemic initially offered. Harlan then found her way to highlighting her work through the American Poetry Review/Honickman First Book Prize, an annual open-call for poetry manuscripts, where the winning title is selected by a guest judge. The winner is awarded a prize of $3,000, publication of their manuscript with a standard book publishing contract, and royalties, according to the American Poetry Review website.

With what Harlan describes as straightforward guidelines in formatting, once submission by the author is complete, the guest judge makes their decision within months, a process Harlan regards as a very quick turnaround for poetry. This year’s judge was American poet and author Jericho Brown, who selected Harlan’s piece from over 1,000 entries. “[Brown] chose ‘Bright Shade,’ to my utter honor and astonishment,” Harlan said. “I’m still not convinced this fortune isn’t some elaborate COVID fever dream, but here we are […]” Harlan considers writing her specialty in life, having loved it as long as she could remember. She started writing poetry and other stories from a young age. “My mom and I lived in a small cabin by a creek called Gunstock when I was really young, and without television or anything I started writing stories about creatures that carried on epically over countless flimsy spiral notebooks.”

Her main source of inspiration is the storytelling process. “A lot of poets talk about the element of surprise in their process, and I like to think I respect that sacred lightning, too.” of creatures, influenced by major world events around us on the daily. Harlan speaks of her inspirations listing “living things, the natural world, small miracles we’ll never understand, like squirrel noises and intrepid wild fruit trees. The world we’re losing in the devastating wake of climate change. The socioeconomic and racial impacts of climate change in a world unprepared and unwilling to take care of itself.”

Thinking ahead with her writing, Harlan says she is continuously writing and jotting ideas down, but doesn’t quite know where the writing will take her. “I’m never not jotting notes and making lists, so I’ll just keep doing that and see what happens,” said Harlan. “A lot of poets talk about the element of surprise in their process, and I like to think I respect that sacred lightning, too. Not having any expectations about my own work makes for a much healthier relationship with wherever it is it comes from.”

As for any new pieces in the works after “Bright Shade,” Harlan says her focus right now is creating short stories, mainly for her family and friends, reading their process, and I like to think I respect that sacred lightning, too. Not having any expectations about my own work makes for a much healthier relationship with wherever it is it comes from.”

Her award winning manuscript “Bright Shade” will be published in September 2022 and will be distributed by Copper Canyon Press through Consortium.
Opinion: Online Course Offerings Are Necessary Even After COVID

By Helen Dang
Staff Writer

During the middle of the 2020 spring semester, all Brooklyn College students had to transition to remote learning. With COVID cases rising, I remembered having to leave the gorgeous Brooklyn College campus and take all of my classes in my parents’ house. Lovely as it is, it grew cramped quickly. I hated doing my work remotely, I missed the in-person structure of school, and I wanted to go back very soon after it all began.

Throughout this long and difficult process, however, we have all learned to see education from a new perspective. After almost two years of weighing the pros and cons of both in-person and remote learning, most students have answered for themselves which might be best for them. The important point for us to realize, however, is that because all of our answers will vary, the need for a choice between the different options has become readily apparent.

To reach my own answer, I had to examine the pros and cons between the two types of learning.

One of the biggest benefits of in-person schooling for me were all the lessons that I learned from the environment and people around me, not just in the classroom. The biggest drawback of in-person learning for me was that sometimes I couldn't focus on my lessons and missed some stuff the professor had talked about. This could happen simply by sitting in the wrong spot of the classroom where a radiator might be clanking or a classmate couldn't stop clicking their pen. It is this large con of in-person learning that is no longer a bother for me in a virtual setting, where I am able to focus on my lessons and have access to all the material I am learning through recordings.

Online learning certainly has its cons for me as well. Key among them is the lack of connection and bonding with my peers and professors, which is especially true considering that some professors used this new mode as an opportunity to be lazy and assign more homework than teach. Some students may not turn on their cameras or are completely silent in online classes. Nonetheless, there is still some sort of bonding that can occur, but it is a very different type of connection formed by getting to know how somebody acts online or by the glimpses into their home if they use their camera. Between the two, I believe in-person allows for a much stronger connection with professors and peers, who you get to know more authentically than if all your meetings were remote.

Throughout this worldwide transition to remote learning, nearly every student has experienced an entirely new point of view toward education. Starting from kindergarten, I have been subject to the traditional in-person mode of education. This meant that I was mandated to go to school every day I had class, sit at either my assigned seat or my go-to seat, learn from instructors, and do assignments at home or crammed in between courses. All of which forms part of a long-standing daily routine for much of the western world revolving around education.

The pandemic has put a full stop to this routine and has presented me with a new point of view on education through remote learning. I began to accept the changes that came with remote learning and have come to appreciate the benefits of it. Chief among them is my ability to focus better through what feels like more individualized learning. While there are clear reasons why this might not be preferred by everyone, it certainly helped me learn better and remain focused.

After reflecting on these pros and cons of both in-person and remote learning, I have come to understand that I am the type of student who learns better remotely. We all have learned something about ourselves as students throughout the pandemic. For me, I have come to realize that because of how they help me remain focused, online classes allow me to be a better student than taking classes in-person. Because we have all come out of this experience with a unique preference, the school needs to recognize the need for choice. Whatever a student's preference might be, it has become clear that we must have options for students who learn better in different settings.
David Ortiz Elected To Baseball Hall Of Fame, Bonds & Clemens Fall Short

By John Schilling
Managing Editor

The National Baseball Hall of Fame gained a new member on Tuesday, Jan. 25, when former Red Sox slugger David Ortiz was elected to join the Cooperstown elite by the Baseball Writers’ Association of America (BBWAA) in his first year on the ballot.

Ortiz, often referred to as “Big Papi,” finished his 20-year career with 2472 hits and 541 home runs. Within that time, he was a 10-time All-Star, won three World Series, earned seven Silver Slugger Awards, finished within the top 10 of MVP voting six times, and led the league twice in runs batted in (RBI) and once in home runs.

“I am truly honored and blessed by my selection to the Hall of Fame — the highest honor that any baseball player can reach in their lifetime,” Ortiz released in a statement. “I am grateful to the baseball writers who considered my career in its totality, not just on the statistics, but also on my contributions to the Red Sox, the City of Boston, and all of Red Sox Nation.”

Despite his career success, Ortiz’s election to the Hall of Fame was questionable at best, with whispers that he used performance-enhancing drugs at the beginning of his career in 2003, stemming from a New York Times report in 2009. While the test was never made public or deemed legitimate, Ortiz was just barely elected to the Hall of Fame as a result of these suspicions with 77.9 percent of the vote, a mere 2.9 percent over the required 75 percent benchmark for election.

With his election, Ortiz is the seventh... Continued on page 10.
David Ortiz Elected To Baseball Hall of Fame, Bonds & Clemens Fall Short (CONT.)

David Ortiz on the Red Sox./Adam Glanzman via NY Daily News

baseball player headed to Cooperstown this year along with Veterans Committee selections Gil Hodges, Tony Oliva, Jim Kaat, Minnie Minoso, Buck O’Neil, and Bud Fowler. Ortiz, however, is the lone BBWAA electee, which was a disappointment for many.

Just falling short of Cooperstown enshrinement was Barry Bonds, the all-time home run leader who earned 66 percent of the vote, and Roger Clemens, who won seven Cy Young awards across his 24-year career and earned 65.2 percent of the vote. For both Bonds and Clemens, this was their tenth and final year of eligibility for the BBWAA ballot.

“My family and I put the HOF [Hall of Fame] in the rearview mirror ten years ago,” Clemens released in a statement. “I didn’t play baseball to get into the HOF. I played to make a generational difference in the lives of my family. Then focus on winning championships while giving back to my community and the fans as well.”

Riddled with accusations of using performance-enhancing drugs despite never testing positive, Bonds and Clemens’ only hope for enshrinement now rests in the hands of the Veterans Committee, and their eligibility could come as early as December 2022.

The same is true for Sammy Sosa, who hit 609 home runs across his 18-year career, and Curt Schilling, who is often considered to be one of the best postseason pitchers in the game’s history. Both Sosa and Schilling also fell short of being inducted into the Hall of Fame in their last year with 18.5 percent and 58.6 percent of the vote, respectively.

Sosa, who has been linked to performance-enhancing drugs, has had a consistently low voting percentage since joining the ballot in 2012, but the biggest upset comes with Schilling, who earned 71.1 percent of the vote last year.

As a result of missing the Hall of Fame by 3.9 percent last year, Schilling released a statement shortly after, urging the writers to no longer consider his candidacy and pleading with the Hall to remove his name from the ballot.

This, along with Schilling’s past comments about LGBTQ issues, Islam, journalists, and the U.S. Capitol insurrection in 2021, explains his severe decline in voting percentage heading into 2022.

Schilling, however, was not alone in his drop, as former shortstop Omar Vizquel, who won 11 Gold Gloves in his 24-year career, dropped to 23.9 percent after earning 49.1 percent in 2021. This comes after accusations of domestic violence from his wife and further claims that he sexually harassed a batboy in 2019.

Unlike Schilling and Vizquel, however, many names on the ballot experienced boosts in their voting percentages, including closer Billy Wagner and first baseman Todd Helton. The biggest leap, however, comes from third baseman Scott Rolen who received 63.2 percent of the vote, a 10.3 percent rise from last year.

These three will return to the ballot next year along with former Mets outfielder Carlos Beltran to the ballot, but the chances of being elected are unclear. Beltran, who played for 20 years, has been linked to the 2017-2018 Houston Astros sign-stealing scandal, which ultimately cost him the Mets manager job in 2020.
BC Sports: January Recap

Swimming and Diving Teams Struggle After Season Delay

By Owen Russell
Sports Editor

The swimming and diving season got off to a rocky start for the Bulldogs. The season, which was supposed to start on Oct. 30, did not officially get underway until Jan. 11 for the women and Jan. 18 for the men. From there, it was tough sledding for both teams.

The women split their first two matches of the season, losing their first meet in two years to Hunter College. After a resounding loss to Hunter, the Bulldogs battled back and defeated Lehman College for their first and only win of the season.

Despite strong individual performances throughout the winter, the Bulldogs would go on to lose five straight matches against CUNYAC rivals. The men’s swim team suffered a similar fate as the women. The Bulldogs only competed in three team competitions, losing all three. The Bulldogs would start and end their season with losses to Lehman, dropping a match to Baruch along the way.

Multiple Instagram users took their frustrations out in the comment section, some wondering why Yankee Stadium and Citi Field could be at full capacity while the Bulldogs had to play in front of an empty house. Despite the challenges of last semester, Brooklyn College students will finally be able to watch home sporting events live as of press time. According to the Athletic Department, students do not need to purchase any tickets to attend. For those interested, visit the Brooklyn College Athletic Department’s website for the Bulldogs’ schedules.

Brooklyn College Opens Home Games To Vaccinated Spectators

By Owen Russell
Sports Editor

Brooklyn College will allow a limited number of spectators for home games as of Jan. 28. The policy allows that only vaccinated Brooklyn College students are allowed to attend the games, and that all entrants are required to be masked. As the college transitions into a new normal of in-person classes, the spectator policy becomes part of Brooklyn’s ever-changing stance against COVID.

“With the return of students to campus and the decline of Omicron infections, we have been able to plan for the return of spectators,” said Athletic Director Bruce Filosa. According to a statement from Dec. 15, the return of spectators was supposed to take place on Jan. 1, but a spike in COVID-19 cases delayed the process. “[W]e are in a position where we feel confident in the management and safety of all involved,” Filosa added.

The return to the stands marks an important development for team spirit across Brooklyn College. “Having spectators definitely helps to motivate the teams,” Filosa stated. “The energy they bring to the game cannot be replicated.”

Fans will be allowed to attend Brooklyn College athletic events for the first time since spring 2020. Last semester, many athletes and fans were confused by what seemed to be a double standard as athletes practiced and competed unmasked, but fans were not permitted to attend even if they were masked and socially distant. At the same time, the music and theater departments were able to host in-person events with crowds.

“I was able to go to a jazz concert,” senior Derek Myers said. “They checked my vaccine and made me wear a mask, plus it was indoors. I don’t know why we couldn’t do the same for sports.” Myers is not alone in his sentiment. When the announcement first hit last semester, there was severe backlash on social media.

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**Women's Basketball Dominates CUNYAC, Hopes For Repeat Championship**

By Owen Russell

Sports Editor

Since last semester, the women's basketball team has been on a roll. The Bulldogs played nine games, losing only once. Their sole loss came against the nationally-ranked NYU Bobcats on Dec. 12. After that, the Bulldogs have been on a tear, winning seven straight games, including two this past week.

The first win of the week came against Pratt Institute on Jan. 25. The Pratt Cannoneers were no match for Brooklyn, scoring only 46 points against the Bulldogs' staunch defense. As for Brooklyn, the Bulldogs trounced Pratt's defense, scoring 89 points on 57 percent shooting from the field. Junior guard Ericka James led the team in scoring, dropping 21 points in only 10 shots. Brooklyn had five women score double-digit points, whereas Pratt had one. Brooklyn's second win of the week came against conference rival Baruch on Jan. 28. All season long, Brooklyn has been stellar in the CUNYAC competition, and this was no exception. The Bulldogs won by 25 points in a 77-52 contest. It was yet another team effort by the Bulldogs as four players scored double-digit points, including forward Chanel Jemmott, who scored 12 points and grabbed 15 rebounds. Baruch couldn't get anything going as they shot 29 percent from the field and scored only two points off the bench. The Bulldogs will look to turn their luck around this month as they march towards the CUNYAC Tournament. Their next game, as of press time, is Feb. 1 against John Jay.

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**Men's Basketball Suffers From Losing Streak**

By Owen Russell

Sports Editor

Since last semester, the Bulldogs secured their second win of the season. The victory came in thrilling fashion against conference rival CCNY as the two teams battled tooth and nail throughout regulation, but when the buzzer sounded, the game was tied at 76. In overtime, the lead continued to flip back and forth, but in the end, Brooklyn held strong and earned an impressive victory against a longtime rival. Sophomore forward Elisha Park grabbed 12 rebounds and dropped 24 points for the Bulldogs, leading the team in scoring. Along with Park, senior guard Noah Shy also scored 20 points, giving Brooklyn two players at or above the 20 point mark. The win was a bright spot for the Bulldogs in a season where those have been hard to come by.

Since then, however, the Bulldogs have gone 1-8, including a 0-3 record, since last week. Brooklyn's first loss of the week came against Medgar Evers on Jan. 25 in a relatively close game. Brooklyn had an awful first half, shooting 21 percent from the field and only six percent behind the arch. After halftime though, the Bulldogs found a bit of life. The team scored 52 points in the second half, compared to the mere 22 they scored in the first. Despite the rejuvenated effort, Brooklyn could not make up for their rough first half, losing to Medgar Evers 85-74.

On Jan. 28, Brooklyn lost in a much more lopsided game against Baruch. The Cougars from Baruch outclassed the Bulldogs in practically every category, earning 20 attempts from the free throw line compared to Brooklyn's eight. The real difference, however, came in points scored off the bench. The Bulldogs only received 15 points from players off the bench. Compare that to the 43 points Baruch got from reserves, and the rest speaks for itself. By the end of the game, Baruch had secured a 91-64 victory, and the Bulldogs fell to yet another conference rival.

Soon after, Jan. 30 saw Brooklyn lose their third straight game as the Bulldogs lost 63-56 against John Jay. It was a low-scoring game for both teams, but Brooklyn's 30 percent shooting from the field gave the Bloodhounds a decisive edge. Despite the loss, sophomore Elisha Park notched another double-double, scoring 18 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. The Bulldogs will look to turn their luck around this month as they march towards the CUNYAC Tournament. Their next game, as of press time, is Feb. 1 against John Jay.

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THE BULLDOGS ARE IN FANTASTIC FORM HEADING INTO THE REGULAR SEASON'S FINAL MONTH. THE BULLDOGS WERE UNSTOPPABLE IN THEIR WIN OVER PRATT, SCORING 89 POINTS ON 57 PERCENT SHOOTING FROM THE FIELD. JUNIOR GUARD ERIILICA JAMES LED THE TEAM IN SCORING, DROPPING 21 POINTS IN ONLY 10 SHOTS. BROOKLYN HAD FIVE WOMEN SCORE DOUBLE-DIGIT POINTS, WHEREAS PRATT HAD ONE. BROOKLYN'S SECOND WIN OF THE WEEK CAME AGAINST CONFERENCE RIVAL BARUCH ON JAN. 28. ALL SEASON LONG, BROOKLYN HAS BEEN STELLAR IN THE CUNYAC COMPETITION, AND THIS WAS NO EXCEPTION. THE BULLDOGS WON BY 25 POINTS IN A 77-52 CONTEST. IT WAS YET ANOTHER TEAM EFFORT BY THE BULLDOGS AS FOUR PLAYERS SCORED DOUBLE-DIGIT POINTS, INCLUDING FORWARD CHANEL JEMMOTT, WHO SCORED 12 POINTS AND GRABBED 15 REBOUNDS.