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Prez Biden's Home Gets Searched By FBI, Classified Docs Found

By Gabriela Flores
Editor-In-Chief

The FBI continues its investigation of President Joe Biden for classified documents, with its latest search lasting more than 12 hours this past Friday, Jan. 20. Investigators found in Biden's home in Wilmington, Delaware classified material dating back to his days as a senator and vice president.

The inquiry into Biden began in November when his lawyers found classified materials at Penn Biden Center, where he worked between 2017 to 2019, The Hill reported. More documents were later found

by the Department of Justice in his Wilmington garage on Dec. 20, and later in his home on Jan. 11. Additional classified materials were found three days later by a White House lawyer. In the latest search, the DOJ collected handwritten notes, memorabilia, and other documents that it deemed relevant to the investigation. As of press time, "six items consisting of documents with classification markings" were reported to have been found in the most recent search.

Representative of the US Attorney in Chicago claimed the FBI search was "consensual," with Biden's representatives emphasizing

their compliance to the DOJ's requests, as reported by NPR. The latest extensive search was not made public till the night after.

In the wake of the DOJ's inquiry into former President Donald Trump and his possession of classified materials, many Americans are drawing comparisons to Biden's case. Both have had their homes searched by law enforcement, and are currently being investigated by newly-appointed special counsels. Attorney General Merrick Garland appointed Robert Hur, a former federal prosecutor and senior DOJ official, to determine if Biden improperly handled

classified documents.

The sitting president stated he has "no regrets" for his and his team's handling of the classified document findings. "I think you're going to find there's nothing there," Biden told reporters.

During the house search, Biden's personal legal team and the White House's Counsel office were in attendance while the president and First Lady Jill Biden were in their Rehoboth Beach, Delaware home.

The Vanguard will continue reporting updates on the Justice Department's investigation as they become available.

USG Set To Welcome Students Back With Food Truck



USG is hosting a food truck event on Thursday, Jan. 26./*Gabriela Flores*

By Gabriela Flores
Editor-In-Chief

To kick off the semester, the Undergraduate Student Government is hosting a food truck on campus for the BC community to ring in the spring. This Thursday, Jan. 26, students and faculty will be able to get fried Oreos,

churros, and hot cocoa during common hours, 12:30 to 2 PM.

The event is intended to not only welcome BC members back to campus, but also provide students an opportunity to immerse themselves into campus life. "In terms of student life, I'm hoping to get more involvement because

especially with Brooklyn being a commuter school, I feel like a lot of students think there's not much of a campus life, there's not much going on," said Joan Joseph, the government's deputy events coordinator, who helped organize the upcoming event alongside Mariam Alex, USG's events coordinator.

With the goal of encouraging a full swing into student activities, USG has a lineup of spring events in the works. Among them is a Valentine's Day-themed painting session that will be hosted with the Women's Center. Each month this spring has at least two events scheduled so far, where USG will also collaborate with student clubs like the Desi Club.

Through Thursday's fest and similar gatherings, USG members aim to provide spaces for Brooklyn College's students to get to know, mingle, and experience some fun with one another.

"I think they just need an opportunity to engage in events, to be a part of something, and I'm hoping that through USG we can encourage that," said Joseph.

The food truck will be parked on the West Quad, with one tent set up to provide the treats. USG will have another tent housing music and student government merchandise. No registration is required to attend the event.

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CUNY Law Student Remains Missing

By Michela Arlia
Managing Editor

Queens native and CUNY Law school student Jordan Taylor, 29, has been reported missing for over three weeks after being last seen on Jan. 6.

Taylor's family has filed a missing persons report, as his brother and mother share public pleas for help in finding him. He was last seen via surveillance in a Richmond Hill barber shop. Reports from PIX11 News indicate that barber Rafael Padilla noticed Taylor seemed off before rushing out without a full haircut.

After hours without a word from Taylor, his mom used his phone's GPS to track

him.

His cell phone was later found in Hell's Kitchen in the early morning of Jan. 7, not far from The Q nightclub, a scene Taylor was reported to have previously spent time in, according to his friends.

While there is no evidence linking Taylor to a visit to the club on Jan. 6, evidence of Taylor's wallet then being found on West Street, with much of its contents intact, raised even more questions.

Before starting at CUNY Law School this fall, Taylor graduated with a double major in political science and Black studies from SUNY New Paltz, and worked on the congressional campaign for Antonio Delgado, now the lieutenant governor of



CUNY Law student Jordan Taylor remains missing since Jan. 6./NBC New York

New York State.

Taylor is on track to graduate in 2025.

The Vanguard reached

out to Taylor's brother Al for any new updates on the case, but as of press time, no comment was received.

The Vanguard will continue to report as new details emerge.

What's Open On Campus This Spring?



Several BC services, clubs, and offices remain open this fall./Edited by Gabriela Flores

Most resources and services on campus are still up and running with limited restrictions.

For those wanting to get tested for COVID-19 after being selected for CUNY's random testing program, interacting with infected patients, or exhibiting symptoms, Brooklyn College's testing site is now located in the basement of Boylan Hall, Room 0400B. The site will operate on Mondays from 9 AM to 2 PM, Tuesdays through Thursdays from 2 PM to 7 PM, and on Fridays from 10 AM to 2 PM. It will not be open during weekends.

BC's library will have the same operating hours this spring. Study spaces are available upon request at each floor's help desk. From Monday to Thursday, the library will be open from 8 AM to 8:45 PM. On Fridays, it'll operate from 8 AM to 4:45 PM, with the weekend hours running from 12 PM to 5:45 PM. The library's cafe located in Whitehead Hall is also open this spring, but will not be open during the weekend. If in need of peer tutoring, the Learning Center is located on Boylan Hall's first floor, course-specific and writing tutoring will return in person this

spring.

Study nooks are also located on the first floor of the West End Building (WEB) and upper floors of James Hall.

Several identity-based clubs and student-led initiatives are housed in WEB. Literary publications like Stuck In The Library and The Junction are based in Boylan Hall. The Student Center building's game room has returned on the first floor, where the college's testing site previously ran. Student governments, the LGBTQ Center, and other student organizations such as Greek Council are located

in the Student Center, or SUBO. The college's food pantry is in 312 Student Center, operating from 10 AM to 3 PM on Tuesdays and 2 PM to 6 PM on Wednesdays, according to its official website.

To access healthcare services and products such as menstrual hygiene products, condoms, and other resources, visit the Health Clinic in Roosevelt Hall 114. On Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, the clinic will be open from 10 AM to 6 PM. On Wednesdays, hours are from 10 AM to 7 PM. Hours are subject to change "based on staff availability," its official website states. Students can also access healthcare products like sanitary napkins, food, personal counseling, and other resources in Ingersoll Hall Extension's Women's Center in Room 227.

For mentorship, access to student resources, and legal aid for immigration-related inquiries, visit the Immigrant Student Success Office in 117 Roosevelt Hall. ISSO operates on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10 AM to 6 PM; 11 AM to 7 PM on Wednesdays and Thursdays; and from 9 AM to 5 PM on Fridays. For resume review,

aid in pitching and public speaking, as well as other career-centered questions, the Magner Career Center is located at 1303 James Hall. Both virtual and in-person resources are offered from 9 AM to 5 PM, Mondays through Fridays.

The financial aid office in the West Quad Center is currently closed for in-person visits, with help only being offered over email (finaid@brooklyn.cuny.edu) and through virtual drop-ins on Zoom. As of press time, virtual office hours for financial aid are available on Mondays from 10 AM to 1 PM and Wednesdays from 2 to 5 PM. Financial aid advisement services are only available by appointment, with advisement offices located on the West Quad Center's second and third floors. The bursar's office is running at limited capacity, with most services such as refunds, payment and account inquiries, and others being offered remotely.

Recreational facilities are also available for students and staff, including a fitness gym, pool, basketball court, and others in the West Quad Center.

A Look Into WEB Clubs And Their Spring Plans



Several BC student clubs are located on the first floor of WEB. /Kaylin Guzman

By Serin Sarsour
Features Editor

Reporting Assistance By
Gabriela Flores
Editor-In-Chief

In the heart of Brooklyn College are student clubs that created communities in their respective spaces on the first floor of the West End Building (WEB). As the spring semester commences, WEB clubs reflect on their successes during the fall and what they hope to achieve in the new year.

“We definitely built a community with the events that we did, and it was just a very, very fun time,” said Amara Minott, a BC senior and the president of the BC Anime and Manga Club.

Last fall, BCAM hosted a Halloween party, a Maid Cafe event where students were served by other students dressed as maid cosplay, a panel discussing anime controversies, and much more.

Minott expressed that anime helped her gain confidence in herself and wants to help others love themselves more

through anime. Confidence is often a struggle to obtain for those who identify as “geeks” in the anime community, she explained, and she aims to continue empowering members to stand up for others when needed and embrace themselves.

“I’m still so focused on body positivity and just to make sure that people feel confident in their own skin and people are able to express themselves the way they want,” said Minott.

BCAM is planning another Maid Cafe event for this spring, along with a fashion show, another panel on anime controversies where members will be discussing the toxicity of certain fanbases, a movie night, a masquerade-themed ball, and other events.

“I wanna do a lot of things before I leave so I could just be like, ‘Hey, I did so much before I left. My legacy,’” Minott said.

For the National Association of Black Accountants also housed in WEB, it is important for junior and club president Jessica Vaivao that there is a space for Black, Indigenous, and students of

color to come together and be able to find opportunities on and off campus throughout the business field.

Vaivao has always been interested in business, but her love of helping others also achieve their goals within the business industry first arose from her volunteer work around Bushwick, where she helped the less fortunate during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“From my experiences volunteering, I realized the importance of closing the gap for Black and BIPOC individuals and helping guide them to be the most successful person they can be,” said Vaivao.

NABA helps provide BIPOC students with networking opportunities, scholarships, internships, full-time jobs, and connections with several different accounting companies, including the top four largest accounting firms in the world: Deloitte, PwC, EY, and KPMG.

NABA is satisfied with the work they have done this past fall, but members plan to accomplish a lot more this semester. “We were in the re-establishing period

for fall semester 2022, but now we’re in game mode and fully re-building and expanding stage in spring of 2023,” Vaivao said.

Although Vaivao did not want to spoil everything that NABA has planned for the spring, she revealed that the club will be hosting two panels for Black History Month about Black excellence in collaboration with the Black History Month Committee and Black Latino Male Initiative in February alone. One of the panels is for entrepreneurs in NABA’s current student body and the other is a career panel featuring alumni.

NABA will also be hosting a headquarters day trip, which they held last semester for PwC. Additionally, they are also going to host their first Gala since 2018/2019 alongside the Black History Month Committee and the S.A.I.L Center as the closing event for Black History Month.

The club is also currently figuring out the logistics of the ability to take all national members to the yearly National NABA’s

convention in Louisiana, New Orleans in June where they could gain skills, network, and be recruited by companies.

“Everyone in NABA has been nothing but kind, the e-board are an amazing group of individuals who are very motivated, career-driven, and community-vouching individuals,” she said.

Other clubs are also housed in WEB, such as the Dominican Student Movement, Women of Color, Caribbean Student Union, Bangladesh Students Association, and other organizations. With each being in close proximity to one another, they all interact fluidly and embrace each other’s initiatives.

“If you’re gonna be a president of one club, you’re basically a leader to all the clubs in a way because all the clubs just interact so fluidly. Like I always, even though I’m the president of the Anime club, I don’t just chill in my room even though I love my room to death,” Minott said, noting she hopes this fluidity and space for everyone becomes stronger in WEB.

'The Last Of Us' Tells More Than A Post-Apocalyptic Tale

By Samia Afsar
Arts Editor

The series premiere of HBO's latest and most anticipated show, "The Last of Us," was released on Jan. 15, almost three years after the project's first announcement in late 2020. Co-created by Craig Mazin and Neil Druckmann, the series is set twenty years following a fungal outbreak and global pandemic as Joel, a smuggler, is tasked with transporting a teenage girl named Ellie across the infected United States.

The post-apocalyptic drama's origins can be traced to a 2013 video game under the same name, developed by first-party video game developer "Naughty Dog." Despite personally being unfamiliar with the series' antecedent, it is no doubt that the game's linear story has proven to be a perfect candidate for television. About 4.7 million viewers tuned in for the series premiere last Sunday, as reported by Variety. And with the video game's developer, Druckmann, working directly on the HBO series, quality is to be expected.

"The Last of Us" premiere begins with a flashback to a televised talk show held in 1968, where two epidemiologists discuss the hypothetical potential threat fungi pose on the global population. Specific dialogue detailing a rise in global temperature in relation to a zombie-like fungi outbreak is made, and when considering that the climate crisis continues to be humanity's most urgent issue, this particular scene is nothing short of goosebump-inducing. Not even five minutes in and I was already

on the edge of my seat.

The show then jumps to 2003, where audience members are introduced to Joel (Pedro Pascal) and Sarah (Nico Parker), a lovable father-daughter duo that you can't help but fall in love with instantly. Perhaps Pascal's big beautiful brown eyes are to blame; I just can't seem to get enough of the "Narcos" star.

During this time, radio intermissions detail disarray in Jakarta, cop cars circle neighborhoods, planes fly overhead, and news reports urge civilians to stay home. This concoction of visuals works together to communicate one message – chaos.

For approximately the first half of the show, the audience is taken on an action-packed journey where the parasitic fungal outbreak can be seen, quite literally, ripping humanity apart. The second half shifts to its aftermath, twenty years later in 2023, where society is controlled by an authoritarian military regime that fights off rebel groups and works to maintain some sort of order in society. The audience is also introduced to Ellie (Bella Ramsey), a 14-year-old orphan held captive by rebels known as the "Fireflies."

Having just recently lived through our own pandemic, I personally can't stand to watch post-apocalyptic dramas as much as I used to. It proves to be difficult attempting to sit through an hour to an hour and a half of constant reminders of the love, community, and opportunity I missed out on throughout the COVID-19 pandemic since its inception in 2020.

What sets Mazin and Druckmann's TV series apart, however, is that unlike



"The Last of Us" starts off on a strong note, Samia Afsar opines. / *HBO Max*

traditional dystopian fictions, "The Last of Us" does not appear to be a mere story of every man having to fend for themselves. The show does not center on surviving and navigating the "new world," all while struggling to trust anyone but themselves.

Instead, at its very core, "The Last of Us" is a story detailing the bravery, love, and passion that drives an individual

to surrender themselves completely to the horrors of the unknown. From its first episode, it is clear that Joel no longer has anything, but will risk everything for the people he loves.

I, for one, can't help but feel fortunate for my unfamiliarity with the show's origin video game. After such a robust and powerful pilot, I am eagerly

awaiting what is to come next. If the rest of the series is anything like the first episode, "The Last of Us" truly may have the potential to evolve into another one of HBO's greatest hits, if it isn't too soon to label it as such now.

Episodes of "The Last of Us" debut Sundays at 9 PM on HBO and HBO Max. The series finale is set for Mar. 12.

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Beautifying WEB's Walls: BC's Latest Mural Project



The completed mural on the second floor of the W.E.B. film department./Brooklyn College

By Michela Arlia
Managing Editor

If you're walking through the second floor of the West End Building this semester, you might have noticed a pop of color splattered on one of its walls. This is due in part to professor Julia Cocuzza and her new experimental art course that completed its first semester this past fall.

Cocuzza is an accomplished mural artist, adjunct professor, and alumnus, who assisted in converging the visions of the art department, film department, and many more, in this project that has been in the works for years.

The end result: a mural completed by 12 undergraduates and one graduate art student that was unveiled on Dec. 14.

Cocuzza first moved to Brooklyn in 2004 to pursue

goals in the art world, hailing originally from Reading, Pennsylvania. Before graduating in 2011, she earned her M.F.A. in painting and drawing while working in higher education. Post graduation, Cocuzza moved into other mediums of art, including installation, sculptures, and eventually, murals.

"I still have a studio practice, but I don't know, at some point I shifted away from kind of like studio work and the gallery pursuit into something more engaging with the public, something more for the people," Cocuzza told The Vanguard. "I wouldn't say that was a result of Brooklyn College, but obviously the learning, you know, everything I learned from Brooklyn College helped me get to that point where I decided to make that shift."

Serving as a liaison and

advisor on the committee to the project was Professor Derrick Adams, a renowned multidisciplinary artist whose work often centers around his Black identity. With Adams' expertise in muraling, and the overview of the art department's head, Mona Hadler, the project came into fruition with substantial support.

"He [Adams] was definitely helpful, especially I would say during that process of showing the design to all the different stakeholders, you know, making little tweaks to get everything sort of thumbs up all around and green lit," said Cocuzza.

Before forming part of the mural's making and its associated course, students with art majors or concentrations were tasked with taking prerequisites in either introduction design or introduction to painting. Together, the newly created

team tackled a large-scale project in just 16 weeks.

During last fall, the class was structured partly on mural history, and the majority on direct application and painting. In order to find the best timing and spacing to work, the course met on Saturdays with Cocuzza setting shifts for the students.

"It was all pretty smooth in terms of outside time," said Cocuzza. "I had some students maybe come early and leave early. I had other students kind of like, come late, leave late, and I would just be there all day."

Each hour spent on the mural created a vivid and colorful presentation of the film department and its inner subcategories. Depictions of sound, lights, camera, and monitors in various complementary shades of blue, purple, and green shows a true representation of the department and the students within it.

While bringing this project to life, a majority of the planning and creation went without a hiccup – except for one bump on the road: popcorn.

As a part of the original design idea, Cocuzza and her class had a bucket of popcorn to metaphorically tie into the film department. This, however, received mixed reactions.

"If there was anything with the design that needed to be changed, that's literally it.

Which is like kind of a cute problem, you know what I mean?," Cocuzza said.

Many of the stakeholders and departments involved were thrilled to have a beautification addition to campus, and the final product allowed a light to be shed on all the artistic talent that exists on campus.

"It was incredible to see students, staff, and faculty come together to help both beautify the campus and create a learning environment," wrote Alan Gilbert, the college's senior vice president for finance and administration, to The Vanguard. "I was pleased to help connect the parties and lend some guidance, but much of the credit really goes to the students and the faculty who helped create this project between the art and film departments."

Due to the high success of the trial run course, the department has officially added a mural painting class to its roster, ART 3414, that's set to begin in fall 2023 with Cocuzza.

There are no solidified plans at the moment for which department is up next to receive such a long lasting work of art, but Cocuzza noted talks will begin soon.

Students or departments on campus who are interested in having a mural in their halls can contact Mona Hadler, chair of the art department, for more information.



VANGUARD'S NEW RADIO SHOW:

VANGUARDIAN VOICES

THE VANGUARD NEWSPAPER IS NOW ON THE AIR!

Catch a debriefing of our latest issues, a sneak peek of upcoming stories, and meet the staff that brings you your weekly dose of Brooklyn College news.

Tune into our new show, Vanguardian Voices, Tuesdays at 12 pm on WBCR, Brooklyn College's student-run radio station.

Can't listen to us while we're live?
Check out the radio's YouTube channel to hear previous episodes



Jennette McCurdy's "I'm Glad My Mom Died" Gives A Raw, Important Look Into Abuse

By Michela Arlia
Managing Editor

Jennette McCurdy's heavy novel "I'm Glad My Mom Died" was a book I set out to tackle reading, albeit I was very late to the game.

The only thing worse than producers, creators, and big-time executives in the Hollywood industry has got to be the moms.

Think of it this way. The child actor is the talk of the town and is splattered onto every billboard and commercial – they are just the head. The moms, though, are the neck. If the children are the head of this corner of the industry, mothers are the neck. Though the face is what you see, the neck controls everything but the expression.

This may be my nerdy psych background poking through, but a mom is often their daughter's first teacher. This job is tedious, and one wrong move could set the little girl up for a daunting life path.

I've had the typical signs of abuse drilled into my head for the past three years in counseling courses, but I have learned more about it in this one novel than a bachelor of science degree could ever teach me.

Jennette, I heard you. Loud and clear.

For 320 pages, I was constantly baffled at the blatant sexual, verbal, physical, and psychological

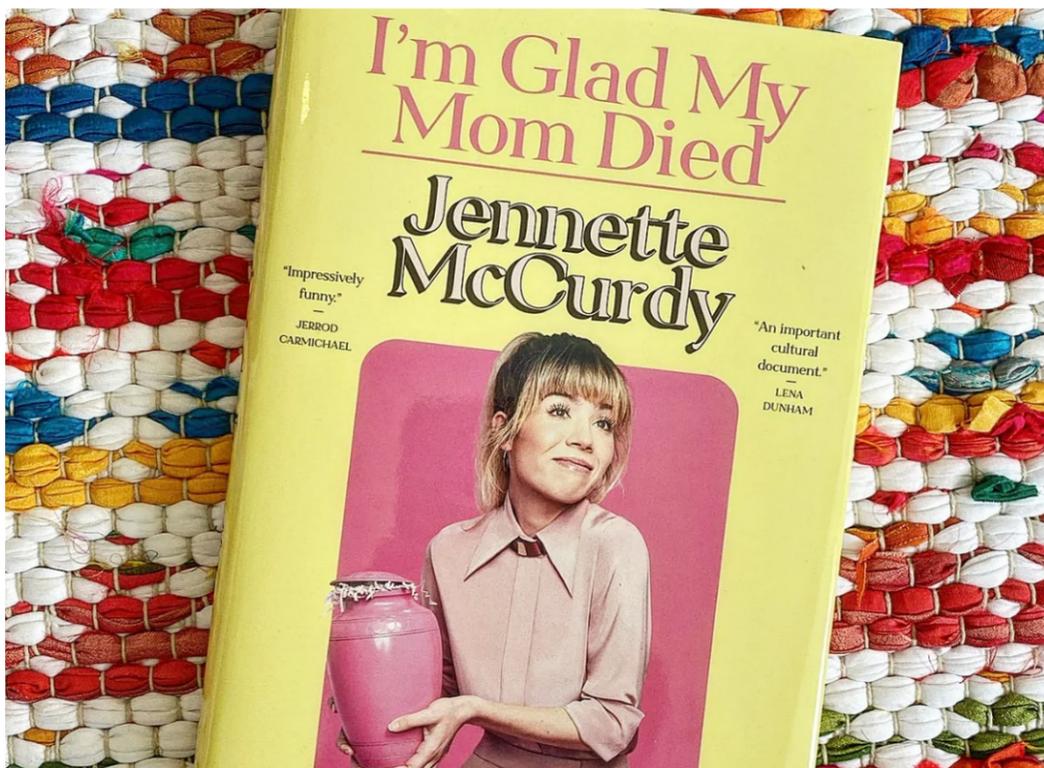
abuse being put onto this child. The excellent use of tone allowed me to picture these vignettes from the viewpoint of the age McCurdy was when experiencing these events. She made me want to scream through the pages as she effectively put me through her mindset, all while making it impossible to help her past self out of said events.

There should be three mandatory classes every undergraduate student should take: human anatomy, ethics, and child or developmental psychology. Universities neglect fundamental values of knowledge, trading it in for over-the-top core requirements to make a quick buck.

How are we, as college students, expected to go out

“For 320 pages, I was constantly baffled at the blatant sexual, verbal, physical, and psychological abuse being put onto this child.”

in the world and create a better future for the children of our nation if we can't even understand them at the age of four?



Jennette McCurdy's memoir should be a mandatory read in college, Michela Arlia opines. / Brave + Kind Bookshop

People like McCurdy write these novels not only as a therapeutic outlet, but for awareness. She is the brave soldier who came out to share her truth and recovery, and to see the masses of people who come out of the shadows in solidarity further illustrates that candor surrounding abuse in Hollywood. Despite this honesty in sharing trauma, these abuses are still stigmatized, even here in Brooklyn.

30-40% of children are abused by a member of the family within their home. It often comes with the notion that a parent is only helping or protecting their child. Lies.

McCurdy herself experienced in-depth

“medical examinations” of her body by her mother until age sixteen, sharing showers with her much older brothers so their mother could wash them and get their hair “just right.”

She stunted her own pubescent growth with the help of her mother. She was told to calorie count, inciting anorexia, at age eleven in order to stop herself from developing the reproductive parts of her body, just to book younger roles. And there is much more where that came from.

Claims have been made that the stigma surrounding mental health or child abuse has been removed or that

major advances have been made in confronting abuse, but that is a bold-faced lie if I've ever seen one.

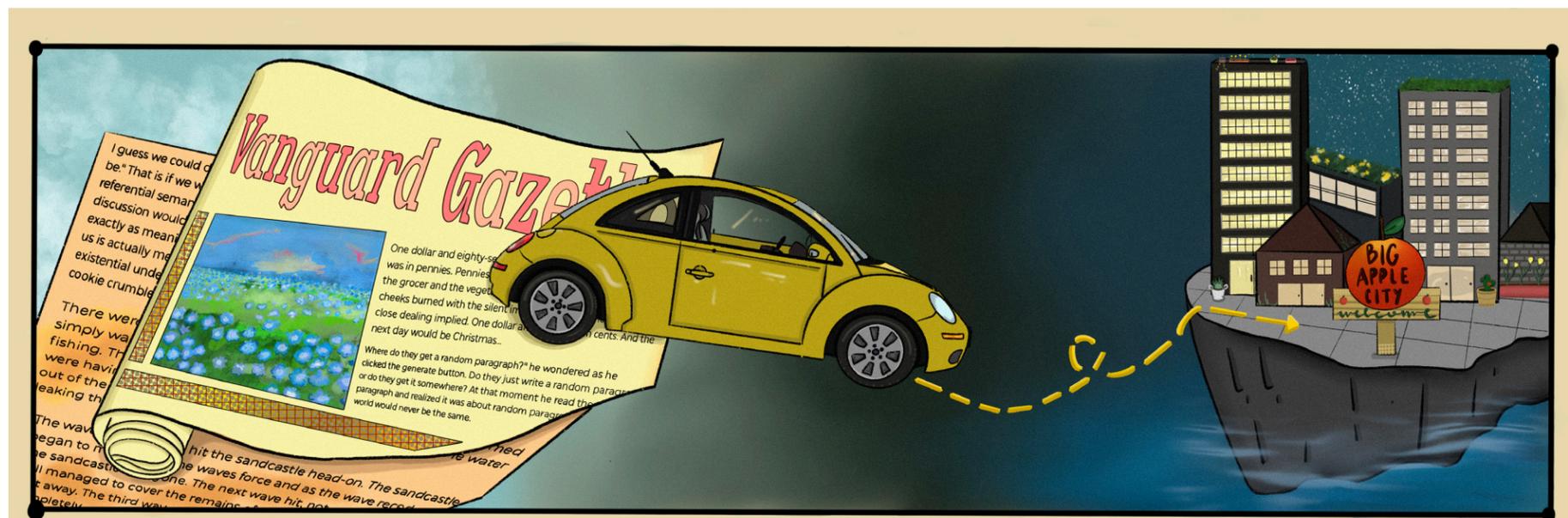
In fact, if reading parts of this made you uncomfortable, then the stigma is ever-present.

We are not protecting our children, and the first defense against occurrences like this is knowledge.

So make this memoir a required textbook in a college course because we learn best from experience. And let's make some actual changes in the discussions around abusive relationships.

Big Apple City

by Nitu Farhin



VANGUARD GAZETTE: What's Coming Next

Nitu Farhin

Opinion: The Irony Of Today's Anti-Capitalist Movies



The latest anti-capitalist movies are ironic to its commentary. /Shea Stevenson

By Shea Stevenson
Opinions Editor

In the wake of 2019's "Parasite" being fantastic and making ridiculous money, there's been a fresh wave of American movies looking to capitalize on the popular anti-capitalist vibe. Just last year we had "Glass Onion," "The Menu," "Triangle of Sadness," and more. Of course, people have been telling stories about the horrors of wealth inequality for centuries; all of its most iconic imagery (eating the rich, the guillotine, etc.) came long before cameras existed. So what's different about these new movies?

Enough ink to fill the Hudson has already been spilled on the subject of how modern capitalism subsumes and commodifies anti-capitalism. Rather than making problems for the

rich, you go see the movie that says "the rich are causing problems" to declare where you stand on the topic. The movie's goal is to get angst out of your system. They provide catharsis in recognition of a problem, and often a release in some form by ritualistically defeating their rich in fiction. These American movies attempt to speak on an existential threat to a catastrophic majority of human beings, but operate so foundationally within the rules of that threat that they can't imagine other ways of being.

Though movies like "The Menu" and "Glass Onion" pay lip service to more broadly radical ideas, their issue with the rich characters boils down to "they are mean." In every "Parasite-like" that I've seen, it is about the rich. Poor characters are central, but the rich are always on screen as

personal, active agents in the story.

These movies are playing the same game as their target, but the target made the rules. Consider for a moment that there are other games.

"The Salary Of Fear" (1950) is a French novel about four European workers in South America who are coerced by a US oil company into driving nitroglycerin (stuff that makes TNT explode) over mountains. If they hit a bump too hard, they explode. In typical French fashion, it's all for worker's rights, granted that white people are the ones being exploited. It contrives a plot in which brutal South American working conditions are inflicted upon white Europeans rather than South Americans.

In 1977, William Friedkin, director of "The Exorcist," adapted the book "Sorcerer" into a movie. This was the

third adaptation of the book since 1953 and aside from obviously improving the title to, for some inscrutable reason, a wizard name, "Sorcerer" is the first in a subgenre that never came to fruition: the blue-collar horror movie.

It is easy to imagine a world where a movie like "Sorcerer" begets offspring like "Parasite" did. The movie is intense, honest, and frightening. It's historical fiction shot like horror. Wisely, it diversifies the cast (American, Frenchmen, Mexican and Palestinian) and most importantly, through its source material, it doesn't ideologically play the American game.

In 1977, neoliberalism was not assumed policy in America. Though the American empire was certainly on its way, the Vietnam War had just

ended, and there was a coin flip between sinking further into laissez faire capitalism and broader social safety nets. The middle class was as present as it would ever be, and the government had yet to fully endorse a hands-off approach to welfare. With later presidents like Bill Clinton, the field changed; it was no longer the experiment of neoliberal economics versus robust welfare and worker's rights, the right and left (political parties) were in agreement on neoliberalism by then. It was only a matter of severity.

That's the world in which these pop movies come from. They accept that this is how it'll be going forward, but maybe we could do it less hard? It's important, then, to look back at art made outside of our sphere of time and thought. "Sorcerer" has no rich people in it. It is horrified not by a specific disparity of wealth; it doesn't matter how rich the rich are; if this is how the disenfranchised live, that is terrible enough. It's scared of alienated labor, irrefusable commands, lack of oversight, the way this system extinguishes the lives of everyone who can't pay into its good graces. Other movies criticize those who benefit from absconded labor, yet don't look at it directly themselves. "Sorcerer" has not yet accepted that this is normal.

"Sorcerer" didn't have imitators because it hemorrhaged money. It's likely because it was released right around the first "Star Wars" movie, perhaps the biggest pop anti-imperialism movie with nothing of value to add to the conversation aside from space wizards (admittedly sick). Give me more films like "Sorcerer." I think we have enough of "The Menu" to go around.

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Opinion: NYC Sexual Harassment Trainings Are A Bust

By Jada Simon
Staff Writer

Stop Sexual Harassment



More needs to be done to address sexual harassment, Jada Simon opines. / *Biologix Solutions*

It may surprise people to know that the term “sexual harassment” was coined in the 1970s but not taken seriously until the Hill v. Thomas case of 1991.

The Hill v. Thomas case was a Supreme Court nominee hearing where Anita Hill accused Clarence Thomas – chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission at the time – of sexually harassing her when she was an advisor to him. Succeeding that case, sexual harassment training came to fruition in 1995 and now we have movements today still attempting to combat sexual harassment – most popularly the #MeToo movement.

It’s evident that sexual harassment trainings have clearly failed to resolve sexual harassment issues within the workplace.

I don’t think it would surprise anyone to know that at some corporations, sexual harassment trainings are just given to workers to fulfill state regulations and prove that employers are following protocol to ensure employee safety.

According to nyc.gov, “So long as it meets the requirements of NYC Local Law 96 (2018), employers may develop their own training or hire an outside party to provide the training.” This implies that all employers have to do is make sure that the training is given – they don’t even have to be so closely involved nor do they have to be the ones to implement it.

Oftentimes, especially in New York City, complaints of sexual harassment

are not treated with the necessary level of severity. This is because of certain ideals held in NYC such as “snitches get stitches” and the people of New York tend to be more concerned about getting hurt than confessing the truth.

This mentality has continued for so long without a change, so most people in New York City ignore the “if you see something, say something” rule. Unfortunately for many victims, reporting something tends to go nowhere and speaking up can put a target on their backs.

From the age of 12 to now, I, without knowing, faced sexual harassment on countless occasions. I just happened to never notice because usually it was in the form of catcalling, and no one ever told me that catcalling was sexual harassment. More often than not, catcalling is not considered for what

it is: harassment. And, oftentimes I was told to ignore it. Usually my friends would also just walk away to avoid any trouble, so I automatically assumed that was the right thing to do.

With more care in teaching society about sexual harassment education, there could be more self-awareness rather than ignorance of the issue.

At CUNY, there’s something called SPARC, which stands for Sexual and Interpersonal Violence Prevention and Response Course. The program was created for the university’s colleges to comply with the New York State’s Enough is Enough law. The training is meant to make students aware of sexual harassment resources, teach them how to report sexual harassment and what the sexual harassment policies are.

Just like the mandatory nyc.gov training that NYC residents have to take in order to work, the SPARC

training is just another requirement to fill. This is easy to see because also in comparison to the nyc.gov training, it is very vague, often repeats itself, and just incorporates a few videos or examples that reiterate those that come before it.

Also, being that it is mandatory for enrollment but can be done very quickly, students are likely to complete the training without actually paying attention. Similar to sexual harassment work trainings, there are no follow-ups or room for more in-depth questions.

Both forms of sexual harassment trainings seem to share similar problems – so here’s what I suggest. Sexual harassment trainings should allow for follow-up questions, not an FAQ section that is often not helpful. Instead, there could be a meeting where everyone takes the training as one, encouraging more serious questions to be

answered.

Employers could also individually speak to employees every six months to gauge the level of safety they feel in the work environment and to adjust the workplace based on employee feedback.

For CUNY schools, there should be a couple of boards around campus with sexual harassment policies and resources that will make it difficult for students to overlook them.

NYC employers, college administration, and government leaders can do much better at combating sexual harassment. Citizens need to take the ins and outs of sexual harassment seriously. For that to happen, the policies have to be enforced and continue to be presented until NYC residents get it.

Until that is worked out, NYC sexual harassment trainings will continue to be a bust.

If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed on campus:

contact Public Safety or Brooklyn College’s Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Vargas, at (718) 951-4128, email at mvargas@brooklyn.cuny.edu, or visit her office at 2900 Bedford Avenue, 2147 Boylan Hall, Brooklyn, NY 11210.

If you are experiencing sexual harassment in your workplace:

call 1-800-HARASS-3 for free and confidential help and access to pro-bono attorneys on sexual harassment issues.

The Broadcast Team Brings Bulldogs To All

By Damien Ovalle
Staff Writer

With a rich history in sports, Brooklyn College has been a dominant CUNYAC team for decades and that dominance is displayed by its various CUNYAC titles, ECAC Championships, and its plethora of star-studded athletes. But another side of Brooklyn College Athletics that doesn't share the same spotlight, but has a part in the college's successes, is the Broadcast Team.

Starting in 2011, a group of past and present students broadcast BC's basketball games. This turned into a year-long commitment backed by the college to create a community that comes together whenever the Bulldogs play.

Johnathon Pariente, class of 2013, is one of the three people to start the broadcast along with Zach Budnick and John Schiavone.

Pariente's role at the radio station inspired him to pursue broadcasting. Starting in 2010, Pariente and his partner Schiavone began the radio show "Downtown Sports." While the show began gaining traction, the two noticed an issue: a lack of basketball coverage. To solve the problem, the pair wanted to take the radio station to the games and cover them live to begin a legacy.

"We didn't have a lot of people at the time and weren't sure how it was going to work in the beginning," said Pariente. The initiative all started with students who had ambition and wanted a way to sharpen their skills within the broadcasting sphere by not only adding to their expertise but helping the college with their connectivity. Little did Pariente and his colleagues know how much would evolve from their idea and the community that would transpire from the broadcasts.

"Over the next couple of years, it evolved and more people wanted to do the

broadcasts. [...] We started to Livestream on YouTube, which was one of the most successful things we've done with home games. It's just about commitment and wanting to do it," said Pariente. Besides showcasing the sport, Pariente set a goal for himself to grow the broadcast family, bringing in new members as the years went by.

"Over that period, we built a repertoire amongst the players, Bulldogs, and parents to tune in and listen to us," Pariente noted.

The Broadcast Team was picking up momentum until COVID-19 struck and shut down everything imaginable. Sports and the broadcast teams were put on pause as colleges abandoned in-person activities in their entirety. "It was tricky. All the momentum we had came to a halt. The concern I then had was when the broadcast came back were there still going to be people or new ones interested to do games," said Pariente. As people remained home for time on end, the broadcast was postponed until further notice.

As restrictions started to lift and few people gained access to games, the next problem that arose for Pariente was finding personnel. "Getting people to get back out there, even to this day," he explained.

The Broadcast Team and Pariente look toward the future of not only sports but the crew, which is dependent on many factors: commitment, determination, and a genuine want to make the broadcasts successful. "If more people want to do broadcasts, I want to see it expand to volleyball, swimming, and soccer. I want to see this program evolve," added Pariente.

Brian Munguia, class of 2015, was a student who joined with a passion for sports and broadcasting. The group was a match that aligned perfectly with what Munguia sought for his future career. "We did it in



The college's basketball court, one of the main points of coverage for the Broadcasting Team./Damien Ovalle

the West Quad Gymnasium, and before we were on the floor level so it felt like you were really a play-by-play guy," said Munguia. Being a part of the team for most of its start fueled what would later become a branch of Brooklyn College sports.

Those beginning years were critical in building the foundation of broadcasting for Brooklyn College. Munguia became crucial to making the broadcast run smoothly. But good things always come to an end. Once Munguia graduated from Brooklyn College in 2015 as an undergraduate, he navigated through his work at ESPN and the broadcast team.

"I was interning for WBCR radio station, so they asked me if I wanted to do play-by-play so whenever I was free as a student I could do the games [...] I left but came back in 2017 for one or two games," said Munguia. While the transition from student to alum surely wasn't an easy task for Munguia, returning for games in his alum years displays just how strong the connection and dedication are for Munguia and the rest of the crew.

Throughout the pandemic, Munguia took a step back from the broadcasting team as sports and many other physical school activities were canceled. Deciding to focus on other matters in his life, Munguia and the broadcast drifted from one another. As the 2022-2023

season approached, he decided to head back.

To continue the broadcast tradition and legacy, according to Munguia, "it all relies on the students, former Bulldogs, and alumni. Just having a rotating crew, it would be cool to see this happen."

Patrick Brown, class of 1990, was a graduate who was brought in from the outside and made his mark as a key member of the crew. Back in 2018, Brown was called up by former Athletic Director Bruce Filosa and was offered an opportunity he couldn't pass.

After an initial meeting between Filosa and Brown, they hit it off and began the broadcasts for Brooklyn. At the time, both men's and women's basketball teams were championship caliber. They found their styles and found the perfect mix with one another.

"Once we found out how our styles matched and worked the intricacies out, it was awesome [...] the experience was eye-opening," Brown said.

While they were mixing greatly and finally getting into a groove with one another, COVID stopped them in their tracks. Similar to Munguia, Brown took a step back from the broadcasts. "At the time of COVID, I wasn't vaccinated, and they weren't sure if there was a season, so that whole year I was out," Brown explained.

But things would change

as time went on. Restrictions loosened for games, and sports would finally come back in their entirety. Soon after, the broadcast team would regroup and start going live just as they had before the pandemic. "The first game, the atmosphere was so electric it's like we picked up right where we left off," Brown said.

Putting the past aside, Brown and the crew look to the future.

"It's about the people who can't get to the game. We want them to experience it; that's what we love to provide. The community is everything, we feed the community, and they feed us," said Brown.

Time, legacy, and sports are the main descriptions of the Brooklyn College Bulldogs Broadcast Team. It's a community, brotherhood, and family that only increases year in and year out. And overall, it's a group of guys that just want to have fun.

"Brooklyn College is a family, even when you graduate," said Pariente.



Dept. Of Justice Continues Probing FIFA Corruption, Fox Execs Face Trial In BK

By Gabriela Flores
Editor-In-Chief

Following Argentina's win against France in the latest World Cup finale, two 21st Century Fox executives, Carlos Martinez and Hernan López, are facing trial in Brooklyn. Both, alongside an Argentina-based sports marketing firm called Full Play Group, are being charged by the United States Department of Justice for wire fraud, wire fraud conspiracy, and money laundering. The trial began last Tuesday, Jan. 17.

Prosecutors allege that the defendants agreed to pay annual bribes and kickback payments to CONEMBOL officials, who govern football in South America, for broadcasting rights of the continent's top tournament. López and Martinez are also

accused of using bribes to retain information to bid for America's broadcasting rights of FIFA's 2018 and 2022 World Cups. Fox later paid \$400 million for the rights to both international tournaments in 2011. Though the executives are facing trial, Fox is not.

The charges follow the Justice Department's ongoing investigation into FIFA that began in 2015, when 14 defendants were charged with offenses that illustrated "participation in a 24-year scheme to enrich themselves through the corruption of international soccer," according to a press release. Since the initial charges and seven defendants were arrested overseas, over 50 individual and corporate defendants with connections to FIFA have been prosecuted. The global entity of soccer has charges centered



Former 21st Century Fox executive, Hernan López, leaving court./Associated Press

around bribery and money laundering.

About 27 individuals and four corporations have already pleaded guilty. Prosecutors seized over \$200 million from the pockets of FIFA officials. Those funds were returned

back in 2021 to the FIFA organization as compensation for "losses sustained in global soccer corruption schemes," Reuters reported. FIFA funneled the millions into soccer projects, including the promotions of women's and

girls' soccer.

The trial against the Fox executives and Full Play Group is expected to last roughly five weeks in the federal Brooklyn court.

BC Sports Recap (Jan. 6 - Jan. 20)

MEN'S BASKETBALL WINS ONE MATCH, DROPS FIVE



BC's Elisha Park./Damion Reid for BC Athletics

By Owen Russell
Sports Editor

January has been a rough month for the Bulldogs. Through six games this month, Brooklyn has gone 1-5, bringing their season total to 3-14. With a little less than a month left to play, can the Bulldogs turn their luck around and

save their season?

Brooklyn's lone victory of the month came on the road against Medgar Evers College on Jan. 6. The Bulldogs cruised past their intra-borough rival for a double-digit win. After trading leads early in the first half, Brooklyn pulled away, securing a 69-56 victory. Four Bulldogs

scored double digits, led by senior guard Kaylin Olajide who dropped 17. Behind Olajide were forward Elisha Park (16), guard Serge Thraysbule (12), and guard Franz Depra (10). The scoring outburst by four of Brooklyn's starters propelled them to their third win of the season.

While the Jan. 6 victory against Medgar Evers proved exciting, it was not a sign of what was to come. After that game, Brooklyn dropped four straight, all against CUNYAC rivals. Baruch, Hunter, CCNY, and York all notched wins against the Bulldogs. Of those four losses, Brooklyn's closest contest came on Jan. 13 against Hunter.

The game could not have started less auspiciously for the Bulldogs. The Purple Hawks opened the game with an 11-point run, leaving Brooklyn in a pit to start the game. Brooklyn failed to recover in the first half. By the time halftime sounded, Brooklyn trailed 58-35. Though seemingly down for the count, Brooklyn showed grit, battling back in the second half. With 1:55 left to go, Brooklyn had cut the lead down to just one. Despite their valiant effort, the Bulldogs could not seal the deal, and Hunter seized the opportunity. As the final buzzer buzzed, Hunter claimed the victory, 75-71. Although Brooklyn came up short in the end, the

Bulldogs showed incredible fortitude to battle back from such an insurmountable early deficit.

Brooklyn will hope to reignite their winning ways on Tuesday, Jan. 24, when they face Medgar Evers in a rematch of their Jan. 6 showdown.



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BC Sports Recap (Jan. 6 – Jan. 20) Cont'd

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL KEEPS UP WINNING STREAK

By Owen Russell
Sports Editor

The women's basketball team could not have played any better this past month. The Bulldogs have been perfect in January, winning six straight CUNYAC competitions. During the winning streak, Brooklyn toppled John Jay, Medgar Evers, Baruch, Hunter, CCNY, and York. Those six wins place the Bulldogs firmly atop the CUNYAC with a perfect 7-0 conference record.

Perhaps the most illuminating victory came on Jan. 18 against CCNY. The Bulldogs traveled to Nat Holman Gymnasium for a showdown with the Beavers. While the Beavers were hoping to upset the reigning CUNYAC champion, the Bulldogs had different plans. From the jump, the game was

all Brooklyn. The Bulldogs poured on the points early, scoring 39 in the first half while holding CCNY to only four points.

The blowout didn't stop there.

Brooklyn continued to throttle the Beavers. As the teams took their halftime break, the score was 61-12. CCNY never recovered, and Brooklyn put up 105 points for their first triple-digit score of the season. The Beavers mustered 44 points, scoring less than half of Brooklyn's total. Senior guard Gianna Gotti powered Brooklyn's scoring surge, securing 32 points on 17 shots. She also swiped 12 steals, notching an impressively unique double-double.

On the flip side, Brooklyn's closest brush with defeat came on Jan. 20 against York College. The Bulldogs

marched into Friday's meeting confident as ever. Dating back to 2011, the Bulldogs have won their past 25 matchups against York. With history on their side, Brooklyn hoped to continue their winning ways, but York came ready for a fight. The Cardinals held Brooklyn's normally potent offense to a one-point lead in the first quarter and seized that lead by halftime, leading the Bulldogs 36-32.

Trailing by four, with two quarters to go, Brooklyn needed to step up. The third quarter did not start their way. York went on a scoring run and pulled ahead 12 points. Facing their first CUNYAC loss of the season, Brooklyn refused to buckle. The Bulldogs strapped down and locked up York for the rest of the quarter, cutting the lead down to just two points. Everything rested on



Women's basketball keeps up their winning streak./
Damion Reid for BC Athletics

the fourth quarter. Brooklyn and York traded baskets, and with 3:59 remaining, the two teams found themselves tied at 61. The Cardinals hit a quick three-pointer to take the lead, but from there it was all Brooklyn. The Bulldogs chopped York's lead and eventually took full control. As the buzzer sounded, Brooklyn was crowned victorious, 69-64.

During their six-game winning streak, thus far,

Brooklyn has proved they can win in multiple ways. Whether it be by blasting their opponents with scoring assaults or eeking nail-biters. The Bulldogs have proven versatile. As the season marches on, Brooklyn hopes to continue their winning ways. Their next opportunity comes on Jan. 24 against Medgar Evers.

MEN'S SWIMMING EARNS THREE WINS, TWO LOSES



BC's Christian Hoyek./Lamar Carter for BC Athletics

By Owen Russell
Sports Editor

The men's swimming team spent January winning three of their five swim meets. Brooklyn beat Lehman, Bard, and York College while losing to SUNY Purchase and Baruch along the way.

Brooklyn's strongest performance came on

Jan. 14 when the Bulldogs squared off against Bard and York in the BC Bulldogs tri-meet. Facing off against two programs, the Bulldogs swam their way to a double victory behind some big performances. Senior Christian Hoyek anchored the Bulldogs, winning two separate events. In the 50 meter freestyle, Hoyek won with a time of 23.9. Then

in the 100 meter freestyle, Hoyek swam a 54.04. Helping Hoyek secure the victory was senior Ronaldo Barrios, who secured a close victory in the 100 yard breaststroke, with a time of 1:13.

Brooklyn will look forward to the CUNYAC Championships beginning on Jan. 27.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING TRAILS BEHIND

By Owen Russell
Sports Editor

The women's swim team had a busy January which included seven meets. Of those seven, the Bulldogs won two and lost five. With a 2-8 record on the season, how will Brooklyn fare heading into the CUNYAC Championships?

Brooklyn's most impressive victory of the month came against Lehman College in a CUNYAC matchup. Junior

Julie Huang proved to be Brooklyn's most valuable swimmer. In the 100 meter backstroke, Huang finished with an impressive 1:16, nearly a minute faster than the second place finisher. Then, in the 100 meter breaststroke, Huang earned another first place finish, with a time of 1:22 seconds, nine seconds faster than the competitor from Lehman. Behind Huang's strong performances, the Bulldogs pulled out a convincing victory.

Brooklyn's recent outing, against Baruch on Jan. 18, was not so convincing. The Bulldogs suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of the Baruch Bearcats. Baruch won 103-67. While the Bulldogs were unable to secure a team victory, senior Anastasia Kutuzova earned two individual victories. Kutuzova won the 100 meter freestyle by less than a second with a time of 59:63. She also won the 200 IM and the 100 meter breaststroke.



BC's Whitney Fowler./Lamar Carter for BC Athletics

The Bulldogs are focused on the CUNYAC championships, which begins on Jan. 27. Can

they turn their individual success into team success?