Cuomo Talks Taxes on Campus

By James Barreiro

Governor M. Cuomo addressed politicians at Farmingdale State College (FSC) on February 5 to deliver his regional opportunity agenda for Long Island. He outlined key issues affecting Long Island to address through reforms and initiatives from his legislative agenda and executive budget, which his office released in January.

The regional address focused on property tax relief, modernization of Republic Airport, and education system reform.

“The Governor’s visit was an honor for Farmingdale, and the event went very smoothly,” said Director of Communications for FSC, Kathy Coley.

Along with the key points in the regional address, the Governor made numerous pledges and promises: raising the minimum wage to $10.50 an hour, full tuition coverage costs for SUNY/CUNY graduates who pledge five years to public service, bonuses for high performing teachers, and stronger sexual assault legislation.

Republic Airport will be included in the START-UP NY initiative, a tax free zone for new businesses working in tandem with academic institutions. Muhammad Chowdari, a student in the aviation program at FSC said, “We need more opportunities and jobs fairs because there are absolutely none.” He referenced specifically for aviation related jobs.

Property tax relief of $1.7 billion dollars coupled with fiscal discipline is aimed at middle and lower income families struggling under the crushing weight of some of the highest property taxes in the country under the reforms, according to Governor Cuomo.

“He is making efforts to help underprivileged and low income households, which I think is great,” said Chris Newton, a student whose family isn’t directly affected by the tax relief. Under this program, about 332,417 Long Island residents will receive an average credit of $1,186 per year. More information is available at governor.ny.gov.

SGA Holds First Wet Campus Winter Gala

By Jessica Matarese

The ballroom was decorated for full effect for the Student Government Association’s first event on campus. The Winter Gala was held on Saturday, February 28, 2015, in the Campus Center Ballroom.

This event was open to the Farmingdale student body for $5 and guests for $10. The ticket price included “A very well-known local DJ, fine dining, dance floor, photo booth, and a professional photographer,” said SGA representative, Angiulina Magdalena.

This was the first on-campus event where alcohol was offered at a cash bar to guests by a licensed bartender for attendees who were over the legal drinking age of 21.

Prior to this event, the student body was eager to see the turn out for SGA’s first event. MaryKate Lively, a member of Sigma Delta Tau, is happy that Farmingdale has become “more progressive to accept what is happening in society.” More students may come to campus to attend an event that is geared to their age range. “It is good to keep a social event such as this one in a controlled setting.”

Students hope that more events from SGA and other organizations on campus will bring the Farmingdale campus community closer together.
Mixed Reviews of “Shades”

By Shannon Carlin

The brand spanking new film “Fifty Shades of Grey” beats the competition and dominates the box office.

The film adaptation of the novel “Fifty Shades of Grey,” the first book in the trilogy read by more than 100 million people, made its debut in theaters February 13. The movie which had a $40 million budget topped the charts its opening weekend making more than $94.4 million.

Viewers who also read the books prior to seeing the film will be delighted that it follows the book pretty closely minus some details. We lose Anastasia Steele’s introduction to oral sex and above all lose Ana’s inner thoughts from the book: “Yes! My inner goddess is thrilled,” said Anastasia Steele in the first book.

The movie theater in Deer Park filled quickly and sold out hours before the showing. The film started quickly and the action picked up rapidly making the first much anticipated “vanilla” sex scene within the first half hour. “This was the perfect way to spend a Valentine’s Day with my girls. The book and the movie were really similar, and I really felt the sexual tension in both,” said Isabella Kislin.

The sex scenes got racier and racier as the movie progressed and finally introduced the audience to sex with a man living a BDSM lifestyle. BDSM is a variety of erotic practices involving dominance and submission, role-playing, restraint, and other interpersonal dynamics. Since the movie is rated R for unusual behavior, graphic nudity, and strong sexual content, the audience was wooed by spankings for punishment, and a lot of full frontal nudity of Dakota Johnson, the actress who played awkward Ana so flawlessly.

Despite the intriguing sex scenes, the theater filled with laughter a couple of times during the movie. “Aside from the transparent lip biting starting from scene one, probably the cringiest scene was Christian tying Ana to the bed as romantic music played. I probably should not have gone with my aunt,” said Rachael Funk, a PCM major.

Christian Grey punishing Ana by whipping her with a leather flog, a scene shot in slow motion, was a moment when you couldn’t help but laugh. Theorny scenes continued until the movie ended abruptly when Ana said “Christian,” and then Christian said, “Ana,” as the elevator door closes just in the nick of time.

The soundtrack for “Fifty Shades,” which was released days before the actual movie, was a surprising success featuring artists like Beyoncé, The Weeknd, and Ellie Goulding.

Without spoiling much, it is clearly unavoidable that there will be a second movie and maybe even a third. “Because of how good the books are I am hopeful that the next movie will be better than this one, I will definitely be going to see it,” said MaryKate Lively, an information technology major at Farmingdale.

Drinking and Learning

By Dominick Morelli

Alcohol is now being served on campus. Since it has become legal to drink alcohol on campus, there have been rumors spreading around about a bar being built somewhere on campus.

Vice President Tom Corti, for Student Affairs, said, “There were a number of incidents that led to the campus going dry. We really haven’t considered a bar on campus at this time, but we are applying for a campus alcohol permit at this time that will allow us to serve alcohol in select locations such as the Campus Center ballroom and the University Club.”

A student who dorms and is over the age of 21 can drink alcohol in the dorm rooms.

Alex Pangourelas, a 22-year-old student, said, “I believe that those who are over 21 should be able to enjoy things that are deemed legal for them.”

Shannon Kennedy, 20-year-old student, said, “No, because having a bar on campus can lead to more drunk drivers, and if an accident occurs, the school would be blamed. It shows that the school allows drinking and is trying to promote it.”

The Winter Gala on February 28 was the first student event that included alcohol and was by the student government. The College is starting to schedule more events that will be able to serve alcohol in the Campus Center and the University Ballroom.
Sounds Like a Study Buddy

By Adam J. Mancuso

Throughout time, music has been known to either soothe or rile a crowd from the piety-inducing Gregorian chants of Hildegarde to the riots invoked from Bill Haley’s “Rock Around the Clock” back in 1955. But in 2014 some students are choosing to use music as an ally when doing homework assignments to help make it more exciting.

Merriam-Webster defines music as “vocal, instrumental, or mechanical sounds having rhythm, melody, or harmony.”

Sophomore Nida Hussain, said that she likes to listen to Red Hot Chili Peppers and The Smiths, when doing homework because she says, “it’s a good sound, the emphasis on punk rock wakes me up a bit and I find myself more focused.”

Rachel Gerrard, a junior, adds “I actually don’t listen to music when I study. I generally put on TV on,” said student Susan Napolitano.

Though their preferences for studying differ, there was one constant answer the students gave when asked if they saw a change in their grades when they study with music to the times when they do not. They all gave a unanimous “I can’t even have the TV on,” said student Susan Napolitano.

As a shoe collector, I must say that the sneaker culture on Farmingdale Campus is really impressive. The footprint that the footwear scene leaves makes for some eye grabbing sightings of sneakers. From Jordans and Nikes to Timberlands and Ralph Lauren, the college is like a place where everyone can come together and show off what they are rocking today.

The oasis can be found in the campus center. I always see someone wearing something that makes me stare. The popular brand seems to be Jordans. If I were to bring everyone in the campus center together that were wearing Jordans, I could probably come close to having the whole collection right in front of me.

The most frequent Jordan I see happens to be the Jordan 3, 5 and 11, specifically, the Jordan 3 Black Cement, Jordan 5 Fire Red and the Jordan 11 Bred. These three silhouettes are not only the most common on campus, but they are probably the most common in the world.

I have noticed a decline in the number of rare kicks on campus from the first I attended FSC. I remember my first semester when I saw somebody wearing Nike Air Yeezy 1s Zen. This shoe is well-known, vastly sought-after and high-valued sneaker. Not only is it the tan, brown and pink style an automatic eye-catcher, but the price tag will leave you in awe. The price for a size eleven at Flight Club, is $3,000. The oasis can be found in the campus center.

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**Internship Opportunity of a Lifetime**

*By Katherine Polanco*

That time of the year has come again; it is time to start looking for that internship that’s required to graduate. A great opportunity for an internship is the New York State Senate and Assembly Internship Program offering students a trip to Albany, 15 credits towards any major, and $4900 dollars for expenses. Aside from being part of an honorable opportunity, all that’s required is working approximately 32 hours a week and participating in an all-encompassing course in the legislative process.

“It’s an amazing opportunity. I sat and spoke to the dean about it two weeks ago. It’s really awesome and worth any amount of work to get in,” said business management student, Yaryl Gonzalez.

“I could see this being very beneficial for new students.”

Both NYS internship programs are open to all undergraduate students statewide. The NYS Assembly Internship Committee chooses up to 150 applicants each year, giving participants the opportunity to meet and interact with other students sharing common focus and goals.

“I could see this as very beneficial for new students. For a freshman coming from high school looking to get the experience of going away, I feel it’ll be a great opportunity,” said Blake Palma, junior.

Campus Liaison Officer, Richard Vogel is the first to screen all applications and applicants at FSC, making sure that eligibility requirements are met. Applicants must be a full-time student in a four-year degree program and in good standing with a high enough GPA.

“One of the most critical things that the Assembly and Senate look for in applicants is a commitment or interest in public policy issues and the ability to communicate. When I say a commitment to public policy, I don’t mean to imply that individuals should have an interest in politics or should be pursuing a career in government. Interns can come from all disciplines - engineering, science, humanities, business, social sciences, etc. It is just that they look for applicants that show a strong interest to policy issues related to their discipline and the application of those interests with public service,” said Vogel in an e-mail.

College credits isn’t the only thing participants will gain; learning practicing, hard work, and true dedication will benefit students for a lifetime. This opportunity could open many doors for participants and is an excellent addition to a great resume.

Internships are given out annually.

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**LED Sign Gives Mixed Signals**

*By Adi Halevi*

Students say the new LED lit signs are more hurtful than helpful. The new signs are located at the intersection between Melville Road and Route 110. The bright lights change every 10-15 seconds, alternating advertisements for FSC. The advertisements vary among promoting The Children’s Center located on campus, events at FSC, and SUNY slogans.

Students say that the lights confuse them as they enter campus from that entrance.

“When I am at the light at night and the picture changes, I can’t tell whether it is a green light or the green sign with the Farmingdale slogan,” said Flynn-Davis.

The color should at least be changed to something other than green. “It is confusing,” said Aaron Feuerstein, FSC student.

While there are no reported accidents because of the lights, FSC student Drew Flynn-Davis suggests that the signs should keep one picture up when the sun goes down. “If they kept the picture on the signs to one image, even if its for a longer length of time, then people will probably get less confused between the signs and the traffic lights,” said Flynn-Davis.

On the other hand, some students believe drivers shouldn’t use the signs as an excuse. “It may be a distraction, but the drivers should also be paying attention to the stop light, not the signs,” said Tori Tedeschi, a FSC student.

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**Staff and Students Take the Challenge**

*By Nicholas Semelak*

The first ever Farmingdale Forward 24-Hour Challenge was a fund raising event for FSC. The event was simple - 250 donors in 24 hours. Professors, students, and staff all volunteered to call upon FSC graduates to ask for their support.

Held by the Farmingdale State College Alumni Association, all proceeds from the program are used to support student scholarships, alumni and academic programming, and ultimately, the benefit of FSC’s campus. Director of Alumni Relations, Michelle Johnson, and Assistant Director, Regina Vazquez, created the program, and started strong, with a contribution of $10,000 by alumna Theresa Patnode Santmann.

The Farmingdale Alumni Association assists FSC in meeting educational goals and promoting educational benefits to students and alumni alike. Ultimately, the organization is keen on maintaining fellowship and loyalty among alumni. The 87,000 members that make up the Alumni Association has represented FSC’s excellence in providing quality education for 100 years.

Among members of the association is, “The Dark Knight,” actor William Fictner, who is an alumni graduating in 1978 in Criminal Justice. “To say that Farmingdale changed my life, or had a massive influence on it, would be an understatement of my life,” said Fictner in a special message on YouTube. “We all know the amazing things that FSC gave to us. Well, we can give back.”

The Farmingdale Forward 24-Hour Challenge proved to be a success, receiving more than 328 donors, more than 70 over the target, within 24 hours. Although the event is over, donations are still being accepted online at www.farmingdale.edu/ff24/.
**They Don’t Give a Cluck**

*By Nia Williams*

Chick-Fil-A, home of the original chicken sandwich, may have trouble making it’s way on campus with its controversial funding of anti-gay organizations by its president.

FSC’s food service, Aramark, is looking to bring a national chicken concept to the campus, and Chick-Fil-A could be one of the top choices. Chick-Fil-A is mainly popular in the South but was previously considered by Aramark’s selection committee.

Erica Ethridge, a junior, believes that Chick-Fil-A would be a huge success on campus. “I’ve heard so many good things about Chick-Fil-A,” said Erica Ethridge, 21. “If they’re considering bringing it to this campus than I’m all for it!”

Although Chick-Fil-A was previously reviewed for the campus dining program in 2008, the selection committee voted against it. It was a political decision based on the opinion of the Chick-Fil-A president.

The president of Chick-Fil-A has a reputation for supporting anti-gay causes and organizations. “There are many supporters of the LGBT community on campus,” said Kayla McLean, a junior. “Many people might not want to eat Chick-Fil-A once the hype is over.”

Despite Chick-Fil-A’s controversial background, McLean still believes there is a good chance that the fast food restaurant will make its way on campus.

“Since there are no Chick-Fil-A’s in our vicinity, I think curiosity will build and students and faculty alike will want to try the food there,” said McLean. “I don’t know if it will do better than the KFC though.”

Students will be surveyed before any final decisions are made. “Surveying is a great approach,” said Ethridge. “I can’t wait to see what the options are, but I’m definitely leaning towards Chick-fil-A.”

Joe D. Sacco, food service director, confirms that the review of the campus dining program is an on-going process that includes surveying the campus community.

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**I am Woman, Hear Me SoROARity**

*By Leticia Barr*

The sorority Phi Sigma Sigma (ΦΣΣ), better known as “Phi Sig,” has made its way to Farmingdale State.

Monica Cintron is a member of Phi Sig and is “Proud to be a part of such a strong group of young women.” She is excited to be a part of the newest chapter and “look(s) forward to working with them to better Farmingdale and its community.”

Phi Sigma Sigma was founded in 1913 at Hunter College and has 115 active chapters throughout the US and Canada, their newest addition being the Iota Sigma chapter at FSC.

Kimberly Morello, one of the founders of Phi Sig at Farmingdale, and a few other women, formed an interest group in January 2014 because they wanted a second sorority on campus. “We reached out to Nicole Immerso who then reached out to the NPC (National Panhelic Council). Phi Sig was chosen from a list of sororities that were interested in expanding to FSC,” said Morello.

“We became a colony last semester and as of January 30 are officially the Iota Sigma chapter of Phi Sigma Sigma,” said Morello. “We have about 43 sisters as of right now, but with recruitment just finishing up that number will grow, and we’re all really excited about it!”

Phi Sigma Sigma’s core values are “Lifelong learning, inclusiveness, and leadership through service” which goes hand-in-hand with their philanthropic cause: to promote school and college readiness. The women of Phi Sig work together to make strides and contribute to their new partner, Kids in Need, which gives school supplies to children in order to help them better prepare for school.

The sisters of ΦΣΣ also participate in community service events, according to Rebecca Fatsher, a member of Phi Sig at Farmingdale. “A few of our sisters, including me, volunteered at a soup kitchen with another fraternity, Alpha Phi Delta, before Thanksgiving to make around 300 dinners for the homeless.”

Fatsher said a few of her other sisters have volunteered, with fraternity Kappa Sigma, at the New York Bully Crew Event. “Since we are a brand new chapter, we haven’t been fortunate enough to get involved with philanthropic events too much as a sorority yet. We are planning events to contribute further to that. We are also planning events for other foundations,” said Fatsher.

Their mission statement is, “Phi Sigma Sigma is a dynamic sisterhood of powerful women fostering uncompromising principles, igniting change, and embracing individuality.”

For more information on Phi Sigma Sigma, find them on Facebook, Twitter, or e-mail them at farmingdale@phisigmaisigma.org. As their maxim states, “Once a Phi Sigma Sigma, always a Phi Sigma Sigma.”

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The women of Phi Sigma Sigma at their Sisterhood event on February 12
Spring Break in Germany

By William J. Deister

For the first time during Spring Break, Farmingdale State College offers those looking to study abroad a chance to travel to Munich, Germany.

The college hosts an annual trip to Florence, Italy, for several weeks during the summer break, but over Spring Break in 2015 they will begin a new program accessible to Farmingdale students. One of the goals for this program is to host an annual Spring Break study abroad that visits a different country each year, rather than focusing on a single destination year after year.

The initial idea for the trip was conceived by two Farmingdale professors, Dr. Jeffrey Gaab and Dr. Robert Saunders as an alternative for students taking their senior seminar, while gaining the valuable experience that a study abroad provides.

In addition to the trip overseas, students will attend one-on-one meetings with Dr. Gaab. The focus of these sessions will be on writing assignments that students are required to complete for the course.

The Deutsches Museum in Munich is the world’s largest museum of science and technology and is the inspiration for the trip. “Munich is the headquarters of science and technology in Germany, so it made perfect sense for Science, Technology and Society students,” said Dr. Gaab.

The approximate cost for the trip to Munich is between $3,300 and $3,500, which includes airfare, breakfast, several lunches, and the fees for museums and tours.

For those students looking to study abroad but fear the cost may be prohibitive, fear not. “We are hoping to implement a scholarship program with the aim of supporting select students who desire to study abroad,” said Jessica Zuniga, the Study Abroad Advisor for Farmingdale State College.

Spanning nine days, students will take part in a wide variety of cultural experiences and visit some of Munich’s most famous attractions. This will include a tour of the city of Munich on their first day in country. A trip to BMW World and Museum and a visit to the 1972 Olympic Grounds will be held on another day.

There will also travel to the Nazi concentration camp at Dachau. The site houses a museum and several memorials dedicated to victims of the Holocaust. “We wanted to do something with the university, but it didn’t pan out,” said Dr. Saunders, referring to the University of Munich, one of the oldest colleges in Germany and in Europe.


Students Hungry for Annual Pi-Day Competition

By Kaitlyn Patras

The National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) hosts an annual competition devoted to the celebration of Pi - the Greek letter representing the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter.

“The Pi-Day contest is songs and short poems connected to Pi. It is a way to popularize mathematics; to bring people interested in mathematics,” said Dr. Irina Neymotin, FSC professor of mathematics.

Pi is an irrational, mathematical constant that is celebrated on March 14 of each year, representing the first three digits of its number sequence 3.14. Pi has been calculated to over a trillion digits and continues infinitely without repeating. The unique number shows up constantly in math leading to its popularity among the mathematical community.

“This years’ Pi-Day is even better,” said Dr. Carlos Marques, chairman and professor of the FSC math department, as 2015 coincides with the next two digits of Pi’s decimal, 3.1415.

MoMath holds the annual event with various contests. This year they accepted Pi-ku’s, haikus with syllables based on Pi denominations, Pi parodies or original songs, and Pi-mericks, or Pi limericks.

March 14 was officially named National Pi-Day by the House of Representatives in 2009 to encourage schools and educators to have activities that would engage students in the study of mathematics. Students of all grade levels and majors are encouraged to participate. Winning entries are selected based on creativity and originality. Past winners have included original poems, songs, and parodies of The Beatles, Billy Joel, and the song “What Does the Fox Say.”

“These are super creative!” said Victoria Pagan, a senior PCM student about the past winners. “You definitely have to be mathematically and musically inclined to participate in this contest!”

The winning submissions and their authors will be posted on Pi-Day on MoMath’s Pi-Day website, where you can also find winning entries from previous years.

Business School Professors Receive $261,600 Grant

By Emily Shields

Two professors at the School of Business have received a $261,600 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to last for two years. The NOAA is a part of the United States Department of Commerce, that supports economic vitality and affects more than one-third of America’s gross domestic product. Their services support daily weather forecasts, severe storm warnings, coastal restoration, and marine commerce.

Dr. Richard Vogel, Dean of the SUNY Farmingdale School of Business, and Dr. Nanda Viswanathan, Assistant Dean of the SUNY Farmingdale School of Business, will be researching the economic and business trends of the Long Island coast.

“What we are looking at is the interaction and interrelationship between the marine-based industries on the island and the greater Long Island economy,” said Vogel. They will be comparing Long Island to other coastal communities in the Northeast, such as Cape Cod and the Jersey Shore, and seeing if there is anything to learn from them.

“It’s great that they’ll be able to see how the Long Island coast compares to those other amazing coasts,” said Nick Antonelli, a business major. Their research will be looking at industries that represent the history and heritage of Long Island and see how they can change and adapt to the way that Long Island has grown and changed.

Through conducting surveys and collecting data, they will be able to create scenarios that demonstrate how a change in policy or a change in the way a marina, for example, conducts their business, could affect the industry. “The idea is that we understand the links between the coastal heritage of Long Island as it relates to the fishing and marine industries and the synergies that it might have with tourism and hospitality,” said Viswanathan.

Left to right: Dr. Nanda Viswanathan, and Dr. Richard Vogel
Today’s Hottest Fashion Trends

By Danielle LoPinto

Fresh off the runway and into your closet, the transition from heavy winter sweaters to light and bright spring fashion has finally begun! Every fashionista is covered with timeless loves like shirtdresses to new loves like ginghams prints. Each trend will be sure to impress on campus.

New shirtdresses are a must-have for any woman on the run looking for comfort while looking presentable, as always. With any lengths or styles, this trend surely fits any woman of any age. From a simple t-shirt dress, a button down, or something bold like a thigh high slit, it is definitely a versatile look that can be played up or down. Try it with a belt, or a fashion necklace.

“In college you want to feel comfortable and still look beautiful,”

“You create your own style with the items you wear and you can make a statement,” said Alexis Demetrious, a Graphic Design major.

Prints like ginghams are taking over the runway in jackets, dresses, tops, shorts, and even suits. Ginghams are making a comeback, being shown in a variety of fresh new colors like beige, green, and blues in this classic checkered print. For the modern woman, prints like this are fun and bold, but can also be styled with delicate, soft touches.

“I really like the trend of crop tops and high waisted shorts and skirts. I like how they’re incorporating trends from the past,” said Kristen Nichols, a psychology major.

Of course, these are only some of the wonderful trends many will be seeing this spring and summer. Think colors like bright yellow, military green, and even white the next time you go shopping, as well as gladiator sandals and sneakers before reaching for a pair of heels.

Try new ways to style floral and denim pieces to fit your personal style, and unique accessories to boost any outfit. Remember anything lace, cropped, or bohemian will also be a great start to the season.

“There are so many choices and collections out there that can express your personality,” said Crystal Costello, a PCM major in A Day In The Life blog post by FSC on What’s your #CollegeStyle. “In college you want to feel comfortable and still look beautiful.”

Macy’s floral fashion dress.

State Funding for Farmingdale

By Melissa Surrett

The budget for SUNY compromises two components: state support, and tuition. Out of over one billion dollars in state funding to SUNY schools in New York, FSC received approximately $12 million in our President’s Annual Report for 2014. It is called the Rational Tuition Program. “It’s part of the deal SUNY made with the state when we went with the RTP four years ago,” said Controller Richard Hume. He said, “The state would not cut our budget over the five years, but they wouldn’t increase it either. What we get was fixed at the level it was four years ago.”

The fixed level each school gets is called maintenance of effort. This means the amount of state funding for each campus was decided five years ago under this plan and has not changed.

The misconception is that SUNY’s state funding grows due to a greater student headcount every year. “If Farmingdale’s state tax support grew due to enrollment growth you would have a system where there are winners and losers and that’s tough,” said Hume.

This distribution of state support could change depending on whatever may be decided when a new plan is developed next year when the five years end. “Where will we go from there? Will they do another rational tuition plan? Will they not? Everything is up in the air at this point,” said Budget Director Ellen Weber.

The budget provides income for the staff and supports renovations, utilities, and technology to enhance campus. “When I started, the Campus Center had just been built. I saw it as it was brand new,” said student John Penesky. “If the school wasn’t changing in a positive way, then I’d be annoyed.”

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The budget for SUNY compromises two components: state support, and tuition. Out of over one billion dollars in state funding to SUNY schools in New York, FSC received approximately $12 million in our President’s Annual Report for 2014. It is called the Rational Tuition Program. “It’s part of the deal SUNY made with the state when we went with the RTP four years ago,” said Controller Richard Hume. He said, “The state would not cut our budget over the five years, but they wouldn’t increase it either. What we get was fixed at the level it was four years ago.”

The fixed level each school gets is called maintenance of effort. This means the amount of state funding for each campus was decided five years ago under this plan and has not changed.

The misconception is that SUNY’s state funding grows due to a greater student headcount every year. “If Farmingdale’s state tax support grew due to enrollment growth you would have a system where there are winners and losers and that’s tough,” said Hume.

This distribution of state support could change depending on whatever may be decided when a new plan is developed next year when the five years end. “Where will we go from there? Will they do another rational tuition plan? Will they not? Everything is up in the air at this point,” said Budget Director Ellen Weber.

The budget provides income for the staff and supports renovations, utilities, and technology to enhance campus. “When I started, the Campus Center had just been built. I saw it as it was brand new,” said student John Penesky. “If the school wasn’t changing in a positive way, then I’d be annoyed.”

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NY Jets NEGLECT FSC for Summer

By Lisa Ferreras

The Farmingdale community has been expecting to receive the NY Jets for the summer training in FSC.

Unfortunately, an article published by New York CBS Local explains that Farmingdale will not be hosting the Jets’ summer training; however, the school could remain as a future option.

“If it hadn’t have been for the Jets’ new coach and manager, they would have come to Farmingdale,” said Mike Harrington, director of athletics at Farmingdale State College. Even though the Jets have not published where they might be training, many believe that they could be considering their home base in Florham Park, New Jersey.

Losing Was Never An Option

By Vincent Valeda

An extraordinarily vibrant young man fills the room with color every time he enters one. This young man is Damian Romanelli, junior lacrosse player for the Rams. The bumpy road he crossed is not in any stretch of the imagination inevitable. Cancer, one word that scares the life out of many, is exactly what Damian heard from his doctor.

A junior at Lindenhurst High School, Damian was a two sport athlete with a bright future. All it took was one day to change his entire life. Damian was diagnosed with stage 3-B lymphoma early in the school year. “I felt pain in my left hip and noticed I had a lump under my skin and knew this wasn’t normal,” said Damian Romanelli.

“I went through two cycles of chemotherapy and 14 days straight of radiation”

never a day when he felt sick. He grabbed this challenge by the horns and never let it beat him.

Damian who has now been cancer free for over three years, lives at home with his father and two brothers. “It’s amazing seeing my little brother overcome such an emotional and physical toll and be able to do the things he loves with a smile on his face,” said Anthony Romanelli the oldest sibling of the family. Damian considers himself one of the luckiest people on earth.

He brings an enormous amount of spark to his lacrosse team. “Someone like that (Damian) with so much energy and happiness, after having a battle with cancer really makes you happy to be here,” said Derrick Sherrod a teammate and close friend of Romanelli.

Along with the new season comes a new head coach, which means this will be his first year coaching Damian. The Rams hired Coach Sean Chamberlain in the offseason and he says Damian is a very hard worker with plenty of promise. “The fact is that he has overcome cancer physically, mentally, and emotionally. Damian makes it look easy for everyone” said Chamberlain.

“Damian is a special type of person, and it’s an honor to call him my friend” said Matthew Finna teammate and good friend of Damian. Romanelli does not want people feeling sorry for him; he worked hard to beat cancer and now he works even harder to win a championship. “I am so happy to be alive and healthy. Words can’t describe it anymore. Now let’s win a championship.”