Grease

By Alexandra Dacey

Grease tore the roof off Roosevelt Hall at FSC! Audience members experienced nostalgic feelings as they were transported back to the 1950’s. On November 18th - 20th the student-run Backstage Theatre Company worked hard to produce this cinema classic and showcase their talents. A record 600 tickets were sold for the four shows.

“My favorite scene in the play was the Hand Jive,” said student Tom Mallazzo. The audience sang along to all the familiar tunes, and danced along in their seats with the performers. The singing and choreography rivaled other productions at FSC.

“Our choreographer, Sari Feldman, is amazing! I was so excited to learn the hand jive, and couldn’t have had a better dancing partner,” said Stefanie Lo Pinto, who played Cha Cha, of her dance partner, Mike Madrigal, who played Danny Zuko, the male lead.

The dedicated cast put the show together in just one month. “We rehearsed four days a week,” said LoPinto. The long nights and rehearsals paid off for the cast.

Director Nick Attanasio has produced five shows at FSC, Grease being his last. “I was very happy and honored that this was my last show. The cast was a great group,” said Attanasio.

The audience gave a standing ovation at the final show. “I was extremely thrilled with the performances and the show; the actors worked ridiculously hard and it truly paid off,” said Attanasio.

Farmingdale Mourns Death of Kyle Underhill

By Stefanie Lo Pinto

Kyle Underhill, an 18 year-old freshman at FSC, was found dead in an Islip sump Saturday, November 19, 2011, at approximately 9:20 a.m.

His death was declared a homicide, but the cause of death has not yet been released. An autopsy is being conducted.

Underhill was last seen alive on Wednesday, November 16 at around 5 p.m. on Brook Street in Islip. His family reported him missing on Thursday night.

President Keen Withdraws Campus Recognition of Farmingdale State Government

By Stefanie Lo Pinto

On November 11, 2011, a message from the desk of President Keen was sent to students’ e-mail inboxes declaring Keen’s verdict to withdraw college recognition of the Student Government.

“Dysfunction within the Executive Committee of FSG led me to take action during the last few months to restore a functioning governance structure for the benefit of the students,” said President Keen via e-mail. President Keen was reluctant to withdraw college recognition of FSG, and the conclusion to do so was a last resort.

Various attempts to bring about changes to save FSG included the addition of an Ad Hoc Committee made up of faculty, staff, and students, as well as a Campus Budget Review Committee. Since the withdrawal of recognition, FSG is no longer able to suggest expenses from the Mandatory Student Activity Fee funds; the FSG offices have been closed and administration of the affairs of student government will be handled by the Office of Student Activities.

To improve the next installment of Student Government, a representative group of students will begin constructing a new student government constitution and by-laws over the course of the coming weeks. Advisors consisting of faculty and staff, as well as the leadership of the SUNY Student Assembly, will help with the development of a new government as soon as possible.

“I hope the students, faculty and staff will assist in whatever ways possible to facilitate the founding of a new student government that serves the best interests of all students,” said President Keen.
This summer FSC purchased two brand new Piper PA-28-161 Warrior airplanes, with the help of State bonds, funds from the FSC Aviation Center, and student enrollment fees that were attributed. The planes were brought to the campus late in May, and have yet to be flown by the students. Students have started to question the delay.

Part of the reason these planes have not been used has to do with paperwork that has yet to be completed. Benjamin Struck, Chief Flight Instructor at FSC Republic Airport Campus, explained that the College still waits for conformity inspection, to determine the airworthiness of the airplanes.

The New Warriors were not only purchased brand new, but after being purchased they were equipped with new computer navigation systems. As a result, the planes must meet standardizations, explained Struck.

The planes have new glass cockpits like those in most airplanes today. Student exposure to these new technologies will be very beneficial. “We can now increase enrollment by another ten students,” said Struck. Considering the competitiveness of FSC’s Aviation Department, allowing another ten students into the program is a huge benefit to students wishing to apply and study at FSC.

Back in 2003, eight planes were purchased and added to the Department of Aviation. The planes have served eight years and are almost reaching their 4,000 – 6,000 flight hour limits. That is when they should begin to be replaced. The new Warriors should also last that long. Using an airplane for at least 10 years is a good rate, assured Struck. “Students will be able to fly new Warriors before the end of the semester,” said Struck.

FSC aviation students have very little to complain about. “Over the past four years there have been lots of improvements. Every year there is something better. It’s great,” said John Miranda, a senior in aviation, as he smiled with great enthusiasm. After visiting the airport campus one instantly understands why students are so content with the school.

The school has risen to a level of standardization. “It’s kinda like Communism, everyone has to meet the same level of requirements that the FAA publishes,” said Kyle Castanon, transfer student from Embry Riddle University.

Under the new standardization, instructors must wear uniforms, FAA testing is required, and new equipment has become available to teachers and students. Aviation students are not the only ones who can take advantage of the new airplanes: all FSC students that hold a current student ID card can fly as backseat passengers during student flight hours. All a student has to do is make a pilot friend, and the trip is free.

By David Davila
The Rampage Student Newspaper 4 Farmingdale State College

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION
By Eric Farina, SVA Club Advisor

After participating in the New York City Veterans Day Parade up Fifth Avenue, the Farmingdale Student Veterans of America returned to campus and made their way to the University Club in Knapp Hall to enjoy the Second Annual Veterans Day dinner.

In attendance were many faculty and staff members including Dr. W. Hubert Keen, Dr. Thomas Corti, and Dr. Veronica Henry, as well as 25 veterans and their dates. An honor guard of veterans opened the event with a procession of the flags of all five branches of the Armed Forces. It was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a beautiful acapella version of the National Anthem by staff member Catherine Burke.

Photo by Alexandra Dacey

MARINES LAND IN FARMINGDALE
By Alexandra Dacey

Although the dinner provided by Aramark was delicious as usual, the high point of the evening was the keynote speaker, Captain Brian Udell. Captain Udell is a pilot for Southwest.

From Plainview, Smith has attended FSC since the fall of 2007. Although she attended the school before a degree in psychology existed, Smith felt drawn to the newly developing program. “I have a very short attention span for many subjects, but I always loved psychology and I was always interested in it,” said Smith.

Brittany Valenti, a friend of Smith’s and a student at FSC, describes Ali as a great friend. “She is very easy-going and caring. She is a blast to be around and always willing to try new things,” said Valenti.

Undecided with her future plans, Smith decided to take a semester off and running for president was a great experience for her. “In fact, Smith not only recommends that students join clubs, but also run for office as well. “Get involved by joining a club you are interested in, but don’t stop there . . .”

GET INVOLVED BY JOINING A CLUB YOU ARE INTERESTED IN, BUT DON’T STOP THERE . . .

THE MUNCH BOX
By Stefanie LoPinto

New generations of food trucks are hitting the streets, and not just the streets of New York City. The Munch Box, a sector of FOUR Food Studio, is a speedy and inexpensive alternative to dining in.

The new food truck is parked outside of FOUR and it has intrigued a different type of clientele while bringing another source of revenue for the restaurant. “It gets the customers who don’t feel like dining in and would normally go to a deli, now they come to the Munch Box,” said Romaine Walton, an employee of FOUR for five years, and current student at FSC.

The convenience of the truck is a perfect match for customers on-the-run. “I would go to a burger truck. It’s perfect for a quick break between classes,” said Katie Biscoglia, an FSC junior.

The Munch Box specializes in serving up a gourmet twist on conventional fast food. They are open Monday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m. The daily menu consists of new and traditional American cuisine, including specialty sliders which won’t break the bank at just $3 a pop (or 2 for $5).

Menu items like the Pulled Pork Slider adorned with crispy onions and barbecue sauce will tantalize taste buds and keep visitors craving lunch all day long.

Other menu options include the Simple Slider, Crispy Chicken, BBQ, or Lobster Roll Slider. Customers can even build their own sandwich and add items like shrimp, tofu, skirt steak, and more. “It’s good, fast food with a great price point,” said Alex Dacey, an FSC senior.

The wide array of the Munch Box’s offerings include take out, delivery, and catering.

The Munch Box is located at 515 Broadhollow Road in Melville; Call it in orders can be placed at 631-988-4351.
Falling In Love At FSC Gardens

By Rosemarie Callanan

In a far away land, near the Campus Police building lies a hidden treasure. While Farmingdale State College has been cultivating innovation for over 100 years, the Horticulture Department has been cultivating a vivid and lush garden for the last 80.

Even though the gardens have been around almost as long as the school, few FSC students know about the beautiful scenery right in their backyard.

“I had to guess percentage wise I’d say about less than 50 percent of the students know about the gardens,” said Professor Michael Veracka, current Chairman of the Horticulture Department.

This spectacular garden holds many treasures, one of which students majoring in Ornamental Horticulture would know well. The gardens, also called the Teaching Gardens, give students a hands-on approach to enrich their learning experience. Some classes the students attend consist of: Herb Plants, Floral Designing, and Landscape Plant Management, and Landscape Surveying.

“Students David Dávila and Danielle Cox with producer of Anderson Cooper 360, Justine Redman agreed to fly the crew in. “It’s amazing how much you can get if you ask,” said Redman.

“I do what I do because it’s important that we share the reality of what life is like for those people we share the world with.”

“Just as every season of life has its own beauty and its own commonalities, so does every landscape. The late winter, the early spring, the latter summer, the autumn—all have their unique features, but they are all part of the same cycle. And so too with the people of Haiti. They are part of the same cycle of life, but with their own unique challenges and joys.”

Justine Redman, producer of AC360, decided that Haiti not only caused her to leave her home in the United Kingdom, but also has allowed her to travel the world.

Redman is a journalist and on Monday evening, October 17, 2011, she spoke to students in “My Life as: Producer of Anderson Cooper 360” at Stony Brook University.

Redman shared with students and staff her life as a journalist, the work schedule she has, and the adventures she has witnessed.

In January of last year, less than 25 hours after the devastating earthquake hit Port au Prince, Haiti, Redman and her crew were the first journalists to land at the nation’s capital.

They had no idea what to expect, what the runway conditions would be like, or even who they would be speaking to. She told young, aspiring journalists that one must go out and speak to everyone in journalism, and that is exactly what she did.

Not only does speaking to everyone help in journalism, but also speaking in the appropriate languages. Fortunately, Redman knew more than the average “Je m’appelle Justine Redman,” and was able to parley with the Haitians in French.

Covering Haiti’s tragedy wasn’t easy, and there were many things that needed to be overcome in a timely manner, such as seeing the incredible number of dead bodies that occupied streets and caused traffic jams. Just as every season of life has its differences, so do different types of disasters and stories. Redman went on to explain that reporting about war in the Ivory Coast was extremely different from reporting Haiti’s earthquake.

In March 31 of this year, Ivory Coast closed its air, land, and sea borders indefinitely. During this time, Redman and her crew were in Ethiopia and knew nothing to see in Ivory Coast.

Coming to the end of what they thought would be an unsuccessful story, Redman met a helicopter pilot who was flying into Ivory Coast the following day. After a short discussion, the pilot agreed to fly the crew in. “It’s amazing how much you can get if you ask,” said Redman.

Reporting in the Ivory Coast was challenging, not only because of the civil and political unrest among the people in the streets, but because of the police. Redman told students that police officers could have easily fired on them, simply because they didn’t want to answer questions or didn’t want them to write about what was going on in Ivory Coast.

When she is covering stories that take place on the battlefield, Redman said that she has to worry not only for her own safety, but also the safety of her crew. “The lives of others are in your hands.”

Redman said, “I do what I do because it’s important that we share the reality of what life is like for the other people we share the world with.”

Just because one lives in the nation of freedom without the travesty of war, does not mean that war is nonexistent in some other corner of the world.

Television serves this purpose. Redman is convinced that blogging is not the future of journalism because people will only research topics of personal interest. Video and television will always be an available source to produce news and coverage that might not be found on the Google search engine or the Tumble blog pages of writers posting from their iPhones in college classrooms.

FSC’s Professor Ladd, along with journalism students Danielle Cox and David Dávila, attended the event held by SBU. They were impressed at how Redman had been able to work her way up from a simple internship with CNN to the position of AC360 producer.

The life of a journalist is exciting. Although work schedules can be extremely strenuous, one gets to travel all over the world.
### Men’s Tennis Looks to Ace 2012 Season

By Danielle Cox

Although they have lost three starters from last year’s championship team, the Farmingdale State Men’s Tennis team anticipates making it past two rounds at nationals this year with new top players.

“The top players on our team will demonstrate confidence and desire on and off the court,” said Coach Adam Waterhouse. “The top players will play against each other to determine what position they will play during the season.”

Waterhouse considers Alexander Bessarabov, Christian Bormann, and Joe Falcetta to be his top players this year.

“What is important to remember is that all positions can earn the same point during a match,” Waterhouse. “I don’t put too much thought into who is number one.”

All of the tennis clubs in the Skyline Conference make the playoffs, with the top two teams receiving a bye.

Their conference matches will be against Mount Saint Mary, NYU, Purchase, St. Joseph’s, Sage, and Yeshiva.

“Our team seems very diversified with our personalities and very different game styles,” said Alexander Bessarabov. “Honestly, it’s like every team dynamic: we have fun and make jokes about each other and our coach.”

Bessarabov. “Our team is very diverse and we have different game styles,” said Alexander Bessarabov. “Honestly, it’s like every team dynamic: we have fun and make jokes about each other and our coach.”

### FARMINGDALE RAMS SPORTS

**Bonilla Leads Lady Rams to Strong Finish at St. Joe’s Invitational**

By Heather Marsh

A warm fall afternoon turned into a pleasing finish for the Farmingdale State College women’s cross country team on Saturday, October 22 at the St. Joseph’s Invitational. With over 100 people in attendance at Field 3 of Sunken Meadow Park in Kings Park, FSC placed 5th out of 16 teams.

The energetic crowd seemed to propel the competing teams from the starting line and through the finish of the 8000 meter race. Sophomore Melissa Bonilla led FSC with a time of 22:48:44, placing 12th out of 121 participants. Bonilla quickly smiled and changed the topic as all nine of her teammates congratulated her on a great performance.

As the runners took off around the track covered trail, the crowd followed. The three viewing areas were packed and some fans were pacing the front runners to encourage them along the way. Kaylin Arrigo, a high school student, came to watch the girls in the competition. "I came here to see if I could encourage them to keep on going. My goal was to make it through the race and the course was cool because you can run over the bridge and watch them go," said Arrigo.

Junior Joanne Pavone finished the race in 26:59.9 minutes, cutting her time down by a minute and a half from the start of the season. "I am so happy with my time on this course," said Pavone.

The 3.1 mile course was a mixture of dirt and grass trails, a steep hill and many smaller hills throughout. The challenging terrain mixed with 60 degree weather with the sun beating down. Freshman Megan Cabasino was glad that the race was over. “I hate the course. It was too hilly,” said Cabasino. Freshman Jen Spirtiello agreed with her teammate Cabasino. “It was so hot I am just glad it is over,” said Spirtiello. Preferring not to know her time, Spirtiello laughed with Cabasino about how exhausting the hills were and how much more they would have to train.

Sophomore Catherine Hoskins increased her training and her time. Hoskins completed the race in just over 26 minutes. “I don’t do this to be competitive; I do it because I eat too much,” said Hoskins.

Hoskins, who is actually on the indoor track team, stepped it up through the last half of the race as her teammate promised her a juicy cheeseburger for crossing the finish line. Sitting down to cool off, Hoskins requested her burger only to be told it was a spiritual cheeseburger meant to help her keep up her speed. “I ran for no reason. A spiritual cheeseburger that’s just ridiculous,” said Hoskins.

The crowd motivated the runners to push through the final stretch. Screaming out numbers and names the girls pushed through the finish line to finish strong.

Following the race Coach Daniela Georgieva took time to talk with each of the runners to discuss the course and areas where they struggled. “This will be the hardest course they have to run,” said Georgieva. The team and Georgieva share a few laughs and encouraging comments as they cool down.

The team is improving this season and Georgieva is pleased with their achievements.

### Ready, Set, Marathon!

By Alex Dacey

With the sound of a starter pistol, the first wave of runners began the 2011 New York Marathon. On November 6th at 9:40 a.m. 47,000 color-coordinated runners began one of the most well-known and popular races in the world.

Early Sunday morning, participants began making their way to Staten Island by bus, ferry, and car to await their turn to run across the Verrazano Bridge into Brooklyn. Before the end of the day, the runners would cover 26.2 miles through the boroughs of New York.

The 47,000 runners were split into groups according to the running speed they estimated it would take to finish the race. Each group was assigned a color - blue, green, or orange. Runner Meg Sullivan, wearing orange completed the race in 5 hours 39 minutes. “My goal was to finish,” said Sullivan, who was running for a school promoting reading programs for underprivileged children called Everybody Wins. “I ran for myself and the kids,” said Sullivan.

Through each borough, people lined the streets cheering on each and every runner. In Brooklyn crowds were heard calling out “Fuggedabout it, you can do it!” Various church groups lined the streets of the Bronx while their choirs sang. A group from Trinidad played the drums for the passing runners. “I loved the hipster crowd in Williamsburg,” said Sullivan. “The energy of the people cheering is so much fun!” said spectator Michael Cohen.

Another participant, Erin Smith, who completed the race in 3 hours 36 minutes, found the entire experience exhilarating. “Crossing the Verrazano was spectacular,” said Smith. The first mile was uphill while the second was downhill. “The idea is to help your body transition and adjust for the 24 miles you have to go,” said Sullivan. “Before you know it, you are at the final ten miles. With the end in sight, adrenaline boosts your spirits and carries you to the finish line,” said Sullivan.

Embedded in their brightly colored bibs or tied to their shoes, runners had a kind of GPS device that sent text messages to their families and friends to keep them informed of their location in the race.

Winners received gold medals at the finish line. “Being able to say that I finished the New York City Marathon is one of the coolest things I’ve done and a memory I will always have,” said Smith.

Sophomore Melissa Bonilla
Adon started his career at Farmingdale State College for the 2010-2011 season, where he plans on staying for the next two years, thanks to Coach Smiles.

“He’s a jack of all trades,” said Head Coach Erik Smiles referring to Adon. “He can cover 4 of the 5 positions. He can cover guards and he can cover a forward too.”

Adon loves nothing more than to be in Nold Hall on the court with his fellow Rams teammates. Last season, his first as a Ram, he averaged seven points and five rebounds per game in just twenty three minutes per game.

“He shoots the heck out of the ball,” said Coach Smiles of Adon’s scoring ability.

His favorite moment, by far, has to be his game winning, buzzer beater shot against arch rival St. Joseph’s. “That’s something I’ll never forget,” said Adon, with a big grin gleaming from ear to ear.

Adon’s shift has now focused. Although he will never forget that moment, he does not hang his hat on it. He has shifted his focus to this season, noting that he is looking for a big year for the Rams.

“We got a lot of guys coming back,” he said. “I expect us to be good. I expect a championship.”

“He’s a great leader,” said Coach Smiles. “He is one our hardest workers.”

There is a new class being offered at Farmingdale State College unlike any other Professional Communications class available. The new class is called Sport Writing and is taught by Patrick Calabria, Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Farmingdale.

Professor Calabria has quite a reputation in the world of sports. He was a sports writer for Newsday for over twenty years and has covered events from Wimbledon to the World Series. Upon leaving Newsday, Calabria was vice president of communication for the New York Islanders hockey team, for 6 years.

It was later in life that Calabria decided that he wanted to teach. “A few of my friends in the academic world thought that I would really enjoy academics. Teaching has always been something that I wanted to do. I enjoy my job and the interaction with students that teaching provides. I’m having a ball,” said Calabria.

This class covers many aspects of sport writing that are imperative to the field. Some of the topics include writing features, doing proper interviews, and handling disgruntled athletes. Overall, the main goal of the class is to teach students how to become better writers.

“Writing skills are like chocolate candy. They never go out of style,” said Calabria. Professor Calabria also tells his students the “tricks of the trade” and real life problems that come with being a professional sport writer.

Daniel Carpio, a student in Calabria’s class and an aspiring sports writer, said, “Everything I’ve learned in this class I can put toward broadcasting and blogging, and the lessons I’ve learned about hard news writing, I wouldn’t know if I hadn’t taken this class.” Calabria has years of experience on the job and shares his experiences with the class, telling stories about his trips to different sports events he’s covered and about athletes who were fun to deal with or a nightmare.

Last month, the class took a trip to Nassau Coliseum where the students got the opportunity to be professional sport writers for the evening. They were given a tour of the stadium, watched the Islanders play the Pittsburgh Penguins, and interviewed the Assistant Coach of the Islanders, Dean Chynoweth.

Students used all of the skills learned in the class throughout the night such as taking notes on the game and using the notes in order to properly interview a professional after the game. All in all, it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for these aspiring sport writers.

Sport Writing is currently being held on Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.