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FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE ONLINE STUDENT NEWSPAPER • FEBRUARY 2010

Reconfiguring in Hale Hall Leads to Promising Reconstruction

By Greg Tomao

The condemning and reconstruction of Farmingdale State College's Nathan Hale Hall is no news to students, but the real reasons the building was closed were deeper than a case of asbestos laden tiles.

Nathan Hale Hall, the former home to the campus's Visual Communications Department, was closed to students before the fall semester last year because of what many thought was a serious health risk.

"There was a huge tarp hanging from the ceiling funneling all types of water and debris into a bucket in the computer lab," said Clarence Newcomb.

Newcomb, 22, a Visual Communications major, had all of his classes in Hale Hall before the entire department was forced to relocate to Sinclair Hall.

"We stayed there until a parent of a student complained to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)," said Newcomb. "Maybe in twenty or thirty years, someone will have a lawsuit."

"You don't know where it [the asbestos] is," said Meghan Hart (not her real name), a staff member who was unhappy with the conditions of Hale Hall. "In 2005, they said they were closing the building," said Hart. "I think I should have never been put in that building the first place that

wasn't where my boss was," she said.

John Dzinanka, director of the Physical Plant at FSC, clarified the the asbestos issue.

"The asbestos was in the form of a sprayed on acoustical finish, which was only three percent of the volume of the ceiling tiles," said Dzinanka.



According to Dzinanka, the building was renovated to accommodate the growth of academic programs on campus.

"The college needs updated academic facilities, which will accommodate biology, graphic arts, and design programs," Dzinanka said.

"I had no idea there were any asbestos problems anywhere on

campus," said sophomore, Alex Fox. "I know that some of these buildings are old, but I'm sure they would be closed, like Hale was, if it was dangerous."

Hubert Keen, president of Farmingdale State College, said, "All tests revealed no concern about airborne asbestos. Any major renovation of a building requires the complete removal of any asbestos, and so that has been done by the construction company renovating the building."

According to the EPA's Web site, www.epa.gov, "Intact and undisturbed asbestos materials generally do not pose a health risk."

However, when asbestos is "friable," or able to be crumbled by hand pressure, the fibers can be inhaled and cause health problems. The workers renovating the building are most at risk, since asbestos fibers

are released when a wall or structure containing asbestos is demolished.

Farmingdale State's 2009 Campus Statement estimates the cost of reconstruction of Nathan Hale Hall to exceed \$29 million.

Portal Web Site to Replace Angel, Oasis, and FSC Email

By Richard Russo

In the summer of 2006, the school began working with the company Sunguard to put together a portal web site that would replace the Angel and Oasis systems plus FSC email. This project was eventually called "Luminus." The school felt it necessary to help make communication between students, clubs, and faculty stronger.

"The college needs an enhanced Web presence to properly communicate its

progress to an external audience," said FSC Vice President Patrick Calabria. "Web sites are 'living and breathing' things and must change to respond to trends in order to be user-friendly."

"It would have been a one-sign-in gateway to all students' accounts -- their grades, schedule, email, and classes," said FSC Professor Margery Brown. "And it would have provided a place for students to receive targeted announcements, for

instance from clubs they belonged to."

It would allow a great deal of customization for all users, who would be able to change color themes, move pieces of the Web site around to their own taste, and allow the addition of applications such as weather updates, train schedules, and so on.

"This sounds like a good idea that would have gotten students

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Broad Hollow Park Provides Biosci. Symbiosis and Internships

By Connie Shakalis

It's a glass atrium, it's a cancer conqueror, it's the Birdcage, and the Broad Hollow Bioscience Park was once the logo for FSC. It sits across the main entrance on Route 110 that leads to the FSC campus, and it consists of two main buildings on 100,000 square feet of grassy, landscaped hills. Its purpose is to combine private business and public higher education, which, for FSC students, should be good news: internships and jobs. The park's offices provide lab and administrative space for pharmaceutical and other bioscience companies, which complements FSC's new four-year degree in bioscience.

"We prepare our students for many wonderful things. They're not cookbookers when they graduate; they don't just follow recipes," said Professor Frances Santiago-Schwarz, who teaches cell biology at FSC. Pharmaceutical



company OSI is the park's anchor tenant, although it is moving to Ardsley, New York, in 2010, for more space.

In 1999 Assemblyman Robert Sweeney sponsored the complex legislation that needs to be passed whenever state-owned land is developed. "It's a unique partnership between public and private enterprises," he said. "Also, the development of [FSC's] bioscience program means that, for students, there will be more jobs." Sweeney said that, traditionally, bioscience graduates have sought teaching positions, but that now they can teach, do research, or both.

The park's executive director, Greg Blyskal, expressed disappointment that OSI is leaving. However, he said if the park doesn't recruit a new anchor tenant immediately it is not financially disastrous, because OSI's lease, which OSI will continue to pay, runs until 2022.

Blyskal explained that in 2000 the park represented a conceptual change for Farmingdale, an idea unprecedented in the region. It was built to attract stable bioscience companies, which can offset the costs generated by the park's other tenants, early-stage companies. OSI operates its dedicated oncology research department at the park. OSI public relations director, Kim Wittig, said the anti-cancer drug, Tarceva, approved by the FDA in 2009, "was developed collaboratively, and some of the work was done on it [at the park]." This represents just one career FSC students can explore.

Another park tenant is biotech company IRX, which does immunology research involving the head and neck. FSC's Patrick Calabria, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, said, "Most drugs on the shelves of drugstores and pharmacies are developed at universities. [The bioscience park] is an economic engine that leads to revenue and jobs." Appearing pleased with FSC's collaboration with the park, he said, "in the fall of 2003 [FSC's] bioscience program had 33 students; in the fall of 2008, 318 students." FSC wins because the park provides jobs and internships; the park wins by having, as Calabria said, "the intelligence of college students."

On the road that doubles as the campus's main (north) entrance, the park might lend itself not only to college intelligence, but to college partying. Those 100,000 wooded, green square feet could be hard to resist. State Community Officer Dominic Perugini works in the FSC campus police office, which looks out onto the park, and occasionally responds to fire alarms there. "Kids are kids," he said, "they'll go and party anywhere."

Health Coverage and Students

Susan Dux

With the many health care proposals on the table, many American are wondering if any will ever be implemented. Upon graduation, many students will lose the option of coverage under their parent's plan.

Kelia Remsen is always thinking about health coverage and how it affects her. Recently, Remsen went to the dentist without insurance and was declined treatment.

"I am always worried about getting sick. I just recently got over the flu and I was scared to go to the doctor because no health coverage means expenses shot through the roof," said Remsen.

According to a CNN report, the House passed its health care bill by a 220-215 vote, with 39 Democrats in opposition and one Republican supporting it. The overhaul legislation would be the biggest expansion of health care coverage since Medicare was created more than 40 years ago.

But what does this mean to the average college graduate who will enter the job(less) market and find themselves with no health insurance.

In a CNN-Opinion Research poll conducted, about two-thirds said the government should provide national health insurance for all Americans, even if it would mean higher taxes. Under the Obama Health Reform plan, all Americans would be required to hold health insurance and would pay a penalty if they do not.

Elizabeth LaFroschia, Insurance Administrator at FSC, said that as long as you are a student taking at least one class a semester at Farmingdale College, health insurance is available. There are doctors located at the Health and Wellness Center for student access. The annual premium is \$550.

"The insurance provides the care

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Rampage Staff

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In the Music Scene

By Robert Sutter

Amidst the cultures that Long Island embodies, independent music plays an important role. While not many may know of their songs, many bands exist within the area that are dying to be heard. The music scene, as far as the local scale is concerned, is mixed: while some artists are forgettable at best, there are those that hold potential to be great.

One of the many artists is a college student itching to break out into the music scene, 19-year old Adam Marcinak. Having an interest in music since he could remember, Marcinak learned how to play guitar and even dabbled with vocals, though his passion remains with his beloved string instrument. He attributes this interest to the bands he's heard over the course of his life, mostly rock and roll.

"Queen, Aerosmith, Black Sabbath, I could go on and on." Marcinak said. "I think that if it weren't for those bands, I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing right now."

Marcinak spoke about his plans as far as college goes. He was on the fence concerning his goals. However, he insists that education is a priority.

"I love music, don't get me wrong." Marcinak said. "But I want to go to school, in case the music thing doesn't pan out. You want to have something to fall back on."

When it comes to any musician, performances are key. Marcinak, while having a love for music, is uncertain about any recent dates that he'll perform.

"Nothing is set in stone yet." Marcinak said. "I hope to have something big planned before the semester ends."

His friends seemed supportive of this hobby as well and would often give their critiques of whatever song he wanted to try out.

"It wouldn't surprise me if he was the opening act to an AC/DC concert five or six years after college." Marcinak's high school friend, Teddy Lawrence, said.

"As far as being a musician, he doesn't say much outside of his live performances." Marcinak's college friend, Elizabeth Marcello, said. "But when it comes to what he does, he does it better than most."



Small and Mighty

By Alexandra Sila



Pat Moore, our bookstore manager, helps out the store during the day, and fights fires at night. This 4 foot 11 inch senior, is a ball of life.

"Just by the things he says and does, you'd never think that he was smaller than most young boys," said Mr. Moore, Pat Moore's father.

He is a lively character, who loves to have fun. "I remember when I first started out at the firehouse and had the lights installed in my car, I would love to find young couples alone in cars and turning my lights on behind them, and watch them scurry around," said Pat Moore. He still does it whenever the situation arises.

Squeaks, as they call him around the firehouse, has become the Company 2 fixture. "He is always the first one on the scene, and the last one to leave the fire house," said J.J O'Leary and fellow firefighter. "There are times we have to tell him to go home and find something to do, because he is around too much."

The Firehouse Marshall said he was always there for a good laugh, yet sometimes was a bit overbearing.

Pat Moore graduates this year, and plans on being a part of the fire department for a long time.

If you're ever in Bellmore, or stop by the bookstore, keep your eyes open for Moore.

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Health Coverage and Students

and peace of mind in time of illness," said LaFrosica.

John Lavallo, Republican Chairperson, recommends that you mention to your doctor if you do not have health insurance to see if your doctor will reduce his or her fee.

"There are a tremendous amount of group plans, non-employee affiliated, such as AAA and the Chamber of Commerce," said Lavallo.

Lisa Rupp is still covered under her mom's plan until Rupp attains the age of 26. Rupp majoring in Hotel & Resource Management at SUNY Delhi is currently taking two classes at Farmingdale is not worried about coverage for another three years. "Whatever it is I can't fuse about it. Everyone is going through the same thing," said Rupp.

Emily Goldman, student at Nassau Community College, is not currently concerned about health insurance due to coverage provided by her parents. However, Goldman hears all the commotion among her friends, many of them a few years older

Than her, are graduates in search of work and health insurance. "I never realized how close of a concern it really is," said Goldman.

According to the New York Times, the amount the nation spends each year on health care, is nearly a fifth of the American economy. How that money is divided up — or prevented from rising at its current pace — is at the center of the debate. Many doctors, insurance companies and drug companies say they fear that their revenues could shrink significantly and patient care could be threatened. Roughly \$2.5 trillion is at stake.

Continued from p. 1 Portal Web site

Unfortunately, after about two years of work on the project, \$150,000 spent from a special legislative initiative and approximately 25 percent of the work complete the project was officially being tabled for the time being in the summer of 2008.

The committee putting the web site together knew the web site would require an additional full-time IT technician for maintenance, and keeping such a person on staff at the campus would be hard to do when current ITs are regularly offered higher paying jobs.

"No one makes tons of money

here," said Jonathan Goldstein.

With current student enrollment rates higher, it would seem even more imperative to deliver a system that would bring such a large number of students together. The project may be back on track soon enough

"We have since filled one position and we are planning to reconvene the project next spring," said Campus CIO Kevin Rooney. Hoping that the position stays filled, perhaps in a few shorts years events and notices of FSC can be browsed in one conveniently placed click away.

FARMINGDALE RAMS SPORTS

Athletics Program Grows Stronger

By Jordan Williams

Those who see a bright spring in the future hone their skills in the off season while cheering on their peers.

This is the life of a student athlete. Of course, some are more hectic and full of obligations in the off weeks, but for the most part all schools across the nation are full of pride hoping this will be the year the men and women bring home that championship.

Originally, a farm complex and two-year institution, the college has made leaps and bounds to becoming one of the more promising athletic programs in the division according to Donald Haworth, Facilities Coordinator/Head Athletic trainer.

"Athletes are given more time to develop. The turnover was much quicker when we were a two-year school," said Haworth. "Recruiting had to be more aggressive to compete with the major Division III schools."

Drew Wachtel, a FSC trainer has experienced the athletic program's growth throughout the years. "We have great athletics here," said Wachtel. "No team is horrible."

In fact Wachtel had proof of the success of the Rams over the years. FSC posted six championships in the past nine years ago. FSC attracts high-caliber athletes but is in a war with other schools over signing them because of the lack of scholarship money Division III schools are allowed to give.

Without scholarship money FSC was able to send two teams to the elite eight. "The basketball and baseball programs have been awesome over the years," said Wachtel. The FSC baseball team, in fact, went further and posted their first College World Series appearance last year.

All of these strides helps FSC to become one of the greater athletic programs in the nation, according to Haworth.

Coupled with being affordable to most high school graduates, FSC combines an "excellence education, fantastic facilities along with a rapidly growing athletic program. It's the best game in town," said Haworth. "We are going to have a big advantage when it comes to recruiting next year," said Wachtel.

Nold Hall, FSC's Main Athletic building, will be undergoing a complete

renovation said to be done by next fall.

"It will be state of the art. Farmingdale State is going to be a big draw for athletes in Long Island, New York, even in farther areas," said Wachtel. The overall improvement in every area of the school and emphasis on the athletic program will be key in causing higher caliber players to sign. To the athletes who were enrolled earlier, it sheds a great light and can produce more alumni support.

"When I got here I couldn't say it was the best school, but I could definitely see

it's on the rise," said Chris Celestin, a lacrosse player for FSC.

"I knew my years here were gonna mean something," said Timothy Gaskin also a lacrosse player for the Rams.

After witnessing the growth of a rising program, one can only imagine where the Rams will be in future years.

Surviving in a Sea of Sharks

By Jordan Williams

The ideal athlete commonly commands strength, speed, courage and leadership. This isn't always the case when the athlete hails from a town that doesn't have strong support for athletics or extra-curricular activities.

Unfortunate events like these didn't stop Chris Celestin from striving to be a better athlete and a better man. Born and raised in Hempstead, Long Island, Celestin was a three sport athlete in high school. He didn't win all-conference on any of those teams but was a key member throughout his career. His teammates loved him and thought of him as a brother.

"I grew up with him [Celestin]. It didn't matter what season it was; we were playing somethin'," said Timothy Gaskin a Hempstead native and now teammate with Celestin on the FSC lacrosse team. "We found our sport, and we stuck with it," said Gaskin.

Celestin remembers his first days playing lacrosse in middle school. He thanks art teacher/lacross coach, Mr. Finnegan, for introducing him to the sport. "Most youth lacrosse players in Hempstead are exposed to more popular sports like football and basketball rather than lacrosse before they hit middle school so to gain interest and dedication," said Finnegan.

Even though the Hempstead Lacrosse Program fielded a team every spring, the results didn't spark much interest in the collegiate ranks. Scouts looked at Hempstead as a small fish in a sea of sharks. According to *Inside Lacrosse Magazine*, Long Island is the third largest area where lacrosse is

found to be the dominant sport. Year in and year out, Long Island high school programs receive national recognition for their excellence on the lacrosse field, producing more 20 Division I athletes every summer.

With that information, Celestin was left with his teammate to fight in a pool of tremendous talent every game. Playing for Coach Lamont Hough, a Hempstead lacrosse legend, Celestin remembers scoring his first goal in 11th grade.



"Even though we lost the game I felt like I won the

championship," said Celestin.

Hempstead Lacrosse continues to grow and develop players to find a way out of a community that doesn't always show support for sports.

Timothy Gaskin (FSC), Jesse Brown (Adelphi University), Julian Gelwicks (FSC), Agustin Rodriguez (Plattsburg State), and Justin Gill (Briarcliffe College) are all products of the Hempstead Lacrosse Program that continues to strive in a pool of sharks that is Long Island lacrosse. Oh the Tigers!